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# STARS AND STRIPES®

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CONTINGENCY EDITION

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Free to Deployed Areas

**USS ZUMWALT**

## Navy's \$7.8B destroyer now 6 years late

By **TONY CAPACCIO**  
Bloomberg

The first of three new destroyers for the U.S. Navy won't be delivered with full combat capability until the first quarter of next year, another slip in a \$23 billion program that's running six years late.

The previously undisclosed delay for the first ship, the \$7.8 billion USS Zumwalt, was confirmed by Colleen O'Rourke, a Navy spokeswoman, via email. It was supposed to have full combat capability last month, which already was more than five years later than scheduled and 10 years after construction began.

"While combat system testing has made significant progress, Zumwalt continues to work through first-in-class integration and shipboard test challenges," O'Rourke said in the statement.

The additional delay in final delivery of the destroyer, designated the DDG-1000, could increase doubts the Navy can build, outfit and deliver vessels on time and within cost targets. The service is seeking public and congressional support for plans to reach a 355-ship fleet by 2034, up from 290 today. That's a 20-year acceleration over last year's timeline to reach the goal.

SEE DESTROYER ON PAGE 6



GENERAL DYNAMICS/U.S. Navy

The USS Zumwalt is pictured during a sea trial in 2015.



ISMAL COSKUN, HA/AP

People run for cover in Akcakale, Turkey, from mortars fired across the Syrian border Thursday. An Associated Press journalist said at least two government buildings were hit by the mortars in Akcakale and at least two people were wounded.

## Turkey presses Syrian assault, scattering thousands of civilians

By **LEFERIS PITARAKIS**  
AND **MEHMET GUZEL**  
Associated Press

AKCAKALE, Turkey — Turkey pressed its assault against U.S.-allied Kurdish forces in northern Syria on Thursday for a second day, pounding the region with airstrikes and an artillery bombardment that raised columns of black smoke in a border town and sent panicked civilians scrambling to get out.

Residents fled with their belongings loaded into cars, pickup trucks and motorcycle rickshaws, while others escaped on foot. The U.N. refugee agency said tens of thousands were on the move, and aid agencies warned that nearly a half-million people near the border were at risk.

It was a wrenchingly familiar scene for



DHA/AP

Turkey-backed FSA fighters head toward the Syrian town of Tal Abyad from Akcakale, Turkey, on Thursday.

many who fled the militants of Islamic State only a few years ago.

The Turkish air and ground assault was launched three days after President Donald Trump pulled U.S. troops from their positions near the border alongside their Kurdish allies.

At a time when Trump faces an impeachment inquiry, the move drew swift criticism from Republicans and Democrats in Congress, along with many national defense experts, who say it has endangered not only the Kurds and regional stability but U.S. credibility as well. The Syrian Kurdish militia was the only U.S. ally in the campaign that brought down ISIS in Syria.

SEE FLEEING ON PAGE 7

MILITARY

# Green Beret to be awarded Medal of Honor

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Army Master Sgt. Matthew O. Williams will receive the Medal of Honor this month for his lifesaving actions in the frozen mountains of eastern Afghanistan's Nuristan province during a 2008 mission to kill or capture a high-value target, the White House announced Thursday.

President Donald Trump will award the nation's highest military

honor to the Green Beret in a White House ceremony on Oct. 30, the administration said in a statement. The award will be an upgrade of the Silver Star that Williams initially received for his role in the fight that would become known as the Battle of Shok Valley.

Williams, who remains on active duty with 3rd Special Forces Group at Fort Bragg, N.C., will be the second soldier to receive the Medal of Honor for his actions during that battle, which took place April 6,

2008. Retired Army Staff Sgt. Ronald J. Shurer received the medal from Trump on Oct. 1, 2018, which was also an upgrade of the Silver Star that he was initially awarded for his actions in that battle.

Williams continuously braved insurgent rocket-propelled-grenade, sniper and machine gun fire as he and the unit of Green Berets and Afghan commandos faced down a much larger, entrenched enemy force. He helped evacuate casualties from the "near vertical mountainside" and es-

tablished a fire position that ensured the commando unit could eventually escape.

"Sergeant Williams's actions helped save the lives of four critically wounded soldiers and prevented the lead element of the assault force from being overrun by the enemy," the White House statement read.

Williams is from Boerne, Texas, and he has served in the Army for 14 years, according to the Army.



Williams

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## UN says US strikes cause civilian casualties in Afghanistan

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A U.N. report released on Wednesday criticized American airstrikes earlier this year against alleged drug facilities in Afghanistan, saying they were unlawful and caused significant civilian casualties.

The report, released simultaneously in Kabul and Geneva, said the U.N. verified 39 civilian casualties, including 14 children and a woman, from multiple airstrikes in May on more than 60 sites.

The locations were identified by U.S. and Afghan forces as drug-production facilities in Bakwa district in western Faraah province and in neighboring Delaram district in Nimroz province.

The U.S. military promptly disputed the U.N. findings, finding fault with the report's verification methods and denying there were civilians among the dead.

However, the U.N. had sent fact-finding missions to the site, together with Afghanistan's Human Rights Commission, and they interviewed dozens of people, both survivors and respected elders.

No one denied there were methamphetamine labs in the area and some of the

casualties had been working in the labs, the report said. But targeting the labs was contrary to rules of war, the U.N. added, saying the people in the labs were civilians and that while the Taliban benefit from drug money and from taxes they extort from those who produce the drugs, the lab workers were non-combatants.

The U.N. report also said some of the targets hit were civilian homes.

"In one incident on 5 May in Shagai village of Bakwa district, multiple reliable and credible sources reported that three children were killed when an airstrike impacted their home," it said.

"After one strike hit close to the house, the father shouted to his family members to run away from the house before a second bomb was dropped on the house. Three young boys, aged between one and a half to seven years old, were unable to escape in time," the report also said.

The U.N. said it had received "specific and detailed" information on 145 civilian casualties but could so far only verify 39 casualties.

It said "credible reports" of at least 37 more civilian casualties, mostly women

and children, were being looked into.

The U.S. military insisted the U.N. had wrongly identified those in the labs as civilians, saying they were Taliban. It also raised doubts about the sources for the U.N. information, claiming they either had conflicted motives or lacked adequate knowledge.

In a two-page rebuttal to the U.N. report, the U.S. military said the May strikes followed a yearlong intelligence operation to locate and monitor the drug labs. The strikes took place in daytime, to allow for effective identification of those entering and leaving the area, it said.

It detailed steps taken by the U.S. military and Afghan forces before, as well as after the strikes, resulting in their conclusion that no civilians were targeted.

The statement however, accused the Taliban of hiding behind civilians, and added that the U.S. military investigates and compensates whenever civilians are found to be hurt or killed in U.S. strikes.

"This is not such a case," it said.

The U.S. has come under increasing criticism for civilian casualties as a result of airstrikes in recent months in

Afghanistan.

In a July report, the U.N. said U.S. and Afghan forces killed more civilians in their operations against insurgents in the first six months of 2019 than the number of people killed in militant attacks, including those by the Taliban. The U.N. blamed the rising death toll by U.S. and Afghan forces at least in part on increased airstrikes. The U.S. has rejected that U.N. report as well.

U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper said this month that the U.S. stepped up airstrikes in Afghanistan after President Donald Trump halted peace talks with the Taliban amid a surge in militant attacks, including one that killed a U.S. soldier.

According to U.S. Air Forces Central Command, the U.S. conducted more bombings and drone strikes in Afghanistan in August than in any previous month this year — 783, compared to 613 in July and 441 in June.

Still, the Taliban are stronger now than they have been since their ouster in 2001, and control nearly half the country, staging almost daily attacks on Afghan forces and their allies as the 18-year war shows no sign of abating.

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## MILITARY

# Navy sets changes to help retain sailors

By SCOTT WYLAND  
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — The Navy is going more digital and making it easier for sailors to access information on their phones as it seeks to attract new recruits and retain sailors, the service's top human resources officer said Thursday.

"The way we're configured now doesn't support how we need to manage talent in the 21st century for high-end warfare," Vice Adm. John Novell, chief of naval personnel, told sailors at an all-hands call at the Navy's base in Naples. "We're driving most every-

thing to mobile devices, where most of you live in your personal lives," Novell said.

The changes are part of the "Sailor 2025" program, which is trumpeted as changing how the Navy recruits, promotes and delivers information to sailors.

Several phone apps and websites were developed in the past year, and databases have been consolidated on a digital cloud to make them easier for sailors to access, he said.

Before policy changes are made, discussion groups are held with sailors of all ranks, Novell said. Input from those discussion

groups is then used by thousands of people working under Novell to research and draft new policies.

The end of permanent shaving waivers for sailors suffering razor bumps is a change that arose from the new policymaking method, Novell said. Eighteen months of research and review confirmed that beards impede breathing devices such as gas masks, and the waivers were scrapped, he said.

The Navy has also stepped up efforts to recruit and retain sailors in the past several years as U.S. relations with Russia and China have grown more tense and adversarial, Novell said.

The ultimate aim is to build a stronger fighting force in "the great power competition," Novell told Stars and Stripes in an interview before the meeting.

The recruiting efforts are yielding results, he said. The Navy added 39,000 sailors both this year and in 2018, compared with 30,000 in 2016, he said.

The overall retention rate is 79%, which is near an all-time high, Novell said.

Paying bonuses for high-demand jobs, offering more opportunities for career advancement and better accommodating sailors and their families all help to

boost retention, he said.

The Navy continues to look for and implement ways to ease the stress of military life, he said. One new retention incentive reimburses sailors up to \$500 to cover the cost of their spouses' professional licenses if they must move to a different state.

Another policy, enacted last year, lets sailors' spouses move earlier or stay behind for up to six months to allow their children to complete the school year, wrap up a job or care for a chronically ill family member.

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## US Army mechanics in Jordan upgrade, restore broken ATV

By CHAD GARLAND  
Stars and Stripes

A group of mechanics from the New Jersey Army National Guard deployed to Jordan "transformed an eyesore into eye candy" by restoring and pimping out an all-terrain vehicle.

The broken-down Kawasaki MULE needed several parts to spare it from the junkyard, the Army's Area Support Group-Jordan said in a statement touting the project Thursday.

But the vehicle also got a few optional extras, including cup holders, a Bluetooth speaker, old strobe lights and a fresh coat of desert tan paint.

The hood of the restored golf cart-like vehicle now bears the nickname D-Block, referring to Delta Company, 250th Brigade Support Battalion, the company that tricked it out, along with the hand-lettered names of the 10 mechanics who did the work, a logo of a skull and crossed wrenches and the slogan "Repair Any Damages."

The operation, led by Chief

Warrant Officer 2 Frank Cocciliolo, was a team-building opportunity for the unit, which supports the Jordan Armed Forces Joint Training Center in Amman, the military statement said.

"Out of three bad vehicles we had here, we were able to pull enough good parts to make a very good, solid one," the statement quoted him saying.

Cocciliolo rebuilds damaged vehicles in his civilian career and started repairing the "dismembered" Kawasaki MULE to help pass time during his rotation. Then, he began involving other soldiers who took an interest.

"Once I started bringing a little bit of life into it, the team started to get excited and wanted to help," he said.

MULES, like John Deere Gators and Polaris Rangers, are relatively cheap, lightweight ATVs used for getting around base, especially in austere forward areas. They've also been used to transport ammunition or aid in medical evacuations, helping to extend the range of combat patrols.



SHAYLA B. HAKEM/U.S. Army

**U.S. Army mechanics with Delta Company, 250th Brigade Support Battalion, pose around the Kawasaki MULE they restored in September at Joint Training Center-Jordan.**

D-Block's jalopy was missing an engine belt, battery starter and needed a new fuel tank, among other issues, said Staff Sgt. James Snipe, one of the soldiers who helped rebuild it by refurbishing parts in the working garage.

"We're all mechanics," Snipe said. "If we can figure out how something works, we can pretty much fix it."

The project took about a month. The added amenities, also culled

from the scrap pile, was a morale booster, Cocciliolo said.

"We were able to get functioning pieces of equipment from what other people classified as junk," Cocciliolo said.

The D-Block mechanics are now looking to restore more vehicles.

"We plan to keep working together, rebuilding and fixing what we can fixable," he said.

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## Army issues new vaping warning as 2 become ill

By MARTIN EGNASH  
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — Two active-duty soldiers have been treated for vaping-related lung injuries, the Army said Thursday as it issued a new warning to servicemembers to lay off electronic cigarettes.

"Until I know more, everyone is encouraged not to use e-cigarette or vaping products," the Army said in a statement, Thursday. "As a matter of fact, we encourage you to quit smoking altogether. We need you healthy and strong."

One of the soldiers who fell ill was in the U.S. and the other was stationed overseas, said Chanel Weaver, an Army Public Health Center spokesperson. The U.S.-based soldier has been treated and released, while the overseas soldier was still receiving care, Weaver said, without giving their exact locations.

The new e-cigarette warning came days after most exchanges on Army, Air Force and Navy installations stopped selling vaping products following an outbreak this past summer of serious lung illnesses, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said appeared to be linked to use of the devices.

Eighteen people have died so far out of more than 1,000 vaping-related lung injury cases reported in every state except Alaska and New Hampshire, the CDC said last week.

Findings from an ongoing investigation by the CDC into what might be causing the illnesses and deaths suggest the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, THC, which is added to some vaping products, might play a role.

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## Guardman found bound, shot to death in Tenn. home

By NEIL FOTRE  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The murder of Army Spc. Jacob Bishop was a deliberate, isolated act, police said Tuesday after finding the body of the National Guardsman more than a week ago bound and shot multiple times in his Tennessee home.

"We have been pursuing multiple leads, spending countless hours around the clock, in our search for clues that we need to lead us to the party or parties responsible for the tragic killing of another," Loudon County Sheriff

Tim Guider said in a statement.

Bishop, 35, was found dead in his Lenoir City home by his mother in the early morning hours of Oct. 1, according to the sheriff's office, the agency investigating his killing.

Bishop had recently returned from a yearlong deployment to Poland. Bishop was assigned to the 278th Infantry of the Army National Guard, according to an obituary.

The Tennessee National Guard has only a 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment that has been deploying in support of NATO's Battle Group Poland. Accord-

ing to Bishop's Facebook page, he was assigned to the unit as an infantryman. The obituary also stated Bishop was engaged at the time of his death and is survived by his two children.

"The suspect, or suspects, should be considered armed and dangerous given the specifics of the murder," according to the Facebook page of the sheriff's office.

Investigators have released details that a white sport utility vehicle was seen in the area in the days leading up to the murder and was also seen leaving the area on the day of the killing.

"We continue to work tirelessly and around the clock to bring the party, or parties, responsible for the murder of a U.S. soldier to justice, and to provide the Bishop family with some form of closure," Guider said.

Local authorities are continuing to remind the public on the sheriff's office Facebook page that this crime is believed to be an isolated event.

If anyone has information on the case, they have been directed to contact the Loudon County Sheriff's Office at 865-986-4823.

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## PACIFIC

# Chinese destroyer arrives at Yokosuka

By **CAITLIN DOORNBOS**  
*Stars and Stripes*

**YOKOSUKA, Japan** — The Chinese navy guided-missile destroyer Taiyuan anchored at Yokosuka Port on Thursday, less than a mile from Yokosuka Naval Base, home of the U.S. 7th Fleet.

The ship is expected to participate for the first time in the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force International Fleet Review on Monday in Sagami Bay.

A group of about 30 visitors and 25 Chinese sailors walked around the Taiyuan's deck from stern to bow about 11 a.m. Thursday.

Chinese navy representatives are conducting "courtesy exchanges with peers from the JMSDF and navies of other countries," according to a Chinese Ministry of National Defense statement Tuesday. They also plan to host "military and cultural exchanges" such as sports competitions and deck receptions "to further enhance mutual understanding, promote traditional Chinese culture and spread peace and friendship."

"All service members will display high spirit, excellent military skills and good image of the [Chinese] sailors and demonstrate the great achievements of [China's] naval modernization," the statement said.



CHRISTIAN LOPEZ/Stars and Stripes

**The Chinese destroyer Taiyuan anchors at Yokosuka Port, near Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, on Thursday.**

Taiyuan Vice Captain Gong Yuanxin told Chinese state media that the ship's deck would be opened to the public during the fleet review, according to a Tuesday report by the South China Morning Post.

Gong also told state media that the visit's goal is to "deepen communication with the navies of other countries and improve mutual understanding, and promote cooperation and mutual trust," according to the newspaper.

Japan holds the international fleet reviews about once every three years. This year South Korea, an ally, was not invited

to the event as a consequence of a low point in relations between the two countries.

The event kicked off Sunday with a four-country panel discussion on sea power in the Indo-Pacific region. Experts from the U.S., Australia, India and Japan talked rising Chinese threats and preserving free navigation in the South China Sea, which China views as its own territorial waters.

For example, China and Japan dispute sovereignty over a small, uninhabitable group of islands in the East China Sea, called the Senkaku in Japan and the Diaoyu in China. Four Chinese coast guard vessels defied Japanese claims and sailed there in July.

In June, a Chinese aircraft carrier and four other warships sailed in Japanese territorial waters between the islands of Okinawa and Miyako, the Japan Joint Staff said at the time.

In April, Japan participated in the Chinese navy's international fleet review, sending the guided-missile destroyer JS Suzutsuki to the port city of Qingdao, the JMSDF's first visit to China in seven years.

The U.S. Navy, which is also taking part in the Chinese fleet review, was invited to the Chinese fleet review but declined the invitation.

The Taiyuan sailed to Yokosuka from its homeport in Zhoushan near Ningbo, China, according to the ministry statement.

Commissioned in December, the Taiyuan displaces more than 6,000 tons, according to the National Defense Ministry.

The Taiyuan carries a helicopter, and a crew of 200 is equipped with a vertical missile launching system and a flat-panel active electronically scanned array radar system, according to Tuesday's South China Morning Post report.

By comparison, U.S. Arleigh Burke-class destroyers, such as the Yokosuka-based USS Mustin, which will participate in the fleet review Monday, displaces between 8,230 and 9,700 tons, according to the U.S. Navy.

Navy from more than 10 countries, including the U.K., India, Australia, Canada and Singapore are expected to participate in the fleet review.

Incoming Typhoon Hagibis is on track to hit Yokosuka late Saturday, but officials are waiting until Sunday morning to determine whether the fleet review will be canceled, a JMSDF spokesman told Stars and Stripes on Wednesday.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report.  
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## Rugby team prepped for event with military-style training

By **SETH ROBSON**  
*Stars and Stripes*

**KUMAGAYA, Japan** — Military-style training helped members of the U.S. Eagles national rugby team prepare for on-field challenges, according to one of the players in Japan for this month's Rugby World Cup.

The team, which trained on the island of Okinawa before the start of the tournament, went down 47-17 against Argentina on Wednesday in Kumagaya, just north of Tokyo, but could get a win in their final pool match against Tonga in Osaka on Sunday.

One of the players, 6-foot-8, 254-pound forward Nick Civetta, said rugby players incorporated some military-style training into their preparation for the Rugby World Cup, he said.

"We did three days of Army-type training that included things like ... land navigation," he said. "We talked about mental resilience and being able to push that extra bit of gas from your muscles when your body is telling you it can't go further."

Team members get a boost from the support of servicemembers stationed in

Japan, he said.

"When I heard we were going to Okinawa, I figured there would be a big military presence," said Civetta, who played at the University of Notre Dame and the University of California, Berkeley, before joining the Eagles in 2016.

He plays in the "lock" position for the Eagles. It's a role somewhat akin to a football tight end and involves catching spiral throws from the sideline as well as plenty of running with the ball and tackling.

Members of the U.S. national team appreciate servicemembers' sacrifice and admire their spirit, Civetta said.

"We love seeing you, and if you are around, make sure to catch up with us for a beer after the game," he said.

The sort of strength and endurance that soldiers require on the battlefield are what rugby players need on the field, Civetta said.

"Rugby is more physical than your average team sport," he said. "You need discipline, focus and teamwork and it's a fast, fluid game."

Rugby's culture of friendship and team-



SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

**The U.S. and Argentina national rugby teams pack down a scrum during their Rugby World Cup match in Kumagaya, Japan, on Wednesday. U.S. players used military-style training to prepare for the competition.**

work is another thing that it has in common with the military, Civetta added.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Jerry Syouarath, 32, who played three seasons for the Tokyo Crusaders rugby team before a recent move to the Tucson Magpies, agreed with the comparison.

"It's a combative sport, so it's got a lot in

common with the physicality of being in the military," he said.

The Eagles' last Rugby World Cup match, against Tonga, is slated to kick off at Hanazono Rugby Stadium in Osaka at 2:45 p.m. Sunday.

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## Japan sets up Patriot anti-missile battery in Tokyo park during drill

By **HANA KUSUMOTO**  
*Stars and Stripes*

**TOKYO** — The Japan Air Self-Defense Force deployed Patriot missile launchers to various spots, including a park in central Tokyo, during an exercise Wednesday, according to government officials.

The training aimed to improve the force's tactical capability involving ballistic missile measures and build a sense of safety and security among the public by showing readiness and preparedness,"

Defense Minister Taro Kono told reporters during a news conference Tuesday.

The drill was an "extremely important opportunity" for the Japan Self-Defense Forces to be ready for every kind of threat, he said.

The exercise involved about 30 troops from the 1st Air Defense Missile Group setting up and then dismantling the PAC-3 battery in about 20 minutes at Tokyo Rinkai Disaster Prevention Park.

JASDF plans to conduct similar exercises throughout Japan, according to a

statement.

Earlier this month, North Korea confirmed that it successfully test-fired a new submarine-launched ballistic missile days before the communist state was due to restart nuclear talks with the United States.

The Pukguksong-3 missile was launched Oct. 2 from the water near the eastern city of Wonsan, the state-run Korean Central News Agency reported.

Japan's missile defense training was just the fourth time troops had conducted such a deployment exercise outside of Japanese

or U.S. military bases, officials said.

The last off-base exercise was held at a park in Osaka in 2013. In August 2017, JASDF demonstrated a Patriot missile defense system at Yokota Air Base, home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo, just hours after a North Korean missile flew over Hokkaido.

A similar drill was held at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni that month, officials said.

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## MILITARY



U.S. Marine Corps

The Marine Corps is looking to add adjustable side tabs to the current maternity shirts and tunic for the service uniform.

## Marines mull changes to maternity shirts

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Marine Corps maternity uniform could potentially see some changes in the future, including adjustable side tabs for the service uniform, according to a Marine Corps document.

The Marines' plan for possible maternity uniform changes were presented in a briefing slide for the September committee meeting of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services.

The service is looking to add adjustable side tabs to the maternity shirts and tunic for the service uniform. The side tabs make the shirts adjustable throughout pregnancy. The change is still at the concept and development stage, according to the Marines.

The only uniform that now has adjustable tabs is the combat utility uniform, Capt. Joseph Butter-

field, a Marine Corps spokesman, said Wednesday.

A commercial nursing undershirt is also in the process of being certified for the maternity combat utility uniform, according to the Marines.

The document states improvements for adding the adjustable side tabs and nursing undershirt will be available in fiscal year 2020. However, Butterfield said the Marine Corps does not have a detailed timeline on when the modifications to the maternity service uniform will be available.

The Marine Corps is also interested in new long- and short-sleeve maternity shirts for their service uniform. The document states they are still waiting to hear the results of a similar Air Force initiative.

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## Spangdahlem set to resume flight operations next week

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — F-16s at Spangdahlem Air Base are expected to resume flying next week following a brief pause after the crash Tuesday of one of the base's Fighting Falcons, a base official said.

Flight operations were temporarily halted "to give the base and community time and space to respond to the incident," said Capt. Erin Recanzano, a spokeswoman for the 52nd Fighter Wing. "Flying is likely to resume next week."

An exercise to test the base's wartime readiness was stopped two days early following the crash.

"Our top priority right now is the safety of our airmen and our

local community," Col. Jason Hokaj, 52nd Fighter Wing vice commander, said in a statement. "We are very grateful to our local German first responders for all the support they have provided and appreciate the community's patience throughout the ongoing safety investigation."

German emergency officials were the first on the scene Tuesday when an F-16 crashed in an isolated, wooded area near the German town of Zemmer-Rodt, a few miles south of the base and north of the city of Trier. The pilot safely ejected and was treated at the base hospital for minor injuries, officials said.

The Air Force is investigating the cause of the crash.

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# Woman fights for marriage to Marine to be recognized

By MARTIN EGNASH  
Stars and Stripes

A California woman is fighting to prove she and a Marine were husband and wife even though he died before completing paperwork for a marriage license.

Jennifer Crowley said she and Master Sgt. Jeff Briar held a wedding ceremony on the beach at Del Mar, Calif., near San Diego, on Sept. 22.

But Briar died not long after the ceremony and before the couple had filed for a marriage license, raising questions as to whether Crowley is entitled to survivor benefits.

After the beach ceremony, Briar went swimming with Crowley's 15-year-old daughter and 14-year-old son and all three were swept out to sea.

Fellow Marines jumped into the water with bodyboards to try to save them but managed to rescue only the children, Crowley said.

"When they reached them, they said, 'My dad's out there; you have to save him,'" she said. "But they were too late.

"It was supposed to be the happiest day of our lives. He went in the water to play with the kids and never came back."

Proving the couple were married would qualify Crowley and her children for survivor benefits, including health care coverage, Crowley's attorney, Daniel Martorella, said.

Any life insurance payout would go to Briar's mother, Debbie Robinson, he said.

"There is not a huge inheritance and I don't get the impression that (Crowley) is interested in that," Martorella said, regarding any possible insurance money.

Shortly after her son's death, Robinson told the Marine Corps Times that the event on the beach was only a "promise ceremony" because there was no marriage license.

Stars and Stripes could not reach Robinson for comment.

Crowley plans to go to court later this month to prove she and Briar were married, Martorella said.

Photos, eyewitness accounts and documents all show the couple were getting married on the day Briar drowned, the lawyer added.

A GoFundMe page set up by one of Briar's stepchildren, Paige Hare, says the Marine died "on his wedding day."

"He leaves behind a wife and 3 stepchildren," the fundraiser says. "He is and always will be a hero, an amazing Marine and the best husband and father any family could ever ask for!"

Crowley's children all considered Briar to be their father, they said.

Briar's body lay in a bed at the naval hospital, his 14-year-



Courtesy of Jennifer Crowley

Master Sgt. Jeff Briar and Jennifer Crowley embrace on a California beach. Briar drowned at Del Mar Beach in San Diego when a strong tide swept him out to sea on Sept. 22.



Briar

old stepson Matthew put his hands on the Marine's head and cried, he told Stars and Stripes. "You can't die. You're my dad," he recalled saying.

Briar was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group at the Marine Air Ground Combat Training Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif. Officials there confirmed he had drowned while swimming with the children.

The command "is a tight family of Marines and Master Sgt. Briar was one of our best," said Col. Matthew Reid, the unit's commander. "We are all saddened by this tragic event but proud of him, and we will never forget him and his service."

The Michigan native was a communications Marine, most recently a command and control technician, and had deployed three times — to Iraq in 2003 and 2007 and to Afghanistan in 2013.

"Our thoughts, prayers, and never-ending support go out to Master Sgt. Briar's family and friends during this difficult time and beyond," Reid said.

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## MILITARY

# Lawsuit: Sub testing procedures ignored

BY AARON GREGG  
The Washington Post

A whistleblower has accused America's largest shipbuilder of ignoring the Navy's testing and certification requirements, allegedly putting sailors' lives at risk by degrading the stealth capabilities of U.S. nuclear submarines.

The whistleblower, an engineer named Ari Lawrence, held a senior role in Huntington Ingalls' submarine division until October 2017. Lawrence has not requested anonymity and made his allegations in a publicly available complaint filed under the federal False Claims Act.

The complaint accuses his former employer of assigning unqualified individuals to install an important hull coating designed to shield the Navy's Virginia-class nuclear submarines from sonar and falsifying records to cover up their mistakes.

Also last week, in an apparently unrelated incident, a submarine welder at the same company pleaded guilty to falsifying inspection records. That employee was fired in 2015, at which point the matter was reported to authorities. He faces a maximum of five years in prison.

Both cases show the challenges the Navy faces as it works with profit-minded manufacturers to build complicated weaponry. They also illustrate how the best-funded defense industry on the planet can still deliver an imperfect product, sometimes degrading the U.S. military's readiness for war.

In a letter sent to the company's shipbuilders recently, Newport News Shipbuilding President Jennifer Boykin admonished employees to conduct their work in an ethical manner, noting that the incidents had called the company's integrity into question.

"We cannot and will not tolerate a lapse in ethics and integrity at Newport News Shipbuilding, Period," Boykin wrote.

In his first press statement on the matter, the whistleblower expressed admiration for the company's shipbuilders, who he called "true craftsmen" who "want nothing more than to build the finest ships in the world."

He added, however, that he thought the company had made it impossible for him to do his job responsibly.

"I could not in good conscience sit back and watch, be a party to, or provide my signature in the course of accepting work that clearly did not meet contractual requirements and standards," Lawrence told The Washington Post in an email forwarded by his attorneys. "I could not abide allowing materials I believed to be defective to be installed on submarines bearing our company's good name."

A spokesman for Huntington Ingalls said the company intends to "vigorously defend" itself, adding that it cooperated fully with an earlier federal investigation. The Justice Department, which declined to comment for this story, decided not to prosecute the case.



JOHN WALEAN, HUNTINGTON INGALLS INDUSTRIES/U.S. Navy

The Virginia-class attack submarine pre-commissioning unit John Warner is moved to Newport News Shipbuilding's floating dry dock for the Sept. 6 christening in Virginia. An ex-employee at Huntington Ingalls' submarine division says the company ignored Navy requirements for the nuclear submarines, putting lives at risk.

Navy spokesman Danny Hernandez declined to comment on the ongoing litigation, but he emphasized that the hull coating problem "does not present a safety concern to the crew or the submarine."

Last Thursday, the court struck the complaint from the record and asked that a new one be filed by Oct. 15, though the case has not been dismissed. A whistleblower who brings a lawsuit on behalf of the U.S. government under the False Claims Act can be rewarded financially if it is successful.

An attorney representing Lawrence would not move forward with the case. "Ari Lawrence is a young man of great courage," said Jamie Shoemaker, an attorney representing him. "We intend to represent his interests and those of the United States aggressively."

The Navy's Virginia-class "fast-attack" submarines are built to quietly patrol unfriendly waters for months at a time, seek out and destroy enemy vessels or launch cruise missiles against land-based targets. One of them was reportedly used to launch a Tomahawk missile against chemical facilities in Syria last year.

At about \$2.8 billion each, they are among the most expensive assets in the U.S. military arsenal. The Navy's five-year shipbuilding plan calls for 11 more of them to be built by 2024. The Navy is behind schedule on negotiations for the next 10 of the submarines and is asking Congress for a substantial increase in funding.

The ability to operate silently beneath the ocean's surface has long been a selling point for the Virginia-class program. The exterior hull coating is supposed to absorb the sound waves sent out by enemy sonar detectors, allowing the submarines to operate unnoticed.

But the Navy has faced a recurring problem in which the coating peels off in large chunks during long deployments, as the adhesive that binds it to the hull is buffed by harsh undersea conditions.

"The undersea environment is a really tough place for adhesives and coatings," said Craig Hooper, a defense consultant who has studied the issue, adding that the Navy "should strive to ensure that best practices are used."

Submarine experts contacted by The Post said the coating problem would probably not risk sailors' lives under current circumstances, as they are not fighting an active war against a foreign Navy.

But there is a concern that the hull coating problem could render them unfit for missions in which stealth is important, possibly degrading the Navy's readiness for war.

The Defense Department under President Donald Trump has deemphasized fighting terrorism in favor of competing with Russia and China for military dominance, something that has raised the profile of Navy assets such as the Virginia-class submarine.

In his whistleblower complaint, Lawrence and his attorneys argued that the crumbling hull coating has endangered the lives of U.S. sailors.

"The failure of this exterior sound-absorbing material jeopardizes the safety of the submarines, and makes the submarine easier to detect by those who would seek to harm the United States, thereby endangering the crew and national security," the complaint alleged.

Lawrence's complaint paints a picture of a manufacturer that ignored Navy requirements in order to keep more of the taxpayer-funded work for itself, he misled the government to cover up its own shoddy work.

The complaint accuses "certain groups within the Huntington Ingalls organization" of seeking to install an important part relevant to the hull coating themselves rather than contract the work to another company through a competitive process.

According to the complaint, Lawrence discovered that the departments responsible for applying the coating did not hold the technical certifications required for them to do so.

Lawrence further alleged that the company ignored objections raised by the shipyard's quality assurance department, and "exerted pressure on employees to improperly certify and accept the work performed."

According to an attorney representing Lawrence, he was fired in October 2017 shortly after he raised concerns.

He later brought the issue to the Department of Justice, which investigated his claims.

A Huntington Ingalls spokesman did not answer specific questions about whether the company had fired Lawrence or preserved employees to falsify records.

Boykin's letter to shipbuilders last Friday urged the company's shipbuilders to take responsibility for their actions.

"I am a firm believer that we learn more from our failures than our successes, and mistakes are a natural part of life," Boykin wrote. "Taking ownership of them is how we learn, grow and change. There is a big difference, however, between unintentionally making a mistake and deliberately choosing to do something that is wrong."

# Destroyer: Long delayed, vessel is in combat testing before final delivery

FROM FRONT PAGE

The Navy has opted for a phased delivery strategy for the destroyers: initial delivery after completion of the hull and mechanical and engineering installation at General Dynamics Corp.'s Bath Iron Works in Maine and testing on the East Coast, followed by combat system activation in California under the supervision of Raytheon Co. and BAE Systems Plc.

General Dynamics turned over the Zumwalt to the Navy in 2016. Since then, Raytheon and BAE Systems have been completing the vessel's combat systems and the "total computing system environment" needed to operate the vessel.

Under the contract, final delivery occurs when all systems have been installed, tested and deemed working.

The Navy calls the new destroyer class "the largest and most technologically advanced surface combatant in the world."

The stealthy, multimission Zumwalt started out as a 32-ship program with the primary purpose of providing gun support to troops and Marines ashore, much like battleships during World War II. The Navy assumed it would buy 20,000 "Long-Range Land Attack Projectiles" over the program's life that were to fire 62 nautical miles from its twin 155 mm "Advanced Gun Systems" made by BAE Systems.

The program was reduced to just three vessels, with the Navy planning to buy 2,400 projectiles — raising the estimated cost for each munition to as much as \$566,000, according to the Naval Sea Systems Command.

The price tag contributed to the Navy's decision in December 2017 to change the destroyer's mission from shore bombardment to surface warfare against other vessels, armed with longer-range missiles.

So the DDG-1000 will now be delivered with its two Advanced Gun Systems in what the Navy calls "an inactive state." The Navy spent \$505 million on the weapons.

"From what we understand, these latest delays continue to stem from the same, numerous difficult issues the Navy has faced on DDG-1000 for some time that are a result of concurrently attempting to prove out and build a very complex ship," said Shelby Oakley, an acquisition director with the Government Accountability Office who follows shipbuilding.

The office's annual weapons report, issued in April, said the service is "still working to correct" 320 "serious deficiencies" that its inspectors identified when it first accepted the ship in May 2016.

The destroyer is currently in combat testing before final delivery. It has completed a series of at-sea trials that included evaluating how well the ship handles at sea, refueling while underway, calm weather maneuverability trials, navigation certifications and acoustic tests, according to Navy documents.

Even with the latest delay, the Navy continues to project that the destroyer will have an "initial operating capability" in September 2021, O'Rourke said. That's three years later than planned.

The program's procurement cost keeps increasing — by \$160 million in fiscal 2020, the 11th straight year of increases that cumulatively total more than \$4 billion since 2010. The basic cost for procuring the three ships now planned has risen to just over \$13.2 billion, according to budget documents and the Congressional Research Service.

The \$23 billion program also includes about \$10 billion in research and development.



## MIDEAST



LEFFERIS PITARAKIS/AP

Smoke billows from targets inside Syria during bombardment by Turkish forces Thursday.

## Fleeing: Turkey plans to go 19 miles into Syria

FROM FRONT PAGE

Trump warned Turkey to exercise moderation during its assault and to protect civilians. But the opening barrage showed little sign of holding back. The Turkish Defense Ministry said its jets and artillery had struck 181 targets.

More than a dozen columns of thick smoke rose in and around the town of Tel Abyad, one of the offensive's first main targets. Turkish officials said the Kurdish militia has fired dozens of mortars into Turkish border towns the past two days, including Akcakale.

Turkish officials said a 9-month-old and a civil servant were killed by mortars striking towns inside Turkey. On the Syrian side, seven civilians and eight Kurdish fighters have been killed since the operation began, according to activists in Syria.

A Kurdish-led group and Syrian activists said that despite the bombardment, Turkish troops had not made much progress on several fronts they had opened. Their claims could not be independently verified.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said 109 "terrorists" were killed in the offensive, a reference to the Syrian Kurdish fighters. He did not elaborate, and reports from the area did not indicate anything remotely close to such a large number of casualties.

Erdogan also warned the European Union not to call Ankara's incursion into Syria an "inva-



AP

Syrians flee shelling by Turkish forces in Ras al Ayn, northeast Syria, on Wednesday.

sion." He threatened, as he has in the past, to "open the gates" and let Syrian refugees flood into Europe.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the military intends to move 19 miles into northern Syria and that its operation will last until all "terrorists are neutralized."

Meanwhile, the Kurdish forces halted all operations against ISIS to focus on fighting Turkish troops, Kurdish and U.S. officials said. The Syrian Kurdish fighters, along with U.S. troops, have been involved in mopping-up operations against ISIS fighters still held up in the desert after their territorial hold was toppled ear-

lier this year.

Ankara considers members of the Kurdish militia to be "terrorists" because of their links to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which has led an insurgency against Turkey for 35 years. The conflict has killed tens of thousands of people. The U.S. and other Western countries also consider the PKK a terrorist group.

Turkey, a NATO member, considers its operations against the Kurdish militia in Syria a matter of its own survival, and it also insists it won't tolerate the virtual self-rule that the Kurds succeeded in carving out in northern Syria along the border.

## US to hand over to Iraq 50 ISIS members evacuated from Syria

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA  
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The U.S. will hand over to Iraqi authorities nearly 50 Islamic State members who were transferred from Syria in recent days, two Iraqi intelligence officials said Thursday.

The officials said the ISIS members were expected to be handed over by Friday. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

The move comes after Turkey began a military offensive into northern Syria against U.S.-backed Kurdish-led fighters of the Syrian Democratic Forces who are holding more than 10,000 ISIS members. Those include some 2,000 foreigners, including about 800 Europeans.

President Donald Trump said Wednesday that some of the "most dangerous" ISIS members had been moved, but he provided no details.

U.S. officials said Wednesday that two British militants believed to be part of an ISIS group that beheaded hostages and was known as "The Beatles" have been moved out of a detention center in Syria and are in American custody.

There are concerns that with the assault unfolding in northeastern Syria, the Kurdish-led forces in charge of guarding the detainees won't be able to secure them or would divert forces to fend off advancing Turkish forces.

Initially, Trump said before the assault began that Turkey would be responsible for all ISIS fighters in the area. It was not clear how that would be implemented.

The two men, El Shafee Elsheikh and Alexandra Amon Kotey, along with other British jihadis, allegedly made up the ISIS cell nicknamed "The Beatles" by surviving captives because of their English accents.

In 2014 and 2015, the militants held more than 20 Western hostages in Syria and tortured many of them. The group beheaded seven American, British and Japanese journalists and aid workers and a group of Syrian soldiers, boasting of the butchery in videos released to the world.

Among the journalists they killed was American James Foley, who was first, followed by fellow Americans Steven Sotloff and



British ISIS members Alexandra Amon Kotey, left, and El Shafee Elsheikh, shown during an interview at a security center in Kobani, Syria, on March 30, are reportedly now in U.S. custody.

Peter Kassig, British aid worker David Haines and Alan Henning and Japanese journalists Haruna Yukawa and Kenji Goto. The beheadings, often carried out on camera, horrified the world soon after ISIS took over much of Iraq and Syria in 2014.

The two British men were captured in January last year in eastern Syria by the Kurdish forces amid the collapse of ISIS. Their detention set off a debate in the U.S. and Europe over how to prosecute their citizens who joined ISIS.

ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi declared a so-called caliphate in 2014 in large parts of Syria and Iraq that the extremists controlled. ISIS was defeated in Iraq in 2017, and in March the SDF captured the last sliver of land that was held by ISIS.

SDF has handed over hundreds of ISIS fighters to Iraqi authorities over the past two years, including Europeans, while some were repatriated to their home countries.

Earlier this year, Iraq tried 12 French ISIS fighters whom the SDF handed over to Baghdad in January, sentencing most of them to death.

France at the time said the Iraqi court has jurisdiction to rule in the cases, though a spokeswoman reiterated the French governments' opposition to the death penalty.

Trump and other U.S. officials have repeatedly pressed other nations across Europe and the Middle East to take back the detainees from their countries. But international leaders have been largely reluctant and have been slow to take any back.

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## MIDEAST

# Trump blindsided GOP supporters with Syria news

By LAURIE KELLMAN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For once, Republicans and Democrats in Congress were in the same place: out of the loop.

When it came to President Donald Trump's abrupt announcement that U.S. forces would no longer protect Syrian Kurds from a Turkish invasion, his supporters knew as little as his critics.

All of the effort by Republicans to assuage and court the mercurial president meant little in terms of their ability to dissuade him from a decision that most of them vehemently opposed. They found out about it like Democrats, late at night and on Twitter.

For Republicans, it was a reminder that having the president's back can be a one-way proposition, especially with a commander in chief who likes to make decisions from his "gut."

Even as Turkish bombs fell Wednesday on northern Syria, Sen. Lindsey Graham, a frequent Trump golf club buddy and a presidential educator on foreign policy, talked to the president through television appearances and Twitter. He warned on "Fox & Friends," a program that Trump is known to make part of his morning routine, that he's making the "biggest mistake of his presidency."

"It is never wise to abandon an ally who has sacrificed on your behalf," tweeted Graham, a South Carolina Republican.

He was referring to U.S.-backed Kurdish forces fighting Islamic State. But that advice might also apply to Trump's relationship with his GOP allies, most of whom lined up in rare agreement with Democrats against the president's Syria policy.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, whom Trump has referred to as "my Kevin," said on Fox that he would have to call the president. On Wednesday, the California Republican tweeted that the Turkish attack "threat-

ens to halt momentum against ISIS, directly assaults" partners in the Syrian Democratic Forces "and could give the likes of al-Qaeda and Iran new footholds in the region."

One of the only Republicans in Congress supportive of a Syria withdrawal, Sen. Rand Paul, of Kentucky, told reporters on a conference call that he heard about Trump's shift of U.S. forces from the media.

The Republicans appeared to be as in the dark as a bipartisan delegation with several first-term House Democrats who heard about Trump's pullback in Syria while on a flight home from an official trip to Turkey, Afghanistan and Jordan. They quickly cobbled together a joint statement as they waited in customs at Dulles International Airport. Some sat on a bench at baggage claim to write it.

Signing on was delegation member Elise Stefanik, a Republican congresswoman from New York, who also tweeted the condemnation of Trump's policy.

Two lawmakers on the trip said that even Trump appointees they met overseas did not indicate that they knew about the president's plans.

"Quite the opposite," said Democratic Rep. Jason Crow, of Colorado.

"Nowhere in the conversation (overseas) was what happens if the United States condones, accepts or even encourages" any moves by Turkey, said Rep. Abigail Spanberger, another first-term Democrat who was part of the delegation.

It all highlighted the unpredictability of Trump's foreign policy, which has confounded enemies and allies alike. The president likes to make decisions with little warning, often in the form of a tweet. Longtime U.S. allies are often the last to know.

He announced Tuesday that he and Erdogan will meet at the White House on Nov. 13.

the nickname "Mr. Kurd" as he called on him to ask a question. Trump vowed to protect them.

"They fought with us. They died with us," Trump said in a hotel ballroom in New York City, crowded with reporters. "We have not forgotten."

None of that panned out. Trump this week pulled back U.S. troops from northeast Syria, essentially abandoning the Kurd-



THOMAS MORR/U.S. Army

**Turkish Armed Forces soldiers maneuver into position after an airborne training jump Sept. 18. U.S. lawmakers have proposed sanctions on Turkey that would ban military assistance and prohibit the sale of any equipment to the Turkish armed forces in response to its invasion of Syria.**

## Senators ready 'far-reaching' sanctions against Turkey for its invasion on Syria

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

U.S. lawmakers are preparing a bill that would impose sweeping sanctions on Turkish military and political leaders, including President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, in response to Turkey's invasion of Syria.

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham and Democrat Sen. Chris Van Hollen on Wednesday drafted framework legislation that spells out whom the sanctions would target.

"These sanctions will have immediate, far-reaching consequences for Erdogan and his military," Van Hollen said in a statement.

The draft legislation is expected to come up for a vote later this month when Congress reconvenes. Graham has said he believes he could muster the necessary votes in the Senate to pass the bill.

The bipartisan legislation would ban military assistance to Turkey and prohibit the sale of any equipment to the Turkish armed forces, such as weapons and spare parts used by the Turkish air and ground forces. Assets held in the U.S. by Erdogan and other top government officials would be frozen, according to the bill.

President Donald Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday that he could support sanctions or something

"much tougher than sanctions" if Turkey's invasion isn't done in "as humane a way as possible."

Trump said in September that the U.S. and Turkey shared a "great friendship" and that he attributed much of that to his personal relationship with Erdogan.

The sanctions would go into effect unless the Trump administration certifies to Congress every 90 days that Turkey is not operating unilaterally in the affected area in Syria and has withdrawn its armed forces, including Turkey-supported rebels, the draft legislation says.

The move could provoke threats from Turkish leaders over U.S. military access at Incirlik Air Base, a strategic hub in the country used by both the Turkish and U.S. air forces. Turkish officials have in the past used U.S. access to the base as leverage during policy disagreements.

The proposed legislation comes amid a bipartisan backlash against Trump's decision to not stand in the way of Turkey's offensive in northern Syria. It began Wednesday with an air and ground assault against Kurdish forces who have been closely allied with the U.S. in the battle against Islamic State.

Critics of Trump say giving Erdogan tacit approval for the invasion could result in the resurgence of ISIS in Syria since it will likely divert the resources and focus

of the Kurds, who guard prison camps filled with the militants.

Turkey regards Kurdish-led militias in Syria as an extension of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which Ankara has long considered a top enemy and terrorist group.

While the U.S. sees its Kurdish allies as separate from the PKK, it has never been able to assuage Turkish concerns over its partnership with them. The U.S. strategy in the region also has never fully taken into account the political complications of Kurdish territorial ambitions in northern Syria.

Graham, however, has made clear that if forced to choose, the U.S. should side with the Kurds over longtime NATO ally Turkey. The South Carolina Republican, who has generally supported Trump, has taken to social media in recent days to blast the president's decision, which he has described as a betrayal of the Kurds.

"Most members of Congress believe it would be wrong to abandon the Kurds who have been strong allies against ISIS," Graham wrote in a Twitter post Wednesday.

He added: "NEWSFLASH: Erdogan and humane do not belong in the same sentence. Worst is yet to come."

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## 'Mr. Kurd' says Trump has abandoned US allies in the Middle East

By ELIZABETH KENNEDY  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — "Mr. Kurd" feels betrayed.

A year ago, Kurdish journalist Rahim Rashidi stood up at a news conference and listened to President Donald Trump praise his help. Trump professed respect for the "great" U.S. allies, even inadvertently giving Rashidi

ish fighters who have been America's only allies in Syria fighting Islamic State.

The move paved the way for Turkey to attack the Kurdish forces it considers terrorists. On Wednesday, Ankara launched airstrikes and fired artillery into Syria, causing casualties.

The attack happened "in front of his eyes," Rashidi said of Trump. "He did nothing."

Rashidi, who is based in Washington, didn't bristle at being called "Mr. Kurd" — he embraced it. He even put it on his business card.

"If you remember, I was very happy," Rashidi said, describing Trump as the most powerful man in the world.

He doesn't know what changed in the intervening months. Republicans and Democrats in Con-

gress, along with many national defense experts, say the move has placed U.S. credibility as well as the Kurds and regional stability at great risk.

On Wednesday, Trump said in a tweet that the United States should not be "fighting and policing" in the Middle East.

But his stance caused whiplash for those who had found hope in Trump's earlier words.



## NATION

# White House aides avoid the media amid controversy

By JILL COLVIN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — They've skipped the high-profile Sunday TV shows and avoided driveway chat sessions with reporters. Few who are typically eager to defend the president have appeared at all on television this month.

White House officials close to President Donald Trump are pulling off a disappearing act, remaining largely absent from public view — in the middle of the storm over impeachment.

"We invited the White House to answer questions on the show this morning," CNN's Jake Tapper explained to his viewers on Sunday's "State of the Union." "It's a well-not offer a guest."

It's a tried-and-true strategy in the Trump White House: Senior officials conveniently manage to be elsewhere when major controversies engulf the building. The frequent absences of Jared Kushner, the Republican president's son-in-law and senior advisor, and presidential daughter Ivanka Trump during moments of consequence have long been a running joke among their detractors.

Their detours included a trip to Florida during the partial government shutdown.

Plenty of others have jumped town during tense moments.

As Trump struggled with mounting Republican defections over his decision to declare a national emergency to pay for the stalled border wall, acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney wasn't at the Capitol cajoling his former colleagues or in the West Wing making calls. Instead, he was in Las Vegas for an annual friends and family getaway.

More recently, embattled national security adviser John Bolton scheduled a trip to Mongolia while Trump became the first sitting U.S. president to set foot in North Korea, a gesture that didn't sit well with Bolton, who would leave the administration a few months later.

Indeed, knowing "when to be out of town" was one of the top nuggets of advice that Kevin Hassett, the president's former top economic adviser, said he'd received from a predecessor and had to offer his successor.

The White House did not respond to questions about the tactic.



CAROLYN KASTER/AP

**White House counselor Kellyanne Conway prepares to speak to the news media at the White House on Sept. 27. As the impeachment inquiry gains steam, top White House officials are largely remaining out of public view.**

Wednesday. But even when they're in Washington, many of the White House's most visible officials have been staying out of public view, letting the president's indignant Twitter feed and his frequent commentary drive the public conversation.

That includes White House spokesman Hogan Gidley, a frequent guest on Fox News shows and the gaggles with reporters that often follow on the White House driveway. White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, an aggressive defender of the president, has not made an appearance on the driveway since a highly contentious Sept. 27 gaggle in which she berated reporters and dismissed a question about whether the White House

was organizing an impeachment war room.

"I'm the only person out here taking your questions," Conway noted then. She did, however, appear at an event with first lady Melania Trump, speaking with teens and young adults about their experiences with electronic cigarettes and vaping.

Appearances have come instead from lower-profile staffers, including the vice president's chief of staff, Marc Short; the acting director of Office of Management and Budget, Russell Vought; and economic adviser Larry Kudlow, who tried to stay out of the controversy. He's said repeatedly that questions about Ukraine and the president's efforts to dig up damaging information about

former Vice President Joe Biden are way out of his lane.

Adding to the vacuum is the continued lack of White House briefings. White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham has yet to hold one.

"It's surprising that they're not using the many levers on the most powerful communications platform in the world, which is the White House," said Joe Lockhart, who served as press secretary during the impeachment of President Bill Clinton. He said that the White House is losing out on effective platforms to try to drive its message.

"Nobody is vouching for him or validating him and filling in the blanks," Lockhart said of Trump.

## Charges more likely with Trump opposition

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The combative White House leader vowing to defy the "illegitimate" impeachment inquiry has actually put President Donald Trump on a more certain path to charges.

His refusal to honor subpoenas or allow testimony would likely play into a formal accusation against him.

The letter sent to House leaders by White House Counsel Pat Cipollone Tuesday evening declared the president would not cooperate with the investigation — a clear reason, Democrats say, to write an article of impeachment charging him with obstruction.

The White House insists that a formal House vote is necessary just to start the impeachment process. But Democrats are moving ahead without one, confident for now that they are backed by the Constitution and Trump's own acknowledgments of trying to persuade a foreign government to investigate a political foe.



EVAN VUCCI/AP

**President Donald Trump arrives for an event in the Roosevelt Room of the White House on Wednesday. Trump's defiance of a House impeachment inquiry may leave him open to an obstruction charge.**

"The White House should be warned that continued efforts to hide the truth of the president's abuse of power from the American people will be regarded as further evidence of obstruction," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in response to the letter. "Mr. President, you are not above the law. You will be held accountable."

Trump again defended his decision not to cooperate, calling a whistleblower's complaint about his call with Ukraine's leader "a fraud being perpetrated on the American public" and saying Republicans are being treated unfairly. He repeated he was being vilified for "a perfect phone call."

But the president also undercut his no-cooperation argument Wednesday by putting conditions on his willingness, saying he would cooperate only if the House held a vote and Democrats would "give us our rights."

Boosted by polls showing increased public support for impeachment, Pelosi has shown no signs of shifting her strategy.

"All that defiance does is add to the case" against the president, including obstruction of Congress, said Virginia Rep. Gerry Connolly, a Democrat who sits on the Oversight and Foreign Affairs panels. He said the White House strategy actually works to convince the public of the president's guilt, citing the recent polls.

## Ukraine's president: 'No blackmail' during call

By YURAS KARMANAU  
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine's president insisted Thursday that he faced "no blackmail" from President Donald Trump in their phone call that helped spark an impeachment inquiry, distancing himself from the U.S. political drama and trying to claw back his own credibility.

Volodymyr Zelenskyy said for the first time that his country will "happily" investigate the conspiracy theory pushed by Trump that it was Ukrainians, not Russians, who interfered in the 2016 U.S. presidential election. And he encouraged U.S. and Ukrainian prosecutors to discuss investigating a gas company linked to the son of Trump's Democratic rival Joe Biden.

But Zelenskyy insisted he's not Trump's puppet and his moves appeared to be an attempt to put an end to questions dogging the Ukrainian president since details of his July 25 call with Trump emerged.

He said U.S. officials have presented zero evidence of Ukraine's interference in 2016, but it's in his country's interests to find out

once and for all what happened.

In an all-day "media marathon" held in a Kyiv food court, Zelenskyy played down suggestions that Trump pressured him in exchange for U.S. military aid to help Ukraine battle Russia-backed separatists. Congressional Democrats believe Trump was holding up the aid to use as leverage to pressure Ukraine and advance his domestic political interests.

Responding to questions from The Associated Press, Zelenskyy said he learned only after their phone call that the U.S. had blocked hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid to Ukraine.

"There was no blackmail," he said.

"We are not servants. We are an independent country."

Zelenskyy invited U.S. and Ukrainian prosecutors to cooperate on an eventual investigation into the Bidens but insisted he would not interfere.

"I don't want to be pulled into this because I understand that my words could impact the elections of the American people," he said.

NATION

# Millions in Calif. wait for end to blackouts

By BRIAN MELLEY  
AND TERENCE CHEA  
Associated Press

SONOMA, Calif. — Millions of Californians played a waiting game with the winds Thursday as Pacific Gas & Electric watched the weather before deciding whether to restore power to an enormous portion of the state blacked out on purpose.

The state's largest utility pulled the plug to prevent a repeat of the past two years when wind-blown power lines sparked deadly wildfires that destroyed thousands of homes.

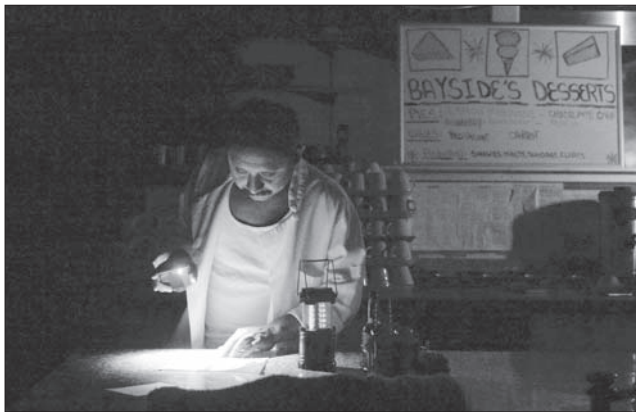
The unpopular move that disrupted daily life — prompted by forecasts calling for dry, gusty weather — came after catastrophic fires sent PG&E into bankruptcy and forced it to take more aggressive steps to prevent blazes.

The blackouts began Wednesday, hitting more than 500,000 homes and businesses north of San Francisco Bay, in the wine country, the Central Valley and the Sierra Nevada foothills, where a November wildfire blamed on PG&E transmission lines killed 85 people and virtually incinerated the town of Paradise.

Late Wednesday night, after a full day of delays, PG&E began cutting power in the Bay Area, excluding the city of San Francisco.

Overall, about 734,000 customers and as many as 2 million people could be affected. PG&E has warned that they might have to do without power for days after the winds subside because "every inch" of the power system must be inspected by helicopters and thousands of groundworkers and declared safe before the grid is reactivated.

"It's just kind of scary. It feels worse than Y2K. We don't know how long," Tianna Pasche, of Oakland, said before her area was powered down. "My two kids, their school situation keeps mov-



Carlos Lama uses an LED lamp and light from his phone at the counter of Bayside Cafe in Sausalito, Calif., on Wednesday during a planned blackout by Pacific Gas & Electric to guard against wind-blown power lines sparking a wildfire.

ALAN DEY, MARIN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL/AP

ing every second. It's not clear if we need to pack for a week and go out of town or what to do. So I'm just trying to make sure we have water, food, charging stations and gas.

"For me, this is a major inconvenience in my life as a parent but also, if I saves the life, I'm not going to complain about it," she said.

Residents of the Oakland Hills, where a wildfire in 1991 killed 25 people and destroyed thousands of homes, spent the morning buying bottled water, getting cash and filling their cars with gas.

In the northern wine country, most of downtown Sonoma was pitch black when Joseph Pokorski, a retiree, showed up for his morning ritual of drinking coffee, followed by beer and cocktails.

The Town Square bar was open and lit by lanterns, but coffee was out of the question and only cash was accepted. Pokorski decided to forgo a 30-minute wait for a cup of joe from the bakery next door and move on to beers and a couple of greyhound cocktails of vodka and grapefruit juice.

"I'm not a coffee freak," Pokorski said. "I can take it or leave it. It's no big thing."

In the El Dorado Hills east of Sacramento, Calif., Ruth Self and her son were taking an outage in stride while leaving a Safeway grocery store that had been stripped nearly bare of bottled water and ice.

Self said she wasn't upset, given the lives lost nearby a year ago in Paradise, invoking images of

people who burned in their cars trying to escape.

"I just can't imagine," she said. "Hopefully, [the outages] are only for a couple days. I think it's more of a positive than a negative. Ask me again on Friday night when I haven't had a shower in two days, when I've had to spend two days playing card games."

There was some good news. PG&E also announced that by reconfiguring its power system, it had restored electricity to 44,000 customers who weren't in areas of high fire risk, and it could bring back power to 60,000 to 80,000 customers in the Humboldt area, where gusty winds had subsided.

Also because of shifting forecasts, the utility said it was reducing the third phase of its blackout

## Evacuations ordered as wildfire spreads

MORAGA, Calif. — Police have ordered evacuations as a fast-moving wildfire spreads in the hills of a San Francisco Bay Area community.

Moraga-Orinda firefighters responded to the scene near the St. Mary's College campus early Thursday. The school did not appear threatened at the time.

Cal Fire said the flames consumed about 60 acres in little more than two hours. Moraga police ordered evacuations in the town's Sanders Ranch neighborhood. Residents were told to take only essential items.

The community in Contra Costa County is part of Pacific Gas and Electric's ongoing preemptive electricity shutdowns.

From The Associated Press

plan, set to begin Thursday, to about 4,600 customers in Kern County — one-tenth of the original estimate.

Unsurprisingly, the unprecedented blackouts sparked anger. A customer threw eggs at a PG&E office in Oroville. A PG&E truck was hit by a bullet that shattered a window in Colusa County before Wednesday's outages, although authorities couldn't immediately say whether it was targeted. PG&E put up barricades around its San Francisco headquarters.

"We realize and understand the impact and the hardship" from the outages, said Sumeet Singh, head of PG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program. But he urged people not to take it out on PG&E workers.

# Ariz. politician charged in human trafficking adoption scheme

By JONATHAN J. COOPER  
Associated Press

PHOENIX — An Arizona elected official ran a human smuggling scheme that promised pregnant women thousands of dollars to lure them from a Pacific Island nation to the U.S., where they were crammed into houses to wait to give birth, sometimes with little to no prenatal care, prosecutors allege.

Paul Petersen, the Republican assessor of Arizona's most populous county, was charged in Utah, Arizona and Arkansas with crimes including human smuggling, sale of a child, fraud, forgery and conspiracy to commit money laundering.

The charges span about three years and involve some 75 adoptions. Investigators also found eight pregnant women from the Marshall Islands in raids of his properties outside Phoenix, and several more are waiting to give birth in Utah, authorities said.

"The commoditization of children is simply evil," said Utah Attorney General

Sean D. Reyes.

The adoptive parents are considered victims along with the birth mothers, and no completed adoptions will be undone, authorities said.

Petersen's attorney, Matthew Long, defended his client's actions during a Tuesday court hearing in Phoenix as "proper business practices" and said they disagreed with the allegations.

Republican Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey said Petersen should resign from his elected position determining the taxable value for properties in Maricopa County, which includes Phoenix and its suburbs.

Petersen served a two-year mission in the Marshall Islands for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Reyes said. He was later recruited by an international adoption agency while in law school



Petersen

because of his fluency in Marshallese, according to a 2013 Phoenix Business Journal story.

Prosecutors say Petersen used associates there to recruit pregnant women by offering many of them \$10,000 each to give up their babies for adoption. Petersen would pay for the women to travel to the U.S. days or months before giving birth and live in a home that he owned until delivering the baby, according to the court records.

The expecting mothers were often crowded in the homes, with Marshallese women Petersen employed helping with things like translation, transportation, legal documents and applications for Medicaid benefits, prosecutors said.

Women got little to no prenatal care in Utah, and in one house slept on mattresses laid on bare floors in what one shocked adoptive family described as a "baby mill," according to court documents.

Petersen sold the house last spring as complaints mounted from neighbors in the working-class area in suburban Salt Lake City, said new owner Alanna Mabey.

She was told it had been used as a rental, and since purchasing it she has found trash like dirty diapers in the bushes, she said. The news about how prosecutors say expecting mothers were treated there is "horrible," she said. "It makes me sick to my stomach."

In Arkansas, it wasn't uncommon to find a dozen Marshallese mothers on the verge of giving birth in one house, said Duane Kees, the U.S. attorney for the western district of Arkansas.

"Many of these mothers described their ordeal as being treated like property," Kees said. "Make no mistake: This case is the purest form of human trafficking."

Arkansas has one of the largest concentrations of Marshallese immigrants in the U.S., and the women would then be flown there or back to the Marshall Islands after giving birth, authorities said.

Petersen charged families \$25,000-\$40,000 per adoption and brought about \$2.7 million into a bank account for adoption fees in less than two years, according to court documents.

## NATION



Jessica Lucero, left, dressed as the Fiesta Queen, and Jaime Dean, dressed as 17th-century Spanish conquistador Don Diego de Vargas, dance at Santa Fe City Hall in Santa Fe, N.M., in 2006. Public depictions of the conquistador have come under growing criticism from activists.

## Spanish conquistador, long a New Mexico icon, faces attacks

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The Spanish conquistador is an image found throughout New Mexico, the most Hispanic state in the United States.

Depictions of such men as 17th-century explorers Don Juan de Onate and Don Diego de Vargas have long adorned murals and been honored at commemorations as a homage to the region's Hispanic heritage.

In recent years, however, the conquistador and all the effigies connected to it have come under intense criticism.

A new generation of Native American and Latino activists is demanding that conquistador imagery and names be removed from seals, schools and streets. They say the figure's connection to colonialism and indigenous genocide makes the conquistador outdated, highlighting the region's changing attitudes about its colonial past.

Activists persuaded organizers of the yearly Santa Fe Fiesta to abandon "the Entrada" — a recreation of the Vargas recapturing Santa Fe from Native Americans by Pueblo tribes.

Under pressure, Santa Fe's public school district also announced it would limit when conquistador reenactors visit.

This month, the University of New Mexico said it's looking a new design for its official seal following protests from Native Americans two years ago over concerns about the current seal with a conquistador.

Elena Ortiz, president of the Santa Fe chapter of Red Nation, a Native American advocacy group, said the developments come after years of activism and public campaigns seeking to change perceptions about the conquistador.

**‘This country has not acknowledged its legacy with indigenous genocide.’**

Nick Estes

professor at the University of New Mexico and member of Red Nation

Activists feel more needs to be done, she said.

“We still have Don Diego parading around,” Ortiz said. “This symbol of genocide should not be allowed in public schools.”

The demonstrations and protests have enflamed racial tensions between those of the state's many Native American tribes would have been identified as Mexican American or mestizo, a mixture of Spanish and Native American ancestry.

The Spanish identity has made New Mexico unique in how some Hispanic residents have celebrated the conquistador for decades. At an annual festival in Santa Fe, some dress up as conquistadors and ride through town on horses while other conquistador reenactors visit local schools and dance with children.

All Pueblo Council of Governors Chairman E. Paula Torres, who is a member of Isleta Pueblo, said he understands that some Hispanics revere their Spanish colonial past and images of the conquistador.

“I’m not offended by it, but I know some (Native Americans) who are,” Torres said. “I’m for us getting together to have a better understanding of each other.”

Nick Estes, an American Studies professor at the University of New Mexico and a member of Red Nation, said activists want state leaders to stop lionizing the region's violent colonial past and recognize the history of Native Americans.

The fight is worse than the battle over U.S. Civil War-era Confederate monuments in the American South, he said.

“At least there’s an acknowledgment of this country’s legacy with slavery,” Estes said. “This country has not acknowledged its legacy with indigenous genocide.”

“It’s a complicated history that needs to be celebrated. If it weren’t for Hispanics, who came to New Mexico first, most Native American tribes would have been wiped out,” Arellanes said. “The conquistador brought people together.”

Spanish explorers were the first Europeans to set foot in the present-day American Southwest, including Texas, California, Arizona and Colorado.

While each state has a few monuments, streets and cities named after Spanish conquistadors, in New Mexico the conquistador has played a unique role in the celebration of Hispanic culture in the state as many continue to identify as Spanish, or descendants of the first Spanish explorers. Latinos in other southwestern states often

identify as Mexican American or mestizo, a mixture of Spanish and Native American ancestry.

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# 2 men linked to Giuliani arrested

## Pair of Florida businessmen charged with campaign finance violations

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Two Florida businessmen tied to President Donald Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani have been arrested on campaign finance violations resulting from a \$325,000 donation to a political action committee supporting Trump's reelection.

Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman were arrested on a four-count indictment that includes charges of conspiracy, making false statements to the Federal Election Commission and falsification of records.

Parnas and Fruman were central to Giuliani's efforts to get government officials in Ukraine to investigate business dealings by former Vice President Joe Biden and his son Hunter in the war-torn former Soviet republic.

Records show that Parnas and Fruman used wire transfers from a corporate entity they controlled to make a \$325,000 donation to the America First Action committee in 2018. Wire transfer records that became public through a lawsuit show that the corporate entity reported as making the transaction was not the true source of the money.

John Dowd, an attorney for the men, hung up on an Associated Press reporter calling about the case.

The men, who were arrested at Dulles International Airport, were expected to appear late Thursday in federal court in Virginia. Two other men were charged in the case.

The indictment says Parnas and Fruman “sought to advance their personal financial interests and the political interests of

at least one Ukrainian government official with whom they were working” and took steps to conceal it from third parties, including creditors. They created a limited liability corporation, Global Energy Producers, and “intentionally caused certain large contributions to be reported in the name of GEP” instead of in their own names,” according to the indictment.

Prosecutors charge that the two men falsely claimed the contributions came from a liquefied natural gas business. At that point, the company had no income or significant assets, according to the indictment.

The big PAC donation in May 2018 was part of a flurry of political spending tied to Parnas and Fruman, with at least \$478,000 in donations flowing to GOP campaigns and PACs in a little more than two months.

The money enabled the relatively unknown entrepreneurs to quickly gain access to the highest levels of the Republican Party, including face-to-face meetings with Trump at the White House and Mar-a-Lago in Florida.

The AP reported last week that Parnas and Fruman helped arrange a January meeting in New York between Ukraine's former top prosecutor, Yuri Lutsenko, and Giuliani, and other meetings with top government officials.

Giuliani's efforts to launch a Ukrainian corruption investigation were echoed by Trump in his July 25 call with Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy. That conversation is now at the heart of a burgeoning congressional impeachment inquiry.

## Trump to meet with leader of China's trade talk team

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said he would meet at the White House on Friday with the leader of the Chinese negotiating team now in Washington for the latest round of talks aimed at ending a 15-month trade battle that is weighing on the global economy.

With expectations for this week's talks low, Trump tweeted Thursday: “Big day of negotiations with China. They want to make a deal, but do I?”

Chinese Vice Premier Liu He is leading the delegation in negotiations with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer

and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. The 13th round of talks began Thursday.

The world's two biggest economies are deadlocked over U.S. allegations that China steals technology and pressures foreign companies to hand over trade secrets as part of a drive to become a world leader in advanced industries such as robotics.

Under Trump, the U.S. has slapped tariffs on more than \$360 billion worth of Chinese imports and is planning to hit another \$160 billion Dec. 15. That would extend import taxes to virtually everything China ships to the U.S. China has hit back by targeting about \$120 billion in U.S. goods.



## NATION

# 'Flash drought' harms farms in South

Associated Press

CARTERSVILLE, Ga. — Across a vast expanse of the South stretching from Texas to Maryland, there are growing concerns for the cattle, cotton and corn amid a worsening drought fueled by this summer's record high temperatures.

One of the bulls'eyes marking the nation's driest areas is Bartow County, Ga., where extreme drought has kicked up buckets of dust and left cattle pastures bare. The farm country northwest of Atlanta is among the hardest hit spots in a dozen Southern states where more than 45 million residents are now living in some type of drought conditions, the most recent U.S. Drought Monitor report shows.

Across the South, the drought has ravaged the pastures where cattle and other livestock feed. The majority of those lands are in either poor or very poor condition in Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, the Carolinas and West Virginia, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported in its most recent crop report. Pasture and range conditions were in even worse shape in Virginia, where 71% of the land is in poor or very poor shape.

"Looking ahead, if we don't get enough rain and the pastures don't recover, we'll be dipping into winter feeding hay before time, or have to liquidate some cattle," said Deane Bagwell, a cattle farmer in Bartow County.

"It is frustrating with the weather, complicated by cattle prices not as high as we'd like to see them," he said. "So if you are forced to sell, then you're going to



JEFF MARTIN/AP

**Cracked earth is left behind after an ongoing drought dried up a stream at Pettit Creek Farms in Bartow County, Ga., part of a large region of the southern U.S. where drought is affecting crops and livestock.**

have less income. It just all plays into the frustration of trying to make a living farming."

At a farm where people come to see the kangaroos, camels and other wildlife in Cartersville, Ga., owner Scott Allen pointed out the "baked mud" and cracked earth in the bed of a small stream near his zebras. The natural spring water is nearly dried up, so he's using municipal water.

"It's been probably better than 60 days since we had any precipitation that amounted to anything," Allen said. "The dust is just relentless."

The USDA crop report shows

nearly a quarter of the cotton crop is in poor or very poor condition in Texas, where more than 13 million people — more than half the state's population — are experiencing drought conditions, the center reported.

The situation is also dire in North Carolina, where 40% of the cotton and 30% of the corn is in poor or very poor shape. In Georgia, nearly 20% of the peanut crop is in poor or very poor condition, the report shows.

The heat has played a large factor, forecasters say. The combination of dry weather and intense heat can create drought condi-

tions relatively quickly, resulting in a "flash drought."

The term came about during a 2001 drought in the Great Plains. Mark Svoboda, director of the National Drought Mitigation Center, was looking for a way to describe the rapid onset of that drought and came up with "flash drought," he recalls.

A new report on the drought is expected later Thursday showing the damage already done, but now farmers are concerned about the long-term outlook. Octobers are usually among the driest months in the South.

## Calif. bans pesticide linked to kids' health

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A widely used agricultural pesticide that California environmental officials have said has been linked to brain damage in children will be banned after next year under an agreement reached with the manufacturer, state officials announced Wednesday.

Under the deal, all California sales of chlorpyrifos will end on Feb. 6, 2020, and farmers will have until the end of 2020 to exhaust their supplies.

The pesticide is used on numerous crops in the nation's largest agriculture-producing state — including alfalfa, almonds, citrus, cotton, grapes and walnuts.

State regulators have said chlorpyrifos has been linked to health defects in children, including brain impairment, and to illnesses in others with compromised immune systems.

"For years, environmental justice advocates have fought to get the harmful pesticide chlorpyrifos out of our communities," Gov. Gavin Newsom, a Democrat, said in a statement after the deal was announced.

"Thanks to their tenacity and the work of countless others, this will now occur faster than originally envisioned," he said. "This is a big win for children, workers and public health in California."

The president of the California Citrus Association, which represents about 5,000 growers, said in an interview that he believes the risks were not as great as the state made them out to be.

"We really thought the exposure assessments and risks were just inflated and it wasn't a true characterization of the protections that were already in place," said Casey Cressler.

Cressler added he appreciated that officials have agreed to budget \$5.6 million to help pesticide manufacturers develop a safer alternative to chlorpyrifos.

"But just so you're aware, that's what agriculture does every day; we're always looking for new products, safer products that are effective," he said.

When California announced earlier this year it was moving toward banning the pesticide, the state's environmental secretary, Jared Blumenfeld, said it was doing so because the federal government was allowing it to remain on the market.

The Obama administration announced in 2015 that it would ban chlorpyrifos after scientific studies funded in part by the federal Environmental Protection Agency showed the potential for brain damage in children. After President Donald Trump was elected, the EPA reversed that ban, questioning the studies' validity.

Hawaii and New York are already phasing in chlorpyrifos bans.

## Melania Trump applauds stores pulling e-cigarettes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Melania Trump said Wednesday she's glad some stores are pulling electronic cigarettes off the shelves amid an explosion in vaping among young people, calling it a necessary step to protect the next generation.

"We need to be proactive before it gets out of control," she said at a White House "listening session" where a small group of teenagers from around the country told her about their experiences using e-cigarettes.

Luka Kinard, 16, of High Point, N.C., said he quit vaping only after spending 39 days in rehab in California in October 2018.

He said he had been using e-cigarettes for about a year when he began experiencing intense chest pain, insomnia and cold sweats and thought he was having a heart attack at 15. He said his parents thought a seizure he suffered in September 2018 was tied to vaping, and they sent him away for treatment.

"It wasn't until then that my parents recognized, 'Hey, this is really an issue,'" he told the first lady.



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

**First lady Melania Trump listens as Eric Asche with the Truth Initiative speaks during a listening session with teenagers about electronic cigarettes and vaping at the White House on Wednesday.**

Ally Harrison, 18, said she suffered from physical and mental ailments, including heart palpitations and panic attacks. Friends in her hometown of Baytown, Texas, encouraged her to vape, assuring her it would "calm you down."

But it had the opposite effect. "I had worse panic attacks. The fear

was always there," Ally said.

Asked by Trump how he obtained e-cigarettes, Luka said he got them from friends or by hanging around outside smoke shops or gas stations and enlisting strangers to get the products for him.

Amid an increased focus on

vaping by young people, a few big-name retailers have said they will no longer sell those products.

Walmart, the nation's largest retailer, said last month that it will stop selling electronic cigarettes at its namesake stores and Sam's Clubs in the U.S. when it sells out its current inventory. Supermarket chain Kroger and drugstore chain Walgreens announced Monday they will follow Walmart's lead.

Jul Labs Inc., the nation's largest maker of electronic cigarettes, is ending advertising in the U.S.

In response to a surge in vaping by young people, President Donald Trump recently announced that the federal government will act to ban thousands of flavors used in e-cigarettes, mostly the fruity flavors that are believed to entice young people to start vaping.

The Truth Initiative, a nonprofit, anti-tobacco organization that took the students to meet with the first lady in the White House, wants the federal government to ban all flavors used in vaping, including mint and menthol, among other steps.

## NATION

# VA refunds \$400M in home loan fees to over 50K vets

By NEIL FOTRE  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — More than 50,000 veterans mistakenly charged additional fees when seeking a home loan through the Department of Veterans Affairs have received refunds totaling more than \$400 million, VA officials announced Tuesday.

The refunds come in the wake of a report this year from the VA's inspector general that found tens of thousands of veterans were improperly charged extra costs while they were applying for VA home loans.

The report found at least 53,000 disabled veterans were mistakenly charged fees that they should have been exempt from paying.

VA officials said they reviewed more than 130,000 cases during the summer looking for errors. Most of the errors involved clerical mistakes or disability rating discrepancies after the veterans had settled on their loans.

Veterans and servicemembers are required to pay a VA funding fee when they apply for a home loan from the agency.

Veterans who possess a disability rating are exempt from the fee, which is designed to offset administration costs for the VA. Those fees can range from 0.5% to 3.3% of the money lent to a veteran or a servicemember.

Refunds ranged from a few thousand dollars to tens of thousands of dollars per servicemem-

ber or veteran.

"Our administration prioritized fixing the problems and paid veterans what they were owed," VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said in a statement issued Tuesday.

VA officials went back as far as 20 years to make the appropriate corrections. Original estimates by the VA projected the refund total to be nearly \$290 million.

The VA said the agency has made changes to its procedures to better inform servicemembers, veterans and lenders to make certain the same mistakes are not repeated.

The VA announced new policy guidelines to make certain that lenders are asking applicants about their disability rating as well as "system and procedural changes to ensure regular internal oversight activities swiftly identify veterans eligible for fee waivers and potential refund cases," according to the VA news release.

The VA also has established new methods of outreach to inform veterans of the fee waivers that they might be qualified to receive.

VA officials said they consider the issue to be resolved. However, veterans who have questions or would like more information can contact the VA's regional loan center office at 877-827-3702.

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## DIA official charged with leaking info to journalists

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Defense Intelligence Agency official was arrested Wednesday and charged with leaking classified intelligence information to two journalists, including a reporter he was dating, the Justice Department said.

Henry Kyle Frese, 30, was arrested by the FBI Wednesday morning when he arrived at work at a DIA facility in Virginia. He was charged with willfully disclosing national defense information.

Frese, who has a top-secret government security clearance, is alleged to have accessed at least five classified intelligence reports and provided top-secret information about another country's weapons systems to the reporters with whom he was having a relationship.

Neither of the reporters was

identified by name in court documents, and the Justice Department declined to provide additional details about the classified information that was leaked.

The reporter published eight articles containing classified defense information between May and July 2018, prosecutors said.

In April 2018, after Frese accessed one of the intelligence reports, the reporter sent him a private message on Twitter asking if he would be willing to speak with another journalist who worked at another outlet owned by the same company. Frese replied that he would help if it could help advance the first reporter's career because he wanted to see her "progress."

The government also intercepted a call in September during which Frese allegedly read classified national defense information to the second journalist, according to court documents.



CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

A mourner touches an urn holding the remains of U.S. Army veteran Edward K. Pearson during an open funeral Tuesday at the Sarasota National Cemetery in Sarasota, Fla.

## Thousands at funeral of vet with 'no family,' then relatives surface

By ANTONIA NOORI FARZAN  
The Washington Post

On the day of Edward K. Pearson's funeral, traffic in Sarasota, Fla., came to a standstill. An estimated 4,000 people showed up to pay their respects to the 80-year-old Army veteran, and the roads were so jammed that the service had to be delayed for nearly an hour while the car carrying his ashes was stuck in transit.

Hardly any of the mourners packing Sarasota National Cemetery for the full military funeral on Oct. 1 had met the man they were there to honor. Instead, they had come because of a brief obituary that had gone viral, saying that the elderly veteran had no immediate family and inviting the public to attend his memorial service.

It was a heartwarming story. But the truth turned out to be slightly more complicated.

As Sarasota Herald-Tribune columnist Chris Anderson recently discovered, Pearson actually had two sons and had walked out on his family when the boys were teenagers. Until their father's obituary went viral, they had been under the impression that he was dead. But even though the two men came forward the day before the service, the funeral home didn't inform the public that Pearson did, indeed, have living family members.

"At the very least, it should have been mentioned at the service that family had been found," Anderson wrote on Tuesday. "It was not mentioned. Instead, a Legacy Options funeral director spoke about the services his business provides."

Over the past year, services for unclaimed veterans in Tennessee, Michigan, Nebraska and Massachusetts have drawn hundreds of strangers, with veterans' groups and funeral homes spreading the

word on social media. In January, after Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and CNN's Jake Tapper encouraged people to attend an Air Force veteran's funeral in Texas, more than 1,000 people showed up, creating a traffic jam that stretched for miles. Though the man had been thought to have no family, his daughter saw the media coverage and came forward after the funeral.

Pearson's obituary went viral in a similar fashion. The Naples, Fla., resident, who had served in the Army from 1962 to 1964, died of natural causes on Aug. 31, the Herald-Tribune reported. At the time, there were no known survivors, and a social worker contacted a nearby funeral home that provides free burials for indigent veterans.

Mike Hoyt, the funeral home's director, told the Herald-Tribune last week that he made "a couple phone calls" to veterans' organizations, thinking that maybe 100 people would show up. But after local news outlets picked up on the story, it took on a life of its own.

The result was a crowd so large that Hoyt, who had driven two hours from Naples, needed a police escort to get to the service. John Rosentzweig, the director of the Sarasota National Cemetery, told the Tampa Bay Times that it was the largest turnout he had seen for an unclaimed veteran's funeral in the cemetery's 10-year-old history.

Feel-good stories about the impressive turnout appeared in outlets including CNN and USA Today. But for Pearson's two sons, the funeral provoked a more complicated set of emotions.

"I was kind of surprised he was still alive all this time and I never knew about it," Edward Pearson Jr. told the Herald-Tribune. "I'm hurt because all these years I could have talked to him and

found out why he did what he did to us and why we were lied to."

The 55-year-old told the paper that his father never paid child support after abruptly abandoning his family and that the last time they spoke was in 1983. For reasons that remain unclear, his father's second wife passed along the message that Pearson Sr. had died while being electrocuted at work, and, for years, that was what the family believed.

Then, on the day before the funeral, Pearson's sons found out their father's death the same way that thousands of other people did: through social media.

Though it was too late to make plans to travel to Sarasota, the two men contacted the funeral home that same day to identify themselves as the veteran's immediate family. Blair McFarlane, a member of the Patriot Guard Riders, which volunteers at unclaimed veterans' funerals, told the Herald-Tribune that it's not uncommon for relatives to come out on the woodwork at the last possible moment and that his group will typically get a "stand down" request when that happens.

But that didn't happen in Pearson's case, and the public was never notified that the veteran's family had been found.

"At first the funeral home stated the family did not want to be involved, but then backtracked," Anderson wrote in a follow-up column on Tuesday. "Liz Pearson, Edward Pearson Jr.'s wife, said the family would have attended had they learned of the service earlier. The funeral home hung up when asked if they thought they deceived the public."

McFarlane had his own theory. If the funeral home had told the full story, "they don't get the publicity," he told the Herald-Tribune. "They don't get the crowd for Mr. Pearson."

## FACES

## Bandmate looks back fondly at George Michael in new memoir

Associated Press

Long before he was a music icon in skin-tight jeans, leather jacket and designer stubble, George Michael was something else — awkward, chubby and insecure. He even went by the very unhip nickname Yog.



Ridgeley

A loving portrait of a young, striving Michael is offered in a new book by his closest friend and former bandmate, Andrew Ridgeley. His “Wham! George Michael & Me” is part memoir and part monument to one of the biggest pop stars of the 1980s, who died on Christmas Day 2016.

“The point of the book was really to illustrate our friendship and how it really formed,” Ridgeley told The Associated Press. “It’s very difficult to put it into words or really put your finger on exactly what it was that people found so attractive about Wham! But it was a lot to do with George and me and our friendship.”

In the book, Ridgeley traces the rise of Wham! and key moments in the band’s career, like the creation of hits like “Careless Whisper” and “Everything She Wants,” their appearances at Live Aid and the time in 1985 when the band became the first Western pop group to visit China.

There are fun anecdotes, such as the drunken hijinks that accompanied the video shoot for “Last Christmas,” the reason why Ridgeley wasn’t part of Band Aid and the note he drunkenly wrote on his parents’ fridge that became the title of a Wham! hit: “Mum, wake me up before you go go.”

The book also deals with weighty subjects, like how their lives changed as tabloids stalked them and that during the band’s life Michael realized he was gay but remained closeted. It was a business decision to stay there.

“He felt it would undermine us and our chances of success. And it was very important to both of us that Wham! was a success that we wished for,” Ridgeley said. “It was tough for him. There’s no doubt about that. And it caused him a great deal of discomfort.”

“He fell in love with a 13-year-old Michael — born Georgios Panayiotou to a Cypriot family — in 1975, at school in Hertfordshire, England. They quickly bonded over a shared sense of humor and music, both loving Queen, Elton John and David Bowie.

The pair formed a ska-influenced quartet called The Executive and then in 1981 re-emerged as a duo, taking the name Wham! from their first completed song, “Wham Rap.”

Ridgeley, 56, writes that Wham! was never meant to last very long, saying the youth-driven duo was intended to “burn brightly, but briefly.”



Walton Goggins is pictured as widowed Wade in “The Unicorn.”

CBS

# Rare find

## ‘The Unicorn’ gives Goggins chance to take on lighter role

BY RICK BENTLEY  
Tribune News Service

**W**alton Goggins has distinguished himself during his acting career by taking on edgy roles in television series such as “Justified,” “Sons of Anarchy” and “The Shield.” He’s been a perfect fit for characters who come across as being fiercely loyal but also not afraid to cross moral lines if necessary.

Roles on the dark comedy “Vice Principals” and “The Righteous Gemstones” have given Goggins a chance to show he could also handle lighter roles. But even he was a little surprised when the offer came to star in the new CBS comedy “The Unicorn.”

Goggins plays Wade, the recently widowed father of two girls who finally — at the urging of friends and family — agrees to return to the world of dating. What Wade didn’t realize was that he’s the perfect single guy — employed, attractive and with a proven track record of commitment. In dating circles, this is as rare a find as a horse with a horn in the middle of its head.

The role is at the other end of the acting spectrum for the typical Goggins role, but the Alabama native wasn’t looking for a project this radical. His philosophy of acting has

**‘I’m a little tired of irony and I’m at a place in my life at 48 years old where kindness and sentimentality and being earnest are things that are very important to me. And this show kind of spoke to all of that.’**

Walton Goggins  
on his new CBS show,  
“The Unicorn”

been to just go with the best written material he could find, and that has included roles in the feature films “The Hatefule Eight,” “Django Unchained,” “Lincoln,” “Ant-Man and The Wasp” and “Maze Runner: The Death Cure.”

“When this came along, I just fell deeply in love with him and with his struggles and I fell in love with his daughters and I fell in love with his friends and this community,” Goggins says. “For me, I’m a little tired of irony and I’m at a place in my life at 48 years old where kindness and sentimentality and being earnest are things that are very important to me.

“And this show kind of spoke to all of that. It just touched me in a way that was deep and meaningful.”

The project was strong enough for Goggins to get past the nervousness he felt taking on a character who’s closer to who he really is than any of the tough-guy parts he’s played in his past. He felt a lot of insecurity stepping into this role and kept asking himself if he believed he could play such a character. Once he got past those initial fears, Goggins realized this was a role that deep down inside he knew he always wanted to play.

Executive producer Bill Martin and Mike Schiff didn’t share Goggins’ doubts and were certain he was the right actor. The biggest de-

bate they had regarding the series was whether or not it was proper for Wade to start dating a year after the death of his wife. The pair based the comedy on a friend whose wife had died and he waited two years before going on his first date.

Martin admits there were a lot of different opinions about what would be the proper time frame. Some argued a year can seem to pass so quickly while others say dealing with such a tragic loss can make 12 months come across more like an eternity.

The decision to go with a year was set once it was established that “The Unicorn” will not be the date-of-the-week show.

Schiff says, “The show is about him basically giving himself permission to live again after a year where he was sort of in a, I don’t want to say a coma, (but) a funk certainly. And it’s about him in all aspects of his life sort of tuning back into his life. So dating is a part of it, yes, but he’s also a father. He’s also a friend. It’s all elements of his life.

“And because, again, so much of it is coming from our friend Grady, whose story this is and from other friends of ours who have lost spouses, and we speak with all of them about what are the challenges moving forward.”



NATION

# Biden backs impeachment

By **BILL BARROW**  
and **HUNTER WOODALL**  
Associated Press

ROCHESTER, N.H. — Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden said Wednesday for the first time that President Donald Trump must be impeached for abusing the powers of his office to help his own reelection.

Biden made the remarks as part of a blistering 25-minute speech in New Hampshire, departing from his usual campaign pitch and signaling that he will aggressively confront Trump as the president faces an impeachment inquiry rooted in his unfounded accusations that the former vice president and his son had nefarious dealings in Ukraine.

Trump is "shooting holes in the Constitution," Biden said, by asking foreign leaders to find dirt on the Bidens and then refusing to cooperate with the resulting

House impeachment inquiry.

"This is a president who has decided this nation doesn't have the tools, the power, the political will" to punish bad behavior, Biden said, cataloging a litany of Trump's actions that the former vice president said warrant impeachment.

The speech comes after two weeks of uneven responses from Biden as he and his advisers debated internally the best way to handle Trump's broadsides. Biden had alternated between muted dismissals at a series of fundraisers and more aggressive public displays, urging reporters to "ask the right questions," promising he'd beat Trump "like a drum" and using a campaign rally in Reno, Nev., to hammer the president. His New Hampshire speech, though, was his most thorough, visible retort to date.

"He's not just testing us," Biden said. "He's laughing at us."

Before Biden had concluded in New Hampshire, Trump retorted via Twitter. "So pathetic," he wrote, to see Biden calling for his impeachment. The president maintained that he had done nothing wrong.

In a July 25 phone call to Ukraine's president, Trump asked for "a favor" of investigating Biden and his son Hunter, who previously served on the board of a Ukrainian energy firm that had drawn scrutiny in that country. A rough White House transcript of that call and a related whistleblower complaint prompted House Democrats to begin impeachment proceedings.

Without evidence, Trump insists Biden used his role as vice president to protect his son from corruption investigations.

Since the disclosure of Trump's Ukrainian telephone call, the president has publicly suggested China should investigate Hunter



ELISE AMENDOLA/AP

**Democratic presidential candidate and former Vice President Joe Biden takes a selfie Wednesday with a supporter at a campaign event in Rochester, N.H., where for the first time he called for the impeachment of President Donald Trump.**

Biden's business dealings there, comments that Biden noted came with Trump "standing in front of reporters and cameras like I am at this moment."

U.S. election law forbids soliciting or accepting foreign aid in American elections. "It's stunning and it's danger-

ous because it directly threatens our democracy," Biden said of Trump's requests.

Biden on Wednesday again blasted Trump's "lies and smears and distortions," saying the president peddles them because he fears facing Biden in a general election.

# Warren to shun big money fundraisers for general election

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren says she will skip shunning large-dollar fundraisers if she is the nominee, changing her earlier stand that doing so would be tantamount to "unilateral disarmament" against President Donald Trump and Republicans. The Massachusetts senator has ridden a steady rise in the polls to emerge as among the leading 2020 contenders as the first election-year contest in February nears. She has relied on a small-dollar donation strategy that she

says gives her more time to attend large rallies and stay long afterward taking selfies with supporters, rather than sun heading off to exclusive fundraisers or spending hours on the phone asking for money.

Now she is pledging more of the same for the general election.

"I'm not going to do the big-dollar fundraisers. I'm just not going to do it," Warren said in an interview with CBS posted Tuesday.

A campaign statement followed on Wednesday: "When Elizabeth is the Democratic nominee for president, she's not going to change a thing in how she runs

her campaign. That means no PAC money. No federal lobbyist money. No special access or call time with rich donors or big-dollar fundraisers to underwrite our campaign."

It said the campaign "is and will continue to be a grassroots campaign — funded by working people chipping in a few bucks here and there."

Former Vice President Joe Biden, California Sen. Kamala Harris, and other Democratic presidential rivals have frequently organized traditional fundraisers. Former Texas Rep. Beto O'Rourke has attended such events, but livestreamed the proceedings so anyone can watch.

Some Democrats and top fundraisers have grumbled that

Warren's stance is hypocritical, noting that she spent years attending large fundraisers as a senator and now can use that money as she runs for president.

Still, Warren raised \$24.6 million during the third quarter, finishing close behind the Democratic money leader, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who brought in \$25.3 million.

## O'Rourke to counter Trump Texas rally

WASHINGTON — Beto O'Rourke is planning a counter-rally as President Donald Trump addresses supporters in Dallas next week — recalling the dueling events held on the Texas-Mexico border eight months ago that helped launch the former congressman's White House bid.

The Democratic presidential candidate will stage a "Rally Against Fear" Oct. 17 at The Theatre at Grand Prairie in suburban Dallas around the same time Trump is holding an event at the American Airlines Center.

Trump flew to El Paso in February for a rally at a packed arena in support of expanding the U.S.-Mexico border wall. As he spoke, O'Rourke headlined an event that drew thousands protesting the administration's immigration policy at a nearby baseball diamond.

His rally showed that O'Rourke was capable of providing effective political counterprogramming to Trump in a way that few of the president's opponents have been able to accomplish.

From The Associated Press

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WORLD

# Germany seeks to reassure Jews after holy day attack

By **GEIR MOULSON**  
AND **PIETRO DE CRISTOFARO**  
*Associated Press*

HALLE, Germany — Germany's president urged his nation Thursday to stand up for their Jewish compatriots as he visited the scene of an attack on a synagogue in the city of Halle, seeking to reassure an unsettled Jewish community after members saw a man trying to break into their house of worship on Judaism's holiest day.

The attack, in which two people were killed outside the synagogue and in a kebab shop, stoked renewed concerns about rising far-right extremism in Germany and questions about the police response.

The head of Germany's Jewish community, Josef Schuster, called the absence of police guards outside the synagogue on Yom Kippur "scandalous" as members of the congregation described waiting behind locked doors for the police to arrive, which took more than 10 minutes.

The assailant — a German citizen identified by prosecutors as Stephan B., firing what appeared to be homemade weapons — tried but failed to force his way into the synagogue as around 80 people were inside.

He then shot and killed a woman in the street outside and a man at a nearby kebab shop. He is now in custody.

Wednesday's attack in the eastern German city, in which the gunman ranted about Jews and denied the Holocaust in English, was livestreamed on a popular gaming site.

The head of the city's Jewish

community, Max Privorozki, was among those inside who watched the man trying to break in on monitors linked to a surveillance camera.

"We saw everything, also how he shot and how he killed someone," he said, standing outside the damaged door. "I thought this door wouldn't hold."

Privorozki said it took a little while for worshippers to understand what was going on.

"That was a shock for us," he said. "It was Yom Kippur; all phones were switched off. We had to understand what was going on first — then switch on my phone and then call the police."

"It was really panic. But I have to say after that, when the police came, we continued with the worship service; that lasted another three hours; the synagogue worship service."

The worshippers were brought out on buses several hours later. A video posted by a reporter for Israeli public broadcaster Kan showed people on a bus dancing, embracing and singing.

A worshipper who was at the synagogue, identified only as Christina, told Israel's Kan Reshet Bet radio that "it's not easy being openly Jewish in Germany," but "the main message is we can't give up. We won't give up on Jewish existence in Germany."

German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier met with community representatives at the synagogue Thursday.

"It is not enough to condemn such a cowardly attack," he said.

"It must be clear that the state takes responsibility for the safety of Jewish life in Germany," he added, saying that society as a

whole must show "a clear, determined position of solidarity" with Jews.

"History reminds us, the present demands of us" that Germans must stand by their Jewish compatriots, he said. "Those who so far have been silent must speak out."

Ahead of the visit, Schuster was sharply critical Wednesday night of the lack of a police presence outside the synagogue.

"I am convinced that if there had been police protection there, in all probability the assailant would not have been able to attack a second site," he said.

Christoph Bernstiel, who represents Halle in the national parliament, told n-tv television that there will be a careful examination of how long the police response took, "but at this point it would be too early to draw pre-



JENS MEYER/AP

**A person with a flag of Israel on Thursday stands near a synagogue in Halle, Germany, that an armed assailant tried to enter the previous day before shooting two people nearby.**

ture conclusions."

Synagogues are often protected by police in Germany and have been for many years amid concerns over far-right and Islamic extremism. There has been rising concern lately about both anti-Semitism and right-wing extremism in the country.

Germany's domestic intelli-

gence agency says the number of anti-Semitic acts of violence rose to 48 last year from 21 the previous year.

It also said the number of far-right extremists rose by 100 to 24,100 people last year, with more than half of them considered potentially violent.

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# Trump says of crash that killed man in UK: Accidents happen

Associated Press

LONDON — President Donald Trump said he planned to get involved in the case of an American diplomat's wife who quickly left the U.K. after she was allegedly involved in a fatal wrong-way crash — but stopped short of suggesting he would revoke her diplomatic immunity and return her to Britain to face charges.

Trump on Wednesday called what happened "a terrible accident" and said his administration would seek to speak with the driver "and see what we can come up with."

He noted that the British drive on the left side of the road, while in the United States people drive on the right.

"The woman was driving on the wrong side of the road," Trump said. "And that can happen."

British police say the 42-year-old woman is a suspect in an Aug.

27 collision between a car and a motorcycle near RAF Croughton, a British military base in England used by the U.S. Air Force. The motorcycle rider, Harry Dunn, 19, was killed.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's office said the prime minister spoke with Trump on Wednesday and "urged the president to reconsider the U.S. position, so the individual involved can return to the U.K., cooperate with police and allow Harry's family to receive justice."

Johnson also urged the woman to return to the U.K. to face investigation.

The woman's name hasn't been officially released.

The teenager's family met with British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab on Wednesday and said they left feeling angry and disappointed.

## WORLD

# Polish, Austrian writers win Nobel literature prize

By DAVID KEYTON  
Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Polish novelist Olga Tokarczuk and Austrian writer Peter Handke won the 2018 and 2019 Nobel Prizes for literature on Thursday, a rare double announcement that came after no prize was announced last year due to sex abuse allegations that tarnished the group awarding the prizes.

The Swedish Academy said Tokarczuk won for works that explore the “crossing of boundaries as a form of life.” Handke’s work was described as exploring “the periphery and the specificity of human experience” with linguistic ingenuity.

Tokarczuk is only the 15th woman to win the Nobel literature prize in more than a century. Of the 11 Nobels awarded so far

this week, all the other laureates have been men.

Tokarczuk, 57, is one of Poland’s best-known authors, with a fast-growing reputation in the English-speaking world. She has been criticized by Polish conservatives — and received death threats — for criticizing aspects of the country’s past, including its episodes of anti-Semitism. She is also a strong critic of Poland’s right-wing government.

Her novel “Flights,” which won the Booker International Prize in 2018, combines tales of modern-day travel with the story of a 17th-century anatomist who dissected his own amputated leg and the journey of composer Frederic Chopin’s heart from Paris to Warsaw after his death.

Polish Culture Minister Piotr Gliniski, who said earlier this week he has not finished any of

Tokarczuk’s books, tweeted his congratulations to her and said he now felt obliged to go back and read her books all the way through.

Handke, 76, is a novelist, essayist, playwright and screenwriter described by the academy as “one of the most influential writers in Europe” after World War II. He was praised for writing powerfully about catastrophe, notably in “A Sorrow Beyond Dreams,” his 1975 novel about his mother’s suicide.

The literature prize was canceled last year after an exodus at the exclusive Swedish Academy, which chooses the winners, following sex abuse allegations. Jean-Claude Arnault, the husband of a former academy member, was convicted last year of two rapes in 2011. Arnault allegedly also leaked the name of



BRITTA PEDERSEN, DPA/AP

**Polish author Olga Tokarczuk was named the recipient of the 2018 Nobel Prize in Literature on Thursday.**

Nobel Prize literature winners seven times.

The Nobel Foundation had warned that another group could be picked to award the prize if the academy didn’t improve its tarnished image, but said in March it was satisfied the Swedish Academy had revamped itself and restored trust.

# Apple pulls Hong Kong app amid pressure

Associated Press

HONG KONG — For people in Hong Kong angry over tactics used by the police to break up anti-government protests, the HKmaplive app was a handy little tool.

With real-time updates showing police movements, it helps steer users away from possible baton charges, volleys of tear gas and police ID checks.

For Apple Inc., that proved to be a problem.

Under pressure from Beijing, Apple removed the smartphone app from its online store Thursday.

In doing so, it immediately alienated some customers in Hong Kong, even those who haven’t been yelling in fury on the streets these past four months.

The company said in a statement that it removed HKmaplive from its app store because it “has been used to target and ambush police” and “threaten public safety.”

“Criminals have used it to victimize residents in areas where they know there is no law enforcement,” Apple said. “This app violates our guidelines and local laws, and we have removed it from the App Store.”

While no longer available for download, the app still works for users who had already downloaded it to their Apple devices. It also works on Android devices and in web browsers.

# Indonesia’s security minister wounded in stabbing

By JIM GOMEZ  
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — A knife-wielding man who may have been influenced by a radical Islamic group wounded Indonesia’s security minister, a local police chief and another person in a western province Thursday, police said.

National police spokesman Dedi Prasetyo said security

minister Wiranto was stabbed in the abdomen in the attack in Banten province, where authorities say Muslim militants have a presence.

Wiranto, 72, who uses one name, was airlifted to the capital, Jakarta, where he was in stable condition, officials said. Videos showed him being carried on a stretcher; the left side of his abdomen covered with bandages and

an oxygen mask strapped to his face.

Wiranto, who was armed forces chief in the late 1990s, had just stepped out of his car and was being welcomed by the police chief in Pandeglang town when the attacker dashed toward them, wounding both along with a third man. Bodyguards wrestled the attacker to the ground and tied his hands behind his back while

others helped Wiranto, who stumbled to the ground.

The motive for the attack, which came just a few days before Widodo’s inauguration for his second five-year term in office, was not immediately clear.

Police said they also arrested a female companion of the attacker. Prasetyo told reporters they may have been radicalized by Islamic State’s extremist ideology.

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Donation box stolen from Catholic church

**RI** BRISTOL — A Catholic priest said he's sad that someone felt the need to rip a box used to collect donations for the disadvantaged off the church's wall.

The Rev. Henry Zimno, pastor at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Bristol, said the so-called "poor box" was torn from the wall sometime when the church was open as it always is for prayer and reflection.

It's unclear how much money was in the box when it was stolen.

## Police: Coach stole from player's wallet

**NM** CLOVIS — A New Mexico football coach faces charges after authorities said a student used a cellphone to capture the coach on video taking money from a player's wallet.

State Police arrested John D. Roanhaus, 42, following a review of the footage showing the coach entering the school's locker room and grabbing the money. Police said \$40 was taken from the wallet.

Gallup-McKinley County Schools Superintendent Mike Hyatt told the Gallup Independent that Roanhaus has been fired.

## Women charged after bingo cheating allegation

**NJ** RUNNEMEDE — Police in New Jersey said a church bingo night went awry after an allegation that two players had taped a called number onto their card to claim a bingo win.

Investigators said Teresa Davis, 71, and Keasha Brockington, 38, said they had the winning card carrying a prize of nearly \$200 at Saint Maria Goretti Church Hall, but a church volunteer noticed that one of the winning numbers had been taped over the number on the card.

The Hamden residents were charged with improper behavior under a borough ordinance.

## Police ID restaurant patron shot by officer

**NE** LINCOLN — Police have released the name of a man who was fatally shot by a uniformed railroad officer after the man rammed his truck into a Nebraska restaurant.

The Lincoln Police Department identified the man as Joseph Cimino, 48.

Police and witnesses say chaos erupted after a man later identified as Cimino began complaining about his sandwich at a Chick-fil-A. He screamed profanities, threw food and punched other customers before being hustled out by another patron.

Witnesses said he got into his pickup and backed it into the restaurant but injured no one.

Lincoln Police Chief Jeff Blumeister said Cimino was wielding a stun gun as he approached the officer, Christopher Hall.



STEVE BISSON, SAVANNAH (GA.) MORNING NEWS/AP

## Memorial march

Participants in the Coastal Heritage Society's Battlefield Memorial March on Wednesday parade up Louisville Road to Battlefield Park in Savannah, Ga., where a wreath-laying and remembrance ceremony was held on the 240th anniversary of the Siege of Savannah.

## Police uncover suspected cockfighting ring

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — Police serving a warrant at a Philadelphia home unexpectedly found more than three dozen roosters that authorities believe were used for cockfighting.

Most of the 43 roosters were discovered in several cages in an upstairs room, while other roosters were found in the basement of a neighboring home.

Authorities said the warrant that was being served at the first home involved an unrelated matter, but further details about it were not disclosed.

## Funeral home fined for using cheaper caskets

**MS** RIPLEY — A Mississippi funeral home was fined \$10,000 for what authorities said was an illegal practice of burying people in cheaper caskets than planned before their deaths.

News outlets reported Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann issued a statement detailing the practice by Ripley Funeral Services LLC.

The statement said the Ripley funeral home substituted plastic burial containers for concrete ones eight times between 2017 and 2018. It said the parlor also substi-

## THE CENSUS

# 44

The number of pounds of cocaine a family visiting a South Carolina beach fished from the ocean. Beaufort County Sheriff's Office Maj. Bob Bromage told news outlets that the family was walking along Fripp Island when they spotted the trash bag-wrapped package floating in the water. They dragged it onto the beach and lugged it to their rental in a golf cart, later slicing it open to discover bricks of white powder. Authorities assessed the cocaine's value at more than \$600,000.

tuted different color caskets than what policy owners chose about 20 times between 2016 and 2018.

Funeral home attorney Tony Farese said many of the swaps were made to accommodate relatives of the deceased.

## Woman accused of animal abuse sentenced

**MD** EDEN — A woman accused of keeping 310 dogs in awful conditions at a Maryland puppy mill was sentenced to 60 days in jail.

News outlets reported Susan Murphy, 70, of Eden pleaded guilty to 26 animal cruelty offenses. Murphy and her husband were both indicted in January 2017 on 96 animal cruelty charges after authorities raided the couple's home and found the dogs, most of which were Pomeranians.

Murphy also was sentenced to 10 months' home detention followed by probation.

## Best-selling ice cream flavor back in production

**OH** CINCINNATI — A weeklong ice cream flavor shortage came to a sweet end.

Cincinnati-based Graeter's Ice Cream announced that it will resume producing its most popular ice cream flavor, Black Raspberry Chip.

WLWT-TV reported the shortage stemmed from an ice cream processor that suddenly stopped working last month.

The officials said the new processor is in and ready to churn.

## Company apologizes to man kicked off bus

**TX** FORT WORTH — Greyhound Lines apologized to a Texas man who sued the company after a driver forced him off a bus at a station in Kansas at night, accusing him of

being unruly and uncooperative.

Mohammad Reza Sardari was traveling from Dallas to Kansas City, Mo., in November 2017 when he was kicked off a Greyhound bus at a station in Wichita, Kan. Sardari, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Texas-Arlington, was heading to a national conference in Kansas City.

Greyhound said it had investigated the incident and found that Sardari was removed because he refused to show his ticket when he was asked.

In a statement last month, Greyhound retracted its previous claims that Sardari had been unruly.

## Woman is bitten by raccoon while gardening

**CT** HAMDEN — An 84-year-old Connecticut woman received medical treatment after being bitten by a raccoon.

Hamden Police said the unnamed woman's daughter contacted them, reporting her mother had been "attacked" by a raccoon and bitten on the hand while gardening. Police say the daughter intervened and protected her mother from further injury.

The victim was taken to Yale-New Haven Hospital for medical treatment.

From wire reports



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BUSINESS/WEATHER

# GM workers feel strain as strike continues

By JOHN SEEWER  
AND TOM KRISHER  
Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio — Nearly four weeks into the United Auto Workers' strike against General Motors, employees are starting to feel the pinch of going without their regular paychecks.

They're scaling back at the grocery, giving up on eating at restaurants and some are taking on part-time jobs while trying to get by on weekly strike pay of \$250.

"In a couple of more weeks, I think everybody's going to be calling the bank or their creditors, going, 'Hey, probably going to be late or delinquent,'" said Mike Armentrout, who works at GM's transmission plant in Toledo.

While pressure is intensifying to reach a deal, the losses for both sides are mounting and spilling over into the auto supply chain. Striking full-time workers are losing roughly \$1,000 each week, and that's not counting the overtime many of them make.

Dolphin Green, a temporary worker at an engine and transmission plant in the Detroit suburb of Romulus, Mich., took a job washing dishes at a restaurant to help make ends meet.

"I'm willing to sacrifice as long as possible," he said.



PAUL SANCTA/AP

A member of the United Auto Workers walks the picket line at the General Motors Romulus Powertrain plant in Romulus, Mich., on Wednesday.

He's been with GM for only four months, making just under \$16 per hour, but has hopes of going full-time so he can support a family.

Use of temporary workers has been a major issue in the contract negotiations, along with outsourcing work to other countries, a point that surfaced on Tuesday.

Dennis Earl, president of UAW Local 14 in Toledo, said the union is doing what it can to help work-

ers by advising them how to deal with bills that are piling up.

The union hall's kitchen is serving meals around the clock, and donations of food and household items are pouring in from other labor groups in the area. "Nobody's going to go hungry," he said.

"As this goes on and becomes more difficult, there's going to be some agitation, but for the most part these people are in it for the

long haul," he said.

A Wall Street analyst estimates that GM has lost over \$1.6 billion since the work stoppage began, and is now losing about \$82 million per day. At some point, the losses will exceed what GM would save in holding out for more favorable terms from the union.

GM dealers across the country report still-healthy inventory on their lots, but they're running short of parts to fix their customers' vehicles, and some have had to cancel service appointments.

The strike immediately shut down about 30 GM factories across the U.S., essentially ending the company's production. Factories in Canada and Mexico remained open for a while, but one assembly plant in Canada and another in Mexico have been forced to shut down due to parts shortages. Analysts expect the closures to spread to the few remaining plants that are open.

Many workers stocked away emergency cash after being warned for months by union leaders about the possibility of a strike, but they said GM's temporary workers who make much less couldn't do that.

"We all knew this was coming for a long time. I'm set up. A lot of guys aren't in that same spot,"

said Tim Leiby, an eight-year employee in Toledo. "I've got all my bills paid, but I know some people who don't."

Still, he's cutting back on eating out, going to the movies and spending money on hobbies because "we don't know how long this will last."

He also said he has a cousin who won't talk to him now because the strike has shut down the welding shop where she works.

"It's affecting everybody, it's affecting families. Even families that don't work here," he said.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Oct. 11)	\$1.1310
Dollar buys (Oct. 11)	69.8842
British pound (Oct. 11)	\$1.25
Japanese yen (Oct. 11)	105.00
South Korean won (Oct. 11)	1,161.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.2226
Canada (Dollar)	1.3305
China (Yuan)	7.1200
Denmark (Krone)	6.7776
Egypt (Pound)	16.2706
Euro	\$1.1020/0.9075
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8441
Hungary (Forint)	302.34
Israel (Shekel)	3.5074
Japan (Yen)	107.85
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3041
Norway (Krone)	9.1316
Philippines (Peso)	51.65
Poland (Zloty)	3.91
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7353
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3769
South Korea (Won)	1,192.41
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9950
Thailand (Baht)	30.40
Turkey (Lira)	8.3943

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.00
Discount rate	2.50
Federals funds market rate	2.82
3-month bill	1.62
30-year bond	2.08

EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	\$2.908	\$3.360	\$3.619	\$3.310
Change in price	+0.3 cents	+1.5 cents	+1.5 cents	-1.9 cents
Netherlands	\$3.777	\$3.981	\$3.994	\$3.994
Change in price	--	+2.3 cents	+2.4 cents	-0.8 cents
U.K.	\$3.270	\$3.529	\$3.220	\$3.220
Change in price	--	+1.5 cents	+1.5 cents	-1.9 cents
Azores	\$3.610	--	--	--
Change in price	--	+1.5 cents	--	--
Belgium	\$2.878	\$2.991	\$3.107	\$3.107
Change in price	No change	No change	No change	No change
Turkey	\$3.420	\$3.111*	--	--
Change in price	--	+1.5 cents	-1.9 cents	--

PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	--	\$1.0 cents	--	\$3.099
Change in price	--	--	--	-2.0 cents
Okhawa	\$2.699	--	--	3.099
Change in price	No change	--	--	-2.0 cents
South Korea	\$2.729	--	\$3.439	\$3.129
Change in price	No change	+1.0 cents	-2.0 cents	--
Guam	\$2.709**	\$3.159	\$3.419	--
Change in price	No change	+1.0 cents	--	--

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade  
For the week of Oct. 11-17

MARKET WATCH

Oct. 9, 2019

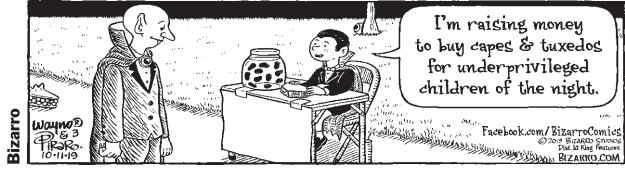
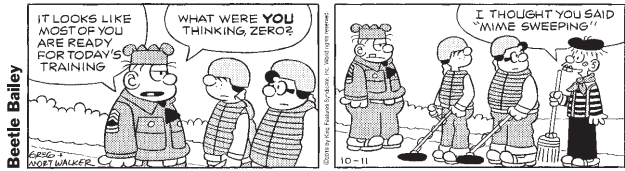
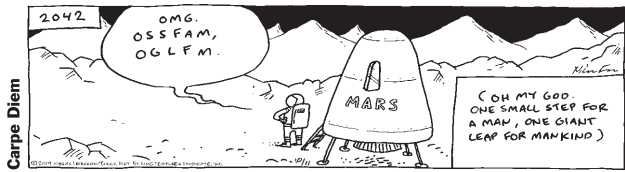
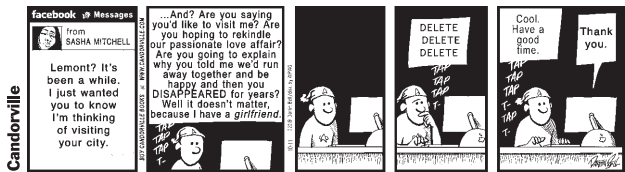
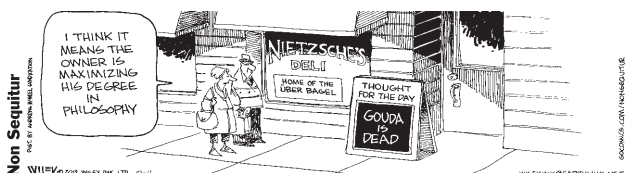
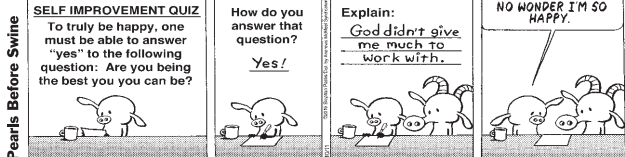
Dow Jones Industrials	181.97
	26,346.01
Nasdaq composite	79.96
	7,903.74
Standard & Poor's 500	26.34
	2,919.40
Russell 2000	6.86
	1,479.46

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.





**Eugene Shetter Crossword**

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
		18							19			
20	21						22	23				
24						25				26	27	28
29						30					31	
32						33					34	
						35					36	
37	38	39							40			
41						42	43				44	45
46									47			
49									50			51

**ACROSS**

- 1 Energy
- 4 Did laps
- 8 Beanies
- 12 Pub order
- 13 Vegas game
- 14 Europe's neighbor
- 15 Vine-covered walkways
- 17 Saturn feature
- 18 Russian river
- 19 Bas-relief medium
- 20 Ear bone
- 22 Loyal
- 24 Nullify
- 25 Unconventional '50s types
- 29 Man-mouse link
- 30 Touches down
- 31 Miss Piggy's pronoun

**DOWN**

- 49 Venetian-blind part
- 50 Lean-to
- 51 Massage
- 1 Nuke in the microwave
- 2 —de-France
- 3 Lima bean?
- 4 Toaster's word
- 5 Healthy
- 6 Literary collection
- 7 Yr. parts
- 8 Hurtle
- 9 Unrepaired
- 10 Bowling targets
- 11 Palm starch
- 16 Crossword diagram
- 19 Courage
- 20 Acknowledged
- 21 Writer Ephron
- 22 Doctrine
- 23 X-ray doses
- 25 Ms. Streisand, to fans
- 26 Unsuitable
- 27 Oddball
- 28 Tries the tea
- 30 Praise
- 33 Sartre play
- 34 Mystique
- 36 Lukewarm
- 37 Resistance units
- 38 Soccer score
- 39 Actress Turner
- 40 Wheel bar
- 42 OED entries
- 43 Apt rhyme for "spa"
- 44 Sch. URL ender
- 45 Steal from

**Answer to Previous Puzzle**

O	P	T	E	L	O	B	S	A	W	S
L	U	M	P	E	U	R	C	D	I	I
E	R	A	S	T	I	A	R	A	G	S
G	E	M	I	N	I	D	R	U	M	
				L	A	N	D	L	U	B
B	E	G	O	T	W	E	T	E	V	A
A	S	I	N	H	E	Y	A	D	E	N
R	A	N	P	O	E	F	I	E	L	D
B	U	R	N	R	U	B	B	E	R	
				U	T	E	S	O	Y	S
R	O	M	E	T	I	X	H	E	L	I
A	T	M	S	O	W	E	I	R	A	S
F	O	Y	T	N	O	D				P

**10-11**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

PYM XHWP KHKRSDT PRJMW  
 HJ PYM UYDTPW DEHRP  
 UHXKMPAPAOM KYIWAUDS  
 DUPAOAPAMW: PHK WKHTPI  
 YAPW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE GLASS USED TO BE TRANSPARENT, BUT I PUT COFFEE IN IT SO THAT IT GOT FILLED BEYOND OPACITY.  
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals P

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Ernie Gates

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# OPINION

## Door open for ISIS resurgence in Syria

By DAVID IGNATIUS  
 Washington Post Writers Group

By acquiescing to Turkey's invasion of northeastern Syria on Wednesday, President Donald Trump has opened the door to what could become a genuine nightmare for the United States and its allies: the revival of the deadly terrorist organization that called itself Islamic State.

The danger lies not simply in ISIS sleeper cells that are still active — and that detonated three suicide bombs in the terrorists' former capital of Raqqa on Wednesday. The larger risk comes from about 11,000 ISIS fighters who have been detained by the Syrian Democratic Forces, the Kurdish-led militia that Trump is abandoning, and who may now try to flee. As the SDF mobilizes to combat the Turks, security at nearly 20 makeshift prisons is likely to deteriorate, U.S. officials said. The U.S. military has said that it won't take control, nor will European allies. Turkey's claim that it can police the camps is hollow, given that many of those terrorists arrived in Syria after passing through Turkey.

The cascade of bad events could get worse if action isn't taken quickly. U.S. officials fear that as security deteriorates, U.N. relief agencies may abandon control of a camp called al-Hol, which holds more than 70,000 refugees, more than 25% of whom are relatives of killed or captured ISIS fighters. Riots have rocked al-Hol in recent days, and visitors say that some areas are too dangerous to enter.

U.S. analysts said Wednesday afternoon

that the Turkish air attacks were broader and deeper than initially expected, striking targets farther east and south than the objectives Turkey had indicated to U.S. officials. Kurdish civilians were said to be fleeing Kobani after heavy shelling there, and shelling was also reported in the eastern city of Qamishli.

Here, the appalling scenario that U.S. officials fear isn't a quick, limited operation, as Trump apparently hopes: As security collapses in northeastern Syria, hardened ISIS fighters could escape the prisons, storm the al-Hol camp to reunite with their families and then renew the terrorist assault against the West that they began in 2014. A revived ISIS would pose a threat to the U.S. homeland — but probably a greater one to Europe, Russia and regions where the “foreign fighters” originated. Though those places are all threatened by what's ahead, none has taken significant steps to ease the impending crisis.

This frightening risk of “snatching defeat from the jaws of victory” against ISIS is a result of the Trump administration's chronic policy breakdown. That begins with Trump himself, whose erratic swings on Syria have appalled some of his closest political allies. But it extends to an interagency process so enfeebled under Trump that it has failed for months to generate clear plans for dealing with a possible ISIS resurgence if U.S. troops should leave, as Trump demanded in December.

European nations have been nearly as guilty as the Trump administration. As I explained in May, they have refused U.S.

# Alliances are what Americans really want

By ROBERT B. ZOELLICK  
 Special To The Washington Post

Donald Trump's election — and his vitriol against his predecessors, former policymakers and his opponents — led many internationalists to retreat and voluntarily undergo an American version of Mao Zedong's self-education campaign. Yet it turns out that the American public, when asked, evidences a great deal of common sense about the nation's role in the world.

According to the Chicago Council on Global Affairs' 2019 survey, published in September, large percentages of Americans — across parties — support U.S. security alliances, believe trade is good for their country and favor promoting democracy and human rights. In fact, some of the expressions of public commitment to internationalism are at higher levels than at any time in the Chicago Council's nearly 50 years of surveys.

The results contrast with the worldly writings of foreign policy experts who assume that the public's frustrations with international burdens require a shrinking global role. Indeed, 69% of Americans want the United States to play an active role in world affairs, and they prefer shared leadership (66%) over Washington seeking a dominant position (26%).

Despite Trump's dismissal of alliances, they have increased in popularity. A striking 74% of Americans favor the country's military alliances, including with Japan (78%), Germany (75%) and South Korea (70%). The public also signaled a strategic approach to these ties. Americans want to maintain military superiority (69%) and are willing to station troops in allied countries (51%), but only 27% believe military interventions make the country safer. Like the founders of the U.S. alliance system in the mid-20th century, Americans look to these partnerships to keep the peace

through deterrence and defense.

One track of Trump practices a costly protectionism of special interests, Americans do not want economic isolationism. Congress, which has constitutional authority over trade, should note that 87% of Americans believe trade benefits the U.S. economy, and 83% recognize trade helps American companies; 77% say the United States should comply with World Trade Organization rulings, even if Washington loses the case. Whereas Trump views trade as a win-lose proposition, 63% of Americans rightly recognize benefits for both trading partners.

The Chicago Council survey identifies parts of the immigration and climate debate, but even some of these differences narrow when people turn to pragmatic solutions. Between 65% and 81% seem to agree on an immigration policy that combines a pathway to citizenship for illegal immigrants who meet certain standards, increased trade and visas for businesses that hire illegal immigrants.

Even China — which draws bipartisan venom from bellicose commentators in Washington — elicits a more nuanced response from the public. Driven by a big jump in Republican hostility, 42% of Americans view China's rise as a national threat, but 68% still prefer friendly cooperation and engagement, compared with 31% who want to actively limit its power. A notable 74% favor trade with China.

Trump's successor will need to build upon this underlying sentiment with initiatives that address current problems. An obvious starting point is to treat North American neighbors as partners, not punching bags. The U.S. needs border security but also will have to work with Mexico, Colombia, Costa Rica and Panama to create safe conditions and economic opportunities in Central America. North America should be a secure, content base, with the most prosperous democracies, from which the U.S.

and Kurdish pleas to repatriate some of their nationals held in the SDF-controlled prisons, or even to pay the SDF for holding them. “The European Union is in denial,” one official told me then, noting that the refugee issue was so toxic politically that no European government dared touch it.

How large is the ISIS army-in-waiting, if the prisoners leave the camps? Gen. Mazlum Abdi, the SDF commander, gave me some numbers in an interview in Kobani in July. He said that the SDF was guarding 12,000 ISIS fighters who were captured when the caliphate was defeated. In addition to about 9,000 Syrian and Iraqi radical Islamists, that group included 2,500 foreign fighters, Mazlum said, with about 1,000 Europeans. U.S. estimates are slightly lower, counting about 2,200 foreign fighters among 11,000 prisoners.

The United States has identified 50 of the most dangerous detainees and may seek to transfer them to neighboring countries, perhaps Iraq, Trump also requested that the United States take control of two notorious prisoners, Alexandra Kotev and El Shafee Elsheikh, who are believed to have killed Western hostages. (Officials said Wednesday that Kotev and Elsheikh have been moved out of a detention center in Syria and are in U.S. custody.)

For Trump, what's unfolding now in Syria is largely a self-inflicted wound. It will be politically costly for him, but there's a deeper problem. U.S. successes in the Middle East are too rare and precious to be squandered. But that's what appears to be happening now in this grotesque coda to the war against ISIS.

can project global influence.

To lead alliances, U.S. diplomacy should bring its partners together, not divide them. By concentrating on evolving threats — cyberattacks, election interference, nuclear and missile proliferation, bullying by authoritarian states and spreading seeds of Islamic State — the U.S. can rebuild cohesion and a sense of shared purpose.

Instead of penalizing trade through tariffs, the U.S. could combine trade and environmental agreements to open markets. The East are too rare and precious to be squandered, but that's what appears to be happening now in this grotesque coda to the war against ISIS.

The U.S. should stand for the rule of law and against corruption instead of manipulating politics and investigations to help demagogues hold on to power. Traditional allies and partners in Europe and Asia — and new ones in Latin America and Africa — would rally to safeguard cyberspace and elections and to put authoritarians on the defensive in places such as Russia, China, North Korea, Venezuela and Cuba.

The Global Affair survey affirms that Americans are not ready to abandon the fundamentals of the foreign policies that made the United States the most successful power in world history. The national challenge is to identify political leaders who can apply those principles to a new generation of problems, reconnecting American power with the United States' purpose.

Robert B. Zoellick served as president of the World Bank, U.S. trade representative and deputy secretary of state.

## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editors are credited to the Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

### Better to let Facebook encrypt all of its messaging services

**The Washington Post**  
Facebook wants to opt for privacy, but there's a new obstacle in its path: Attorney General William Barr.

Barr and other law enforcement officials in the United States, Britain and Australia are asking the technology company to scrap its much-touted plan to make all of its messaging services end-to-end encrypted by default. BuzzFeed reported last week. The move is likely the first salvo in a broader fight against programs that put users' communications out of government's reach — a trend that Barr last summer called “unacceptable” and “exceptionally dangerous.”

Such a move would be a double-edged sword. It would be protected is dangerous too. The officials say in their letter that they support a “means for lawful access,” otherwise known as a “backdoor” for authorities to enter when they come knocking with a warrant. The problem is, a door for U.S. authorities could be a door for everyone else. And everyone else wants in.

Services such as WhatsApp operate with a universal code, which means the moment the United States is offered a security work-around, the leaders of countries far less free will start asking for similar treatment. Egypt, the New York Times recently reported, has been conducting sophisticated cyberattacks on its opposition politicians and civil society. Devices can be altered for individual markets, but that doesn't mean building intentional vulnerabilities is wise. Last week, Microsoft revealed that the Iranian government had attempted to broaden access to a program belonging to a U.S. presidential campaign. Create a “golden key” for the good guys here, and hackers might find ways to unlock whatever they wish.

Barr's concerns are legitimate. Criminals take advantage of these systems to conduct their business in the dark, and some of that business is repugnant. There is a tradeoff between security and safety. But the tradeoff need not be absolute. Even with encryption, there are ways to gather evidence, and there could be areas for compromise beyond the debate over a backdoor.

Some believe the way forward for criminal investigations is to permit court-compelled device unlocking for suspects in custody; others believe lawful hacking is the answer. But preventing end-to-end encryption entirely would be a mistake.

### Ind., federal agencies useless on toxic spill in Lake Michigan

**Chicago Sun-Times**  
You might think that when a company has a long record of polluting our drinking water, including a recent chemical spill that killed thousands of fish in Lake Michigan, state and federal officials would spring into action.

You might think the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management would have begun investigating long ago, and they have. But you might not understand why the polluting goes on and on, and taken every step to put an end to it.

You might think they would do their jobs.

But they have not. Both government agencies have been pretty much missing in action, prompting two environmental groups last week to file a 60-day notice



of a lawsuit in the hope of convincing the federal government and Indiana that it's not a good thing to allow dangerously toxic chemicals to flow into the lake. Such a lawsuit is permitted by the federal Clean Water Act when the government fails to act.

The Environmental Law & Policy Center and the Hoosier Environmental Council report that the Burns Harbor steel mill in northwest Indiana, owned by ArcelorMittal, has broken clean water laws more than 100 times since 2015. That includes an Aug. 11 toxic spill of concentrated cyanide and ammonia into a ditch that drains into the Little Calumet River, which in turn flows into Lake Michigan.

The ELPC says the “total cyanide load” discharged from one outfall at the mill was 548% higher than the legal limit on Aug. 12, 79% higher on Aug. 13, 557% higher on Aug. 14 and 419% higher on Aug. 15. The amount of ammonia discharged into the environment also far exceeded the legal limit.

But the supposed environmental sheriffs here — the EPA and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management — have made an art of foot-dragging. They repeatedly have sent a message that cracking down on polluters is simply not a priority for them, particularly on the federal level by the Trump administration.

After the most recent spill, local officials in Portage, Ind., complained that the public was not warned for several days, at which point the sight of thousands of dead fish floating around a nearby marina made it clear something bad had happened.

The EPA and IDEM have said they will fix the problem in that budget cuts have hacked away at IDEM's staffing levels year after year. And scientists at the EPA's regional office have complained for more than two years that the Trump administration's antipathy toward environmental regulations has made it harder for them to be effective. The bosses don't back them up.

When government environmental watchdogs are not watching, any company has a motivation to handle toxic waste in the cheapest way possible, which can mean cutting corners in ways that add to environmental damage.

Last May, ArcelorMittal was fined more than \$5 million for clean air violations that date back years, but nothing was done about the clean water violations.

The company says the Aug. 11 spill at its Burns Harbor facility occurred because of a loss of power at a pump station, and that workers did not realize wastewater with

ammonia and cyanide would get into the lake. Assuming that explanation is true, it does not explain the many previous toxic spills. The threat of lax industrial management also is far less likely when there's a real government watchdog on duty.

Seven million people get their drinking water from Lake Michigan. The EPA and the state of Indiana owe them a thorough investigation and an end to this nonsense.

### Prison needs to be tough, but price-gouging on calls is wrong

**The Dallas Morning News**  
Being in prison should be tough. But it shouldn't be an opportunity for unscrupulous business practices that add financial punishment to time behind bars.

Carrollton, Texas-based Securus Technologies provides phone service for inmates at 3,400 correctional facilities across the country. This is big business. Securus handled 240 million calls last year and brought in \$700 million. That revenue number is large because the price of prison phone calls is astronomical. According to a report in the Los Angeles Times last month, Securus charges as much as \$24.82 for a 15-minute call.

The company doesn't keep all that money. As is common industry practice, Securus sends a portion of its fees back to the prisons it serves. The parties to these arrangements call that a commission. Critics call it a kickback. In either case, it's an extra expense to inmates that can account for up to 90% of the cost of a call.

We think Securus should're all for giving the best prices they can get, but the idea of negotiation implies that both parties have agency. That's not the case here. Inmates can't shop for phone service and they can't use their collective buying power to change their rate. So their only choice is between paying high fees or forgoing phone calls.

Which brings us to reason No. 2: recidivism. Support networks are vital to ex-cons, so keeping in touch with family and friends is an important component in helping inmates endure their sentence and land on their feet when released.

We'll give Securus some credit. The company says it has reduced phone rates by 14% in the last year. But the public demand for reform is outpacing Securus' willingness to reduce prices. New York City and San Francisco have passed measures ensuring that all phone calls from jails would be free. Connecticut is considering a bill that would do the same. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, which does not contract with Securus, decided in February to cap rates at 6 cents per minute.

There need to be restrictions on inmate communication. But punitive charges that disconnect inmates from family or, more likely, add a major financial burden to families of inmates are unjust to themselves.

The pace of legislative action here suggests that Securus may have already missed the opportunity to self-correct. And that's the third reason for Securus to take decisive action now: so that the government doesn't have to. We hope the company makes some right away to decrease need for an even heavier regulatory hand.

Don't institutionalize harmful executive power grabs

**The Orange County (Calif.) Register**  
The role of the executive branch has long exceeded the narrow set of powers and expectations set out by the U.S. Constitution.

Unfortunately, there is little sign of this changing, with President Donald Trump and the Democratic candidates alike perpetually vying to push the limits of executive authority.

Just because someone is elected president doesn't mean they can do whatever they'd like. And even for those who claim a “mandate,” any purported mandate must be constrained by the limits of the constitution while presiding has a tendency to take on an most culturally and conventionally their strongest supporters, Americans ought to see the dangerous path of infusing a single individual with so much power.

Though there is still plenty of information to sort through, there is legitimate cause for concern about Trump's apparent effort to hold a congressionally approved aid to Ukraine ahead of a call with Ukraine's then newly elected President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. It raises, among other things, red flags over the president breaching the separation of powers with regards to Congress' power of the purse.

As we move into a congressionally approved aid to Ukraine ahead of a call with Ukraine's then newly elected President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. It raises, among other things, red flags over the president breaching the separation of powers with regards to Congress' power of the purse. It also includes his perpetuation of American involvement in conflicts without congressional authorization, particularly U.S. support for Saudi Arabia's brutal war in Yemen. And it includes his efforts to sidestep Congress by declaring a national security at the southern border after Congress refused to fund a border wall.

Whatever the merits of any of these ideas, there's something to be a process for implementing and pursuing such policies.

Unfortunately, in sidestepping Congress and expanding the power of the executive branch, Trump has merely followed those who came before him.

It's not surprising, therefore, those vying to succeed him aren't much better on the front. Democratic presidential candidates have been more than happy to run with the idea that they can abuse executive authority, particularly by way of executive orders, to get what want without having to go through Congress. Sen. Kamala Harris, for example, has gone beyond what Obama did. Biden Administration platform and put us on the right track” with respect to climate change. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., meanwhile, has vowed to “do everything I can by executive order” on guns, while also wanting to use that power to raise the price of guns.

It's unfortunate that the American people have allowed presidents and aspiring presidents to get such an outsized view of their powers. It is likewise unfortunate that Congress has been allowed to do little more than allow things to run on autopilot, with only rare efforts to check presidential powers.



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## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## Going Coastal: ACC division's up for grabs

Unpredictability the only constant so far

By JOEY MCCREARY  
Associated Press

Chaos is brewing in the ACC's Coastal Division once again.

With the midpoint of the regular season approaching, the Atlantic Coast Conference race is shaping up with prohibitive favorite Clemson sitting atop the Atlantic Division and more unpredictability dominating the Coastal.

Nothing can be taken for granted. Two teams in the up-and-down division blew 20-point leads on the same day — and still managed to win.

The division seems poised for another wacky stretch run to sort out which of the Coastal's mostly mediocre members will earn the right to most likely lose to the second-ranked Tigers in the title game.

"You're at a carnival going onto one of the rides — now here is the Coastal ride," Virginia coach Bronco Mendenhall quipped. "And holy cow, you never know what's going to happen when you're on that ride."

A week into October, and his 20th-ranked Cavaliers (4-1, 2-0) are the lone Coastal team without a league loss.

Looking at the history of the division, the Cavaliers aren't likely to finish that way.

Since the ACC expanded to 14 teams in 2013, the only Coastal champion to finish 8-0 in league play was North Carolina in 2015. Meanwhile, four other division winners had two league losses. Last year's winner, Pittsburgh, had an overall record of 7-7.

"When I say (it's) even, a lot of people think of that as a bunch of average teams," Duke coach David Cutcliffe said. "It's not."



Ben McKown/AP

Pittsburgh's Paris Ford (12) and Duke's Javon Jackson scuffle with Duke players after a play Saturday, when Pittsburgh blew a 23-point lead but still managed to win 33-30 in a matchup of ACC Coastal Division teams.

No Coastal team has won the league championship since Virginia Tech in 2010. Florida State and Clemson have combined for four undefeated finishes in ACC play and all eight titles during that timeframe.

That is the key difference between the divisions.

For much of the past decade, the ACC as a whole — and the Atlantic Division in particular — has been dominated by one powerhouse program, either the Seminoles or Clemson.

The Coastal has been a free-for-all, with six different champions in six years. The

only team that hasn't won it in that stretch — Virginia — currently holds first place. And only once since 2013 has a Coastal team finished in the top 10 of the final AP Top 25, when Georgia Tech ended 2014 at No. 8.

"There's no singular program that has in recent years been able to have that consistency year to year to win the division," ACC Commissioner John Swofford said. "It's sort of fascinating to watch. And we've had some really entertaining games."

The data indicates more parity: In Jeff Sagarin's latest computer ratings, five

Coastal schools — Virginia, Duke, North Carolina, Pittsburgh and Miami — are bunched between Nos. 31 and 55 nationally. Of the four highest-ranked ACC teams, three (Clemson, Wake Forest and Florida State) are in the Atlantic.

"I think it's a very balanced league, the ACC overall and especially the Coastal Division," Duke quarterback Quentin Harris said. "You have a lot of teams that are really good teams, and if you don't bring your best effort, you could easily find yourself on the wrong side of a score or a shootout — or even a defensive battle, too."

## Longhorns freshman has gone from backup QB to top tailback

By JIM VERTUNO  
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Roschon Johnson arrived at Texas expecting a season of learning how to be a college quarterback, not being the Longhorns' emergency fix at running back.

Yet five games into the season, the freshman is arguably the No. 11 Longhorns' most reliable option at tailback and just produced a rugged and impressive 121-yard performance in a win at West Virginia.

Johnson still has his eye on playing quarterback, but is set to keep taking handoffs from Sam Ehlinger this season. The No. 11 Longhorns (4-1, 2-0) face No. 6 Oklahoma (5-0, 2-0) on Saturday in Dallas in the Big 12's biggest border rivalry.

"If I'm playing running back right now, I'm a running back," Johnson said. "Simple as that."

Nothing was simple about his position change. It happened because Texas became desperate as preseason injuries piled up so

**"If you need me, play me."**

Roschon Johnson

In a text to Texas coach Tom Herman

fast that coach Tom Herman had nowhere else to turn. Texas had only two healthy scholarship running backs by the end of training camp.

Sitting in the quarterbacks meeting room was Johnson, who signed with Texas as one of the top dual-threat quarterbacks in the country, and who rushed for 4,900 yards in high school.

Johnson could make people miss. But could he handle the position change against college defenses and would he want to?

He made the first move, sending a text to Herman before the season opener against Louisiana Tech.

"If you need me," Johnson told Herman, "Play me." Johnson's coaches and team-

mates had already seen his passion to play. Texas freshmen wear a red stripe on their helmet in training camp until they earn the right to take it off. The day Johnson was allowed to take off his stripe, he delivered a fiery speech to his teammates that he'd do anything for them.

"He pretty much poured his heart out," said Texas senior center and team captain Zack Shackelford.

His drive matched the team's needs at running back. Herman first planned to play Johnson on special teams, knowing he could still redshirt if he didn't play more than four games. But when the tailback injuries list grew too long, Johnson was in the backfield in the season opener, even though Herman had called him a "break glass in case of emergency" option.

Smash. By the end of the first game, an injury to No. 2 tailback Jordan Whittington had moved Johnson up the depth chart again.



Nick Wagner/AP

Texas running back Roschon Johnson, left, ran for 121 yards and had a 25-yard TD catch against West Virginia on Saturday.

Even Ehlinger didn't always know who he'd be handing the ball on any given play.

"I looked over and it was Roschon," Ehlinger said. "I was like 'What's up, bro?' ... We were sitting in the same (quarterback) room a few weeks ago."

Johnson had to carry the running game himself at West Virginia when starter Keaontay Ingram got roughed up early (Ingram return later in the game),

and Johnson tore through the Mountaineers at an average of 5.8 yards per carry. The effort earned him honors as Big 12 newcomer of the week.

Production like that is simply too good to take off the field. Daniel Young and Kirk Johnson, two of the tailbacks who were injured early, have both returned, but neither has more than four carries while Johnson keeps pounding out yards.



# NHL/HIGH SCHOOL

## Roundup

### Johansson lifts Sabres to OT defeat of Canadiens

The Associated Press

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** — Sabres new-comer Marcus Johansson has quickly gained an appreciation of how captain Jack Eichel can take over a game.

The offseason free-agent addition was wowed by Eichel's two second-period goals, including one on an individual rush against three Montreal defenders. And then Eichel had a hand in setting up Johansson scoring 1:30 into overtime of a 5-4 win over the Canadiens on Wednesday night.

"He can be so dominant. He can take over the game," Johansson said of Eichel. "What he can do with the puck with the size he's got, it's impressive to watch. It's fun to watch up close."

The two-goal, two-assist outing was the least Eichel said he could do in sweeping away the frustrations from an off night in a 4-3 overtime loss at Columbus on Monday.

"The other night was frustrating for a lot of us, especially myself," Eichel said. "So it was important for our group to be able to hard and play well at home."

Eichel particularly wowed the crowd by putting Buffalo ahead 3-2 late in the second period.

Circling with the puck inside his zone, Eichel eluded Tomas Tatar's check at his own blue line and then built up a head of steam driving through the neutral zone. With Ben Chiarot and Jeff Petry backing up, Eichel fired a low hard shot that snuck in under goalie Keith Kincaid.

**Flyers 4, Devils 0:** Carter Hart stopped 25 shots for his first career shutout to lift Philadelphia past New Jersey.

Ivan Provorov scored for the Flyers, and so did Kevin Hayes, Sean Couturier and Travis Konecny as part of a three-goal third period in their home opener.

Hart shined in the Philly debut of new coach Alain Vigneault, securing the shutout in his 33rd NHL game.

Hart became the youngest goaltender in Flyers history to record a shutout, at the age of 21 years, 57 days. He topped Dominic Roussel, who shut out Calgary on Oct. 27, 1992, at the age of 22 years, five days.

**Canucks 8, Kings 2:** J.T. Miller had a goal and three assists to lead host Vancouver past Los Angeles.

Miller finished the Canucks' home opener with a career-high four points, while Brandon Sutter had two goals and an assist and Chris Tanev added a goal and an assist.

Elias Pettersson, Josh Leivo and Alex Eder also scored for Vancouver. Rookie defenseman Quinn Hughes scored his first NHL goal.

Jeff Teufel and Sean Walker scored for the Kings.

## Scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	3	3	0	0	6	7
Boston	3	3	0	0	6	7
Toronto	3	3	0	0	6	7
Detroit	3	2	1	0	4	10
Montreal	3	1	0	2	4	13
Tampa Bay	3	1	1	1	3	14
Florida	3	1	2	0	2	9
Ottawa	3	1	2	0	2	9
Metropolitan Division						
Carolina	4	2	0	2	8	17
Washington	4	2	0	2	6	10
Philadelphia	4	2	0	2	4	8
N.Y. Rangers	4	2	0	2	4	8
Pittsburgh	3	1	2	0	2	9
Arizona	3	1	2	0	2	9
N.Y. Islanders	3	1	2	0	2	7
New Jersey	3	0	2	1	1	6

### Western Conference

Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	3	2	0	0	5	18
Colorado	2	2	0	0	4	9
Dallas	2	2	0	0	4	9
Winnipeg	4	2	2	0	4	14
Dallas	2	1	0	1	3	10
Chicago	2	1	0	1	3	4
Minnesota	2	0	1	1	0	4
Pacific Division						
Anaheim	3	3	0	0	6	8
Edmonton	3	2	0	0	4	6
Vegas	3	2	1	0	4	12
Los Angeles	3	1	2	0	3	6
San Jose	3	1	2	0	2	11
Vancouver	3	1	2	0	2	10
Arizona	3	1	2	0	2	8
San Jose	4	0	4	0	0	5
Vegas	4	0	4	0	0	4

**Notes:** Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

### Wednesday's games

Buffalo 5, Montreal 4, OT  
Philadelphia 4, New Jersey 0  
Vancouver 8, Los Angeles 3

### Thursday's games

Detroit at Montreal  
Anheim at Pittsburgh  
Tampa Bay at Toronto  
Edmonton at New Jersey  
St. Louis at Ottawa  
Minnesota at Winnipeg  
Washington at Nashville  
San Jose at Chicago  
Calgary at Dallas  
Boston at Colorado  
Vegas at Arizona

### Friday's games

Florida at Buffalo  
Anheim at Columbus  
N.Y. Islanders at Carolina

### Wednesday

#### Canucks 8, Kings 2

**Los Angeles** 2, 1-2  
**Vancouver** 2, 2-4

**First Period**—1, Vancouver, Miller 1, 1-0  
(Gaudette, Pearson), 5:26 (pp), 2, Vancouver, Sutter 1 (Miller, Virtanen), 6:08

**Second Period**—5, Vancouver, Pettersson 1 (Miller, Sutter), 2:34, 4, Los Angeles, Toi 2 (Hutton, Grundstrom), 7:28, 5, Vancouver, Miller 1, 14:44

**Third Period**—6, Los Angeles, Walker 2 (Kopitar), 8:31, 7, Vancouver, Tanev (Hughes, Boeser), 7:31, 8, Vancouver, Eder 3 (Stecher, Miller), 10:09, 10-7-8-25

**Leivo** 1 (Horvat, Pearson), 11:26, 10, Vancouver, Sutter 2 (Ferland), 16:03

**Shots on Goal**—Los Angeles 10-16-13-39, Vancouver 10-7-8-25

**Powerplay opportunities**—Los Angeles 0 of 4; Vancouver 1 of 2

**Penalty minutes**—Los Angeles 0-25 (34 shots/30 saves), Vancouver, Markstrom 1-2-0 (29-27)

**A**—18-952 (18,910), T—2:29

#### Flyers 4, Devils 0

**New Jersey** 0, 0-0-0  
**Philadelphia** 0, 1-3-4

**Second Period**—1, Philadelphia, Provorov (Konecny, Nikosen), 9:52 (pp), 1-0

**Third Period**—2, Philadelphia, Hayes 1 (Giroux), 9:53 (pp), 2-0  
Couturier 1 (Provorov, Lindblom), 0:57, 4, Philadelphia, Konecny 3, 11:46

**Shots on Goal**—Philadelphia 6-15-13-34

**Powerplay opportunities**—New Jersey 0 of 5; Philadelphia 2 of 4

**Goals by**—Philadelphia 0-1-0 (34 shots/30 saves), Philadelphia 0-1-0 (34 shots/30 saves), Miller 1-0-1 (29-25)

**A**—18-958 (19,543), T—2:36

#### Sabres 5, Canadiens 4 (OT)

**Montreal** 2, 0-2-1  
**Buffalo** 2, 2-2-4

**First Period**—1, Buffalo, Olofinson 4 (Eichel, Dahlin), 5:06 (sh), 2, Montreal, Aris (Thompson), 14:06 (sh), 3, Montreal, Sutter 2 (Suzuki, Eichel), 17:06 (sh)

**Second Period**—4, Buffalo (Eichel 2 (Roimhart, Dahlin), 4:46 (pp), 5, Buffalo, Eichel 2, 14:11

**Third Period**—6, Buffalo, Skinner 3 (Drouin, Aris), 1:44, 8, Montreal, Chiarot 2 (Lehkonen, Reilly), 12:54

**Overtime**—3, Buffalo, Johansson 2 (Eichel, Miller), 1:30

**Overtime—3**, Buffalo, Johansson 2, Buffalo 12-15-11-39

**Powerplay opportunities**—Montreal 1 of 3; Buffalo 2 of 6

**Goals by**—Montreal, Kinkaid 0-1-1 (39 shots/30 saves), Miller 1-0-0-1 (27-23)

**A**—15-383 (19,070), T—2:31



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA KARSTEN/Stars and Stripes

Cross country athletes run a warm-up lap around the track in Bahrain on Thursday.

# Kids in the hall: Bahrain runners defeat the heat

By JOSHUA KARSTEN  
Stars and Stripes

**MANAMA, Bahrain** — Running in the hallways at DODEA Europe schools is generally frowned upon. Officers will often get a warning or two and then start receiving various disciplinary measures.

Of course, there are exceptions to almost every rule.

The Department of Defense Education Activity school in Bahrain could be the only institution in that Middle Eastern country that's even nominally considered to be a part of Europe. The nearest DODEA school is 1,400 miles away in Turkey. The Bahrain cross country team's sole competition during the regular season this fall was in Naples — about 2,370 miles away. The season-ending championships in Baumholder, Germany? A leisurely jaunt of more than 3,000 miles.

And while the system goes to great lengths to get students at such an isolated post a feel of the kind of sports competition they'd be getting in the States, the school itself has to take some unusual approaches to get its athletes prepared for such contests.

It gets hot in Bahrain. Last Thursday's high was 103 with a high level of humidity. It was 88 just before 6 a.m.

So every weekday morning, before the janitors show up to clean the floors, the boys and girls teams dash through the school hallways to avoid heat-related injuries, keeping the school in line with a U.S. military "black flag" protocol not to exercise in temperatures higher than 90 degrees.

"I know it's not ideal, but it's the best that we can do because we can push ourselves faster inside the cold than in the heat," said junior Emily Rice, the team's top girls runner.

Not that there aren't occasional issues.

"Just this morning, there was this guy coming out of another hallway with his mop and bucket, and he nicked my leg as I was running past," senior Tucker Pullen said.

Coach Josh Dinkler initially ran his team around the track until about 6 a.m. when he pulled out his smartphone to check the temperature on a weather app. "We always have to retreat indoors," he said.

"We definitely pay attention to the weather," Dinkler said. "Their safety is my first-and-foremost concern. When it's black flag, we can't run."

The team can't always avoid running when it's hot, though.

"Sometimes in practices, I find it a little difficult to breathe," said sophomore Alex Blakely, who posted the best boys time at the event in Naples. "When I go up to the other meets, it's much easier and much cooler so I can run at full capacity."

Dinkler said he isn't sure if training in the heat



Athletes run laps around the hallways of the DODEA Europe school in Bahrain on Thursday. The team trains before school in the hallways to avoid heat-related injuries.

gives his runners a physical edge, but he believes the heat does push the runners' "mental callus."

"They're getting tough and becoming more resilient," Dinkler added. "When they see colder weather, their times definitely drop."

Not many in Europe would lump the words "Naples" and "colder" in the same sentence. But it was considerably cooler at the meet in southern Italy than in Bahrain, team members said.

Both the boys and girls teams took first in the event and qualified for the championship meet in Baumholder on Oct. 19. And their competition consisted of many of the same Division II schools they're going to be facing at the championships, giving each team a solid shot at winning the title. Many team members ran personal bests. Rice was second in the girls race with a time of 20 minutes, 17 seconds. Blakely won the boys race in 18:09.

Both of those times are well off the pace of those expected to contend for individual titles, such as Kaiserslautern's Griffen Parsells, who clocked in at 17:00 at his home course on Sept. 14, or Stuttgart's McKinley Fielding (18:33 on the same course that day). Half the team won't make the trip to Baumholder as they've failed to meet qualifying standards.

Still, they continue to train five days a week before school, sometimes taking to the pool for cardiovascular work in the afternoons and working out in other areas as well. The team runs once a week to practice "hills" up and down the steep bridge connecting Naval Support Activity's two bases.

# MLB PLAYOFFS



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

The St. Louis Cardinals' Paul DeJong celebrates after hitting a double to score a run in the second inning of Game 5 of his team's National League Division Series against the Braves on Wednesday in Atlanta.

# Historic: Braves never recovered from Cardinals' 10-run first inning

FROM BACK PAGE

The Cardinals dealt Atlanta another playoff heartbreak, routing the Braves 13-1 in decisive Game 5 of the NL Division Series on Wednesday.

"That was crazy," said Marcell Ozuna, one of five players who batted twice in the stunning outburst. "We got a good opportunity—and we took it."

Before many fans had reached their seats, the Cardinals were already booking plans for the NL Championship Series, where they will face Washington in a best-of-seven set beginning Friday at Busch Stadium. The wild-card Nationals knocked off the favored Los Angeles Dodgers 7-3 in their own Game 5, getting a grand slam from Howie Kendrick in the 10th inning.

It will be St. Louis' first NLCS trip since 2014.

"We know we can beat anyone at this point," Kolten Wong said.

For the Braves, it might take a while to get over this debacle.

After pitching seven scoreless innings in a Game 2 win, Mike Foltynewicz retired only one hitter before getting yanked. First baseman Freddie Freeman booted a potential double-play ball that might have limited the damage. The Cardinals scored their final run of the inning on a strike-out—a wild pitch in the dirt that skipped away from catcher Brian McCann, who announced his retirement after the game.

"We just strung together a bunch of great at-bats," Wong said.

Carrying on the tradition that started at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium, moved on to Turner

## Did you know

Atlanta has lost 10 straight postseason series since its last victory 18 years ago, tying the mark set by the Chicago Cubs between 1908 and 2003.

SOURCE: Associated Press

Field and is now becoming an annual occurrence at SunTrust Park, it was a visiting team that got to celebrate in the A-T-L.

The Cardinals broke out T-shirts and caps, holding a round in the middle of the infield and gathered on the pitcher's mound for a team portrait with the center field video board looming as a backdrop.

For the 13th time in 21 postseason appearances since moving to Atlanta, the Braves finished the year with a loss on their home field.

"It was more of a shock than anything," said Josh Donaldson, whose homer provided the lone Atlanta run. "You don't expect something like that to happen, especially with how well we played all season."

The Cardinals batted around and got more than halfway through their order a second time before the Braves even came to the plate.

Tommy Edman, Dexter Fowler and Wong all had two-run doubles as St. Louis equaled the highest-scoring inning in postseason history, a record set by the Philadelphia Athletics against the Chicago Cubs in the 1929 World Series. It was matched by the Detroit Tigers (1968 World Series vs. St. Louis), the Anaheim Angels (2002 ALCS vs. Minnesota) and, now, the Cardinals.

No team had ever scored 10 runs in the very first inning of a postseason game. It was the first time the Braves franchise has allowed that many opening-inning runs in any game since they were in Boston on July 2, 1925, against the Brooklyn Robins.

The Cardinals made several changes after their 10-spot in what might've been the first set of defensive moves ever made by a team before its opponent had batted. There was no need to worry about any more offense with budding ace Jack Flaherty on the mound, coming off one of the great second halves by a starting pitcher in baseball history.

"We took the crowd out of it," Fowler said. "We knew Flaherty would try to get ahead of us. We were trying to get some good pitches to hit. It was a little easier to see the ball today."

Manager Mike Shildt let the 23-year-old Flaherty throw 104 pitches over six innings, surrendering four hits for the first postseason win of his blossoming career. Flaherty loaded the bases in the fifth after drilling Ronald Acuna Jr. with a fastball, but induced an inning-ending ground-out from Freeman.

# Scoreboard

Playoffs				Wednesday			
WILD CARD				Cardinals 13, Braves 1			
Washington 4, Milwaukee 3	Atlanta 5, Oakland 2	St. Louis 13, Atlanta 1	Atlanta 1, St. Louis 0	Atlanta 1, St. Louis 0	Atlanta 1, St. Louis 0	Atlanta 1, St. Louis 0	Atlanta 1, St. Louis 0
<b>DIVISION SERIES</b> <b>(Best-of-5)</b> <b>American League</b> <b>Houston 2, Tampa Bay 2</b> Houston 6, Tampa Bay 2 Houston 3, Tampa Bay 1 Tampa Bay 10, Houston 3 Tampa Bay 4, Houston 1 <b>Thursday at Houston</b> N.Y. Yankees 2, Minnesota 0 N.Y. Yankees 10, Houston 4 N.Y. Yankees 8, Minnesota 2 N.Y. Yankees 5, Minnesota 1 <b>National League</b> <b>Washington 3, L.A. Dodgers 2</b> L.A. Dodgers 6, Washington 4 Washington 6, L.A. Dodgers 1 <b>Wednesday: Washington 7, L.A. Dodgers 3</b> , 10 innings <b>St. Louis 3, Atlanta 2</b> St. Louis 7, Atlanta 2 Atlanta 3, St. Louis 0 Atlanta 3, St. Louis 1 St. Louis 5, Atlanta 4, 10 innings <b>Wednesday: St. Louis 13, Atlanta 1</b> <b>LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES</b> <b>(Best-of-7; 4-4 necessary)</b> <b>American League</b> N.Y. Yankees vs. Houston/Tampa Bay <b>Saturday: N.Y. Yankees, AFl-Sports, 2 a.m. Sunday CET, 9 a.m. ET</b> <b>Sunday: N.Y. Yankees at Houston or Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees</b> <b>Tuesday: Houston at N.Y. Yankees or N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay</b> <b>Wednesday, Oct. 16: Houston at N.Y. Yankees or N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay</b> <b>Thursday, Oct. 17: Houston at N.Y. Yankees or N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay</b> <b>Friday, Oct. 18: N.Y. Yankees at Houston or Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees</b> <b>Saturday, Oct. 19: N.Y. Yankees at Houston or Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees</b> <b>Sunday, Oct. 20: N.Y. Yankees at Houston or Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees</b> <b>National League</b> St. Louis vs. Washington <b>Friday, Oct. 11: St. Louis, AFl-Sports, 2 a.m. Saturday CET, 9 a.m. ET</b> <b>Saturday at St. Louis, AFl-Sports, 10 p.m. Sunday CET, 9 a.m. ET</b> <b>Monday: at Washington</b> Dodgers vs. Washington <b>Wednesday, Oct. 16: at Washington</b> <b>Friday, Oct. 18: at St. Louis</b> Astros vs. St. Louis <b>Wednesday, Oct. 16: at Washington</b> <b>Friday, Oct. 18: at St. Louis</b> Astros vs. St. Louis <b>World Series</b> <b>(Best-of-7; 4-4 necessary)</b> <b>Tuesday, Oct. 22: National League at American League</b> <b>Wednesday, Oct. 23: NL at AL</b> <b>Friday, Oct. 25: AL at NL</b> <b>Saturday, Oct. 26: AL at NL</b> <b>Monday, Oct. 27: NL at NL</b> <b>Tuesday, Oct. 29: NL at AL</b> <b>Wednesday, Oct. 30: NL at NL</b> <b>Playoff Grand Slams</b> Players who have hit grand slams in AL and NL playoff in last three years: <b>American League</b> Didi Gregorius, New York vs. Minnesota, Game 2, LDS, 2019. Jackie Bradley Jr., Boston at Houston, Game 3, LCS, 2018. Francisco Lindor, Cleveland vs. New York, Game 2, LDS, 2017. <b>National League</b> Howie Kendrick, Washington at Los Angeles, Game 5, LDS, 2018. Ronald Acuna Jr., Atlanta vs. Los Angeles, Game 3, LCS, 2018. Enrique Hernandez, Los Angeles at Chicago, Game 5, LCS, 2017. Michael A. Taylor, Washington at Chicago, Game 4, LDS, 2017.							

St. Louis				Los Angeles			
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi
T. Turner 3b	4	0	0	Pederson 1b	1	2	0
Eaton 1b	4	0	0	Pollock ph	1	0	0
Rendon 3b	5	3	1	Muncy 2b	5	1	2
Soto lf	4	2	1	Turner 3b	0	0	0
Kendrick 2b	5	1	4	Bellinger cf	0	0	0
Doolittle p	0	0	0	Seay 2b	0	0	0
Zimmerman 1b	0	0	0	Kershaw ph	0	0	0
Suzuki c	1	0	0	Maeda p	0	0	0
Tomlin p	1	0	0	Sanchez ph	0	0	0
M.Taylor cf	5	0	1	Kelly p	0	0	0
Cabrera ph	1	0	0	Sanchez ph	0	0	0
Cornbin p	0	0	0	Smith c	4	0	0
Hudson p	0	0	0	Adams ph	0	0	0
Doolittle p	2	0	0	Hudson p	0	0	0
Doolittle p	2	0	0	Taylor 2b	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Washington</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>020</b>	<b>4-7</b>			
<b>Los Angeles</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>0-3</b>				
E-Kendrick (3), Seager (1), DP—Washington 1, Los Angeles 1; Washington 1, Los Angeles 2B—Rendon 2 (3), Pederson (2), HR—Rendon (1), Soto (2), Kendrick (1), Muncy (3), Hernandez (1), SB—Bellinger 2 (2).							
IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO		
Washington	6	6	3	3	1	7	
Strasburg	5	5	3	3	0	0	
Rainey	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Cornin	1	0	0	0	0	3	
Hudson W-10	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Doolittle	1	0	0	0	0	1	
Los Angeles	6	4	1	1	3	7	
Kershaw BS-10	5	2	2	2	0	1	
Maeda	4	0	0	0	2	2	
Kelly L-4	1	0	0	0	2	2	
Taylor R-4	4	0	0	0	2	0	
Jansen	1	0	0	0	0	0	
(Suzar)—Buehler (1), Taylor (1), Cornin (1), Turner (1)							
<b>T</b>	<b>4:06</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>—54:19</b>	<b>(56:00)</b>			

# Phillies fire manager Kapler after disappointing season

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Gabe Kapler took the fall for the Philadelphia Phillies.

He was fired Thursday after a disappointing finish to a season that began with high expectations after Bryce Harper's arrival.

Kapler went 161-163 in two years, his team unable to deliver on its offseason spending spree. Philadelphia finished 81-81, its first nonlosing season since 2012.

"Several years ago, I promised our loyal fans that I would do everything in my power to bring a world championship team to our city. I will never waiver from that commitment," Phillies managing partner John Middleton said in a statement.

He has decided that some changes are necessary to achieve our ultimate objective. Consequently, we will replace our manager. I am indebted to Gabe for the steadfast effort, energy and enthusiasm that he brought to our club, and we are unquestionably a better team and organization as a result of his contributions.

The Phillies were only two games behind in the NL wild-card standings after beating Atlanta on Sept. 18 but lost eight of the next nine, including a five-game sweep at Washington. They finished eight games behind Milwaukee in the second wild-card spot behind the first-place Braves in the NL East.

## MLB PLAYOFFS

## Kershaw blows late lead in latest October flop

By DOUG PADILLA  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Clayton Kershaw might very well go into the Hall of Fame one day on the strength of his amazing regular-season success — dragging behind him a painful October history he would rather forget.

Another chapter to his playoff woes was added Wednesday night when the three-time Cy Young Award winner squandered a two-run lead with the Los Angeles Dodgers six outs from advancing to a fourth straight NL Championship Series.

Pitching on full rest at home in relief of effective starter Walker Buehler in Game 5 of the Division Series against Washington, Kershaw gave up homers on consecutive pitches to Anthony Rendon and Juan Soto that tied it 3-3 in the eighth inning.

The wild-card Nationals won 7-3 after a grand slam in the 10th by former Dodger Howie Kendrick off Joe Kelly. And with that, the stunned Dodgers were sent home for the winter.

"When you don't win the last game of the season and you're to blame for it, it's not fun," Kershaw said, his eyes red. "The main reason (it hurts) is the group of guys in this clubhouse. It's a terrible feeling."

The 31-year-old Kershaw has been the heart and soul of the Dodgers almost since the time he arrived in Los Angeles as a highly touted prospect in 2008 at age 20. While his body of work in the regular season (169-74 with a 2.44 ERA) is practically unmatched, he is 9-11 with a 4.43 ERA and 24 home runs allowed in 32 postseason games, 25 starts.

The ace left-hander entered Wednesday with two on in the seventh and struck out Adam Eaton on three pitches to end the inning.

Kershaw, however, never got another out.

"It might linger for a while," he said. "I



MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

**Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw sits in the dugout after giving up back-to-back home runs to the Nationals during the eighth inning in Game 5 of their National League Division Series on Wednesday in Los Angeles, Washington won 7-3.**

might not get over it. I don't know. Spring training is going to come and I will have to be ready to pitch and do my job the best I can."

Kershaw also took the loss as a starter in Game 2 at home, when he gave up three runs and six hits in six innings.

"I'm not going to shy away from it," he said. "Everything people say is true right now about the postseason. I understand that. Nothing I can do about it right now. It's a terrible feeling. It really is. I'm not going to hang my head. I will be here next year and try to do the same thing I try to do every single year."

The only other time Kershaw has served up home runs on successive pitches also came in the playoffs, when Kettel Marte

and Jeff Mathis connected for Arizona in 2017.

If Rendon's homer to pull the Nationals within a run was a jolt to the system, the long ball from Soto, deep into the seats in right-center, was the gut punch. Kershaw crouched on the mound before Soto's drive even cleared the wall, removing his cap and turning his head to watch the ball land in the crowd.

Lifted by manager Dave Roberts for right-hander Kenta Maeda, Kershaw walked to the dugout with his head down, void of expression. He sat on the bench alone, slumped and sagging for a while, looking at the ground.

"It's not on him at all," Dodgers slugger Max Muncy said. "It's on all of us. We're a

## By the numbers

# 169-74

Regular-season record for 31-year-old Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Clayton Kershaw. He has a 2.44 career ERA.

# 9-11

Kershaw's record in the postseason, where he has posted a 4.43 ERA and allowed 24 home runs in 32 games (25 starts).

SOURCE: Associated Press

team. There are no individual performances here."

During the regular season, Kershaw went 16-5 with a 3.03 ERA and made his eighth All-Star team. He's won five ERA titles, a pitching Triple Crown and the 2014 NL MVP award.

But in October, it's been a vastly different story.

"He's a pro. He's probably the best pitcher of our generation, and for him to make himself available tonight, and get us out of a big spot right here," Roberts said. "It just didn't work out. There's always going to be second-guessing when things don't work out. I'll take my chances on Clayton. ... It's a guy that I believe in, I trust, and it didn't work out."

## Slam: Nats win first playoff series since move to Washington in 2005

## FROM BACK PAGE

veteran who was hitless in his first four at-bats.

In their first season since star slugger Bryce Harper left as a free agent, the Nationals became the first team in history to rally from three or more runs down twice in elimination games during the same postseason.

It's not just one player, it's a team," left fielder Juan Soto said.

The wild-card Nationals won a playoff series for the first time since the team moved to Washington ahead of the 2005 season, and the franchise reached the NLCS for the second time in 51 seasons. The Nationals overcame a 19-31 start, finished 93-69 and then rallied from a 2-1, eighth-inning deficit to beat Milwaukee 4-3 in the NL wild-card game.

Then they bounced back from down 2-1 in the series against the Dodgers, who set a team record with 106 regular-season wins.

"Oh, man, keep fighting," Anthony Rendon said. "I think that's the story of maybe this organization."

Rendon and Soto homered on

consecutive pitches to overcome a 3-1 deficit in the eighth against Kershaw, a three-time Cy Young Award winner. Soto had started the comeback from a 3-0 hole with an RBI single in the sixth off starter Walker Buehler and then hit a 449-foot drive halfway up the right-field pavilion off Kershaw, the longest home run of the 20-year-old's big league career.

Adam Eaton walked against Joe Kelly leading off the 10th, Rendon doubled on a drive that lodged in the left-field wall and Soto was intentionally walked.

Kendrick was 4-for-19 with one RBI in the series and had made a pair of errors at first base in the Game 1 loss. He fouled off a pitch and then hit a 97 mph fastball over the wall in dead center for his second career slam. The other was a game-ending, 11th-inning drive against San Francisco in August 2017. Cody Bellinger chased the ball all the way to the wall, putting his arms up against the fence as he ran out of room.

"It was electric. Probably the best moment of my career," said Kendrick, a 14-year big league veteran who played for the Dodg-

ers and Los Angeles Angels. "We never gave up. The city had faith in us. The fans had faith in us. We believed in ourselves. Everybody came through for us."

The seven-time defending NL West champion Dodgers remain without a World Series title since 1988.

"Disappointing is probably an understatement," manager Dave Roberts said.

Daniel Hudson got the win, retiring Will Smith on a drive to right field with one on and one out in the ninth, then getting Chris Taylor on a liner to center.

Sean Doolittle pitched a perfect 10th for Washington, with center fielder Michael A. Taylor making a diving catch on Justin Turner for the final out.

The Nationals/Montreal Expos franchise won a postseason series for the first time since the Expos beat Philadelphia in a 1981 Division Series caused by the midseason players' strike, only to lose to the Dodgers in the NLCS.

"I'm really excited for the boys in that clubhouse that fought all year," Nationals manager Dave Martinez said.



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

**The Nationals' Juan Soto celebrates after his eighth-inning home run against the Dodgers on Wednesday in Los Angeles, Washington won 7-3 to advance to the National League Championship Series.**



## NBA/NFL

# Shanghaied: NBA silenced by China in preseason game

By TIM REYNOLDS  
Associated Press

In response to the NBA defending Daryl Morey's freedom of speech, Chinese officials took it away from the Los Angeles Lakers and Brooklyn Nets.

All of the usual media sessions surrounding the Lakers-Nets preseason game in Shanghai on Thursday — including a scheduled news conference from NBA Commissioner Adam Silver and postgame news conferences with the teams — were canceled. It was the latest salvo in the rift between the league and China stemming from a since-deleted tweet posted last week by Morey, the general manager of the Houston Rockets.

"There will be no media availabilities for tonight's game between the Brooklyn Nets and Los Angeles Lakers," the NBA said in a statement Thursday, released a few hours before the game.

The game was held as scheduled, though Kyrie Irving flew halfway around the world to play for 66 seconds.

Irving aggravated his facial fracture shortly after tip-off in his preseason debut for the Brooklyn Nets, who beat the Los Angeles Lakers 114-111.

Spencer Dinwiddie, who replaced Irving, led the Nets with 20 points and Taurean Prince finished with 18 for Brooklyn. LeBron James scored 20 points for the Lakers, who got 18 from Rajon Rondo and 16 from Anthony Davis.

James walked off with his arms held

high, acknowledging cheers from the crowd. He flicked his wristbands toward fans clamoring for a souvenir and tossed his headband into the seats before entering the walkway leading to the Lakers' locker room.

He was seen and not heard, just like everyone else on the rosters.

"I understand that there are consequences from that exercise of, in essence, his freedom of speech," Silver said at a news conference in Tokyo earlier this week. "We will have to live with those consequences."

And this move was one of those consequences.

The game itself was normal, unlike the rest of the trip to China.

The U.S. and Chinese national anthems were not played before the game.

The Chinese state broadcaster CCTV said it was not going to show the Lakers-Nets games on Thursday or in Shenzhen on Saturday. NBA broadcast partner Tencent also said it was changing its coverage plans for the league.

But fans came in droves, as nearly every seat in the 18,000-seat arena appeared filled and they cheered for James loudest of all — as usual. James has made almost-annual visits to China during his NBA career to promote the game and his personal brand, and his popularity there is enormous.

Given fan reaction to James there this week, including being mobbed by well-wishers who chanted and snapped count-



AP

CHINESE FANS WITH A CHINESE FLAG WATCH THE BROOKLYN NETS' 114-111 DEFEAT OF THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS THURSDAY IN SHANGHAI.

less pictures with their phones as he walked through a Shanghai mall on Wednesday, not even the politically charged unrest between China and the NBA could dampen how revered he is in the world's most populous country.

It was a topic again in Tokyo on Thursday, where Houston and Toronto finished their two-game series. The Rockets, of course, have been at the forefront of the rift between China and the league because of Morey's tweet.

"You know what? It's a tough situation," Rockets coach Mike D'Antoni said after Houston's 118-111 win over the reigning NBA champion Raptors. "Very difficult.

Adam Silver speaks for the NBA. I work for the NBA. I go with Adam. Commissioner Silver will do the right thing."

Irving tried to play through his left-side facial fracture, an injury that occurred in a pickup game last month. He was wearing a clear mask in an effort to protect his face, but bumped into Rondo while playing defense just 1:06 into the contest.

Irving's face made contact with Rondo's upper arm.

If that wasn't concerning enough, the Nets lost their other starting guard just 22 seconds later. Caris LeVert left with 10:32 remaining in the first quarter after being poked in the eye and didn't return.



STEPHEN BRASHAHE/AP

Los Angeles Rams running back Todd Gurley rushes for a touchdown against the Seattle Seahawks on Oct. 3. He was held out of practice Wednesday and may miss his team's game with San Francisco on Sunday because of a bruised left thigh.

## Rams RB Gurley misses practice

By GREG BEACHAM  
Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Todd Gurley missed practice Wednesday with a bruised left thigh, and the Los Angeles Rams don't know whether their star running back will play against the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday.

Coach Sean McVay says Gurley's injury "caught us all off guard" when Los Angeles went back to work following several days without practice. The Rams (3-2) haven't played since last Thursday, when they lost 30-29 at Seattle.

A difficult matchup for the Rams would be even tougher without Gurley, their top ball carrier for five seasons. Since McVay took over in 2017, Gurley is the NFL's leader in yards rushing (2,826), yards from scrimmage (4,262) and rushing touchdowns (35).

McVay refused to predict whether Gurley will face the Niners at the Coliseum.

"He's so tough and he plays through so many different things," McVay said. "But there's still so much time

(before Sunday). Even though we did play on a Thursday, we want to be smart with him."

The team initially thought Gurley's thigh problem was typical postgame soreness, but the Rams held him out of practice along with cornerback Aqib Talib, who has bruised ribs. Being without either veteran would be a significant setback to the Rams' hopes of ending their two-game losing streak — just their second skid of McVay's career.

"You think it's your typical bumps and bruises, and then it ends up being a little bit more than that," McVay said.

Ever since Gurley missed playing time down the stretch of Los Angeles' Super Bowl run last season with a balky left knee, the running back's health has been a constant source of conversation around the defending NFC champions.

That's much to the dismay of Gurley, who has grown increasingly curt about the knee woes that could be the Rams' primary motivation for his decreased workload on Sundays this season.

Gurley is a quiet 18th in the NFL

this season with 270 yards rushing. He also has 14 receptions, but his overall touches are down significantly after he was in the NFL's top five in each of the past three seasons.

The Rams insist they aren't managing Gurley's playing time, but opposing coaches have all agreed Los Angeles is trying to keep Gurley fresh for the long haul of this season and several more afterward. Gurley's four-year, \$60 million contract extension — with a record \$45 million guaranteed — doesn't even kick in until next year.

Malcolm Brown has 114 yards and two touchdowns in his fifth season as Gurley's backup. Brown never had more than 63 carries in a season during his first four years behind Gurley, but the gifted athlete already has 26 carries in five games.

"Fortunately for us, we've got some depth at that position," McVay said. "Whether it's this week, at some point, the confidence that we have in Malcolm, but there's also going to be a time we rely on (rookie) Darrell Henderson. It might end up being this week."

NFL

# Howard emerging as top-flight back for Philly

## Eagles' rushing leader is earning feature role

By **ROB MAADDI**  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Jordan Howard does everything quietly except when he has the ball.

The soft-spoken running back keeps going forward, doesn't shy away from contact and will even dish it out. He's a punishing runner with a knack for reaching the end zone.

Howard leads the Philadelphia Eagles (3-2) with 248 yards rushing, an average of 4.7 yards per carry and five touchdowns (four rushing, one receiving). He has split time with rookie Miles Sanders, but is earning a featured role.

"He's kind of the guy that you kind of settle down in the run game and give him those touches," Eagles coach Doug Pederson said. "He's a between-the-tackles guy. He's big and powerful. He has good vision. And I really think Miles is learning from Jordan running the ball, which is a positive. I think as we go, Jordan has been the lead back the last couple of games for sure."

Howard had 3,370 yards rushing and 24 touchdowns in three seasons with the Bears. A fifth-round pick in 2016, he went to the Pro Bowl as a rookie. But he lost some touches to Tarik Cohen in 2017-18 and was traded to the Eagles for a conditional sixth-round pick in March.

"I pretty much knew what was happening," Howard said. "I just didn't know where I was going. Coming to a winning team pumped me up."

Sanders, a second-round pick, had an impressive preseason, but is averaging only 3.2 yards per carry. Sanders has been more effective as a receiver, catching 10 passes for 133 yards, including three long gains. He's also solid in pass protection.

"Our relationship has been great," Howard said. "I know he's young and hungry



MATT ROURKE/AP

**Eagles running back Jordan Howard, right, is tackled by the New York Jets' Marcus Maye on Sunday in Philadelphia. Howard leads the Eagles with 248 yards rushing, an average of 4.7 yards per carry and five touchdowns (four rushing, one receiving).**

and ready to prove himself. I remember being like that my rookie year. He's a smart kid and he's picked up on a lot of things very fast. We also have a great coach, Duce Staley, so he keeps him up to speed as well."

Howard, who turns 25 on Nov. 2, is in the final year of his rookie contract. He could earn a lucrative deal if he puts up big numbers. But the Eagles like to spread the ball around, mix up their backs and their offense is centered around Carson Wentz's

throwing arm.

Howard is fine with that.

"Just having a lot of options, a lot of talent, as many guys that touch the ball, it'll make it that much harder to stop us, so I'm all for it," he said.

## Sacks don't tell whole story of Clowney's impact on Seahawks

By **TIM BOOTH**  
Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — Five games into Jadeveon Clowney's tenure with Seattle, the defensive end who was supposed to help solve the Seahawks' pass rush problems has only one sack.

That might not seem like the kind of return Seattle was expecting to get when it traded for the former No. 1 overall pick before the start of the regular season. But the reviews of Clowney's performance with the Seahawks through the first third of the season are entirely positive.

"You can just feel it's coming alive," coach Pete Carroll said.

The combination of Clowney, Ziggy Ansah and the rest of Seattle's defensive linemen has yet to pop the way it was expected when the deal was made on Aug. 31.

The Seahawks have only 10 sacks, which ranks 23rd in the league, and their 18 quarterback hits are 30th overall. But so far, those numbers haven't mattered because the Seahawks are heading to Cleveland on Sunday with

a chance to reach 5-1 for only the third time in franchise history.

"We keep laughing in the locker room about us not being on the same page, not rushing as good as we normally do and being as good as normal ... because we're winning games and we're not playing our best right now which is always a good thing," Clowney said. "You've got room to improve but you're still getting wins. It's great for the team."

Clowney has found ways to be disruptive. His best game to date may have been last Thursday against the Los Angeles Rams, where he came away with three tackles, two quarterback hits, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery.

Beyond those stats, he was consistently causing problems in both the pass and run game and did so with Seattle playing a different defensive alignment to try to shut down Todd Gurley.

Throw in his interception return for a touchdown a week earlier against Arizona and the Seahawks are clearly getting the kind of play they hoped for



DEAN RUTZ, SEATTLE TIMES/TNS

**Seahawks defensive end Jadeveon Clowney pressures Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton last month at Century Link Field in Seattle. Despite having only one sack after five games, Clowney has been a disruptive force for the Seahawks.**

from Clowney. Carroll still views Clowney as being in the infancy of the season.

Carroll's wish is that he would have gotten the chance to have an entire offseason with Clowney.

"I think he would've just had the benefit of all of the work off-season-wise with his hands and feet and the things that we do technically. I think he would've been further along," Carroll said. "The thing I really like is he's really active in looking like he's going to come alive and have a big game here in the next couple."

Ansah has yet to have a similar influence, but both could end up getting a boost next week when Jarrod Reed returns from his six-game suspension.

Reed had 10½ sacks last season and his ability to rush from the interior should create more chances for Clowney and Ansah to get into the backfield.

"We're getting pressures. We just have to finish and get sacks," Clowney said. "Who cares right now? We're winning games. But up front as a group we all want more sacks than pressures."

## SPORTS

NL DIVISION SERIES

10 GRAND

## Nationals send Dodgers packing on Kendrick's slam

BY BETH HARRIS  
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Howie Kendrick and the Washington Nationals got down again but were never out — and they finally ended their streak of playoff series futility in grand fashion.

Kendrick hit a tiebreaking grand slam in the 10th inning and the Nationals, boosted by a lightning rally against Clayton Kershaw, beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 7-3 Wednesday night in Game 5. They advanced to the NL Championship Series starting Friday at St. Louis.

"I was hoping for any moment," said Kendrick, a 36-year-old

SEE SLAM ON PAGE 29

**Top:** The Washington Nationals' Howie Kendrick celebrates his 10th-inning grand slam against the Dodgers on Wednesday. **Right:** The St. Louis Cardinals' Dexter Fowler reacts to his three-run double during the first inning of Wednesday's game against the Braves.

AP photos



## Cardinals rock Braves with historic first inning

BY PAUL NEWBERRY  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The St. Louis Cardinals turned the diamond into a giant pinball machine, dinging hits all over SunTrust Park.

By the time the Atlanta Braves finally got the third out, the Cardinals' 10 runs had already made it the most productive first inning in postseason history.

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Game in China goes on amid controversy » NBA, Page 30

