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# STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 78, No. 168 ©SS 2019

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019

平成32年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥ 50

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## FBI probes Fla. base shooting as terrorist act

By BRENDAN FARRINGTON  
AND MIKE BALSAMO  
Associated Press

PENSACOLA, Fla. — The FBI is working under the presumption that a Florida naval base carried out by an aviation student from Saudi Arabia was an act of terrorism, the agency said Sunday.

"We are, as we do in most active-shooter investigations, working with the presumption that this was an act of terrorism," said Rachel L.

Rojas, FBI agent in charge of the investigation.

All international students at the Pensacola base have been accounted for, there have been no arrests, and the community is under no immediate threat, Rojas said at a news conference. A Saudi commanding officer has ordered all students from the country to remain at one location at the base, officials also said at the news conference.

Additionally, authorities believe the gunman made social media posts in which he talked about U.S. support for Israel and charged that Americans are anti-Muslim, a U.S. official told The Associated Press on Sunday. Investigators also believe the gunman visited New York City, including Rockefeller Center, days before the shooting and they are working to determine the purpose of the trip, said the official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity.

The FBI and others had said they were trying to determine whether the gunman, 2nd Lt. Mohammed Alshamrani, 21, of the Royal Saudi Air Force, acted alone. Alshamrani was a flight student at Pensacola, where members of foreign militaries are routinely trained by the U.S.

Earlier in the week of the shooting, Alshamrani hosted a dinner party where he and three others watched videos of mass shootings, another U.S. official told the AP on Saturday.

The U.S. has sought the assistance of Saudi officials as they try to piece together information about the gunman and his motive.

SEE FBI ON PAGE 3

## N. Korea caps tense week with rocket test

Trump warns Kim could lose 'everything'

By KIM GAMEL  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Sunday that it successfully conducted a "very important test" at a long-range rocket launch site, prompting President Donald Trump to warn that Kim Jong Un could lose "everything" if he acts aggressively.

The statements were the latest sign that hopes for diplomacy are unraveling ahead of a year-end deadline set by the North for Washington to offer concessions to restart stalled nuclear talks.

They capped a week of warnings as the communist state suggests it is increasingly impatient over the diplomatic deadlock

and might be leaning toward a "new way" mentioned by Kim earlier this year.

On Tuesday, a North Korean diplomat said it is "entirely" up to the U.S. what "Christmas gift" it wants to get as the year draws to a close, prompting speculation the North may be preparing for a long-range missile test.

Trump, who is eager for foreign policy success in North Korea and has consistently maintained his friendship with Kim, adopted a more threatening tone on Sunday.

"Kim Jong Un is too smart and has far too much to lose, everything actually, if he acts in a hostile way," Trump wrote on

SEE TEST ON PAGE 3



Photos by AP, top, and KCNA/KNS, above

Top: A man watches a TV screen showing the Sohae Satellite Launching Station in Tongchang-ri, North Korea, in March. After North Korea said it had conducted a "very successful test" at the site on Sunday, President Donald Trump warned that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, above, "has far too much to lose" to continue acting aggressively.



## MILITARY

## Navy, families recount heroics of fallen sailors

BY BOBBY CAINA CALVAN  
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Joshua Watson had just graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and looked forward to a military career as a pilot. On Saturday, he was being hailed a hero as his family recounted how the 23-year-old — in his last minutes of life — led first responders to an active shooter at the Pensacola naval base.



Watson

In a Facebook post, his brother Adam said Watson saved countless lives with his own.

"After being shot multiple times he made it outside and told the first response team where the shooter was and those details were invaluable," Adam Watson wrote on Facebook.

"He died a hero," he wrote.

The anguish spread from Pensacola and into communities across the country as fellow Americans shared in the shock and grief of Friday's shooting that left four people dead, including the shooter, and eight others injured.

The Navy identified the other two victims as Airman Mohammed Sameh Haitham,



Haitham

of St. Petersburg, Fla., and Airman Apprentice Cameron Scott Walters, 21, of Richmond Hill, Ga.

## FBI: Trump says foreign military training policies will be reviewed

## FROM FRONT PAGE

Alshamrani opened fire inside a classroom at the base, killing three people and wounding two sheriff's deputies, one in the arm and one in the knee, before one of the deputies killed him. Eight others were also hurt. Both deputies were expected to survive.

The official who spoke Saturday said one of the three students who attended the dinner party hosted by the attacker recorded video outside the classroom building while the shooting was taking place. Two other Saudi students watched from a car, the official said.

Ten Saudi students were being held on the base Saturday as part of the investigation, the official said.



Alshamrani

President Donald Trump declined to say whether the shooting was terrorism-related but said Saturday that he would review policies governing foreign military training in the U.S.

The U.S. has long had a robust training program for Saudis, providing assistance in the U.S. and in the kingdom. More than 850 Saudis are in the United States for various training activities. They are among more than 5,000 foreign students from

153 countries in the U.S. going through military training.

"This has been done for many decades," Trump said. "I guess we're going to have to look into the whole procedure. We'll start that immediately."

Family members and others identified the three dead as Joshua Kaleb Watson, 23, a recent graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy; Airman Mohammed Sameh Haitham, 19, of St. Petersburg, Fla., who joined the Navy after graduating from high school last year; and Airman Apprentice Cameron Scott Walters, 21, of Richmond Hill, Ga. All three were students at Naval Aviation Schools Command.

of St. Petersburg, Fla., and Airman Apprentice Cameron Scott Walters, 21, of Richmond Hill, Ga.

The Navy praised all three flight school students for their "exceptional heroism and bravery in the face of evil."

"When confronted, they didn't run from danger; they ran towards it and saved lives," Capt. Tim Kinsella, the commanding officer of Naval Air Station Pensacola, said in a statement Saturday.

Haitham's mother, Evelyn Brady, told the Tampa Bay Times that her son joined the U.S. Navy after graduating from high

school last year. The former track and field star had been assigned to flight crew training and was looking forward to graduating from the program later this month, she said.

News of the attack also hit hard in Enterprise, Ala., where Watson's family was preparing for the 130-mile drive to the military base in Florida's Panhandle.

"I'm just an emotional wreck," his father, Benjamin, told The Associated Press. "We want my son's story told," he said.

"He died serving his country," the elder Watson said of his son.

Benjamin Watson told the News Journal that his son had reported to Pensacola two weeks ago for flight training to live out his dream of becoming a Navy pilot.

Adam Watson wrote nostalgically of his brother, who also went by his middle name Kaleb.

"When we were little I gave Kaleb the name little poot and it stuck. It eventually evolved into poots and finally uncle poot," he wrote on Facebook. "Just wish I could talk to him one more time or wrestle with him one more time even though he could probably take me now."

## Test: Renewed harsh words raising concerns of new tensions in 2020

## FROM FRONT PAGE

Twitter after the North Korean test was announced.

"He does not want to voice his special relationship with the President of the United States or interfere with the U.S. Presidential Election in November," he added.

The renewed saber-rattling has raised concern that the North may lift its self-imposed moratorium on long-range missile and nuclear tests, leading to new tensions in 2020.

Sunday's announcement referred to the Sohae Satellite Launching Ground, which experts say has been used to develop technology for the North's intercontinental ballistic missile program.

"A very important test took place at the Sohae Satellite Launching Ground" on Saturday, the state-run Korean Central News Agency reported, adding that it had been "successful."

"The results of the recent important test will have an important effect on changing the strategic position of (North Korea) once again in the near future," attributed to the brief statement according to an unnamed spokesman for the North's Academy of National Defense Science.

KCNA didn't provide more details, but experts said it was probably a rocket engine. The South Korean military said nothing was fired from the complex, which



SOURCE: AP, NOKA, ANI, RAV, Stars and Stripes

sits near the North's border with China.

Commercial satellite imagery showed key facilities being razed at Sohae last year in an apparent goodwill gesture shortly after the first summit between Trump and Kim in Singapore, where they agreed to a vague promise to "work toward the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

But CNN reported that images taken Thursday by Planet Labs showed new activity and the presence of a large shipping container at the site.

Several U.S. surveillance aircraft also reportedly have flown around the peninsula to monitor for possible North Korean missile activity in recent days.



Airbus Defence &amp; Space / 38 North

## North Korea's Sohae Satellite Launching Ground is shown.

The adversaries, who remain technically at war since their 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty, have gone from the brink of another war in 2017 to a series of summits and high-level meetings that boosted hopes for peace in 2018.

Talks stalemated this year after a second summit between Kim and Trump collapsed without agreement in February in Vietnam and working-level talks failed in October in Sweden.

Pyeongyang has demanded security guarantees and extensive

relief from punishing economic sanctions aimed at its nuclear program.

But Washington insists it will maintain pressure on the communist state until it takes more significant steps toward dismantlement.

Trump spoke on the phone with South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Friday to discuss ways to maintain diplomacy with the North, according to Moon's office.

Last week, Trump warned the U.S. would use military force against the North if necessary,

prompting an angry reaction from the communist state.

The two sides also hinted the name-calling from 2017 may resume, with Trump referring to Kim as "rocket man" and the North saying his remarks may be a sign of "the relapse of the dotage of a dotard."

North Korea's ambassador to the United Nations, Kim Song, then said denuclearization was off the table and called the dialogue sought by Washington a "time-saving trick" to promote its domestic political agenda.

"We do not need to have lengthy talks with the U.S. now," he said Saturday in the clearest indication of the widening gap between the two sides.

Kim Jong Un, meanwhile, is due to convene the ruling party's central committee later this month, which usually signals a major policy shift.

"As contradictory as it may seem, these threats & low-level provocations are #NorthKorea's way to try to compel Trump to make a bold move, quickly," Jean Lee, of the Washington-based Wilson Center, wrote on Twitter.

But Kim is also hedging his bets in case that doesn't happen by "settling the stage to justify future provocations designed to bolster support at home," she said.

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## PACIFIC

## Survivors mark Pearl Harbor anniversary

Veterans of attack become rare as their ranks thin 78 years after tragedy

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

PEARL HARBOR NATIONAL MEMORIAL, Hawaii — An ever-thinning number of veterans who survived the attack on Oahu by the Japanese on Dec. 7, 1941, attended Saturday's ceremony marking the 78th anniversary of the event that led America to enter World War II.

The veterans occupy a rarified position in our nation, but in past years they sat among the audience of hundreds who flock to the early morning observance.

This year, the roughly dozen survivors attending were so few they were seated on a raised platform in front of the audience, becoming more the objects of high esteem than observers.

"As each year passes, we lose more of our friends who served here on Dec. 7, 1941, or who witnessed the attack," Jacqueline Ashwell, superintendent of the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, said during the ceremony, craning her neck to gaze at the aged veterans seated behind the speaker's podium, all in their 90s or older and many in wheelchairs.

Among them was Lou Conter, the only survivor of the USS Arizona to attend. The remaining two Arizona survivors, Donald Stratton and Ken Potts, are no longer able to travel to Hawaii for the annual event.

"I talked to Don Stratton just a couple of weeks ago before I came out here," Conter said shortly before the ceremony began. "Ken's in bed and we couldn't even get hold of him to talk to him."

Two Arizona survivors, Lonnie Cook and Lauren Bruner, died this year.

On Saturday evening, Bruner's remains were slated to be entombed in the hull of the battleship, which sank to the bottom of Pearl Harbor during the attack. It serves as a tomb for the hundreds of crew members who went down with the ship.

Bruner's will be the last remains to be encased in the ship, a place of honor reserved only for survivors of the ship's sinking, which killed 1,177 of the sailors and Marines aboard. The other three survivors have said they will not have their ashes placed in the ship.

Japanese torpedo bombers and fighter planes attacked sailors, Marines and soldiers wherever they were stationed on Oahu on that momentous Sunday morning.

"The horrific events that occurred here caught America, her Navy, her Army, her Air Corps, her Marines and the territory of Hawaii by surprise," Harry Harris, U.S. ambassador to South Korea, said during a speech. "It fell upon the shoulders of the Pearl Harbor survivors and World War II veterans behind me to respond on that fateful day.

"In less than two hours, there were over 2,400 killed, including firemen and first responders from the Honolulu Fire Department. Almost 1,200 wounded. The majority of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, taken out of action. Catastrophic by any standard."

Stuart Hedley, 98, who was serving on the battleship USS West Virginia, said he saw his skipper, Capt. Mervyn Bennion, dismembered and killed by shrapnel that bounced off the nearby USS Tennessee.

The West Virginia took at least nine torpedoes, and as it began to sink sailors made for the Tennessee any way they could.

"Five of our buddies overhanding on a rope to the Tennessee got machine-gunned by Japanese [Zero fighters]," Hedley said. So instead of going by rope, he and a group



Photos by WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

Lou Conter, 98, one of only three living USS Arizona survivors, salutes during the Walk of Honor after a ceremony Saturday at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial marking the surprise attack 78 years ago.



Don Long, who was stationed at Kaneohe Naval Air Station during the Japanese attack, chats with a guest Saturday.

of other sailors climbed onto the barrel of the West Virginia's 5-inch gun, ran the length of it and jumped onto the Tennessee, he said.

"From there we jumped into the water, burning on top with oil, and swam ashore,

mostly underwater."

He summed up the traumatic day: "I was a 20-year-old brat who grew up overnight."

Rear Adm. Robert Chadwick, commander of Navy Region Hawaii, offered



A sailor plays taps to honor those who lost their lives at Pearl Harbor 78 years ago.

condolences to the families and friends of those killed in shootings this week at Pearl Harbor's shipyard and a Navy base in Florida.

He then turned his attention to the group of veterans seated behind him.

"To the veterans, I will tell you that those of us who wear the uniform now certainly understand the gravity of the legacy we inherited from the Greatest Generation, and we strive every day to honor your service with our service," he said.

"But, gentlemen, you are a hard act to follow."

**"To the veterans, ... we strive every day to honor your service with our service. But, gentlemen, you are a hard act to follow."**

Rear Adm. Robert Chadwick  
commander of Navy Region Hawaii

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## MILITARY

# Esper to shift military focus to Russia, China

By ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. — Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Saturday he still plans to shift the American military's focus to competing with China and Russia, even as security threats pile up in the Middle East.

Esper outlined his strategic goals and priorities in a speech at the Reagan National Defense Forum, an annual gathering of government, defense industry and military officials.

Esper, who became Pentagon chief in late July, said he is sticking to the national defense priorities set by his predecessor, Jim Mattis, who was sitting in his

audience at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library.

Since Mattis resigned one year ago in protest of President Donald Trump's push to withdraw from Syria, the Middle East has become even more volatile. At least 14,000 additional U.S. troops have been sent to the Persian Gulf area since May out of concern about Iranian actions.

Syria itself has arguably become a more complex problem for Washington, with Turkish forces having moved into areas in the north where American forces had been partnering with Syrian Kurdish fighters against remnants of Islamic State. Also, Iraq is facing civil protests and a violent crackdown by security



Esper

forces. The deadly shooting at a Navy base at Pensacola, Fla., on Friday by a Saudi Air Force officer could complicate U.S.-Saudi military relations, although Esper said Friday that relations remain strong.

Esper last week denied news reports that he was considering sending up to 14,000 more troops to the Middle East, but he acknowledged to reporters Friday that he is worried by instability in

Iraq and Iran.

In his speech Saturday, Esper made only a passing reference to Iran, citing Tehran's "efforts to destabilize" the region.

He focused instead on shifting the U.S. military's focus toward China and Russia — "today's revisionist powers." He accused Moscow and Beijing of seeking "veto power" over the economic and security decisions of smaller nations.

On Friday, Esper said he realizes that it will be difficult to move resources out of the Middle East to increase the focus on China and Russia.

He said he has been studying the force and resource requirements for every area of the globe

to determine how to rebalance those resources.

"My ambition is and remains to look at how do we pull resources — resources being troops and equipment and you name it" — from some regions and either return them to the U.S. or shift them to the Asia-Pacific region, he said Friday.

"That remains my ambition, but I have to deal with the world I have, and so I gotta make sure at the same time I deter conflict — in this case in the Middle East," he said.

"I want to have sufficient forces there to make sure" the U.S. does not get into an armed conflict with Iran.

## USS America amphibious assault ship at home in Japan

By JAMES BOLINGER

Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — The USS America, the Navy's newest, most advanced flat-deck amphibious assault ship, dropped anchor Friday at its new homeport in southwestern Japan.

The 844-foot America came from San Diego to serve as flagship of the 7th Fleet's Amphibious Squadron 11 and replace the USS Wasp, which spent 1½ years home-ported in Sasebo. It departed for Naval Station Norfolk, Va., in September.

"The extraordinary capability of the USS America and our Navy and Marine Corps team will provide 7th Fleet great flexibility and lethality in our forward deployed naval force as we operate in this vital region in the world with our allies and partners," Rear Adm. Fred Kacher, commander of Expeditionary Strike Group 7, told reporters Friday aboard the ship.

The America's arrival brings the number of amphibious ships in Sasebo to five. Others include the transport dock USS Green Bay, the dock landing ships USS Ashland and USS Germantown, and the USS New Orleans, a transport dock ship that arrived Dec. 1.

The America, which was commissioned in 2014, has a crew of nearly 1,000 sailors and can embark about 1,700 Marines. Instead of a well deck to carry landing craft, it has a large hangar bay that provides 30% more storage space and can carry 250% more aviation fuel than a traditional flat-deck.

It was designed to maximize the capabilities of the Marine Corps' F-35B Lightning II. The stealth fighter is capable of short takeoffs and vertical landings, allowing flat-deck amphibious assault ships like the America to act as small aircraft carriers.

The ship will embark Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121, an F-35B squadron based at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni near Hiroshima.

Other aircraft that will de-



PHOTOS BY JAMES BOLINGER/Stars and Stripes

**Above:** An officer assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS America speaks to sailors after arriving at Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, on Friday. **Above right:** USS America commander Capt. Luke Frost speaks to reporters during a tour of the ship.

play aboard the America include the tiltrotor MV-22 Osprey and MH-60S Knighthawk, CH-53K Super Stallion and AH-1Z Viper helicopters.

Capt. Luke Frost, the ship's commander, told reporters that sending the America, the New Orleans and F-35Bs to areas that matter most to the prosperity and security of the Indo-Pacific region sends a clear signal of the United States' commitment to its allies.

Amphibious Squadron 11 is one of 7th Fleet's busiest units, often deploying multiple times per year. The squadron, with embarked Marines from the Okinawa-based 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, is often the first to respond when natural disasters strike the region.

The ships also support multiple international exercises every year.

This is the first time in Japan for many of the America's crew members.

Petty Officer 1st Class Ilecia Moses, a paralegal, said she had been trying to get to Japan since she joined the Navy 13 years ago. "My mother and I planned a few years back, before I knew I was coming here, to attend the

2020 Olympics in Tokyo," she said. "So, when I got orders here in October, I was just so thrilled and ecstatic to be here!"

The first thing she wants to do when she gets off work, Moses said, is eat some authentic Japanese ramen.

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## MILITARY

# Nearly 75K users are overcharged in Tricare glitch

By WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

About 75,000 Tricare customers were overcharged for monthly premiums on Thursday, in some cases 100 times more than the actual amount owed.

The Defense Health Agency, which manages the Tricare system, said in a statement Friday that it was working closely with Humana Military, the Defense Department contractor that administers the Tricare health program for the East Region, the area affected by the overcharges. The region includes 32 states and the District of Columbia.

Tricare provides civilian health benefits for service members, military retirees and their families.

"While this is an unfortunate error, I am confident this will be resolved quickly," Army Lt. Gen. Ron Place, director of the Defense Health Agency, said in the statement. "I am personally in touch with the president of Humana Military, and his team has taken immediate steps to correct this error."

The root cause of the processing error is still under investigation, the statement said.

Health care coverage for affected Tricare customers was not interrupted, the statement said.



A sailor receives a flu vaccination at Naval Hospital Bremerton, Wash., on Oct. 21 through coverage by Tricare. A glitch in Tricare's billing caused customers to be overcharged for monthly premiums.

A recorded message on Humana Military's customer service line promises callers that their credit cards will be credited "within 24 to 48 hours."

The overcharges were an unwelcome surprise as Americans gearing up for holiday spending.

"So @Humana," tweeted a former Coast Guard member in Virginia with the Twitter handle Devin's Cyberz Cow on Thursday, "my wife and I are two of the vets that got TriCare charges multiplied by 100 times their normal amount this month. How soon will you be reversing them? For now, you've effectively bricked my credit card during Christmas shopping season..."

In a post on its website, Humana Military said the glitch was affecting recurring credit and debit card premiums and that the company was working to correct the problem.

"We pledge that we will do everything we can to ensure that beneficiaries are not adversely affected by this error, including covering overdraft and related fees," the post said.

Humana Military's customer service at 800-444-5445 expanded its weekend hours to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern Time to handle urgent inquiries.

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## Use of flares halted on Okinawa base after some found outside camp

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa

The Marine Corps has suspended its use of illumination flares on Okinawa after "several" 60 mm mortar flare rounds were found Thursday and Friday outside training grounds near Camp Hansen, according to an official statement.

"Marine Corps Installations Pacific is working closely with the Okinawa Defense Bureau,"

an emailed statement from the command said Friday afternoon. "We value the safety of the local community in which we live and take this matter very seriously. The incident is under review, and we have suspended illumination training on ranges."

Marine officials reached Friday provided no further details.

Local residents of the Igei neighborhood in Kin town reported a flare to Ishikawa Police at 5:34 p.m. Thursday, a police spokesman said Friday.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HELBER/AP

Spectators attend the christening of the nuclear aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy at Newport News Shipbuilding in Newport News, Va., on Saturday.

## Caroline Kennedy christens aircraft carrier named in honor of her father

By HUGH LESSIG  
(Newport News, Va.) Daily Press

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — With the crash of a bottle against its hull, the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy was christened Saturday at Newport News Shipbuilding.

Caroline Kennedy, the late president's daughter, did the honors as ship's sponsor.

It marked the second time she christened an aircraft carrier in her father's name. The first aircraft carrier named for JFK served through Vietnam and into the post-9/11 era. Caroline Kennedy, then a child, launched that ship in 1967.

The ceremony marked an important milestone for the Newport News shipyard, the sole designer and builder of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers for the Navy. It comes three months ahead of schedule, reflecting the company's push for efficiency in the multibillion-dollar Gerald R. Ford-class carrier program.

The Kennedy is the second Ford-class carrier to be launched at Newport News and will cost \$11.4 billion, a drop from the \$12.9 billion first-in-class Gerald R. Ford that reflects thousands of lessons learned from one ship to



Caroline Kennedy, daughter of former President John F. Kennedy, smashes a bottle on the bow of the ship at the christening.

the next, company leaders say.

In one way, the John F. Kennedy is a fitting name for CVN-79. Just as the young president called upon a new generation to lead the country, the shipyard has hired hundreds of tech-savvy workers who grew up in the digital age.

With computertables replacing paper blueprints and augmented reality programs directing work, the company is banking on this new generation of employees to lead the way as the Ford program matures.

The Kennedy also benefited from an improved build strategy.

Aircraft carriers are built through modular construction. Giant pieces of the ship are as-

sembled in yard, then lifted into the dry dock where the ship takes shape. The Kennedy was built with larger and fewer of those components, which reduced the number of lifts into dry dock.

The ship is on track to be built with 16% lower labor costs than the Ford. The shipyard said it can realize even more savings in the post-christening phase; its contracted target is 18%.

After the christening, the ship will be moved from the dock to an outfitting pier. It is about 67% complete, so much work remains before it can be declared ready for combat.

The Navy plans to take delivery of the ship in 2022.

reau spokesman said Friday. The Marines confirmed to the bureau Friday the flare belongs to them. They vowed to investigate the incident, the spokesman said.

Some government officials in Japan customarily speak on condition of anonymity.

Incidents like aviation mishaps or the dropping of military debris outside U.S. military facilities are often met with indignation on the tiny island prefecture that is home to just over half of the 50,000 U.S. service members sta-

tioned in Japan.

Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki, who generally opposes the U.S. military presence, in remarks to reporters Friday morning vowed to protest the incident.

"This type of incident should not happen under any circumstances," he said. "Any training that may potentially cause harm to life or property should take place in the middle of nowhere."

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## MILITARY

# Medics learn to use skills to help military dogs

By NANCY MONTGOMERY

Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Combat medics learned how to apply their lifesaving skills to four-legged troops at a seminar with the help of veterinarians, two dog dummys and a greyhound named Nacho.

Veterinarian Capt. Jennifer Silvers and veterinary technician Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Whitaker, both with U.S. Army Garrison Italy, taught the group of 25 medics with the 173rd Airborne Brigade how to apply the first aid basics they use on humans to dogs.

"They know the tasks. They just don't know the anatomy," Whitaker said Thursday.

The training was designed to increase the number of people who can treat injured and sick military working dogs, which face the same hazards as their human partners when deployed, including bullets, bombs and heatstroke, as well as uniquely canine woes such as burned paw pads, broken tails and gastrointestinal issues caused by dietary indiscretions.

Dogs, it turns out, like the taste of C-4 explosive, Whitaker said. The result, if they eat it, is "explosive diarrhea," she said.

The medics learned how to stop bleeding, start IVs and bandage a broken leg into a kind of soft cast, practicing the techniques on two dog mannequins, which looked like

stuffed animals. They also were able to observe an actual dog — Silvers' greyhound, Nacho, whom she had adopted from the veterinary school she attended — who lay serenely on the floor as Silvers instructed the medics on dog anatomy.

Nacho appeared to drift off to sleep as the medics felt his leg for a vein, counted his ribs and scratched his head.

Dogs have become increasingly prominent in military operations. They're used to sniff out bombs and drugs, patrol, and chase and subdue suspects. Recently, a Belgian Malinois named Conan was part of the special forces raid that ended in the death of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Between 2,000 and 2,600 military working dogs have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan between 2001 and 2013, researchers said in a study published in *Military Medicine* in 2018. Injuries, particularly from gunshots or explosions, were the most common cause of death for 92 dogs that the researchers identified as having died during their deployments, the study said.

Spc. John Huber, who has previously worked only on humans, said he was impressed by "how easily transferrable the skills are from human to dog."

"It's just different anatomy," he said.

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NANCY MONTGOMERY/Stars and Stripes

A greyhound named Nacho lies still as combat medics with the 173rd Airborne Brigade learn from Capt. Jennifer Silvers, left, a veterinarian with U.S. Army Garrison Italy, how to give first aid to dogs.

# Thousands mourn loss of soldiers killed in helo crash

By LIZ SAWYER

AND MARTY LYNN SMITH

(Minneapolis) Star Tribune

MARTY, Minn. — Kurt Krippner climbed onto the shovel of his family's bobcat as his father lifted him to the top of the flagpole they'd planted the day before in the snowy Stearns County farm field. Together, they worked to make sure that a small solar panel and light were set to shine on a growing makeshift memorial to three Minnesota National Guard soldiers who died last week when their helicopter crashed in a nearby tree line.

"We may not know the men, but we're heartbroken for the families," said Krippner's sister, Kristi Kalkbrenner, who fought back tears as she stood amid roses, poinsettia planters and a stained-glass angel at the base of the flagpole. "It hits home that people lost their lives here."

As families and friends grieved privately, Kalkbrenner and the Krippners were among hundreds of strangers who joined ranks Saturday with thousands around the globe to pay tribute to the fallen and support those mourning their loss.

On Thursday, the three men boarded a UH-60 Black Hawk for a routine maintenance test flight and lifted off from the St. Cloud Airport at 1:55 p.m. Nine minutes later, according to emergency dispatch reports, the crew sent a mayday alert. Communication with the aircraft was lost, and an intense search and rescue operation was launched with local and state emergency workers converging on the area.

As dusk fell, a State Patrol helicopter with thermal imaging cameras spotted the wreckage about 16 miles southwest of St. Cloud. The dead were identified as Chief Warrant Officer 2 Charles P. Nord, 30, of Perham; Chief Warrant Officer 2 James A. Rogers Jr., 28, of Winsted; and Sgt. Kurt M. Plantenberg, 28, of Avon.

All were assigned to Company C, 2-21st Helicopter Support Aviation Battalion, based in St. Cloud. They had returned in May from a nine-month deployment to the Middle East, where they conducted medical evacuations.

That the men had survived a mission abroad only to die at home seemed especially heartbreaking.

"You worry when they're gone, not when they're back," said Mary Mueller, who was among those volunteering at the Holy Cross school Saturday to feed those investigating the crash scene.

"At times like this, you feel helpless," Mueller said. "This is something we can do."

Inside an airport hangar Saturday afternoon, National Guard officials stood in front of a UH-60 Black Hawk to provide information, albeit sparse, about the crash.

More than a dozen miles away at the crash site, an investigation team from Fort Rucker in Alabama began gathering information and evidence. Officials said Saturday that it is unclear how long their investigation will take.

In the meantime, all UH-60 Black Hawks have been grounded, which is standard procedure during the probe's initial phase. Those helicopters are expected to be back in service soon.

The Black Hawk that crashed was on a routine maintenance flight, work that is performed almost daily, officials said. As is standard, two pilots — Nord and Rogers — were on board. Plantenberg was a technician mechanic preparing to start flight school.

Officials declined to discuss details of the specific mission or identify the pilot in command.

At Saturday's news conference inside the hangar, those who worked with the fallen soldiers talked about the "devastating loss" of three comrades — men who grew up in small Minnesota towns and joined ranks to serve their country.

"This unit is a medical company and its job is to save lives," said Maj. Nathan Burr, the unit's

former commander.

As National Guard officials provided media updates, dozens of fellow soldiers dressed in fatigues stood nearby, solemn and stoic.

"There's nothing I can say that will take away or lessen the pain you are feeling," Maj. Gen. Jon Jensen said to those mourning the loss. "What I can tell you, you are not alone in your grief."

## LETTERS TO SANTA

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LETTERS TO SANTA

## NATION

# Impeachment report lays out legal argument

By LISA MASCARO  
AND MARY CLARE JALONICK  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Previewing potential articles of impeachment, the House Democrats on Saturday issued a lengthy report drawing on history and the Founding Fathers to lay out the legal argument over the case against President Donald Trump's actions toward Ukraine.

The findings from the House Judiciary Committee do not spell out the formal charges against the president, which are being drafted ahead of votes, possibly as soon as this week.

Instead, the report refutes Trump's criticism of the impeachment proceedings, arguing that the Constitution created impeachment as a "safety valve" so Americans would not have to wait for the next election to remove a president. It refers to the writings of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and others to link Trump's actions in his July phone call with Ukraine's president seeking political investigations of his rivals to the kind of behavior that would "horribly" frame them.

"Where the President uses his foreign affairs power in ways that betray the national interest for

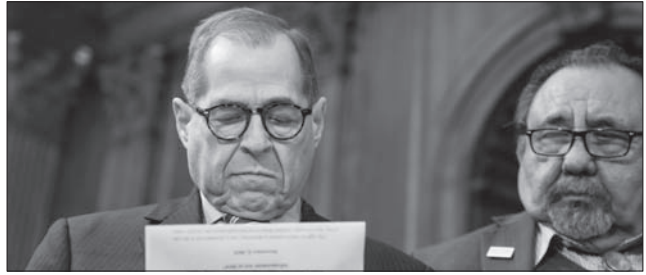
his own benefit, or harm national security for equally corrupt reasons, he is subject to impeachment by the House," the Democrats wrote. "Indeed, foreign interference in the American political system was among the gravest dangers feared by the Founders of our Nation and the Framers of our Constitution."

Democrats are working through the weekend as articles are being drafted and committee members are preparing for a hearing Monday. Democrats say Trump abused his power in the July 25 phone call when he asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for a favor and engaged in bribery by withholding nearly \$400 million in military aid that Ukraine depends on to counter Russian aggression.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi says it's part of a troubling pattern of behavior from Trump that benefits Russia and not the U.S.

Trump has insisted he did nothing wrong. "Witch Hunt!" the president tweeted Saturday morning.

The articles of impeachment are likely to encompass two major themes — abuse of office and obstruction — as Democrats strive to reach the Constitution's bar of



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., left, released a report Saturday outlining the legal argument for impeaching President Donald Trump. He is shown at an unrelated meeting Friday with Rep. Raul Grijalva, D-Ariz.

"treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors."

In releasing his report Saturday, Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., said the president's actions are the framers' "worst nightmare."

"President Trump abused his power, betrayed our national security, and corrupted our elections, all for personal gain. The Constitution details only one remedy for this misconduct: impeachment," Nadler said in a statement. "The safety and security of our nation, our democracy, and future generations hang in the balance if we do not address this misconduct. In America, no one is above the law, not even the President."

The report released Saturday does not lay out the facts of the Ukraine case, but it hints at potential articles of impeachment and explains the thinking behind Democrats' decision to draft them. Without frequently mentioning Trump, it alludes to his requests that Ukraine investigate Democrats, a move he believed would benefit him politically, by saying a president who "perverts

## Trump: Giuliani wants to take data to Barr, Congress

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump indicated Saturday that his personal attorney Rudy Giuliani wants to take the information he has gathered from his investigations in Ukraine to the U.S. attorney general and to Congress.

Trump said Giuliani had not yet told him what information he has gathered, though the president said he's heard it was plentiful.

"He's going to make a report, I think, to the attorney general and to Congress," Trump told

reporters outside the White House before he departed for Florida. "He says he has a lot of good information. I have not spoken to him about that information."

Giuliani, the former New York City mayor, has been traveling to Ukraine to pursue investigations into Trump's potential 2020 Democratic rival Joe Biden and Biden's son, as well as a discredited conspiracy theory that Ukraine, not Russia, interfered in the 2016 U.S. election to help Trump's Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton.

his role as chief diplomat to serve private rather than public ends" has unquestionably engaged in the high crimes and misdemean-

ors laid out in the Constitution. That is true "especially" if he intervened rather than opposed foreign interference, the report says.

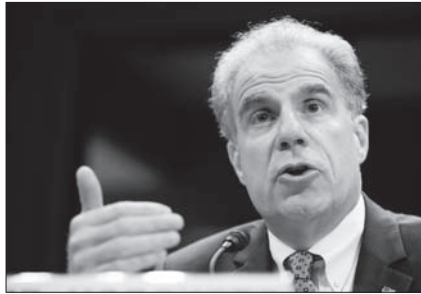
# Watchdog expected to find Russia probe valid despite flaws

By ERIC TUCKER  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department's internal watchdog will release a highly anticipated report Monday that is expected to reject President Donald Trump's claims that the Russia investigation was illegitimate and tainted by political bias from FBI leaders. But it is also expected to document errors during the investigation that may animate Trump supporters.

The report, as described by people familiar with its findings, is expected to conclude there was an adequate basis for opening one of the most politically sensitive investigations in FBI history and one that Trump has denounced as a "witch hunt." It began in secret during Trump's 2016 presidential run and was ultimately taken over by special counsel Robert Mueller.

The report comes as Trump faces an impeachment inquiry in Congress centered on his efforts to press Ukraine to investigate



MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP

Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz is releasing a report Monday that is expected to say the FBI had a legitimate basis to investigate ties between the Trump campaign and Russia.

a political rival, Democrat Joe Biden — a probe the president also claims is politically biased.

Still, the release of Inspector General Michael Horowitz's

review is unlikely to quell the partisan battles that have surrounded the Russia investigation for years.

It's also not the last word. A

separate internal investigation continues, overseen by Trump's attorney general, William Barr and led by a U.S. attorney, John Durham. That investigation is criminal in nature, and Republicans may look to it to uncover wrongdoing that the inspector general wasn't examining.

Trump told reporters Saturday he was waiting to see Horowitz's report and that he looked forward "very much to seeing what happens with the Durham report, maybe even more importantly, because it's a horrible thing that took place and it should never happen to another president."

Horowitz's report is expected to identify errors and misjudgments by some law enforcement officials, including by a FBI lawyer suspected of altering a document related to the surveillance of a former Trump campaign aide. Those findings probably will fuel arguments by Trump and his supporters that the investigation was flawed from the start.

But the report will not endorse some of the president's theo-

ries on the investigation, including that it was a baseless "witch hunt" or that he was targeted by an Obama administration Justice Department desperate to see Republican Trump lose to Democrat Hillary Clinton in 2016.

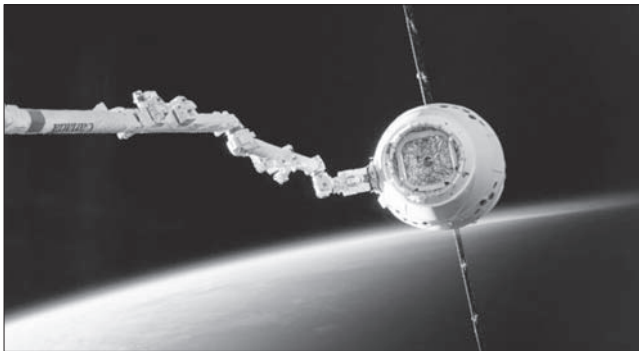
It also is not expected to undo Mueller's findings or call into question his conclusion that Russia interfered in that election in order to help the Trump campaign and that Russians had repeated contacts with Trump associates.

Some of the findings were described to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity by people who were not authorized to discuss a draft of the report before its release. The AP has not viewed a copy of the document.

It is unclear how Barr, a strong defender of Trump, will respond to Horowitz's findings. He has told Congress he believed "spying" on the Trump campaign did occur and has raised public questions about whether the counterintelligence investigation was done correctly.



## NATION



NASA/AP

The SpaceX Dragon capsule arrives at the International Space Station on Sunday.

## SpaceX makes a holiday delivery

By MARCIA DUNN  
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — SpaceX made an early holiday delivery to the International Space Station on Sunday, taking muscle-bound “mighty mice,” pest-killing worms and a smart, empathetic robot.

The station commander, Luca Parmitano, of Italy, used a large robot arm to grab onto the Dragon three days after its launch from Cape Canaveral. The two spacecraft soared 260 miles above the South Pacific at the time of capture.

“Whenever we welcome a new vehicle on board, we take on

board also a little bit of the soul of everybody that contributed to the project, so welcome on board,” Parmitano told Mission Control.

It marks the third visit for this recycled Dragon. Flight controllers quickly secured the capsule to the orbiting lab, paving the way for the hatch to open and the unloading to begin.

The capsule holds 3 tons of supplies, including 40 mice for a muscle and bone experiment. Eight of them are genetically engineered with twice the normal muscle mass — and so are considered “mighty mice.”

There also are 120,000 roundworms or nematodes of a ben-

official variety that are part of an agricultural study aimed at controlling pests on Earth.

The capsule also has a large, round robot head with artificial intelligence and the ability to sense astronauts’ emotions. Named Cimon, it’s an improved version of what flew up last year to be tested as an astronaut’s helper.

NASA has tucked some Christmas presents in the shipment for the station’s six-person crew as well.

The astronauts have another shipment coming Monday — this one launched by Russia from Kazakhstan on Friday.

## Voting site reopened in Georgia after push

By BEN NADLER  
Associated Press

HAZLEHURST, Ga. — When local election officials shut down a polling site in a predominantly black area of a rural Georgia county, displaced voters couldn’t look to the federal government to intervene as it once did in areas with a history of racial disenfranchisement.

So residents banded together, circulating petitions pressuring the Jeff Davis County elections board to reconsider, and advocacy groups sent pre-lawsuit demands and organized turnout at board meetings. The grassroots struggle took two years, but county officials finally relented and agreed to reopen the polling site.

With hundreds of voting sites closing or consolidating nationwide, the victory in Jeff Davis stands out as a rare expansion of in-person voting access since the



BENJAMIN NADLER/AP

The Hazlehurst, GA., polling site was closed in 2017. The site reopened two years later after concerned voters and civil rights organizations protested.

2013 Supreme Court decision that freed Georgia and other states from the Voting Rights Act of 1965’s requirement to prove to the federal government that voting changes would be discriminatory.

Most of the black residents of Hazlehurst, about 100 miles west of Savannah, have voted at the polling site for years and were surprised when it was shuttered in August 2017. They were reassigned to a new, consolidated poll across town just as the Georgia governor’s race was beginning to heat up.

“We couldn’t understand or see why the poll was closed,” Helen Allen said in a recent interview. The 67-year-old had been voting at the little white clapboard

building in a dirt lot between a cemetery and an office supply warehouse since she moved just down the road in 1982.

She said some older and disabled residents became concerned about how they’d get to the new polling place. Residents began “talking about the hardship and how they didn’t want to go all the way across town,” Allen said.

Julie Houk, managing counsel for election protection for the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said polling site closures can create barriers for voters, especially those with low incomes or no personal vehicle, and they are too often carried out in minority communities.

# Ala. won’t fight injunction over its abortion ban

Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama’s near-total abortion ban will remain blocked by a federal judge as a lawsuit over the ban plays out in court.

Alabama did not appeal the court injunction that blocked the state’s near-total abortion ban from taking effect last month, according to the attorney general’s office. The state has previously asked the ban to be ruled unenforceable unless the U.S. Supreme Court makes a major shift on abortion rights.

The preliminary injunction by U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson temporarily stopped the ban from taking effect Nov. 15 while he hears a lawsuit challenging the ban as unconstitutional. The 2019 law would make performing an abortion a felony in almost all cases.

Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall has said the state’s objective is to get the case to the U.S. Supreme Court to try to get justices to reconsider rulings such as *Roe v. Wade* and *Pennsylvania v. Casey*. Roe legalized abortion nationwide. Casey affirmed abortion rights but said that the states could enact limited

**‘It will take time to develop a record in support of our arguments that Roe and Casey were wrongly decided ...’**

Mike Lewis

spokesman for Alabama attorney general

restrictions.

Mike Lewis, a spokesman for the attorney general, confirmed the state is not appealing the temporary injunction.

“It will take time to develop a record in support of our arguments that Roe and Casey were wrongly decided and should be overruled. We hope to have a chance to build that record before any appeal. And for that reason, we have not appealed the preliminary injunction,” Lewis said.

The appeal deadline was Nov. 29, according to Randall Marshall, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Alabama.

## New Amazon lease in NY renews failed deal debate

By ALEXANDRA OLSON  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Amazon has signed a lease for a new office space in Manhattan that will house more than 1,500 employees, less than a year after pulling out of a deal for a larger headquarters in the borough of Queens after politicians and activists objected to nearly \$3 billion in incentives.

The new office almost immediately renewed a debate over whether the tax breaks and other incentives were excessive, given the likelihood that Amazon would continue to expand in New York City regardless because of the city’s large talent pool. The online retail giant received no incentives for its new 335,000-square-foot complex in a building near Hudson Yards, a high-end commercial and residential development on the west side in midtown Manhattan.

Amazon said the new office will open in 2021 and will house employees from its consumer and advertisement teams. The Seattle-based company already has 3,500 employees in other New York offices, and the headquar-

ters for its subsidiary Audible is in nearby Newark, N.J.

Amazon dropped plans this year to build a \$2.5 billion campus in the Queens neighborhood of Long Island City that was projected to bring 25,000 new jobs over 15 years.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo had lashed out at politicians and activists whose campaign helped unravel the Queens project, saying it threatened to undermine New York City’s emergence as a tech hub and squandered an opportunity for generating money for schools, housing and transit. Critics of the incentives package swiftly cited Amazon’s latest corporate lease to argue those fears were unfounded.

“Amazon is coming to New York, just as they always planned. Fortunately, we dodged a \$3 billion bullet by not agreeing to their subsidy shakedown earlier this year,” New York state Sen. Michael Gianaris said.

Cuomo pushed back against the reaction, saying the Queens headquarters would have brought in more jobs and the new office will not benefit Long Island City.

## NATION

# Police: Slain Ark. officer was 'ambushed'

Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — A police officer was "ambushed and executed" by a gunman as he sat in his patrol vehicle parked outside his police station in northwestern Arkansas, police said Sunday.

Fayetteville police said in a news release that Officer Stephen Carr was shot and killed late Saturday by a suspect identified as London Phillips, 35, of Fayetteville.

Gunshots were heard behind the police department about 9:42

p.m. Saturday, police said. When officers responded, they heard additional gunshots, then found an armed suspect behind the police department.

The suspect had a confrontation with the two officers, who shot and killed him. Officers then found Carr shot inside his patrol vehicle.

"Evidence shows that Officer Carr was ambushed and executed while sitting his patrol vehicle," police said in the news release.

Carr was hired by the Fayetteville Police Department in April 2017 and was assigned as a patrol

officer in the Dickson Street entertainment district.

"He served our community with dedication and professionalism for the past 2½ years. He is a HERO," the news release said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Officer Carr's family during this tragic time."

The police department has asked the Washington County Sheriff's Office and the FBI to investigate.

Police did not immediately release the names of the two officers who shot Phillips. Under city and police department policy,

both officers have been placed on administrative leave until Chief Mike Reynolds can review the results of the investigation.

Reynolds said during a news conference that officers chased the suspect into an alley between the police department and city prosecutor's office. The officers then shot and killed the suspect.

Reynolds said the officer had been waiting for his partner in the parking lot when the shooting happened. He said he didn't know the shooter's motivation.

"It appears the suspect came into the back parking lot and just

executed my officer," Reynolds said.

Emergency medical personnel responded to the scene, but the officer and suspected shooter died of their injuries.

The gunfire sparked a scare at the nearby city square, where a crowd was taking in the Lights of the Ozarks installation, the Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reported. Police said there was no threat to the public.

The fatal Arkansas shooting followed the shooting death of a Houston police officer Saturday night.

## Banana art piece sold for \$120,000 is eaten

By HOWARD COHEN  
AND SIOBHAN MORRISSEY  
Miami Herald

MIAMI — Someone ate a really expensive snack at Art Basel on Saturday afternoon — to the tune of \$120,000.

For one banana.

By now you have probably heard of the world-famous banana duct-taped to Emmanuel Perrotin's outer gallery wall at Art Basel Miami Beach. The piece that sold to an art collector for \$120,000.

The \$120,000 banana — a real, rather ripe and edible one — is the work of Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan and titled "Comedian."

The work comes with a Certificate of Authenticity, and owners are told that they can replace the banana, as needed.

Instructions on how to replace the banana are not included.

But New York-based performance artist David Datuna ate the banana around 1:45 p.m. in front of a convention center full of art lovers, according to gallery representatives.

While the banana was indeed consumed, apparently that doesn't diminish the integrity of the six-figure artwork, said Lucien Terras, director of museum relations for Galerie Perrotin.

"He did not destroy the artwork. The banana is the idea,"



GONZALO FUENMAYOR, MIAMI HERALD/TNS

**Performance artist David Datuna eats the \$120,000 banana.**

Terras said.

Confused?

We were, too, but that's where the Certificate of Authenticity comes in. Collectors are buying the certificate. The banana is not made to last.

"This has brought a lot of tension and attention to the booth and we're not into spectacles," Terras added. "But the response has been great. It brings a smile to a lot of people's faces."

Gallery owner Perrotin was about to head to the airport when he heard that the banana was eaten. He darted to the space, clearly upset.



CINDY ORD, GETTY IMAGES/TNS

**A man takes a photo of Maurizio Cattelan's "Comedian" on Friday in Miami Beach, Fla.**

According to Peggy Leboeuf, a partner at Perrotin Gallery, a startled and bemused woman in the crowd thought the original artist — Cattelan — was eating his own banana off the wall. But that wasn't the case. When she saw Datuna eating the banana, which still had some duct tape on it, she asked him what he was doing.

Datuna allegedly responded he was a performance artist.

"But you're not supposed to touch the art!" Leboeuf told Datuna.

The London-based White Cube gallery in the booth next door to Perrotin removed a floor installation because the crowd to see the banana was just overwhelming.

Perrotin installed a silver rope line in an attempt to keep the

crowd in check Saturday afternoon. Four Miami Beach police officers also gathered outside the gallery to keep order.

"That banana has been more photographed than the Mona Lisa," Terras said. "This has been interesting," said Miami Beach police Capt. Steven Feldman.

When asked if he had ever heard of someone deliberately destroying artwork at the fair, he said, "Not that I can remember."

For what Cattelan's banana fetches, Datuna could have bought 631,579 bananas at Trader Joe's, which sells bananas for 19 cents each.

The gallery reported the incident to security, but Datuna was not arrested.

## 2 kids are charged with involuntary manslaughter

By JOE MARUSAK

The Charlotte (N.C.) Observer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A 12-year-old girl and an 11-year-old boy were charged with involuntary manslaughter after another 11-year-old boy was hit by a vehicle near a Charlotte middle school Thursday night.

The boy died at a hospital after a driver hit him about 6:25 p.m. at Rama Road and Cabotwood Lane, outside McClintock Middle School in southeast Charlotte, police said.

The victim had been in an altercation with the two youths near Rama Road, according to a Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department news release late Friday.

"This altercation led to the victim entering the roadway and ultimately being struck by a vehicle," police said in the news release.

Medics took the victim to a hospital, where staff pronounced him dead, police said.

Police charged the girl and boy after taking them to CMPD headquarters for interviews. Their names will not be released due to their ages, police said.

The driver who hit the victim will not be charged, police said.

## Tesla on auto-pilot collides with Connecticut state police cruiser

By PETER MARTEKA

The Hartford (Conn.) Courant

HARTFORD, Conn. — A Tesla in auto-pilot mode collided with a Connecticut state police cruiser early Saturday morning as the trooper was assisting a disabled motor vehicle in the center lane of Interstate 95.

According to police, a pair of troopers responded to a disabled vehicle in the left center lane of northbound I-95 near exit 15 in Norwalk.

Police said both troopers were behind the disabled vehicle with their emergency lights activated and a flare pattern behind

the cruisers.

While troopers awaited a tow truck, a 2018 Tesla Model 3 struck the rear of one cruiser and then continued north, striking the disabled motor vehicle.

Police said the operator of the Tesla continued to slowly travel north before being stopped several hundred feet away by the second trooper on the scene.

Police said the operator of the Tesla said that he had his vehicle on auto-pilot and that he was checking on his dog, which was in the back seat, prior to hitting the vehicles.

Tara Andringa, executive director of Partners for Automated Vehicle Educa-

tion, said most vehicles available for sale today offer driver assistance features, but even with the "most advanced of these aids, the driver must always monitor and be prepared to control the vehicle."

PAVE is a coalition of industry leaders, academic and public sector institutions with the goal of raising understanding and awareness of the technology.

She said it is "damaging to public discussion" about advanced vehicle technologies to refer to vehicles now available for sale to the public using terms such as automated, self-driving, autonomous, or auto-pilot or driverless.

"It is incorrect to refer to current ve-

hicles with driver-assist technologies as 'self-driving' or 'autonomous' because creating an inaccurate impression of vehicle capabilities can put drivers and other road users at risk," she said.

The operator, who was not identified, was issued a misdemeanor summons for reckless driving and reckless endangerment.

"Fortunately, no one involved was seriously injured, but it is apparent that this incident could have been more severe," state police noted in their news release.

"Regardless of your vehicle's capabilities, when operating a vehicle your full attention is required at all times to ensure safe driving."

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Officials: Man valued at nearly \$1B after typo

**UT** SALT LAKE CITY — Officials said a possible dropped phone resulted in a typo that overvalued a home at almost \$1 billion, and taxpayers may have to pay for the mistake.

The Deseret News reported a house built in 1978 in an unincorporated area of the county was recorded in 2019 tax rolls with a value of more than \$987 million. That's an overestimate of about \$543 million in taxable value.

Wasatch County Assessor Maureen "Buff" Griffiths told officials a staff member may have dropped a phone on a keyboard. Griffiths said the accident has resulted in a countywide overvaluation of more than \$6 million.

County officials said residents will likely see an increased tax rate to make up for the lower amount collected in 2019.

## Police: Woman faked lease, moved into home

**AZ** PRESCOTT — A woman is facing charges after authorities said she faked a lease agreement and moved into a home without the homeowner's permission.

KPHO-TV reported Stephanie Heinrich was arrested last month after Yavapai County sheriff's deputies found her moving into a home without permission. Deputies said they found Heinrich, 45, and her boyfriend unloading a moving truck outside a Prescott home. Heinrich showed deputies an 11-year lease agreement.

Heinrich later admitted she forged and downloaded all of the forms off of the internet.

She was booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center on fraud charges and ordered held on a \$75,000 bond.

## 'Lawnmower Man' memorial reappears

**NM** ROSWELL — A mysterious memorial dedicated to a homeless man who mowed lawns has reappeared after a similar one was stolen.

KRQE-TV reported a lawn mower memorial dedicated to Carlos Ramirez was installed last week in Roswell.

Ramirez died last month in Lubbock, Texas. He was known around town as Roswell's "Lawnmower Man" because he sat outside the city's Saint Andrews Church for nearly 50 years and offered to mow lawns to make money.

After he died, a white lawn mower memorial suddenly sprang up near the church in his honor. A day later, it was stolen.

## Police: Man concealed body of dead mother

**NE** OMAHA — Police arrested a man Thursday on charges that he concealed the death of his mother, whose body was found in a bedroom months after her death.

Police arrested Shawn P. Snoza, 47, on a misdemeanor charge of concealing the death of another person after going to a house to



GREG EANS, THE (OWENSBORO, KY.) MESSENGER-INQUIRER/AP

## Picking a new hobby

Chris Joslin, right, executive director of the Bluegrass Hall of Fame & Museum, shows tour operator Susanne Fuhrmann, of Cologne, Germany, how to play the dobro while Fuhrmann was visiting the museum with 30 international tour operators and travel planners Thursday.

inquire about his mother, Geraldine Snoza, 76.

Police said he told officers his mother wasn't home but later acknowledged she'd been dead inside the house since early July.

## Tractor-trailers seized over unpaid tolls

**ME** POLAND — State Troopers on Friday seized five tractor-trailers belonging to a Rhode Island trucking company accused of amassing \$75,000 in unpaid tolls.

The trucking company, Commodity Haulers Express, of North Kingstown, R.I., is facing felony theft-of-service charges for the unpaid Maine Turnpike tolls over the past three years, Maine State Police said. The trucking company hauls water for Maine's Poland Spring, which was not aware of the unpaid tolls, officials said.

The Maine Turnpike Authority asked state police last month to investigate after repeatedly notifying the company of the debt. The company's right to operate vehicles in Maine was suspended by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

## Hunter fatally shoots himself with crossbow

**PA** ALSACE TOWNSHIP — A man fatally shot himself with a crossbow while he was hunting on his property, offi-

## THE CENSUS

# 29

The number of dogs in the New York City area seized at as part of a dogfighting ring. Authorities said an Upper Manhattan building superintendent, a veterinary worker and two other men have been charged. The pit bulls and other dogs were found in cages, a closet and elsewhere in the men's homes, and a dead dog was found in building superintendent Jose "Gator" Rivera's freezer, authorities. In addition to Rivera, 55, authorities charged Evans Fuentes, 39; Edward "Big Myke" Johnson, 37; and Benito Gittens, 46.

cials said.

The Berks County coroner's office said James Jacobs, 75, died Wednesday, the Reading Eagle reported.

Jacobs and his son were deer hunting when troopers said he lost his footing, fell and discharged a crossbow into his left side and abdomen.

The son, who has not been identified, found his father around noon. The man died at a hospital, according to Chief Deputy Coroner John M. Hollenbach.

The death was ruled an accident, Hollenbach said.

## Reward offered after projectile attacks

**CA** PRUNDALE — Authorities have offered a reward for information leading to whoever launched projectiles at nearly 50 vehicles along a busy highway in Northern California. In the latest attack, a car was hit Thursday along a stretch of High-

way 101 in Monterey County.

The local sheriff's office, California Highway Patrol and county supervisors offered \$8,500 for information on the attacks in Prunedale, KSBW-TV reported.

At least 47 cases of projectiles being fired at vehicles have been reported since February.

## Teacher accused of having sex with teen

**FL** PENSACOLA — A special education teacher is accused of having a sexual relationship with her son's teenage friend.

Susan Weddle, 40, was arrested Dec. 2 and faces multiple charges, including lewd and lascivious behavior and sexual assault, according to Escambia County court records.

Weddle resigned from her job as a learning resource specialist, according to Escambia County School District Superintendent Malcolm Thomas.

## Man arrested after rescue from chimney

**AZ** TUCSON — A man is facing charges after authorities said he tried to climb down the chimney in a vacant house and got stuck.

KGUN-TV reported firefighters in Tucson rescued the man Friday after finding his legs dangling from inside the chimney.

Authorities said rescue workers were called to the scene following reports from neighbors who said they heard a man calling for help.

Tucson Police say the home was vacant and the man was charged with trespassing and possession of a dangerous drug.

## 2 Salvation Army kettles are stolen

**MI** OWOSSO — Two Salvation Army red kettles, a fundraising tradition in December, have disappeared in Shiawassee County.

The Argus-Press reported the kettles were on counters inside a Big Boy restaurant in Caledonia Township and Rollin's Smokes in Owosso and probably had a few hundred dollars.

They were among 100 kettles placed inside local businesses in addition to the outdoor kettles.

From wire reports



## WORLD

# Documents show Japan's role in WWII sex slaves

By YURI KAGEYAMA  
Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's army during World War II asked the government to provide one sex slave for every 70 soldiers, according to historical documents reviewed by Kyodo News service that highlight the state role in the so-called "comfort women" system.

The 23 documents were gathered by Japan's Cabinet Secretariat between April 2017 and March 2019, including 13 classified dispatches from the Japanese consulates in China to the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo dating to 1938, according to Kyodo.

The sex slaves issue has been a source of a painful dispute between South Korea and Japan. The women were from Korea, Taiwan, Australia and the Philippines as well as Japan.

In 1993, then-Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, the government spokesman, apologized for the "comfort women" system and acknowledged the Japanese military's involvement in taking women against their will.

The Kyodo report shows one dispatch from the consul general of Jinan to the foreign minister that said the Japanese invasion had caused a surge in prostitution in the area, with 101 geisha from Japan, 110 comfort women from Japan and 228 comfort women from Korea.

It says "at least 500 comfort women must be concentrated here by the end of April" for Japanese soldiers.

Presumably, the records imply that the women referred to as "geisha" might have come on their own, as opposed to sex slaves, who were coerced.

Another dispatch from the consul general of Qingdao in Shandong province in China says the Imperial Army asked for one woman to accommodate every 70 soldiers, while the navy had requested 150 more comfort women and geisha, Kyodo said.

The number of sex slaves is not certain, but historians say they numbered in the tens of thousands or more and their purpose was to prevent the spread of disease and curtail rapes among soldiers.

## Kenya: 2 survivors found after building collapse

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenyan rescuers digging through the rubble of a six-story building found two survivors alive Sunday, two days after it collapsed in Nairobi and killed at least five people and injured 31 others.

Authorities said 24 people were still missing.

Rescuers, including the military, had said they were communicating with people believed to be trapped in pockets of debris.

It was not immediately clear what caused the collapse.

## French strikes going strong on Day 4

PARIS — France's prime minister was holding special meetings Sunday about the government's divisive redesign of the national retirement system amid warnings that strike-related transport troubles will get worse in the coming days.

Travel tangles continued Sunday as the strikes entered their fourth day, with most French trains at a standstill. Fourteen of Paris' subway lines were closed, with only two lines — using automated trains with no drivers — functioning.

Unions are calling for even more people to walk off the job Monday when commuters go back to work.

## Students keep driving protests in Chile

SANTIAGO, Chile — Nearly two months ago, Catalina Santana jumped a turnstile in the Santiago metro and helped launch a movement that changed the course of Chilean history.

Student protests over a fare increase morphed into a nationwide call for socioeconomic equality and better social services.

Although the headlines have faded, Santana, 18, and thousands of other young people are still taking to the streets of Santiago and other Chilean cities almost daily to demand the government follow through on its promises of change.

## Economic aftershocks rattle Haitians

PORT-AU-PRINCE — Protesters have largely dissipated, but hundreds of thousands of people are now suffering deep economic aftershocks after more than two months of demonstrations.

The protests that drew tens of thousands of people at a time to demand the resignation of President Jovenel Moïse also squeezed incomes, shuttered businesses and disrupted the transportation of basic goods.

"We are nearing a total crash," Haitian economist Camille Chalmers said. "The situation is unsustainable."

From The Associated Press



KICHIRO SATO/AP

## Hong Kong protests continue

Pro-democracy protesters march in Hong Kong on Sunday. Thousands of people took to the streets in a mass show of support for a protest movement that shows no signs of flagging as it enters a seventh month. Many marchers held up five fingers to signify the movement's five demands.

## Ukraine, Russia to meet for peace talks

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — When new Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy sits down Monday for peace talks in Paris with Russian President Vladimir Putin in their first face-to-face meeting, the stakes couldn't be higher.

More than five years of fighting in eastern Ukraine between government troops and Moscow-backed separatists has killed more than 14,000 people, and a cease-fire has remained elusive. While Zelenskyy has made ending the conflict a priority, the po-

litical novice arrives at the table with the veteran Kremlin leader in what appears to be a less advantageous position:

■ Zelenskyy still hasn't had the White House meeting with President Donald Trump that he sought to bolster his stature on the world stage.

■ French President Emmanuel Macron, the host of the meeting, has made clear recently that he wants to reengage with Russia and get back to doing business again after five years of sanctions imposed on Russia over its ac-

tions in Ukraine.

The talks are being organized in the so-called Normandy Format, which was launched soon after Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014 and its backing of the separatists in eastern Ukraine. The consultations had stalled since 2016 but have been revived following Zelenskyy's election.

Despite the challenges, Ukraine still has the support from the European Union, its biggest foreign donor, while Merkel has strongly supported sanctions on Russia.



DECEMBER 13TH

## WORLD

# Factory fire kills at least 43 in India

By SHEIKH SAALIQ AND ASHOK SHARMA  
Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Authorities said an electrical short circuit appeared to cause a fire that killed at least 43 people in a factory in central New Delhi early Sunday as relatives of the workers who were trapped inside identified the dead from photos on police officers' phones.

Assistant New Delhi police commissioner Anil Kumar Mittal said that "the fire appears to have been caused by electric short circuit," adding that authorities were investigating whether the factory was operating legally.

The building's owner, Rihan, who goes by one name, was detained on suspicion of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, Mittal said.

Firefighters had to fight the blaze from 100 yards away because it broke out in one of the area's many alleyways, tangled in electrical wire and too narrow for vehicles to access, authorities said.

A resident of the area, Mohammed Nushad, said he was woken by people wailing



MANISH SWARUP/AP

**A fire engine stands by the site of a New Delhi, India, building fire Sunday in an alleyway tangled in electrical wire and too narrow for vehicles to access. Dozens of people died in a devastating fire at the building in a crowded grains market area.**

around 4:30 a.m. He went outside to find smoke and flames shooting out of a building near Sadar Bazaar, New Delhi's largest wholesale market for household goods. Inside, he found the fourth floor engulfed in flames. One floor below, he saw "20 to 25 people lying on the floor."

"I don't know if they were dead or unconscious, but they were not moving," Nushad said.

He said he carried at least 10 people out of the flames on his shoulders and into the arms of emergency responders.

Maisuma Bibi, a day laborer making plastic handbags, survived the blaze. She said she was sleeping in a room with about 18 other women and children on the building's first floor when she woke to find a bag full of plastic parts on fire. Her brother-in-law carried her to safety, she said.

## Iranian budget seeks to counter trade embargoes

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's president said on Sunday his country will depend less on oil revenue next year in a new budget designed to resist crippling U.S. trade embargoes.

Iran is in the grip of an economic crisis. The U.S. reimposed sanctions that block Iran from selling its crude oil abroad following President Donald Trump's decision to withdraw from Tehran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

"The budget sends a message to the world that despite the sanctions, we will manage the country," President Hassan Rouhani told the opening session of Parliament.

The proposed budget will counter "maximum pressure and sanctions" by the U.S., he said.

Iranian media, including the semi-official Tasnim news agency, said the submitted budget would raise taxes, sell some government-owned property and add more government bonds. It wasn't immediately clear from Rouhani's speech whether the proposed measures would fully compensate for plummeting oil revenues.

Rouhani added that Iran will also benefit from a \$5 billion loan from Russia that's being finalized. He said the U.S. and Israel will remain "hopeless" despite their goal of weakening Iran through sanctions.

# Stripes

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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STARS AND STRIPES

## FACES



## Kindling love without Tinder

Seymour speeding up personally, professionally in her 60s

BY AMANDA LEE MYERS  
Associated Press

Jane Seymour was in her mid-60s when her husband of 20 years decided it was over. The actress was floored.

"I had a long marriage and never thought it was going to end," the 68-year-old said recently while promoting the second season of Netflix's "The Kominsky Method," co-starring Michael Douglas and Alan Arkin.

"I'm going, I what? I date? What? Are you crazy? How does this work?" Seymour said. "And then my kids would say, 'Mom, there's this thing called Tinder.' And I'm like, 'No, that's not going to happen.'"

But similar to her character in "The Kominsky Method" who runs into an old flame, fate intervened, and Seymour stumbled upon new romance. She has been with boyfriend and British film director David Green since 2014, about a year after her divorce from filmmaker James Keach, who directed "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman," Seymour's iconic role.

"Accidentally I ran into somebody I knew 38 years earlier who had been in a long marriage and his marriage ended," she said. "It wasn't his choice and my marriage ended; it wasn't my choice. And we randomly met accidentally 38 years later and realized we were free, and we've been together ever since. So I do not have to date."

Her experience drew Seymour to "The Kominsky Method," in which she plays Madelyn, who reconnects with Arkin's character (Norman) at a funeral following the deaths of their spouses.

"I do get this whole thing of having a relationship with someone that's a contemporary, you know?" Seymour said. "We're both dealing with older children, exes and our future ... how long will we live? How can we stay healthy? How can we tick off our bucket list? Do we still want to work or do we feel like we've only just started, which is the case with me and David."

Seymour first caught the eye of audiences when she played Bond girl M in 1973's "Live and Let Die." Asked what it's like to be a sex symbol well into her 60s, Seymour scoffed, noting that she and her Bond character were both virgins. "So hardly a sex symbol. I didn't know what sex was."

Since then, Seymour has posed in "Playboy" three times, in 1973, 1987 and last year.

To Seymour, sexy means being comfortable in your own skin at every age. That's why she hasn't had plastic surgery, the actress said.

"I made a choice a long time ago not to do all the things that other people do because I'm not trying to look like me when I'm 20 or 30. It's kind of pointless," she said. "So, I just thought, let's put on a gray wig and have some wrinkles and actually play characters."

Actress Jane Seymour, shown Oct. 6, is part of the cast of Netflix's "The Kominsky Method."

REBECCA CARAGE, INVISION/AP

## Eddie Murphy talks to DeGeneres about having 10 kids

New York Daily News

Actor and comedian Eddie Murphy may have 10 kids (and a grandchild), but he'd like everyone to know there's nothing nutty about it.

The funnyman appeared on "Ellen" Dec. 5 and opened up about how men and women react differently to hearing how many children he has.

"Does it seem like a lot to you, or does that seem OK?" DeGeneres asked.

"No, that seems OK," the 58-year-old actor responded.

"Men kind of look at me like, 'He's crazy!'"

How much did that (expletive) cost?" he said. "And women, it's kind of like there's something sexy about it, I think."

Eddie Murphy must be doing his thing," he added.

Murphy has two children with his fiancée Paige Butcher, 3-year-old Izzy and 1-year-old Max. He shares five children with ex-wife Nicole Murphy, and one each from

prior relationships with Paulette McNeely, Tamara Hood and Mel B, aka Scary Spice.

Murphy is currently getting serious Oscar

buzz for "Dolemite Is My Name" and is set to return to "Saturday Night Live" for the show's Christmas episode. He also will reprise one of the roles that made him famous in "Coming to America 2."

Murphy previously told USA Today in November that one of the things he liked most about his family was how much comedy material they provided.

"The last time I did stand-up, I had no kids, I had never been married and I was 27 years old," Murphy said. "I'm 58. I have 10 kids. I've been married and divorced. So I have so much stuff to talk about."



Murphy

## Snooki quits 'Jersey Shore': 'It's turning into a nightmare'

New York Daily News

The party's over for Snooki.

The reality show star whose real name is Nicole Polizzi announced she's retiring from the "Jersey Shore" franchise to spend time with her kids and get away from the constant drama on the series that she says is "turning into a nightmare."

"Don't hate me for my decision, but I have to do what's best for me at the moment, and I am retiring from 'Jersey Shore,'" Snooki said on the Dec. 6 installment of her podcast "It's Happening with Snooki & Joey," which she co-hosts with best friend Joey Camasta.

"I am not coming back to 'Jersey Shore' for a season 4 if there is one," she added. "And there's a lot of reasons why, but the main reason is ... I just can't do it anymore. Literally leaving my kids to film it is really, really hard on me, and Joey knows I try and quit every single day." The pint-sized party girl rose to fame on MTV's "Jersey Shore" series, which was set in a beach house in Seaside Heights, N.J., and aired from 2009 to 2012. The series made a comeback with the spinoff "Jersey Shore: Family Vacation," which debuted last year and recently wrapped up the first half of season 3. The second half is set to pick up some time in 2020.

Snooki, who was frequently shown boozing it up and even getting arrested on the original series, has slowed down her hard-partying ways in recent years since get-

ting married to Jionni LaValle and becoming a mom. The couple are parents to 7-year-old Lorenzo, 5-year-old Giovanna and 6-month-old Angelo.

"I hate being away from the kids," Snooki, 32, said on her podcast. "I don't like partying like three days in a row. It's just not my life anymore, and I wanna be home with the kids."

She added that the show has also changed over the seasons.

"Lately on the show, it's just been very drama and ... Our show 'Jersey Shore' is about family and about making fun of each other and about having a good time and laughing and just knowing that it's all in good fun. And lately it's just like everything is so serious."

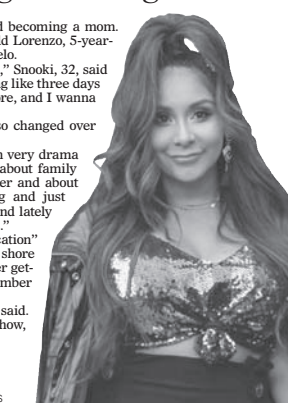
Recent episodes of "Family Vacation" have shown Snooki storming out of a shore house and leaving for the night after getting into a fight with fellow cast member Angelina Pivarnick.

"Enough with the drama," Snooki said.

"It's supposed to be a happy, fun show, and it's turning into a nightmare."

Nicole Polizzi

JOHANNES EISELE, AFP, GETTY IMAGES/TNS



## Few watch it all, but 'The Irishman' still a hit

"The Irishman," the 3½-hour gangster epic that debuted on Netflix last week, was seen by 13.2 million U.S. viewers over its first five days of release, a solid showing for a film on the streaming service.

The Martin Scorsese-directed movie attracted a bigger average audience over five days than "El Camino," the "Breaking Bad"-inspired film that Netflix released earlier this year, according to Nielsen. But it fell short of the 16.9 million attracted by "Bird Box," the supernatural thriller starring Sandra Bullock that came out at the end of 2018.

Only 18% of viewers made it all the way through "The Irishman," which stars Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Joe Pesci. But that's not unusual for a Netflix movie. A similar number finished "Bird Box," and only 11% completed "El Camino."

On the Friday after Thanksgiving — the most popular day for viewing "The Irishman" — 930,000 viewers watched the entire movie, Nielsen said.

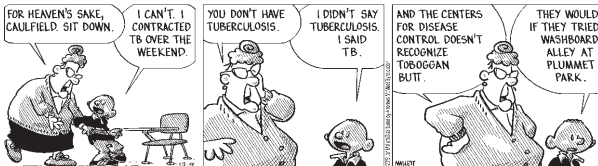
The movie did best with older viewers, perhaps not surprising given its septuagenarian cast. The median age of viewers was 49 years old, Nielsen found. That's compared with the average age of 31 for Netflix users.

Netflix released "The Irishman" in movie theaters for a few weeks before it appeared on the streaming service, ensuring that it can compete for the Academy Awards. It's the current favorite for best picture at the award site GoldDerby.

From Bloomberg



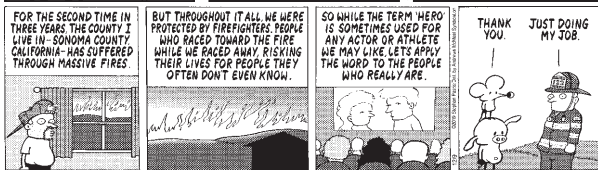
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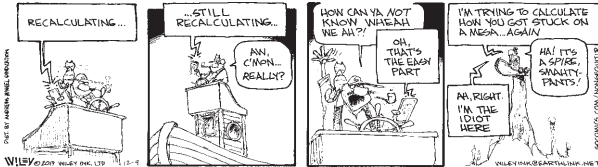
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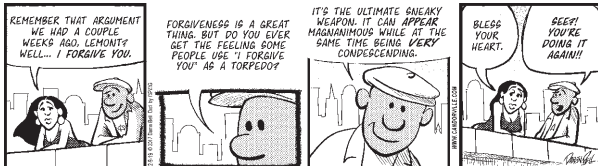
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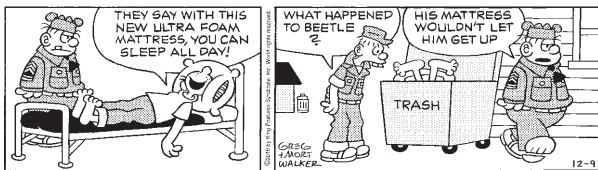
Candorville



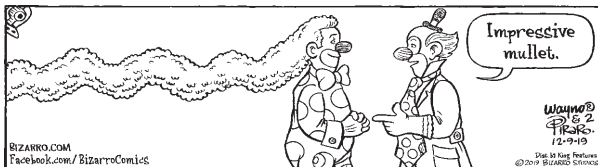
Carpe Diem



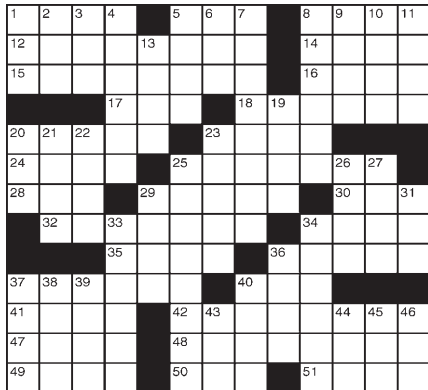
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword



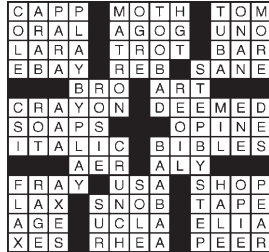
## ACROSS

- 1 Wine region
- 2 Dazzle
- 8 Takeout order?
- 12 Chinese city
- 14 Apple desktop
- 15 Hackneyed
- 16 Baja boy
- 17 DDE's opponent
- 18 Hansel's sister
- 20 Commence
- 23 Despot
- 24 Arkin or Alda
- 25 Movie snack
- 28 '60s war zone
- 29 Orderly grouping
- 30 Black gold
- 32 Babe in a
- maternity ward
- 34 Blanchett of "Elizabeth"

## DOWN

- 1 Donkey
- 2 "Quiet!"
- 3 Eastern path
- 4 Needing aspirin, say
- 5 "— on first?"
- 6 Rowing need
- 7 Airplane measure
- 8 Moolah
- 9 Send forth
- 10 Swim meet assignment
- 11 Earth Day subj., entry (Abbr.)
- 13 Verdon or Stefani
- 19 Suggestive
- 20 Prohibit
- 21 Flair
- 22 Up for it
- 23 Baseball's Joe
- 25 Max Bialystock, for one
- 26 Lion's greeting
- 27 Minor quibbles
- 29 "Peek- —!"
- 31 Floral necklace
- 33 Most ironic
- 34 Drive-in server
- 36 Sense
- 37 Own (up)
- 38 Verbal
- 39 Puerto —
- 40 Calendar
- 43 "I — Rock"
- 44 Popeye's Olive
- 45 Old Oldsmobile
- 46 Badminton barrier

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 12-9

## CRYPTOQUIP

EZKKHC KUELXMZ DVU DLC  
GTYV GUOZ XUVZGHLK EVLK  
LMGUCE LMM UEVZO YUTOE  
MTGHKLOH2C: LOEHZO LCVZ.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: COMPUTER HACKER WHO PREVENTS A TEST SOFTWARE VERSION FROM GETTING DISTRIBUTED: A BETA BLOCKER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals N

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0471900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and 60 cents Friday. Second-class postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96301-5002.

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## OPINION

## Bold, clear and swift wins a message war

By MATTHEW MILLER  
Special to The Washington Post

"No collusion, no obstruction." The Mueller report weighed in at 448 door-stopping pages, but with exactly nowhere in the report, President Donald Trump reduced two years' worth of carefully gathered facts to a breezily succinct, if utterly false, mantra.

Washington is awash in investigative reports. The House Intelligence Committee led by Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., unveiled its account of the impeachment inquiry into the president on Tuesday, one day after Republicans on the committee tried to preempt the Democratic majority by releasing their own report defending the president's actions. This week, the Department of Justice's inspector general will release a highly anticipated report detailing its investigation into the origins of the Russia investigation, its third such accounting of the agency's activities during the 2016 election. And, of course, in April, the Justice Department released then-special counsel Robert Mueller's report of the results of that investigation.

Each report announces itself as the definitive accounting of the events it examines. But if there is one thing that is true in the "alternative facts" era of Donald Trump, it is that there is no such thing as a definitive account. Which is why a big fat report might only be as good as the messenger who delivers it most simply, compellingly and, preferably, first. A successful messenger can twist and distort a complicated narrative, ignore critical conclusions in favor of cherry-picked passages and get out ahead of a competing message. The opening salvo in the messaging war has a much better shot at being the winning one.

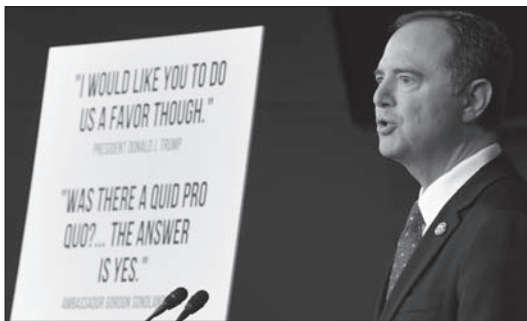
When I worked as the Justice Department's top spokesman, I constantly struggled against an institutional culture that prized speaking only in court, and counseled ignoring the swirl of partisan debate that occurs outside a courtroom. At times, that principle is correct, most notably when prosecutors bring criminal charges. In the present environment, however, investigative reports need to be as much mass communications documents as legal ones. Their effectiveness depends not just on the strength of their underlying conclusions but also on their ability to tell a compelling story.

Uncovering the facts is the most important job for investigators. But their reports should follow a few simple rules to break through the thick fog of partisanship — and especially the fact-free fog created by the current White House and its allies — and ensure the facts they reveal are properly understood.

First, an effective report must have a simple, clear message that is easily digestible by mass audiences. This seemingly obvious starting point is the most difficult objective to achieve, as Mueller himself showed in his report.

The Mueller report, read in its entirety and properly deciphered, presents a stunning compendium of presidential criminality. But it falters, noting in its detailing the president's alleged obstruction of justice was so definitive that more than 1,000 former federal prosecutors concluded that Trump's conduct would have resulted in criminal charges had Department of Justice rules not barred a sitting president from committing obstruction of justice. In their statement that "these are not matters of close professional judgment."

Yet Mueller's own presentation of his findings was muddled and incoherent. "[I]f we had confidence after a thorough investigation of the facts that the President clearly did not commit obstruction of justice, we would so state. Based on the facts



SUSAN WALSH/AP



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

and the applicable legal standards, however, we are unable to reach that judgment," he wrote in a passage that will go down in history as an example of over-lawyered hand-wringing taking a back seat to crisp thinking and writing.

By contrast, the House Intelligence Committee's report brings light and clarity to the president's misconduct. If Mueller's report was "Ulysses," the Schiff report was "The Sun Also Rises." It can take a scholar to unpack a Joycean sentence; Hemingway is crisp, short and blunt. The brief executive summary of the House Intelligence Committee neatly presents its findings: "a months-long effort by President Trump to use the powers of his office to solicit for interference on his behalf in the 2020 election." The report doesn't just outline the relevant facts, however. It also places them in context, arguing clearly how the president's behavior fit into the Founding Fathers' conception of impeachable offenses and why it is urgent that Congress act. Schiff writes that Trump is a repeat offender "determined to use his vast official powers to secure his election."

Mueller's defenders will argue that, as a Department of Justice prosecutor, he was bound by rules that do not apply to congressional committees. But those rules do not preclude him from speaking clearly about what he found. In fact, a president's exemption from prosecution while in office only heightens the need for a prosecutor to be clear to Congress and the public about what his investigation reveals. For all the flaws in Ken Starr's 1990s investigation into President Bill Clinton, his final report left no doubt about what he believed the outcome to be. The president lied under oath, obstructed justice and deserved to be removed from office.

In addition to clarity and simplicity, a key to delivering a successful report is controlling its presentation to the public. Attorney General William Barr has shown how well

Above: The House Intelligence Committee led by Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., unveiled its account of the impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump on Tuesday, one day after Republicans on the committee released their own report defending the president's actions.

Left: Attorney General William Barr misled the Senate Judiciary Committee's special counsel Robert Mueller's report on Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election before the report was made public.

he understands this. He infamously spun the results of the Mueller report — releasing his own summary, testifying about it to two congressional committees and even holding a news conference, all before the public ever read a word of what Mueller wrote in its own context. Barr seemed set to repeat this formula with the upcoming inspector general report, briefing a key congressional ally, Senate Judiciary Chairman Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., weeks in advance of its release. Graham promptly predicted a "damning" report that would "prove that the system got off the rails" and scheduled a hearing to examine his findings.

But this time, others familiar with the report's findings have been unwilling to cede the playing field to the attorney general. Repeated leaks have revealed that the report will confirm that the FBI acted appropriately in opening its Russia investigation. Barr reportedly disputes this finding, but should he try to rerun his Mueller playbook, and release his own interpretation before the report's official release, he will do so against a very different public backdrop, one primed by swifter messengers.

Finally, a report's authors must be willing to defend their conclusions publicly and, most importantly, correct those who misinterpret their work in bad faith. It is here, ultimately, where Mueller failed most significantly, allowing Trump's misleading "no collusion, no obstruction" tagline — his blunt abbreviation of Barr's message — to go unchallenged for months before he halfheartedly pushed back at congressional hearings he only reluctantly attended.

When the fate of the truth is left in the hands of those with an interest in seeing it obliterated, any entity that does not clearly, deliberately and consistently explain its work will see that work distorted beyond recognition. That may be fine when the ultimate audience is 12 Americans in a jury box, and simply reciting the facts is enough. But when it comes to persuading 327 million Americans whose black mirrors increasingly come in shades of red or blue, it is a prescription for certain failure.

Matthew Miller was director of the Justice Department's public affairs office from 2009 to 2011.







## NBA

## Scoreboard

## Eastern Conference

## Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	15	5	.752	—
Toronto	15	6	.714	1
Philadelphia	16	7	.696	1
Brooklyn	12	10	.545	4½
New York	19	17	.174	13

## Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	16	6	.727	—
Orlando	11	11	.500	5
Charlotte	9	15	.375	8
Washington	7	14	.333	8½
Atlanta	5	17	.227	11

## Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	20	3	.870	—
Indiana	15	8	.652	5
Detroit	9	14	.391	11
Chicago	8	15	.348	12
Cleveland	5	17	.227	14½

## Western Conference

## Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	15	6	.727	—
Houston	15	7	.682	1
San Antonio	9	14	.391	7½
Memphis	6	16	.273	10
New Orleans	7	17	.261	10½

## Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	14	6	.700	—
Utah	10	10	.500	2½
Minnesota	10	11	.476	4½
Oklahoma City	9	12	.429	5½
Portland	9	14	.391	6½

## Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	20	3	.870	—
L.A. Clippers	16	7	.696	4
Phoenix	10	12	.455	9½
Sacramento	8	13	.381	11
Golden State	5	19	.208	15½

## Friday's games

Brooklyn 111, Charlotte 104	
Detroit 108, Indiana 101	
Orlando 93, Cleveland 87	
Boston 108, Denver 95	
Golden State 100, Chicago 98	
Miami 112, Washington 103	
Oklahoma City 135, Minnesota 127, OT	
Milwaukee 119, L.A. Clippers 91	
San Antonio 105, Sacramento 104, OT	
L.A. Lakers 126, Portland 113	

## Saturday's games

Dallas 130, New Orleans 104	
Indiana 104, New York 103	
Philadelphia 141, Cleveland 94	
Houston 115, Phoenix 109	
Utah 126, Memphis 112	

## Sunday's games

Denver at Brooklyn	
Atlanta at Charlotte	
Chicago at Miami	
L.A. Clippers at Washington	
Toronto at Philadelphia	
Sacramento at Dallas	
Oklahoma City at Portland	
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers	

## Monday's games

L.A. Clippers at Indiana	
Cleveland at Boston	
Detroit at New Orleans	
Orlando at Milwaukee	
Sacramento at Houston	
Toronto at Chicago	
Minnesota at Phoenix	
Oklahoma City at Utah	
Memphis at Golden State	

## Tuesday's games

Washington at Charlotte	
Atlanta at Miami	
Denver at Philadelphia	
New York at Portland	

## Leaders

## Scoring

	G	FG	FTPTS	AVG
Harden, HOU	22	20	262	36.5
Antetokounmpo, MIL	23	263	147	30.8
Doncic, DAL	22	212	171	30.1

## Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEFTOT	AVG
Drummond, DET	23	105	282	31.7
Capela, HOU	18	76	188	26.4
Gobert, UTA	21	70	211	28.1

## Assists

	G	AST	AVG
James, LAL	20	182	10.8
Doncic, DAL	19	183	9.6
Simmons, PHL	18	151	8.4

## Roundup

## Knicks drop first game after Fizdale firing

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Knicks didn't have any close games in David Fizdale's final days, then got one right away under interim coach Mike Miller.

Julius Randle's missed free throw ended their chance to win it, but just being competitive again was a good start after a rough couple of days.

"You get in those games, you've got to make another play and we just didn't make another play," Miller said. "Loved the effort. That was fun."

Randle missed a free throw with 0.1 seconds left, sending New York to a 104-103 loss to the Indiana Pacers on Saturday night in the Knicks' first game since firing Fizdale.

New York was much more competitive under Miller than it had been in recent games under Fizdale, who was fired Friday. The Knicks chased after rebounds and loose balls throughout the fourth quarter, erasing an 11-point deficit and giving themselves a shot at overtime when Randle was fouled while trying to put back the rebound of a scramble.

He calmly made the first free throw but the second was well long, sending New York to a ninth straight loss and a 4-19 record.

"It was tough. Very difficult, but we played really hard," Randle said. "We gave everything that we had. Came up short, but keep doing that and we're going to win a lot of games."

T.J. Warren scored 25 points and Domantas Sabonis had 19 points and 15 rebounds for the Pacers. They bounced back from a loss at Detroit on Friday.

"We knew it was going to be a tough game, whether with the coach or without the coach," Sabonis said. "They are a dangerous team because they play with a lot of energy and the crowd is into it."

The Knicks lost by 44 to Milwaukee and 37 to Denver in their last two games under Fizdale and he was fired Friday after running practice. The Knicks offered no details about the decision in their press release announcing the firing, and team executives didn't speak Saturday.

Players had held a team meeting Friday to discuss their outlook going forward, even before learning it would be without Fizdale. They responded with a good effort in the first game since the change but couldn't overcome their 40.6% shooting.

Marcus Morris scored 25 points for the Knicks and Randle finished with 16 points and 12 rebounds.

**Mavericks 130, Pelicans 84:** Luka Doncic scored 28 points in 26 minutes, leading host Dallas in a rout of New Orleans.

The Mavs (18-8) have won five in a row and 10 of 11 from the first time since winning is their only NBA championship in 2010-11.



MARY ALTAFF/AP

Indiana Pacers forward T.J. Warren, right, goes to the basket against Knicks guard Frank Ntilikina in the first half of Saturday's game at Madison Square Garden in New York.

The Pelicans are on an eight-game skid. Tim Hardaway Jr. and Kristaps Porzingis scored 14 and 13 points, respectively.

Boban Marjanovic had season highs of 15 points and 16 rebounds off the bench. Jalen Brunson scored 14.

J.J. Redick led New Orleans with 15 points. Brandon Ingram and Jrue Holiday scored 14 each and Jackson Hayes had 11.

**76ers 141, Cavaliers 94:** Ben Simmons hit his second career three-pointer and scored a career-high 34 points, and Philadelphia didn't need Joel Embiid's help to rout visiting Cleveland.

Simmons made 12 of 14 field goals, including his only three-point attempt, and hit 9 of 12 free throws to help the 76ers improve to 11-0 at home.

Embiid sat out with a left hip contusion. Darius Garland had 17 points for the Cavaliers, who have lost six in a row and 12 of 13.

**Rockets 115, Suns 109:** James Harden scored 18 of his 34 points in the fourth quarter and Ben McLemore added 27 points to help host Houston outlast Phoenix.

Harden had a tough shooting night through three quarters and was 5 of 19 overall and 1 of 10 on threes with 16 points before getting going in the fourth. The game was tied with about 7 minutes left, and he scored all of the Rockets' points in a 13-6 run that made it 102-95. Russell Westbrook had 24 points, 14 rebounds and 11 assists for his third straight triple-double and sixth this season.

**Jazz 126, Grizzlies 112:** Donovan Mitchell scored 22 points and Jeff Green matched his season high with 19 points off the bench, leading Utah over visiting Memphis.

Rudy Gobert had 19 points, 11 rebounds and a season-high five assists, and Jeff Ingle had a season-high 10 assists and 12 points.

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# COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Roundup

# Maryland rallies from 15 down to beat Illinois

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — No. 3 Maryland couldn't help but like the way its Big Ten opener against Illinois ended.

How the Terrapins got there — not so great.

Anthony Cowan Jr. hit a tying three-pointer in the final 20 seconds and a go-ahead free throw with 2.1 seconds left as Maryland rallied from a 15-point deficit for a 59-58 victory Saturday.

"We have to be better," Cowan said. "We obviously didn't play our best game. We're here to win a championship. This is a good win. Not to take anything away from Illinois, they played a great game."

Cowan had 20 points, seven rebounds and six assists, and Jalen Smith (14 points, 13 rebounds) recorded his sixth double-double of the season for Maryland (10-0, 1-0 Big Ten), which is off to its best start since it won 10 in a row to open the 1998-99 season.

Trent Frazier scored 13 points for Illinois (6-3, 0-1), which nearly claimed its first road victory over a top-five team since 1989. The Fighting Illini have lost 15 consecutive road games against ranked teams and six straight conference openers.

"That one was one hard," Illinois coach Brad Underwood said. "I'm not going to lie."

Illinois led 39-25 at halftime and briefly pushed its lead to 15 in the second half, but Maryland gradually narrowed the deficit.

Donta Scott's basket with 1:45 remaining got Maryland within 57-55, and Frazier split two free throws 2 seconds later. It remained a three-point game until Cowan hit a deep three-pointer with 19 seconds remaining.

"Right when he shot it, it looked perfect," Maryland coach Mark Turgeon said. "I knew it was in, and that's just kind of what he does."

Illinois played for the final possession, but guard Andres Feliz turned it over and fouled Cowan in the ensuing scrum. Cowan made the first free throw and missed the second, and the Illini failed to get a shot off in the remaining time.

The 14-point halftime hole was the largest Maryland has erased since coming back from a 15-point deficit at the break in an 80-78 defeat of Bucknell on Nov. 18, 2017.

The basketball gods were obviously on our side," Turgeon said. "It was kind of a miracle win. We weren't very good. I wasn't very good. And we weren't ready to play, and they were."

**No. 2 Kansas 72, No. 20 Colorado 58:** Ochai Agbaji scored 20 points and Devon Dotson added 18 points to lead the host Jayhawks over the Buffaloes, snapping Colorado's seven-game winning streak. Ten days after claiming the Maui Invitational title, Kansas (7-1) built an early lead. David McCormack fueled the hot start, contributing six of the Jayhawks' opening eight points.

Holding leading scorer Tyler Bey scoreless from the field through the first half, Kansas used a 9-0 run to build a 19-9 lead. Colorado (1-1) shot 26% from the field in the first half and that allowed the Jayhawks to take a 34-22 lead at halftime.

**No. 6 Ohio State 106, Penn State 74:** Kaleb Wesson scored 28 points and had 10 rebounds for his ninth career double-double, and the host Buckeyes scored 100 points against a Big Ten rival for the first time since 1991.

Four players hit double figures for Ohio State (9-0, 1-0 Big Ten), which shot 57.4%

from the field. Andre Wesson scored 15, and sophomores Duane Washington Jr. and Luther Muhammad each had 14. Izaiah Brockington scored 19 points and Seth Lundy added 10 for the Nittany Lions (7-2, 0-1).

**No. 8 Kentucky 83, Fairleigh Dickinson 52:** EJ Montgomery scored a career-high 25 points, Keion Brooks added 15 off the bench and the Wildcats dominated for their 600th victory at Rupp Arena.

Forward Nick Richards, at 6-11, had 12 points and 10 rebounds for Kentucky (7-1), which used a 19-2 run over 6:11 in the first half to build a 43-23 halftime lead. The Wildcats shot 52% and held the Knights (2-6) to 33% shooting, outrebounded them 42-33 and owned nearly statistic for their fifth consecutive victory after a week off.

**No. 18 Baylor 63, No. 12 Arizona 58:** MacIo Teague scored 19 points, Freddie Gillespie had 17 points and 13 rebounds, and the Bears handed the Wildcats their first loss.

Admission was free at Baylor's campus arena because the Bears were playing Oklahoma in the Big 12 football championship game, which started about the same time 100 miles north of Waco at the home of the Dallas Cowboys.

It was supposed to be the first true road game for Arizona (9-1), but its fans might have outnumbered the Baylor (7-1) contingent. They loudly chanted "U of A" before the Bears' introductions but had a hard time getting into the game early, with the Wildcats giving up a 15-0 run and shooting 33% in the first half.

**No. 13 Oregon 89, Hawaii 64:** Payton Pritchard had 20 points and a season-high 11 assists, and the host Ducks snapped a two-game losing streak.

The teams were tied at 34 at the break, but Oregon (7-2) opened the second half with a 20-1 run. The Ducks led by 27 points down the stretch.

**No. 15 Memphis 65, UAB 57:** Precious Achiuwa scored eight of his 14 points in the final 4 minutes to rally the visiting Tigers.

Memphis (8-1) trailed 40-26 at halftime. The Tigers needed a 19-4 run over the final 8 minutes to overcome the Blazers (4-4), who didn't relinquish the lead until freshman Achiuwa's tip shot with 2:56 left put Memphis up 56-55.

UAB's own sensational freshman, Jalen Benjamin, scored 17 points.

**No. 23 Villanova 78, Saint Joseph's 66:** At Philadelphia, Saddiq Bey scored 22 points, Collin Gillespie had 20 and the Wildcats held off a second-half comeback from Saint Joseph's.

Villanova (7-2) led 41-25 at halftime, but the Hawks' Ryan Daly scored 22 of his 32 points after halftime to get his team within 65-62 with 4:03 left. The Wildcats responded with a 13-4 run to end it.

Justin Moore added 12 points and Jermaine Samuels had 14 for Villanova. The Wildcats have won 28 of 29 against Big 5 opponents since 2012.

**No. 24 Butler 76, Florida 62:** Sean McDermott and Aaron Thompson each scored 16 points to lead the host Bulldogs over the Gators.

Jordan Tucker added 13 points off the bench for Butler (9-0). Kamar Baldwin, who was averaging a team-high 17.5 points for Butler, scored 12 points.

Kerry Blackshear Jr. led Florida (6-3) with 17 points.

**No. 25 Utah State 77, Fresno State 70 (OT):** Sam Merrill had 24 points and eight rebounds, and Abel Porter scored seven of his 13 points in overtime to propel the



JULIO CORTES/AP

Maryland guard Anthony Cowan Jr. goes up for a shot as Illinois guard Ayo Dosunmu, right, and center Kofi Cockburn try to defend during the second half on Saturday in College Park, Md. Cowan had 20 points, seven rebounds and six assists to lead the Terrapins to a 59-58 come-from-behind victory.

host Aggies. Justin Bean added 14 points and Neemias Queta chipped in six in 10 minutes in his first action of the season for Utah State (9-1, 2-0 Mountain West).

New Williams scored 26 points and hit the basket that forced overtime for the Bulldogs (2-6, 0-2).

**Navy 53, Marist 51 (OT):** Evan Wieck scored 11 points and grabbed six rebounds and the host Midshipmen beat the Red Foxes.

Tyler Nelson's three-pointer with 87 seconds left in overtime gave Navy (3-4) a 50-49 lead it would never give up. Luke Loehr made a pair of foul shots with 24 seconds left for a three-point lead. Michael Cubbage made a layup for Marist (1-5). After the Midshipmen turned it over, Cubbage missed a jumper with four seconds left.

Greg Summers' three-point play with 15 seconds to go tied it at 42-41 with force overtime.

Cubbage led the Red Foxes with 14 points and Braden Bell scored 10. Navy shot 16-for-50 (32%) while Marist went 19-for-53 (35.8%).

**Long Island 85, Army 72:** Jermaine Jackson Jr. scored 29 points and the visiting Sharks defeated the Black Knights. Virshon Cotton had 13 points for Long Island-Brooklyn (3-6). Tyron Flowers added

12 points. Raiquan Clark had 11 points for the visitors.

Alex King had 17 points and 10 rebounds for Army (4-4). Matt Wilson added 14 points and nine rebounds. Tommy Funk had 14 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

**Nevada 100, Air Force 85:** Jalen Harris scored a career-high 31 points and the Wolf Pack scored their most points of the season in a victory over the host Falcons in its Mountain West Conference opener.

Lindsey Drew scored 15 points, Jazz Johnson had 14, Zane Meeks 13 and Nisre Zouzoua 12 for Nevada (7-3, 1-0), which made 13 of 23 three-pointers in winning its fifth straight.

Trailing 53-42 at halftime, Air Force tied it at 68 on Sid Tomes' free throws with 10:03 to play, but got no closer. Drew hit two three-pointers in a 13-0 run and the Wolf Pack led by as many as 19 from there.

Nevada scored a season-high 47 points in the second half and the Falcons scored a season-high 42 points in the first half.

Lavelle Scottie scored a season-high 23 points and had eight rebounds for Air Force (4-6, 1-1). A.J. Walker scored a career-high 21 points and Caleb Morris had 12 points.



## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## No surprises: LSU leads four teams into playoff

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

LSU will play Oklahoma and Ohio State will face defending national champion Clemson in the College Football Playoff.

The selection committee revealed the pairings Sunday for the national semifinals and the final four was no surprise. The only mystery involved which team would be the No. 1 seed. The 13-member committee went with Southeastern Conference champion LSU. The top-seeded Tigers (13-0) will head back to Atlanta for its playoff game to face the Big 12 champion Sooners (12-1) in the Peach Bowl on Dec. 28.

LSU used a convincing victory against Georgia at Mercedes-Benz Stadium on Saturday to move up to No. 1. Ohio State had been atop the committee's rankings last week, but the slipped to No. 2 after coming from behind against Wisconsin to win the Big Ten title.

"Anytime anywhere, anybody, we ready to play," LSU coach Ed Orgeron said in an interview with ESPN.

The Buckeyes (13-0) will face Atlantic Coast Conference champion Clemson (13-0) in the Fiesta Bowl in Glendale, Ariz., on Dec. 28. The national championship game is Jan. 13 in New Orleans.

Pairings for the other New Year's Six bowls were to be released later Sunday.

The final four fell into place thanks to

the favorites winning their conference championship games and Utah losing the Pac-12 title game to Oregon. The Utes had been No. 5. That left three undefeated Power Five champions, one with one loss, and nobody else with a legitimate case.

The intrigue was about the top seed, knowing Clemson was likely locked into No. 3. The Tigers have been mauling their opponents for the last two months, but the ACC has not provided Clemson any top-flight competition, either. Ohio State has five victories against CFP-ranked teams, including Wisconsin twice. Clemson's only win against those teams was its 62-17 victory Saturday against Virginia.

Still, drawing Clemson, which has the

core of a team that has won 28 straight games, rather than an Oklahoma team that has five victories by a touchdown or less certainly seems like a tougher task for the Buckeyes. Clemson is making its fifth straight playoff appearance, tying Alabama for the most. The Crimson Tide missed out for the first time. Coach Dabo Swinney's Tigers have won two of the last three championships.

LSU is in the playoff for the first time, the only newbie in the field. The Tigers will likely bring the Heisman Trophy winner with them. Quarterback Joe Burrow capped a record-breaking season by throwing four more touchdown passes against Georgia in the SEC championship.

## Scoreboard

## Saturday's scores

**EAST**  
Muhlenberg 24, Salisbury 8  
Slippery Rock 65, Notre Dame (Ohio) 59

**SOUTH**  
Alcorn St. 39, Southern U. 24  
Appalachian St. 45, Louisiana-Lafayette 38  
Clemson 62, Virginia 17  
FAU 49, UAB 6  
Louisiana 66, Monmouth (NJ) 21  
LSU 37, Georgia 10

**MIDWEST**  
Ferris St. 25, NW Missouri St. 3  
Miami (OH) 26, Cent. Michigan 21  
Minnesota St. 42, Texas A&M Commerce 21  
N. Dakota St. 37, Nicholls 13  
N. Iowa 13, S. Dakota St. 10  
North Central 31, Delaware Valley 14  
Ohio St. 34, Wisconsin 21  
St. John's (Minn.) 34, Wheaton (Ill.) 33

**SOUTHWEST**  
Illinois St. 24, Cent. Arkansas 14  
Oklahoma 30, Baylor 23, OT  
Wis.-Whitewater 26, Mary Hardin-Baylor 7

**FAR WEST**  
Boise St. 31, Hawaii 10  
Montana 73, SE Louisiana 28  
Montana St. 47, Albany (NY) 21  
Weber St. 26, Kennesaw St. 20

## FCS playoff

**Second Round**  
**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
James Madison 66, Monmouth (NJ) 21  
Northern Iowa 13, S. Dakota State 10  
Vander State 26, Kennesaw State 20  
Montana State 47, Albany (NY) 21  
Illinois St. 24, Central Arkansas 14  
North Dakota St. 37, Nicholls 17  
Montana 73, SE Louisiana 28  
Austin Peay 42, Sacramento State 28

**Quarterfinals**  
**Friday, Dec. 13**  
James Madison (12-1) vs. Northern Iowa (10-4)  
Montana State (10-3) vs. Austin Peay (11-3)  
Weber State (10-3) vs. Montana (10-3)

**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
North Dakota State (13-0) vs. Illinois State (10-4)

## Division II playoffs

**Quarterfinals**  
**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
Slippery Rock 65, Notre Dame (Ohio) 59  
West Florida 43, Lenoir-Rhyne 38  
Ferris St. 25, NW Missouri State 3  
Minnesota State 42, Texas A&M Commerce 21

**Semifinals**  
**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
West Florida (11-2) vs. Slippery Rock (11-3)  
Minnesota State (13-0) vs. Ferris State (12-0)

**Championship**  
**Saturday, Dec. 21**  
At McKinney, Texas  
Semifinal winners

## Division III playoffs

**Quarterfinals**  
**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
Muhlenberg 24, Salisbury 8  
North Central (Ill.) 31, Delaware Valley 14  
Wisconsin-Whitewater 26, Mary Hardin-Baylor 7  
Saint John's (Minn.) 34, Wheaton (Ill.) 33

**Semifinals**  
**Saturday, Dec. 14**  
Muhlenberg (13-0) vs. North Central (11-3) (12-1)  
Saint John's (Minn.) (12-1) vs. Wisconsin-Whitewater (11-3)

**Championship**  
**Friday, Dec. 20**  
At Shenandoah, Texas  
Semifinal winners

## Top 25 roundup

## No. 16 Memphis edges No. 21 Cincinnati for AAC title

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Memphis coach Mike Norvell made his final home game at Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium memorable.

Norvell and the Tigers captured the American Athletic Conference championship — after failing the previous two years — as Brady White's 6-yard pass to Antonio Gibson for a touchdown with 1:14 left gave No. 16 Memphis a 29-24 victory over No. 21 Cincinnati on Saturday.

Florida State will introduce Norvell as its new coach Sunday, two people with direct knowledge of the decision told The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

As for Norvell, he wasn't tipping his hand regarding his future. Instead, the Memphis coach directed all of his postgame comments to his team.

"We knew this was going to be a game that was going to come down to responses," Norvell said. "How we responded to adversity. How we responded to success at times. But that's the character and the heart of these kids."

On the game-winning scoring drive, Norvell leaned on Gibson, who capped the march corraling the TD pass. Gibson was the workhorse during the drive, carrying the ball five straight times for 23 yards, giving the Tigers (12-1) third- and goal from the Bearcat 6.

On the play, Gibson split right instead of lining up in the back-field. He came in motion, caught the screen pass from quarterback Brady White and with three blockers in front of him, skirted in for the winning touchdown.

Gibson ran for 130 yards, including a 65-yard TD dash.

Cincinnati (10-3) had taken a 24-23 lead with 4:23 left on Sam Graces' 33-yard field goal. That gave Memphis the ball back with plenty of time.

They used most of it before Gibson's score.

"We were excited it was our turn to get the ball," White said, adding, "That last drive, we knew without a doubt we were going to execute the way we know how to. We were going to own the football



Memphis wide receiver Antonio Gibson scores the winning touchdown on a 6-yard pass play in a 29-24 defeat of Cincinnati in the American Athletic Conference championship Saturday.

and do what we did. We were able to move the ball."

It was closer than the season-fine between these eight days ago, which the Tigers won 34-24, earning the right to host this game. This time, the Bearcats had starting quarterback Desmond Ridder available. Ridder, who was nursing a sore shoulder the first game, brought stability to the Cincinnati offense and the ability to scramble out of trouble — a trait not shown by Memphis' White.

Ridder threw for 233 yards and ran for 113 more, including a 15-yard touchdown in the first half as the Bearcats took a 14-10 lead into the break.

In the second half, the Tigers benefitted from a pair of field goals — 52 and 30 yards — by kicker Riley Patterson as the

teams exchanged leads.

Cincinnati drove to the Memphis 26 on its final possession, but stalled.

"We didn't find a way," Bearcats coach Luke Fickell said of falling short. "We didn't have the answers there at the end. But it wasn't for lack of preparation. It wasn't from a lack of fight and it certainly wasn't from a lack of care and love for every one of those guys in that locker room."

## Mountain West

**No. 19 Boise State 31, Hawaii 10:** Jaylon Henderson threw for 212 yards and two touchdowns and ran for another score to lead the host Broncos to a 31-10 victory over Rainbow Warriors in the Mountain West championship game.

Boise State (12-1) won its second conference title in three years, beating Hawaii again this season after winning the Oct. 12th meeting, 59-37. After rolling up 518 yards of offense in the first game, the Broncos leaned on their defense in each rematch.

Boise State made two defensive stands inside the 5, once in the second quarter and another early in the third.

The Rainbow Warriors (9-5) were making their first appearance in the title game. They enjoyed some success through the air with Cole McDonald passing for 241 yards, but couldn't overcome early problems in the red zone.

Tied at 3 late in the first half, the Broncos scored two touchdowns in a 53-second span on a pair of 36-yard touchdown strikes. Henderson dropped the first one into Khalil Shakir on a streak down the near sideline with 1:07 remaining in the half.

Then after Boise State stuffed Hawaii to get the ball back with 38 seconds remaining, Henderson fired a bullet to John Hightower, who made a leaping catch as he was undercut but used his left hand to maintain his balance before racing into the end zone.

## Sun Belt

**No. 20 Appalachian State 45, Louisiana-Lafayette 38:** Darrynton Evans scored three touchdowns and the host Mountaineers repeated as Sun Belt Conference champion with the victory over the Ragin' Cajuns.

Evans won the game's MVP for the second straight season.

Zac Thomas threw for 149 yards and two touchdowns, and Dietrich Harrington and Marcus Williams added touchdown runs. Appalachian State racked up 416 yards on offense, including 267 on the ground in a dominating first half.

The Mountaineers (12-1) have won at least a share of four straight Sun Belt championships.

Levi Lewis threw for a Sun Belt championship game-record 354 yards and four touchdowns for Louisiana-Lafayette (10-3).

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Oklahoma needs OT to beat Baylor for Big 12 trophy

By STEPHEN HAWKINS  
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — No. 6 Oklahoma won its fifth Big 12 title in a row, defeating No. 8 Baylor 30-23 in overtime on Saturday.

"We've had a job to do as a team ... and ultimately win the Big 12 championship," Sooners coach Lincoln Riley said. "We've done that."

Rhamondre Stevenson had a 5-yard touchdown run in overtime, and then true freshman Jacob Zeno — whose two long passes in the fourth quarter helped tie the game — was under constant pressure when the Bears got their last chance.

A day after No. 5 Utah lost in the Pac-12 championship game, and before No. 4 Georgia fell 37-10 to No. 1 LSU in the SEC title game, Oklahoma (12-1) became the first team in any league to win 10 conference championship games. It was the 13th Big 12 title overall for the Sooners.

It was the second time in four games that Oklahoma beat Baylor (11-2), which in coach Matt Rhule's debut season two years ago, lost 11 games with a depleted roster in the aftermath of a scandal that led to the firing of two-time Big 12 champion coach Art Briles.

Rhule said he told to "feel that pain" of watching the Sooners celebrate.

"Let that drive you in the off-season," he said. "But at the same time, also understand what we've done."

The Bears tied the game after Zeno came in during the fourth quarter, the second quarterback used after starter Charlie Brewer left the game in the second quarter following a big hit he delivered on a defender.

There was an 81-yard catch-

and-run touchdown by Trestan Ebner with 9:41 left in regulation and a 78-yarder to Chris Platt that set up John Meyers' 27-yarder with 3:25 left to make it 23-all.

"It's not supposed to be easy," Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts said.

After the Sooners scored on three plays to start overtime, they put the heat on Zeno. He was sacked for a 10-yard loss, and then he was under duress again when he flung a game-ending pass that fell to the turf harmlessly.

Baylor had only 105 total yards before the 81-yard TD pass in the fourth quarter by Zeno, who had played in only one game and was the scout team quarterback imitating Hurts in practice this week. They finished with 265.

Hurts, who last year led Alabama's comeback win over Georgia in the SEC title game, was 17-for-24 passing for 278 yards and a touchdown. CeeDee Lamb had eight catches for 173 yards after missing the previous game against the Bears.

Brewer was taken out of the game not long after bullying over a defender at the end of a 7-yard run early in the second quarter. He finished that series and played one more, apparently hitting his head on the ground when being sacked by Kenneth Murray, before Gerry Bohanon took over.

Referee Mike Defee went to the sideline and asked Rhule to get Brewer checked out, because the ref said the quarterback "just seems a little bit out of it."

Bohanon directed Baylor on scoring drives on its last two possessions before halftime. He threw a 33-yard touchdown to Tyquan Thornton before a 28-yard field goal by Meyers put the Bears up 13-10 at halftime — even with only 98 total yards.



Clemson wide receiver Tee Higgins, left, had three touchdown catches as the Tigers defeated Virginia 62-17 in the ACC championship Saturday in Charlotte, N.C.

## Lawrence carries Clemson past Virginia for ACC title

By PETE IACOBELLI  
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Trevor Lawrence believes No. 3 Clemson is better than it was a year ago. He will get the chance to prove it in the College Football Playoffs.

Lawrence threw four touchdown passes, three to Tee Higgins, and the defending national champions dismantled No. 22 Virginia 62-17 for its fifth consecutive Atlantic Coast Conference title Saturday night. The Tigers (13-0, No. 3 CFP) won their 28th straight game and become the first program with that many wins in a row in a league title game.

"I'm proud of the way we handled it," Lawrence said. "We came out with a fire (to finish league play strong)." While Lawrence acknowledged the difficulty of comparing last year's group to this one, "the way we're playing, I think we are better," he said.

Maybe good enough to be No. 1?

"I think so. But, hopefully, in a couple of weeks we'll get a chance to prove it," he said. It would be hard to bet against the Tigers, who easily put away the Cavaliers (9-4) with their dazzling set of playmakers.

Lawrence and Higgins, the game's MVP, headed that list against Virginia.

"We just want to have an opportunity to compete for the whole thing," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said.

The Cavaliers showed off a game plan that caused the Tigers a few early headaches. But Clemson's talent quickly took control on the way to an ACC championship game record for points and yards (619).

"In championship games,

### By the numbers

# 302

Passing yards for Clemson's Trevor Lawrence, which was an ACC championship record, as was his four TD passes.

# 182

Receiving yards for Clemson receiver Tee Higgins, who had three touchdown catches.

SOURCE: Associated Press

you've got to expect some adversity," Tigers linebacker Isaiah Simmons said. And we always say that when adversity hits, you've got to be stronger and stronger."

Lawrence set an ACC title-game record with his four touchdown throws and had 302 yards passing, his second best total this season, and completed 16 of 22 passes before coming out in the third quarter.

Higgins finished with 182 yards receiving yards and the three TDs, both bests in ACC Championship game play.

Travis Etienne had 114 yards, his eighth game over 100 yards this season.

Virginia and Perkins appeared to have a game plan to compete with the Tigers, even without

leading receiver Joe Reed out due to injury.

Perkins threw a 20-yard scoring pass to Hasise Dubois to tie it at 7, just the second TD pass allowed by Clemson in its past seven games.

Virginia's defense sacked Lawrence twice in the opening half (Clemson had allowed only 11 sacks in the regular season) and Perkins accounted for 177 yards the first 30 minutes — nearly as many as the 194 yards the Tigers allowed in a 38-3 win last week over South Carolina.

But it was impossible to contain Clemson's offense.

"We didn't make enough plays, we couldn't make enough plays," Virginia coach Bronco Mendenhall said.

Higgins had scoring catches of 19 and 7 yards, Justyn Ross went 59 yards for another touchdown (the second longest in ACC Championship game history) and Etienne broke free for a 26-yard touchdown run as Clemson opened a 31-7 lead by halftime.

Perkins, the ACC's leader in total offense, had 324 of the Cavaliers' 387 yards, which were a season high allowed by Clemson's defense this season.

The Cavaliers played without leading receiver and the ACC's top kick returner in Joe Reed due to injury.

Perkins said he believed the loss showed Virginia how to move up in the ACC. The gap with Clemson is "big, but we have the opportunity in the coming years to close it," he said.

Tigers receiver Justyn Ross said the team was fully ready to play because each championship game is a different experience

and another chance to achieve. "It means everything to be part of this legacy," he said.



JEFFREY McWORTHER/AP

Oklahoma wide receiver CeeDee Lamb had eight catches for 173 yards in his team's 30-23 overtime defeat of Baylor on Saturday.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## Buckeyes bounce back for Big Ten threeppeat

## Fields throws 3 second-half TDs, Ohio State rallies past Wisconsin

By MICHAEL MAROT  
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields looked frazzled and frustrated in the first half Saturday night. So did the rest of the Buckeyes.

Then the Big Ten's offensive player of the year started trusting himself — and his teammates.

Fields threw three touchdown passes and the Ohio State defense pitched a second-half shutout and beat No. 10 Wisconsin 34-21 to help the No. 2 Buckeyes claim an unprecedented third straight outright Big Ten championship and likely their first playoff trip in three years.

The Badgers (10-3, No. 8 CFP) lost their seventh straight in the series. After winning the first two Big Ten title games, Wisconsin has now lost in each of its last four championship appearances, including three times to Ohio State.

But this one didn't follow the usual script.

The Badgers scored the first 14 points, putting the Buckeyes in its deepest deficit all season, and still led 21-7 at the half.

Ohio State changed everything with a quick-hitting flurry in the third quarter.

Jeremy Ruckert started the comeback with a spectacular one-handed catch in the back of the end zone on the fifth play, cutting the deficit to 21-14.

Four plays later, Wisconsin punter Anthony Lotti dropped the ball and was tackled at the Badgers 16. The Buckeyes con-



AJ MAST/AP

**Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields has thrown 40 touchdown passes this season.**

verted that miscue into a 27-yard field goal to make it 21-17.

And after Wisconsin missed a 48-yard field goal wide left on its next series, Fields hooked up with K.J. Hill for a 16-yard pass and 24-21 lead with 2:23 left in the third quarter. Fields added a 13-yard TD pass to Hill early in the fourth.

Dobbs finished with 33 carries for 172 yards and one score while Fields was named the game's MVP after going 19 of 31 with 299 yards.

"I think the whole team knew we didn't play to our potential in the first half," Fields said. "We got together and came out with confidence in the second half and just played our game."

Jack Coan ran for two touch-



MICHAEL CONROW/AP

**Ohio State defensive end Chase Young holds the championship trophy following his team's 34-21 win Saturday over Wisconsin in the Big Ten championship in Indianapolis.**

downs in the first half and Jonathan Taylor rushed for 148 yards and one touchdown for the Big Ten West champions.

"We let it slip away," Taylor said. "Just disappointed, like I said, because that (a championship) was my goal coming into the season."

**Taylor's trek:** Taylor became the seventh player in FBS history to reach 6,000 yards rushing in his career when he ran for 6 yards early in the second quarter. The junior finished the game with 6,080 career yards.

The last player to join the club was Donnel Pumphrey of San

Diego State in 2013.

Wisconsin is the only school to produce two 6,000-yard rushers. The other is Ron Dayne, the career rushing leader, with 7,125 yards.

**He said it:** "We got punched in the mouth in the first half. We didn't come this far to come this far." — Ohio State wide receiver K.J. Hill

### Stat sheet

**Wisconsin:** Coan was 17-for-33 with 232 yards, no touchdowns and no interceptions but scored two touchdowns on seven carries. ... After rushing for 194 yards in

the first half, Wisconsin was held to 6 yards in the second half. ... The Badgers were outscored 31-7 in the third quarter of their two games against Ohio State this season.

**Ohio State:** Fields has thrown at least three touchdown passes in 12 of 13 games this season. ... Hill caught seven passes for 83 yards and two scores, becoming the Buckeyes career leader in receptions. He passed David Boston (191) and now has 195. ... Chris Olave had five catches for 94 yards. ... Punter Drue Chrisman completed his only pass for 21 yards and a first down.



JOHN ANIS/AP

**LSU quarterback Joe Burrow threw for 349 yards and four touchdowns to lead his team to a 37-10 defeat of Georgia in the SEC championship Saturday in Atlanta.**

## Burrow dazzles as LSU routs Georgia in SEC championship

By PAUL NEWBERRY  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Joe Burrow collected a shiny award as the game's MVP.

LSU's fans had another trophy on their minds.

"Heisman! Heisman! Heisman!" they chanted.

The coronation is likely complete.

Burrow turned in another dazzling performance on the big stage, leading the No. 1 Tigers to a spot in the College Football Playoff with a 37-10 rout of No. 4 Georgia in the Southeastern Conference championship game Saturday.

"Joe is the heartbeat of this team," running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire said.

Burrow was all over the stat sheet for LSU (13-0, No. 2 CFP). He threw for 349 yards and four touchdowns. He was the Tigers'

second-leading rusher with 41 yards on 11 carries, often leaving the Bulldogs grasping at air as he twirled this way and that. He even caught a pass on a ball that was batted down at the line and wound up his arms, taking off for a 16-yard gain.

"He's a great athlete, man," Georgia safety J.R. Reed said. "We had a lot of plays out there we were supposed to make, and he'd just squeeze out of it."

The Heisman-worthy moment came late in the third quarter. With the Bulldogs (11-2, No. 4 CFP) bringing the heat, Burrow spun to his left to get away from lineman Travon Walker, whirled back to his right to send Walker sprawling to the turf, then delivered a pass on the run while sprinting toward the LSU sideline with another defender in hot pursuit.

Justin Jefferson hauled in the throw just beyond midfield and

took off down to the Georgia 9 for a 71-yard play. Three plays later, Burrow delivered his third TD pass of the game, hooking up with Terrace Marshall Jr., on a 4-yard touchdown pass that essentially finished off the Bulldogs.

"It was all improvised," Burrow said. "Justin ran a 6-yard hitch route and saw me scrambling and took off deep. We've got a great feel for each other. I knew exactly where he was going to be when I got out of there."

Derek Stingley's second pick of Jake Fromm turned the ball back over to the prolific LSU offense at the 13, and Burrow wasted no time finding Jefferson for an 8-yard TD in the waning seconds of the third quarter to send much of the pro-Georgia crowd to the exits. The Tigers had already knocked off Alabama, Florida and Auburn. With the Bulldogs joining the list, the SEC will only get one team in the national playoff.



# SPORTS



**Terrific Terps**  
No. 3 Maryland tops Illinois  
in Big Ten opener » **Page 20**

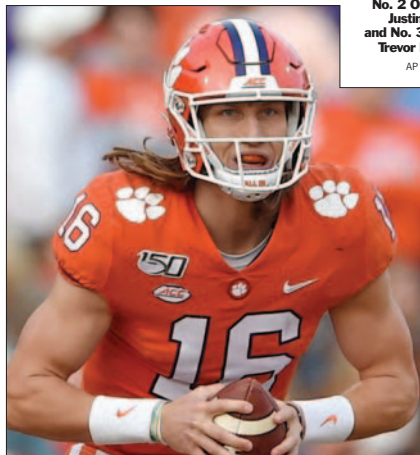
## COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

# Let's Geaux



Clockwise, from top left: No. 1 LSU's Joe Burrow; No. 4 Oklahoma's Jalen Hurts; No. 2 Ohio State's Justin Fields; and No. 3 Clemson's Trevor Lawrence

AP photos



LSU moves up to No. 1 as playoff field is set » **Page 21**

**Joshua beats Ruiz, reclaims heavyweight title** » **Page 17**

