Drills delayed in ‘goodwill gesture’ to North Korea

By Kim Gamel
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The U.S. and South Korea will postpone a planned joint air exercise that was criticized by the North, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Sunday.

Esper said he didn’t see the move as a concession to the communist state but a “goodwill gesture” that he hopes North Korea will reciprocate by returning to nuclear talks.

The surprise decision came after North Korea issued statements lashing out at the upcoming joint U.S.-South Korean military exercise and warning that it’s running out of patience for Washington to soften its denuclearization demands.

Esper made the announcement at a news conference with South Korean counterpart Jeong Kyeong-doo on the sidelines of a meeting of regional defense ministers in Bangkok.

The allies had announced plans to hold later this month what they said would be a scaled-back combined flying training event in place of the previous annual drills known as Vigilant Ace.

But the North was not satisfied with the changes and warned last week that the U.S. would face “shocking punishment” if “the hostile provocation is committed.”

Esper and Jeong said Sunday that the decision to postpone the drill was made after “close consultation and careful consideration.” No new date was announced.

“We have made this decision as an act of goodwill to contribute to an environment

SEE DRILLS ON PAGE 3

The hand to beat

Weaponry-themed cards a hit with service members

By Jennifer H. Suan
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — An ace of spades embellished with a Russian-made SA-17 could tip a game of Texas Hold 'em in a soldier's favor while also helping him identify a surface-to-air missile system on the ground.

The Army has a new line of playing cards featuring military weapons used by Russia, China and Iran — countries the Pentagon has identified as potential threats.

The cards are proving so popular that more than
**MILITARY**

**Milley declares Pacific top priority in 1st overseas trip**

**By Wyatt Olson**  
Stars and Stripes

The Pacific is now the top priority for the U.S. military, Gen. Mark Milley said Thursday in Tokyo while on his first overseas trip since becoming chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in September.

Milley was addressing a group of Japanese and American reporters after concluding a meeting with Japanese leaders, the Pentagon said in a statement.

The U.S. focus on the Pacific region is a result of the emerging great-power competition among America, China and Russia.

“It is the No. 1 regional priority for the United States military,” he told reporters.

Milley’s weeklong trip to Japan and South Korea comes amid renewed disagreements between the two U.S. allies, disputes arising from Japan’s occupation of the Korean peninsula from 1905 to 1945.

South Korea has announced it is withdrawing from an intelligence-sharing agreement signed with Japan in 2016.

Milley told reporters Nov. 11 that the agreement — which could expire as early as this week — is key for regional stability and security.

Quarrels between Japan and South Korea only serve adversaries, he said.

“It is clearly in China’s interests and North Korea’s interests to separate South Korea from Japan and the United States,” Milley said Monday. “It is in our interests to keep all three of us very closely aligned.”

“We’ve got to get past some of these friction points in a way that is helpful to the alliance,” he said.

The alliance needs to resolve such friction points by focusing on common values and security needs, he said.

Milley touted the size and scope of America’s defense presence in the Pacific, with more than 300,000 service members and Defense Department civilians under the umbrella of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

He spoke pointedly about China with reporters Thursday.

“We need to continue to engage with China,” he said. “China is a strategic competitor to be sure, [but] it doesn’t necessarily mean that China becomes an adversary in the military sense of the word or an enemy.

“But having said that, it’s important that the United States, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and other friends and allies in the region remain unified.”

China’s extraordinary economic growth over the past 20 years has resulted in the rapid expansion of its military capabilities, he said.

China’s growing military might have emboldened the nation’s counterparts during the visit. “I would also say that constraints and restraints on military training [are] not unique to Japan,” he said. “It exists in Korea; it exists in Germany; it exists in the continental United States. Things like environmental issues, issues with the neighboring communities and towns of various military bases.”

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**Marine deserter’s mother names him in fatal shooting of her boyfriend**

Hanson told a U.S. marshal that she witnessed Michael Alexander Brown, 22, fatally shoot her boyfriend, Rodney Wilfred Brown, Nov. 9 at a home in Hardy.

According to the complaint, Hanson also identified Brown’s getaway vehicle through pictures obtained from a gas station just before the shooting.

The vehicle was later found near Clarendon County, S.C., about four hours southwest of Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, where he had been stationed as a U.S. Marine until leaving his post last month.

Investigators think the Marine deserter was trying to contact his grandmother when a neighbor saw him in Roanoke on Thursday morning. Police Chief Tim Jones said at a news conference. Authorities believe Brown was driving a recreational vehicle, which was discovered by police nearby later that day.

Law enforcement approached the RV, but Brown was not inside. Photos showed the RV suffered significant damage.

The search for Brown began after someone called 911 around 4 a.m. Thursday to report that someone was tapping on the windows of a nearby house. Jones said Brown’s grandmother lives at that house and they believe he was trying to contact her and his mother.
Esper urges S. Korea to increase share of costs

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea is a wealthy country and should increase its share of the cost for stationing some 28,500 U.S. troops on the divided peninsula by the end-of-year deadline, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said Friday.

Esper also called on Seoul to reverse its decision to cancel a military intelligence-sharing pact with Japan before the Nov. 23 expiration date. The United States fears the termination of the agreement will jeopardize security as North Korea has re-summmed weapons testing amid stalled nuclear talks.

Both issues have become major irritants in the long-standing alliance between the two countries, which fought together in the 1950-53 Korean War.

The South Koreans have bris- tled at the U.S. administration’s reported demand to increase Seoul’s share of the burden fivefold. The current contract, known as the Special Measures Agreement, expires at the end of the year.

CNN, citing an anonymous congressional aide and an admin- istration official, said Thursday that it has confirmed that President Donald Trump has demand- ed that South Korea pay nearly $5 billion, as other news outlets have reported. The two sides failed to reach agreement in time for the deadline last year but eventually agreed to a retroactive stopgap measure in which South Korea increased its share by about 8.2% to some $920 million. However, that deal was extended for only one year, unlike previous ite-ra- tions that lasted five years.

“South Korea is a wealthy country and could and should pay more to help offset the cost of defense,” Esper said during a joint press conference with his South Korean counterpart, Jeong Kyeong-doo, after the two sides held annual alliance talks known as the Security Consultative Meeting.

“It is crucial that we conclude the SMA with increased burden-sharing by the Republic of Korea before the end of the year,” he said.

Jeong said he shared the view with Esper that the cost-sharing pact should be fair and mutually agreeable, according to the Yon- hap News Agency, but neither of- ficial gave specific figures.

Esper also acknowledged that South Korea has provided “a fair amount of support” but said most of the funding ended up back in the local economy.

The SMA funds have been used mostly to offset the salaries of more than 9,000 local employees who provide food and administrativa- tive services and other logistical needs, as well as construction costs.

The South Koreans also point out that they funded most of the $11 billion-plus cost of expanding Camp Humphreys, a U.S. Army post south of Seoul that has become the military’s new head- quarters base, as part of a separa- rate agreement.

Esper, who arrived in Seoul on Thursday for his second visit to the country since he took office, later met with President Moon Jae-in and several other senior of ficials.

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Drills: Secretary reaffirms US commitment to maintain current level of military personnel in Korea

FROM FRONT PAGE

Conducive to diplomacy and the advancement of peace, Esper said, according to media reports from the press conference.

“We encourage (North Korea) to demonstrate the same good will,” he added, urging the North “to return to the negotiating table without precondition or hesitation.”

He stressed the decades-old U.S.-South Korean alliance re- mains “irreplaceable” and vowed the combined forces would maintain readiness to “fight tonight.”

Esper raised the possibility of a change to the joint training plans last week during a visit to South Korea, were he met with Jeong in the 51st allied Security Consulta- tive Meeting.

He also reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to “provide extended deterrence to (South Korea) using the full range of military capabilities, including U.S. nuclear, conventional and missile defense capabilities,” according to the joint communiqué from the meeting.

The two sides also noted the “critical role” played by some 28,500 U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, which remains technically at war with the North after their 1950-53 conflict ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

“Given the current security environment, the secretary also reaffirmed the commitment to maintain the current level of the U.S. military personnel in South Korea and to enhance combat readiness,” they added.

The allies have canceled or reduced the scope of many of their joint military exercises after President Donald Trump announced he was “stopping the war games” after his first sum- mit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last year.

Commanders insist the lack of massive combined drills has not harmed defense capabilities as they continue to conduct low-profil-e tactical training.

Talks aimed at persuading the North to give up its nuclear weapons have faltered due to sharp disagreements over the extent of sanctions relief in exchange for disarmament measures.

Kim has given the U.S. an end-of-year deadline to offer a more flexible approach to negotiations, hinting that he may resume long-range missile or nuclear tests if that doesn’t happen.

The North already has con- ducted several missile and rocket tests this year, raising worries that it is improving its arsenal amid the deadlock.

Trump has dismissed such con- cerns, insisting that the launches didn’t pose a threat to the U.S. and he maintains a good relationship with Kim.

North Korea also staged a mili- tary air show with Kim in atten- dance, state-run media reported this past weekend.

“Our pilots have to try to fight the enemies armed to the teeth … under any circumstances,” Kim was quoted as saying by the Ko- rean Central News Agency.

“He stressed that however loudly the enemies may brag about their technological advances, they can never overwhelm the politico-ideological and com- bat and moral advantages of our service personnel,” it added.

The report released several photos but didn’t provide details about the aircraft involved in the demonstration.

A senior State Department offic- ial, meanwhile, called on China to take action to prevent efforts to evade sanctions against the North such as ship-to-ship trans- fers of coal and oil they said takes place in Chinese waters.

On North Korea, I urged Bei- jing to maintain pressure on the regime, noting the space for a diplomatic solution is quickly closing,” the official told report- ers during a briefing, according to a transcript provided by the State Department.

In this undated photo provided on Saturday by the North Korean government, leader Kim Jong Un, front center, poses with pilots during his inspection of a flight demonstration of military aircraft at an airfield in North Korea.
**US Army plans Big Isle drill in Hawaii with Chinese soldiers**

**By Nancy Montgomery**

Stars and Stripes

First Lt. Loren Hintz didn’t exactly disappear without a trace when he died.

The P-47 Thunderbolt he was piloting on his 64th and final mission in April 1945 set an Italian farmhouse ablaze when it was brought down by German machine-gun fire.

But only a fraction of Hintz’s remains were recovered and buried under a marble cross bearing his name at the Florence American Cemetery.

Seventy-four years later, some 200 family members and friends gathered Saturday at the cemetery to bury the last of Hintz’s remains and effects in the first burial at the closed cemetery since 1951. His great-grandchildren laid a laurel wreath.

Ritz crackers, which Hintz had included in his last letter home, were included in a burial box.

Hintz, a pilot with the 86th Fighter Squadron, 79th Fighter Group, 12th Air Force, was listed as missing in action for weeks.

The war in Europe ended just weeks after Hintz’s plane crashed. His death was confirmed after his pistol and some charred bone fragments were found at the crash site east of Bologna. Hintz’s death left a widow with one toddler and another baby soon to be born.

“We said a prayer for him every night,” said his daughter, Gretchen Wronka, 75, of Bloomington, Minn.

Fifty-five years after Hintz died, Wronka typed “P-47” and a simple question into an internet search engine: “Did anyone serve with Lt. Hintz?”

That was the beginning of a two-decade journey that would lead Hintz’s descendants to the spot where his remains lay entombed 15 feet below ground, and where they would be brought up from the earth three years ago.

“The remains were recovered,” Wronka said. “And we’re saying goodbye,” Hintz said. “The only common language was love and the appreciation of human life.”

It was an emotional day, Wronka said.

“He was an idealist, a dreamer,” said Wronka, a librarian.

“Our mother never remarried,” she said. “She said no one could measure up to him,” said his son, Martin Hintz, 73, a Wisconsin farmer who was born two months after his father died.

“Hintz’s like and death also intrigued his grandson, Hans Wronka,” a geologist, Hans pored over archived military reports and maps as he searched for surviving members of Hintz’s former unit.

In 2012, an Italian pilot named Piero Fabbri saw one of Hans Wronka’s internet queries and emailed him.

Fabbri, an amateur researcher of American aircraft shot down in Italy during World War II, said he thought he’d located where Hintz crashed. He’d even found a local man who, as a boy, had seen the plane go down and the farmhouse burn on April 21, 1945, he said.

Electromagnetic imaging of the site confirmed something large and metallic was underground.

Three generations of the Hintz family traveled to Italy for the excavation. Much of the town of Bagnarola also turned out.

“The local priest came, Carabinieri, a lot of uniforms,” Martin Hintz said. “The only common language was love and the appreciation of human life.”

It was an emotional day, Wronka said.

“The roar of the crowd when the P-47’s engine was brought up. You could smell the oil,” she said.

“After that everyone saw that just behind the engine was the cockpit,” Fabbri said.

An archaeologist sifted out the lieutenant’s dog tags and gently handed them to Wronka. “It was a sacred moment. Like a last touch of human flesh,” she said.

The Hintz family said their loss was shared with all families of those sacrificed in war.

“It’s so important we remember people who’ve gone before,” Martin Hintz said. “Never leave anyone behind.”

**Above:** First Lt. Loren Hintz, an Iowa farm boy turned P-47 pilot, was killed in action in the skies over Italy in April 1945.

**Top left:** Hintz stands in front of a British Wellington bomber.

**Left:** The dog tag belonging to Hintz was recovered in an excavation three years ago in Italy, where Hintz’s P-47 Thunderbolt crashed in April 1945.

**Gretchen Wronka and Martin Hintz**

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**US pilot shot down in 1945 in Italy honored**

**By William Cole**

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser

An opening ceremony will be held Monday on Hawaii island for a military exercise with China that will involve about 100 People’s Liberation Army soldiers training alongside U.S. Army counterparts.

This comes after Adm. Phil Davidson, head of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, spoke on Veterans Day at Punchbowl cemetery about the “rules-based international order” that followed U.S. victory in the Pacific in World War II, and China’s attempts to usurp it.

Those American standards “are even more important today,” Davidson said, “as malicious actors like the Communist Party of China seek to redefine the international order through corruption, malign cyber activities, intellectual property theft, restriction of individual liberties, military coercion and the direct attempts to override other nations’ sovereignty.”

China was invited into the prestigious Rim of the Pacific maritime exercises in Hawaii in 2014 and 2016 (the drills are held every two years) but it wasn’t allowed to participate in 2018.

China sent a spy ship to monitor the event anyway in 2018. The rising Asian power is not likely to take part in the summer 2020 RIMPAC, either.

“China has not been involved in the planning process,” which is nearing its midpoint, said Cmdr. John Fage, a spokesman for the Navy’s 3rd Fleet in San Diego, which plans the exercise.

The U.S. government in recent years has been more strident than ever in condemning China as a revisionist power and taking steps to interdict Chinese espionage and influence. A bitter trade war has added to the tension.

So it goes in the sprawling military-to-military exercises such as the “disaster management exchange” planned through Nov. 26 on the Big Island, “to bring to the exercise medical, search and rescue, fire and law enforcement,” Maj. Oliver Schuster, a spokesman for the 8th Theater Sustainment Command in Hawaii, said.

The event marks the 15th iteration of the exchange, which is now rotated annually between China and the United States. Last year, U.S. Army Pacific troops traveled to Nanjing, China.

The training at Kilauea Military Camp will center on a volcanic eruption in a national park and coordination processes between the People’s Liberation Army, the U.S. Army and a multinational coordination center, Schuster said.

“This exchange is important to maintain as it improves our ability to save lives, protect property, and better prepare for the next major disaster in the Indo-Pacific,” Schuster said in an email.

The United States “remains committed to maintaining military-to-military relations with China” characterized by dialogue, a commitment to risk reduction and coordination in areas of mutual interest such as disaster relief and humanitarian assistance, he said.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2000 prohibits military-to-military engagement with China if that interaction could “create a national security risk” due to exposure to operational areas, including advanced combined-arms and joint combat operations.

Pacific Air Forces at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in May hosted more than two dozen People’s Liberation Army Air Force Command College members in a reciprocal visit that followed a trip by members of the U.S. Air War College to China in March.

“The program allows members of both militaries to tour and meet with representatives and leadership, and to share perspectives and develop lines of communications,” Pacific Air Forces said in a news release.

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Airstrikes kill at least 9 in northwest Syria

BEIRUT — Airstrikes on rebel-held areas in Syria’s northwestern province of Idlib killed at least nine people Sunday, an opposition war monitor and a paramedic group said.

Syrian troops launched a four-month offensive earlier this year to retake a fertile countryside area from rebels. The battle has displaced tens of thousands of civilians and killed hundreds of civilians. A fragile cease-fire halted the advance at the end of August, but in recent weeks it has been repeatedly violated.

Syrian President Bashar Assad said his forces will soon retake Idlib. In a recent interview with a Russian TV station, Assad said that they are now giving civilians some time to leave the area.

The Syrian Civil Defense said five people, including three women, were killed in the village of Mallaja. A spokesman said four others were killed in airstrikes on the northern outskirts of the town of Saraqeb, a major town on the highway linking the capital Damascus with the northern city of Aleppo, Syria’s largest.

The highway has been closed since 2012, when rebels captured several towns on it. Reopening the highway was the main aim of the government offensive that began April 30.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said six people were killed in Mallaja. It added that six other people were killed in the province, including two fighters.

In an area controlled by Turkey in the neighboring province of Aleppo, opposition activists said Turkey-backed fighters opened fire on a group of protesters who were demanding a suspected car bomber be executed.

The Observatory said the protesters tried to storm a police station in the town of al-Bab, and that one protester was killed.

The protesters were reportedly calling for authorities to execute a man detained on suspicion of setting off a car bomb in al-Bab on Saturday. That blast killed 19 people.

Turkey’s Defense Ministry said the suspect detained in connection to Saturday’s bombing was a member of the main Kurdish militia, according to Turkey’s official Anadolu news agency.

The Syrian troops’ empowerment and the American withdrawal from northern Syria have played a role in the attacks in Idlib. The U.S. military was撤退 from the area and Turkey was pushing its military presence in the region.

The highway has been closed for the day.

There will be no offices open until the last corrupt person is removed,” one protester said, declining to be identified for security reasons. “Only then will we pull out from here.”

The roadblocks are partly in response to a call by influential Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr for a voluntary strike to keep up the pressure on politicians.

Airstrikes delay slow restart of Taliban talks

By Susanah George
The Washington Post

KABUL, Afghanistan — A planned prisoner swap between the Afghan government and the Taliban intended to restart peace talks between the warring group and the United States has been delayed, according to Afghan Taliban officials.

The emergence of significant snags early on highlights the difficulty of getting the two sides to the negotiating table. The Taliban has long refused to engage in talks with the United States. The Taliban has long refused to engage in talks with the Afghan government.

The swap would have freed two American prisoners — one is an Australian, have been held by the Taliban since 2016, when gunfire ambushed their vehicle in central Kabul and abduction.

The Taliban said the agreement fell apart when the Taliban-linked militants were not transferred to a second location in Afghanistan to Qatar, where the Taliban has an office.

At least 32 others were wounded in violent clashes with security forces, just hours after protesters took control of half of Ahrar Bridge. The protesters now hold three bridges spanning the Tigris River toward the heavily fortified Green Zone, the seat of Iraq’s government. Security forces had deployed Sunday on the other side of the bridge and erected concrete barriers to keep protesters from pushing into Green Zone.

Two Katyusha rockets also fell in the vicinity of the Green Zone on Sunday, but caused no casualties. One hit the Tigris River and the other fell on an empty soccer stadium, security officials said. The officials all spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Elsewhere in parts of central and southern Iraq, protesters blocked roads with burning tires, halting traffic and paralyzing work following a call for a national strike.

Since the protests began Oct. 1, at least 320 people have been killed and thousands wounded in the capital and the mostly Shiite southern provinces. Protesters have taken to the streets in the tens of thousands over what they say is widespread corruption, lack of job opportunities and poor basic services despite the country’s oil wealth.

The leaderless, mass protests aim to sweep aside Iraq’s political elite, blamed for massive corruption.

Bridges leading toward the Green Zone have been a frequent flashpoint in the protests. Demonstrators took control of those bridges earlier this month but were later repelled when security forces took harsh suppressive measures.

The protesters managed to push back onto part of Ahrar Bridge on Sunday, after seizing part of Sinak Bridge and central Khilani Bridge the previous day following fierce clashes. They were also present in Jumhuriyya Bridge adjacent to Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the protest movement.

Iraqi security forces withdrew from Khilani Bridge after firing live ammunition and tear gas against protesters trying to tear down a concrete barrier blocking off the bridge, giving them a bird’s eye view over the Green Zone and the street below, mirroring tactics employed in Tahrir Square, where they occupied an iconic 14-story Saddam Hussein-era building that has become a reference point for demonstrators.

Two people were wounded when security forces fired tear gas canisters in renewed confrontations on Baghdad’s famous Rashid Street, its oldest avenue and cultural center known for its crumbling houses.

In the southern port city of Basra and in cities like Nasiriya, Amara and Kut, protesters set tires ablaze to close off roads, keeping employees from reaching their work places. Schools, universities and other institutions closed for the day.

In parts of Baghdad, particularly the sprawling Sadr City neighborhood, protesters sat in the middle of the streets to prevent employees from getting to their workplaces. They also blocked roads with motorcycles and tuk-tuks, snarling traffic.

Irqi protester killed amid clashes on Baghdad bridge

By Qassim Abdul-Zahra
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — An anti-government protester in Iraq was killed Sunday by a direct hit to the head from a tear gas canister amid fresh clashes on a strategic Baghdad bridge, security and medical officials said.

At least 32 others were wounded in violent clashes with security forces, just hours after protesters took control of half of Ahrar Bridge. The protesters now hold three bridges spanning the Tigris River toward the heavily fortified Green Zone, the seat of Iraq’s government. Security forces had deployed Sunday on the other side of the bridge and erected concrete barriers to keep protesters from pushing into Green Zone.

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“There will be no offices open until the last corrupt person is removed,” one protester said, declining to be identified for security reasons. “Only then will we pull out from here.”

The roadblocks are partly in response to a call by influential Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr for a voluntary strike to keep up the pressure on politicians.
**Smart watch data shows pilot survived hours after crash**

*BY SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes*

**YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan—** Smart watch data suggests a Marine Corps pilot who ejected from his F/A-18 Hornet after colliding with a KC-130J tanker last year off the coast of Japan was alive on the surface of the ocean for nearly 10 minutes before he drowned. 

The heart rate data is included in a command investigation report on the incident, which claimed the life of Capt. Jahmar Resilard, 28, along with five Marines in the tanker. The group flew out of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, near Hiroshima.

Resilard — referred to as “MP2” by investigators — was wearing a Garmin Fenix 3 smart watch when he ejected from the fighter jet at 1:44 a.m. on Dec. 6, 2018, according to the command investigation report released Sept. 26.

“The data from the watch indicated that MP2’s heart was beating at an average of 86 beats per minute until approximately 1130,” the report states.

“MP2’s Garmin smart watch indicates that MP2 was alive on the surface of the ocean from approximately 0145 until approximately 1130 (nine hours and 45 minutes) in 68 degree Fahrenheit water.”

Resilard’s body was brought on board a Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force ship, the JS Seto-yuki, at 12:22 p.m., the report states. 

An autopsy report showed the downed aviator had cuts and bruises, a head injury and appeared to have drowned.

Investigators noted that neither Resilard nor his weapons officer, who also ejected but was rescued from an inflatable raft, were wearing anti-exposure suits and likely rescue response time, water temperature and their body fat.

None of the witnesses interviewed from the downed Hornet’s unit — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 — dead or observed others in the unit wearing anti-exposure suits, the investigators noted.

Top Gun fighter tactics instructor graduate in the squadron, when asked about the suits in the context of the mishap, told investigators he wouldn’t have worn one during a night mission over 68-degree water.

“I wouldn’t wear it. They’re a huge pain,” the unnamed pilot said in the report.

The downed Hornet’s weapons officer was recovered alive at 5:43 a.m. by a Japanese military SH-60 helicopter, four hours after ejecting, and taken to Kure, Hiroshina, Japan, the report states.

In his interview, the officer talked about struggling to survive, shivering and bailing water from a fighter jet and a refueling plane off the coast of Japan.

He told investigators that he assumed rescuers would respond 11 minutes after the ejection, later amendment his answer to 50 minutes.

Resilard was wearing a Garmin Fenix 3 smart watch when he ejected from the F/A-18 Hornet at 1:44 a.m. after a midair collision with a KC-130J refueling plane.

The Marine Corps doesn’t have search-and-rescue capability at MCAS Iwakuni, investigators noted.

In 2000, the commander of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing determined that Japanese search-and-rescue assets provided adequate coverage for the Iwakuni-based Marine Aircraft Group 12 and removed the Marines’ in-house responsibilities, according to the report.

Japanese forces can launch search-and-rescue assets within 15 minutes of notification if they are already out conducting operations, the report states. Otherwise, the response time can be more than two hours.

Four officers from Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 — its commander, executive officer, operations officer and aviation safety officer — were fired as a result of the investigation. It uncovered a number of problems in the unit such as wrongful use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs by officers, including two involved in the fatal training mishap.

Investigators’ recommendations included that the 1st Marine Air Wing conduct annual full-spectrum search-and-rescue exercises with all available host nations and joint assets.

The wing said also developed a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Japanese government to define roles and responsibilities associated with search and rescue.

The Marines should also establish their own search-and-rescue capabilities at MCAS Iwakuni, investigators said.

In April, the wing conducted a search-and-rescue tabletop exercise with pilots from the Air Force, Navy and Japan Self-Defense Forces, Block said, adding that there will be follow-up exercises.

**Resilard was wearing a Garmin Fenix 3 smart watch when he ejected from the F/A-18 Hornet at 1:44 a.m. after a midair collision with a KC-130J refueling plane off the coast of Japan.**

By Jesse Johnson  
Japan Times, Tokyo

China sent its first domestically built aircraft carrier through Taiwan Strait

China sent its second aircraft carrier, the first to be built domestically, through the Taiwan Strait on Sunday, the Defense Ministry in Taipei said, with the carrier group shadowed by U.S. and Japanese naval vessels.

The carrier, known as the Type 002 and accompanied by a battle group, sailed through the waterway from the East China Sea into the strait, the ministry said.

It said the Taiwanese military scrambled fighter jets in response and monitored the situation. No further details were immediately available.

The move came as Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen named former Prime Minister William Lai as her running mate in January’s elections. Lai last year announced he would run for NO to #China at the ballot box.

PRC is the acronym for China’s formal name, the People’s Republic of China.

Taiwan, a democratically governed island, split from Communist Party-ruled mainland China after the civil war ended in 1949. Beijing views Taiwan as a renegade province that must be brought back into the fold — by force if necessary.

Beijing has called Taiwan “the most important and sensitive issue in China-U.S. relations” and has bolstered its military presence near the island, holding large-scale “encirclement” exercises and bomber training throughout last year and into this year.

**From FRONT PAGE**

70,000 decks have been distributed since they first were printed three weeks before the report of Taiwan’s new 002 aircraft carrier battle group into the Taiwan Strait, its new 002 aircraft carrier battle group into the #TaiwanStrait, its new 002 aircraft carrier battle group into the #TaiwanStrait, its new 002 aircraft carrier battle group into the #TaiwanStrait.

“Aren’t SARS and stripes PAGE 6

**Cards: Decks can be ordered through installation training support centers**

**FROM FRONT PAGE**

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“Just as @iingwen names her running mate in January’s elections, Voters won’t be intimated. They’ll say NO to #China at the ballot box.”

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**Photo by the U.S. Marine Corps**
Dems call for probe into border deployment

BY COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — House Democrats on Friday charged that President Donald Trump’s decision last year to send thousands of American troops to the U.S.-Mexico border was politically motivated and rooted in racism as they renewed a call for the Pentagon inspector general to probe its legality.

Four representatives, each from southern border states, fingered Miller, the White House policy adviser, as the driving force behind Trump’s controversial border policies, including his calls for building a wall and his decision last October to send thousands of active-duty troops to the border just ahead of the November 2018 midterm elections. The House members — Arizona’s Raul M. Grijalva and Californians Barbara Lee, Judy Chu and Juan Vargas — labeled Miller a white nationalist, citing emails recently leaked to and partially published by the nonprofit Southern Poverty Law Center.

“We question the motivation, the legality and the political optics that are being created by Miller through his calls for this wall and his decision Friday just outside the U.S. Capitol,” said Lee, the California representative who grew up along the border in El Paso, Texas, vowed to continue to fight against the deployment and Trump’s other immigration policies.

“Make no mistake, this decision by Trump to deploy troops to the border was not only alarming, it was unnecessary, and there are serious legal questions the administration has refused to answer [for] almost a year since the president made the first deployment.”

The representatives said they showed 30 other lawmakers a letter to the Pentagon IG in late September requesting an investigation. On Friday, they announced they had delivered a signed memo supporting such a probe to the IG.

“I assure, Grijalva said, is whether the deployment violates long-standing federal law barring U.S. troops from conducting domestic law enforcement operations. The 1878 Posse Comitatus Act forbids American military personnel from civil law enforcement duties on U.S. soil, outside military installations.

“We feel this is an important question from the American people that deserves to be answered,” he said. “Congress deserves to know what the probe is in late September is. We feel this is the military’s and whether the Trump administration is forcing them to conduct domestic law enforcement under these orders.”

The Defense Department’s IG office received the letter requesting the probe in late September and is “considering the request,” Dwrena Allen, an IG spokesperson, said Friday.

In October 2018, Trump ordered an active-duty deployment of troops to the southern border, warning of an impending crisis as a so-called caravans of Central American migrants approached the U.S.-Mexico border. Human rights groups and journalists traveling with the group said the caravans consisted primarily of children and families seeking asylum.

The next month, Trump said he was ending trips to treat any asylum-seekers who threw rocks the same as they would an enemy of the state.

“We’re not going to put up with that,” Trump said on Nov. 1. “They want to throw rocks at our border and they’re not welcome in our country. We’re going to consider — I told them, ‘Consider it a rifle.'”

Chu on Friday labeled such rhetoric from Trump “phony” and “clearly a lie” designed to stoke fear of immigrants to support his push for a border wall and the military deployments.

“We have strong reasons to believe [the deployment] is not legal,” said a congresswoman about immigrants. “Immigrants are not dangerous, and refugees who run to border agents in hope of reaching safety are not a threat. But those facts do not miss Trump’s narrative.”

After initially pushing back against Trump’s inclination to send large formations of armed troops to confront migrants, then-Defense Secretary Jim Mattis approved a deployment of troops in support of short-handed U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents. Those troops were not authorized to conduct law enforcement duties, Mattis said, according the order as legal.

Since then, thousands of troops have cycled through deployments at border locations in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California, where they have served several roles, including constructing temporary barriers, shutting CBP agents via helicopter, conducting surveillance and providing logistical support to CBP.

American troops have conducted similar missions under deployments ordered by recent presidents including Barack Obama. However, those missions lasted less than one year.

Pentagon officials, some of whom have questioned the necessity of the border deployment, have long maintained troops have little, if any, contact with migrants, rarely carry weapons and have only been authorized to use force for self-defense.

“As service members exit the chapels, each had the chance to render a final salute at a battlefield cross — an M-4 standing muzzle down, a helmet on the butt end and a pouch containing a last name, rank, Social Security number, military branch and a PFC, private first class. Many, including Eighth Army commander Lt. Gen. Michael Bills, placed challenge coins next to his boots.”

At his homecoming in Florida, Panipinto saluted was held inside the Warrior Chapel at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on Friday. Challenge coins placed by service members surround boots that belonged to Spc. Nicholas C. Panipinto. A memorial service for Panipinto was held inside the Warrior Chapel at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, on Friday. Panipinto enlisted on Jan. 9, 2018, and completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga., as an infantryman on April 27, 2018. From there, he joined Arrowhead Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry. At Friday’s memorial, a friend described Panipinto as a man of simple taste.

“He enjoyed hunting, fishing, guns, Toyota Tacomas and playing games in his free time,” Cortes said.

“Being a kind friend, he often told us that one day we would all go to his house and fish and hunt together in his favorite places,” he added.

The death of his friend brought a heavy weight, Cortes said. He urged his audience to truly love and care about the ones who mean the most to them, whether a co-worker, a teammate or a family member.

“Nicholas was my co-worker, my teammate and my best friend,” Cortes said. “He would share his hunting and fishing trips, Cortes said. “I miss you.”

“Nicholas was my co-worker, my teammate and my best friend. He would share his hunting and fishing trips”

Pinto, if you can hear me, I miss you and I hope you are doing well.”

Spc. Luis Cortes
friend of Spc. Nicholas C. Panipinto

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**Judge: Mass arrest of Marines unlawful**

July action in front of battalion at Camp Pendleton ruled rights violation

BY ANDREW DYER
The San Diego Union-Tribune

The July arrests of 16 Camp Pendleton Marines in front of their 800-person battalion was unlawful and a violation of their rights, a Marine Corps judge ruled Friday.

The ruling was handed down at the end of an all-day motions hearing that saw the battalion commander, a sergeant major and some Camp Pendleton, Calif.,-based Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents testify about the decision to conduct the mass arrest during battalion formation on July 25.

On that day, 16 Marines were called to the front of their unit — 1st Battalion, 5th Marines — and they were accused of human smuggling and arrested by a swarm of 40 to 50 law enforcement agents.

Another eight Marines suspected of unspecified drug offenses were also taken out of the formation. Some of those eight were detained by battalion personnel and taken to the Camp Pendleton brig, Lt. Col. Eric Olson, the battalion commanding officer, testified.

The arrests were captured on video by the Marine Corps.

According to court testimony, the July arrests were the culmination of two separate investigations — one by NCIS into human smuggling and one by Marine Corps Criminal Investigation Division into an alleged drug ring.

Thirteen Marines were eventually charged in the smuggling case. The Marine Corps did not provide a charge sheet to reporters detailing those charges.

Unlawful command influence, occurring when a commander uses his position of authority to influence court proceedings, is one of the charges at issue.

Attorneys for one of the defendants, Lance Cpl. Jose Garcia, argued that the arrests amounted to “unlawful command influence” because of the effect the arrests had on those 800 battalion members who awoke to see their 1st Battalion commander, a sergeant major, “standing in front of our formation and making comments to the formation after the accused were removed.”

Garcia was among those charged with unspecified drug offenses. The Marine Corps did not provide a charge sheet to reporters detailing those charges.

Unlawful command influence, occurring when a commander uses his position of authority to influence court proceedings, is one of the charges at issue.

Commanders have authority over courts-martial and, therefore, are expected to remain impartial during the process.

However, testimony from witnesses, as well as a video recorded by the Marine Corps commandant’s security office, showed Olson and battalion Sgt. Maj. Matthew Dorsey ordering NCIS agents to “arrest these Marines.” It also showed them making comments to the formation after the accused were removed.

Olson testified that he made general comments that the misconduct of Marines hurt the battalion’s “lethality” and that his primary focus was making sure his unit was ready to fight at a moment’s notice.

Some Marines in the formation that day also testified, saying their commanders called the accused Marines a “cancer” on the battalion.

Olson, Dorsey and the lead NCIS agent on the case, Katelyn Thompson, all testified that the arrests were done in front of the formation to preserve evidence and ensure safety because some Marines were suspected of weapon offenses.

However, Judge Marine Col. Stephen Keane rejected that argument, saying that if there was a concern about weapons being involved, then inviting 800 Marines to witness the arrests did not suggest safety.

Public affairs officers from the 1st Marine Division also testified about comments they made to the news media after the July arrests and about the decision to capture the arrests on video.

Division communications director Maj. Kendra Motz testified that the decision to film the arrest was an effort to avoid conflicting videos of the event coming out, causing confusion.

She cited as an example the controversy that arose over videos that some said showed Covington Catholic High School students harassing a Native American man in Washington in January, while others said the videos showed the kids being harassed.

Motz also testified that she had not been truthful with reporters at the time about the arrest, telling them there were no photos or videos taken.

She also testified that she told a Task & Purpose reporter that Dorsey did not hold a red folder when he called out the names of the accused, though that was contrary to what witnesses testified and what the Marine Corps’ video shows.

Keane told prosecutors they have until this week to find a way to remedy what he said was actual and apparent unlawful command influence, or it could be devastating to their case against Garcia, whose attorneys asked that he be dismissed.

“You have an uphill battle here,” Keane told the prosecutor. “The overarching concern of mine is that Garcia has a fair trial. If not, that leaves the court with one option.”

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Marine apologizes for drunken rampage that hurt 3 in Tokyo

BY CAITLIN DONOBOS
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — A Marine lance corporal who attacked three Japanese citizens with a blackjack and disoriented in Tokyo’s Shinjuku ward in May testified Thursday that the attacks were “full responsibility” for his actions.

Kahsi Tyree Hill, 21, assigned to 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, Camp Lejeune, N.C., admitted in court Thursday to choking a woman until she fainted and striking a taxi driver and a bystander the morning of May 25.

Hill is charged with two counts of bodily injury to the bystander and the woman. He pleaded guilty in July to a bodily injury charge related to the taxi driver.

Defense attorneys in Tokyo District Court on Thursday said Hill and his family have paid his victims about $16,500 in compensation.

Hill gave his account of the attacks after a playback of a police video that testified that the behavior was caused by “his immaturity” and “inability to control his level of intoxica-

tion.” The psychologist also said Hill could suffer from a dissociative disorder, but a diagnosis would require further testing.

Dissociative disorders are characterized by a disconnection between thoughts, identity, consciousness and memory, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Symptoms include out-of-body experiences, detachment from reality and anxiety.

Hill, who said he had his first drink on his 21st birthday six months before the incident, testified that he and other Marines from Camp Fuji’s security team were in Tokyo the night of May 24 to celebrate Memorial Day. He said he had approximately 15 alcoholic drinks that night — “more than I ever drank in my life.”

After exploring bars in Golden Gai — a bar area in Shinjuku that’s popular with tourists — Hill and his friends went to a fast-food restaurant around midnight before going to bed. Hill testified that at that time, he “was completely de-

shackled.”

Then, he said, he got lost.

**'Terroried'**

Hill remembered having another drink with a stranger in the area before passing out. He woke up hours later in an alley and panicked because “the sun’s coming up and I have no clue where I am,” he testified.

The Marine said he felt “terrorized” and confused, separated from his friends in a strange city.

“My heart was racing. I shouted for help,” Hill said. “People ignored me, which made me think I was dreaming.”

He started to act recklessly because of that.

That’s when he saw someone he would later learn was a taxi driver offering him a ride.

Hill said he did not know the man was a cab driver when he got in the front seat. That’s why Hill did not pay the approximately $8 fare when the driver let him out of the car, he said.

“The man started yelling at me, something I didn’t understand,” Hill testified. “I felt in danger and felt I needed to protect myself.”

Hill said he then hit the driver and ran away.

Hill later struck another man who stopped to help him find his hotel, but the Marine said he did not remember that incident or why he hit him.

“I’ve been trying for months to try to remember,” Hill said. “I know something happened; I take responsibility for it.”

He said he remembered the third attack, for which police recommended an attempted murder charge but prosecutors indicted him on the lesser charge of bodily injury.

In his panic, he said he thought a nearby woman was his sister and hugged her from behind. Unsteady in his drunken stupor, Hill said, he lost his balance and tightened his grip before she “fell away.”

“It was the most terrified I’ve ever been in my entire life,” Hill said. “Everything was spinning around.”

He said he then heard him choke the woman so tight that she fainted, fracturing her chin as she hit the ground.

“They were yelling at me, and I walked away crying,” Hill testified.

Hill left and was later arrested. As police approached him, Hill grabbed an officer by the collar and asked him to “please help me” before passing out, he testified.

"Truly sorry" Speaking to the judge through a translator, Hill said he was “truly sorry” for the incident and will seek counseling to ensure it doesn’t happen again.

“My very job is to protect peo-

ple, and I feel I have disrespected my own name,” he said, choking up. “Violence is never the an-

swer, no matter what, and I have learned a huge lesson from this.”

The taxi driver and the woman he attacked wrote letters to the court stating they do not desire criminal punishment for Hill, his lawyer said. The woman said he struck her and the man added that she did not write such a letter.

Prosecutors said the taxi driv-

er initially called for “severe pun-

ishment” against Hill but later changed his mind.

The judge did not decide the case Thursday, instead setting a new court date for Dec. 6.

Hill said he will face disciplin-

ary action from the Marine Corps after the case is decided. He will be discharged, he said, potential-

ly on bad conduct.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report.

doorbss.caillmeystripess.com

Twitter: @CaitlinDonobos

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Monday, November 18, 2019

U.S. Marine Corps

This screenshot from a U.S. Marine Corps video shows the July 2019 mass arrest of Camp Pendleton, Calif., Marines accused of participating in human smuggling or drug offenses.
GAO: Navy lacks means to evaluate new training

By Wyatt Olson
Stars and Stripes
Senior Navy officials told a government watchdog agency it could take 16 years or more to know if recent training reforms will lead to greater ship navigation proficiency across the surface fleet.

That is not, however, an acceptable timeline for assessing progress, the Government Accountability Office said in a report released Thursday. The report called on the Navy to take a series of steps to fully assess in the near term whether changes in training are effective and that, as a result, ships are being operated more safely at sea.

The Navy has instituted numerous measures since the inclusion of a specialist curriculum, which trains students on the same computer software they would use on a ship to safely navigate the vessel. Students take an 80-hour course and leave certified on the knowledge-based approach with computer-based training and they were just clicking through the lessons, he said.

During the first three months of 2018, experts from the Navy Surface Warfare Officer School Command conducted ship-driving proficiency checks on 164 surface warfare officers who had recently qualified as officers of the deck during training at sea, the GAO report said.

The experts found “concerns” in ship-driving competency in more than 80 percent of those officers. Another 29 officers found to have significant competency problems were likely not qualified to be officers of the deck because “they violated fundamental ship-driving rules, among other issues,” the report said.

The Navy developed standards for conducting spot checks on ship-driving competency, but it plans to end them in 2021, the report said.

Instead, the Navy’s oversight will center on a series of added checks throughout the careers of surface warfare officers to ensure they maintain their skills.

“Senior Navy officials stated that it could take 16 years or more to know if the planned changes to [surface warfare officer] training were effective in increasing Commanding Officer ship-driving proficiency across the fleet and that they stated that to intend to examine the link between ship-driving proficiency and [surface warfare officer] experience,” the report said.

“However, officials did not have any specific, measurable plans to analyze and use these data or to assess the completeness of these data.”

The GAO offered four recommendations, including collecting and evaluating fleetwide feedback, conducting ship-driving assessments, establishing standard criteria for piloting and employing logbook information in a systematic and useful way.

The Navy concurred with the recommendations, the report said.

Navy operations specialists first to get more simulators

By Caitlin M. Kenney
Stars and Stripes
WASHINGTON — The Navy is overhauling training schedules for new sailors by incorporating more simulator scenarios to practice job skills as the service looks to boost training standards that contributed to two deadly ship collisions in 2017, Navy officials said.

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Military animals awarded medals for their service

5 dogs, 2 pigeons and a horse are honored with the Medal of Bravery

By Steve Beynon
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Bass, a Belgian Malinois, served more than six years in Marine Corps special operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and Somalia. During his time in Iraq, Bass conducted more than 350 explosive detections with his handler, Staff Sgt. Alex Schnell.

On Thursday, Bass was awarded the Medal of Bravery on Capitol Hill for his work with the Marines. The award, the first of its kind, was issued by Angels Without Wings, a nonprofit aiming to formally acknowledge valor of working animals at home and abroad. The Medal of Bravery was inspired by the Dickin Medal, a British award introduced in WWII to honor brave animals who served in combat.

The efforts of dogs in the military has received greater attention recently with Staff Sgt. Conlan, another Belgian Malinois, helped hunt down Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi — the most wanted terrorist in the world. But Bass and Conlan are two of many military working dogs who sniff for them (the enemy) to pick up explosives that are really valuable in handouts. Especially if it’s dark, it’s hard for the enemy to destroy buildings, according to the dog’s award citation.

When special operators clear a building, the dog can be the first one through the door to attack and make it safer for troops to enter quickly to kill or detain enemies. The dog’s nose isn’t just for finding stuff (explosives, drugs); it’s for finding personnel, Schnell said.

“His nose isn’t just for finding stuff, it’s for finding personnel. It’s an awesome capability,” Staff Sgt. Alex Schnell, Bass’ handler.

Beyond attacking terrorists, Bass has also routed out enemy fighters from hiding spots. “His nose isn’t just for finding stuff (explosives, drugs); it’s for finding personnel,” Schnell said. “They (enemies) have hideouts and tunnels in these buildings. It’s an awesome capability.”

Bass retired from active duty in October and was adopted by Schnell. However, bringing a military working dog home isn’t for everyone, and Belgian Malinois is a tough, high-energy breed that Schnell doesn’t recommend as a family pet.

“They are definitely not chihuahuas,” he said. “They are not for your average homeowner, especially for those that don’t know anything about dog training.

“If you’re going to buy one of these animals, definitely search fully trained ones and that you know a bit about dog training yourself, or these dogs will control your whole life and possibly lead you to euthanize or get rid of them. That isn’t good for anyone or the dog.”

Here are some of the efforts of the military animals who received awards other than dogs:

During World War I, hundreds of American troops were attacked in August by high-value targets. Special operations community as a failure.

“The battle of the Black Sea was perceived outside the special operations community as a failure. It was not, at least in strictly military terms,” Bowden wrote in the epilogue of his book.

“It was a complex, difficult and dangerous assignment, and despite terrible setbacks and losses, and against overwhelming odds, the mission was accomplished.”

From The Florida Times-Union

‘Black Hawk Down’ vet James McMahon dies

By Jeff Kolkey
Rockford (Ill.) Register Star

ROCKFORD, Ill. — Delta Force sniper Sgt. 1st Class James P. McMahon’s face was so badly battered and cut, “he looked like he was wearing a fright mask” as he stood atop a downed Black Hawk helicopter and pulled free the body of a fellow soldier from the wreckage.

That’s the first description of McMahon in the book by journalist Mark Bowden called “Black Hawk Down: A Story of Modern War.” It is a detailed and dramatic account of the horrific Battle of the Black Sea fought in the streets of Mogadishu, Somalia, in October 1993. It claimed the lives of 18 elite American soldiers.

Among the survivors was McMahon, a 1972 Durand High School graduate who served in the U.S. Army for nearly three decades.

Friends and family along with fellow soldiers and veterans on Saturday laid McMahon to rest at St. Mary Catholic Cemetery in Durand. He died Nov. 5 at age 64, according to his obituary, which did not reference a cause of death.

A McCorkle Funeral Home director said family members did not wish to comment.

The obituary says that McMahon served 16 years in the U.S. Army’s 75th Ranger Regiment and then later as a member of the elite Delta Force. He retired in 2002 with the rank of sergeant-major.

He went on to work as a defense contractor overseas and in the U.S. Since 2013, he worked as a special operations instructor at Fort Bragg, N.C.

McMahon was aboard one of two Black Hawk helicopters brought down by rocket-propelled grenades during Operation Gothic Serpent. What began as a humanitarian mission to feed the hungry being starved by Somali warlords in Africa became a combat operation after U.S. soldiers were attacked in August 1993 by forces directed by one of the warlords, Mohammed Farah Aidid, according to “Black Hawk Down” and other sources.

McMahon was one of 99 elite soldiers who were part of Task Force Ranger, consisting of Rangers, Delta Force and others, sent to capture lieutenants of Aidid’s Habr Gidir militia.

They were ambushed and found themselves “surrounded and trapped in an ancient African city fighting for their lives,” Bowden wrote. A mission that was supposed to last an hour turned into a ferocious 15-hour battle for survival in a hostile city.

In addition to the soldiers who were killed, 73 were wounded, a pilot was captured and held captive for 11 days and the U.S. was horrified by television images of angry mobs abusing the bodies of American soldiers.

McMahon, who continued to fight until reinforcements arrived, was awarded the Purple Heart and the Silver Star for valor, according to his obituary.

“The Battle of the Black Sea was perceived outside the special operations community as a failure. It was not, at least in strictly military terms,” Bowden wrote in the epilogue of his book.

“It was a complex, difficult and dangerous assignment, and despite terrible setbacks and losses, and against overwhelming odds, the mission was accomplished.”

From The Florida Times-Union

US Navy fire leaves 2 sailors hurt

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Two sailors suffered minor injuries after a Navy ship caught fire for several hours at Naval Station Mayport overnight.

The USS Iwo Jima reported a fire in a cargo hold at 11:45 p.m. Thursday.

The ship’s crew, sailors from USS The Sullivans, federal firefighters and the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department responded and extinguished the fire at 3:35 a.m. Friday.

The Navy is investigating the cause of the fire and determining the extent of the damage.

The Iwo Jima sailors reported minor injuries, heat exhaustion and smoke inhalation, and were treated at the scene.

The Iwo Jima was completing a maintenance availability and did not have any weapons aboard.

beynon.steven@stripes.com
Aide’s testimony ties Trump to delay of Ukraine funding

By Lisa Mascaro, Mary Clare Jalonick and Michael Balsamo
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Gordon Sondland, President Donald Trump’s emissary to the European Union, had a message when he met with a top Ukrainian official.

“Vladimir Putin operates from the conviction that it is in his interests to make sure there is no strong, united NATO, and that’s why he is successful,” Sondland declared recently, and not for the first time.

Sondland relayed the exchange moments later to Tim Morrison, then a National Security Council aide. In his private testimony to impeachment investigators made public Saturday, Morrison revealed that Sondland also told him he was discussing the Ukraine matters directly with Trump.

Morrison’s testimony ties Trump more closely to the central charge from Democrats pursuing impeachment: that Trump held up U.S. military aid to Ukraine in exchange for investigations into Democrat Joe Biden, and used the resulting political leverage to pressure Ukraine’s new leader over the summer to dig up dirt on Trump’s political rival, Joe Biden.

Morrison’s testimony contrasted with one exception: Many of his actions were served when the very corrupt behavior “we’ve been critical of is allowed to prevail? Such conduct undermines the rule of law in the U.S., exposes our friends and widens the playing field for autocrats like President Putin.”

After two days of public testimony and the release of thousands of pages of transcripts from witnesses who’ve met with investigators behind closed doors, Democratic and Republican lawmakers seem further entrenched in their partisan corners about whether the president abused his powers.

Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to do him “a favor” and investigate Biden and his son, Hunter, whose Ukrainian company — Burisma — hadverifed it each time.

Pence, so far, has been a more unassuming player, though investigators have reported he asked the country’s top diplomat to focus his efforts on the Bidens.

Pence was also at the Warsaw gathering.

For Morrison, Burisma was a “sinking feeling” that the aid might not ultimately be released. About that time, three congressional committees said they were opening inquiries into efforts by Trump and Giuliani to investigate the Bidens.

”Just don’t know if he read it,” she said.

Vindman corroborated the testimony of a previous witness, Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an NSC aide on the call, who said the White House rough transcript into the vice president’s daily briefing.

Russia providing mood music for impeachment drama

By Aamer Madhani and Andrew Taylor
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For all the talk about Ukraine in the House impeachment inquiry, there’s a character standing just off-stage with a dominant role in this tale of international intrigue: Russia.

As has so often been the case since President Donald Trump took office, Moscow provides the mood music for the unfolding political drama.

“With you, Mr. President, all roads lead to Russia,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi declared recently, and not for the first time.

The impeachment investigation is centered on allegations that Trump tried to pressure Ukraine’s new leader over the summer to dig up dirt on Trump political rival Joe Biden, holding up U.S. military aid for Ukraine in exchange for the opening of investigations into efforts by Trump and Giuliani to investigate the Bidens.

Democrats, for their part, are trying to brighten the spotlight on their theory that Trump is doing the bidding of Putin.

Russia, a historic adversary of the United States, has too often emerged as a benefactor of Trump’s actions, says Rep. Ted Lieu, a California Democrat.

In his July call with Zelenskiy, Trump pushed discredited information that hackers in Ukraine — rather than Russia — interfered in the 2016 elections.

Last month, Trump abruptly moved U.S. Special Forces from northern Syria at Turkey’s urging and as result created a security vacuum for Russia to fill.

Trump has also repeatedly disparaged and even suggested withdrawing from NATO, the military alliance that has served as a deterrent to Soviet and Russia aggression since it was formed after World War II.

“It’s clear that the Trump administration foreign policy is chaotic and inconsistent with one exception: Many of his actions benefit Russia,” Rep. Ted Lieu, D-Calif.
White House: Trump undergoes an exam at Walter Reed

By JILL COLVIN  
Associated Press

BETHESDA, Md. — President Donald Trump spent more than two hours at Walter Reed National Medical Center on Saturday for what the White House said was a physical exam as part of his annual physical.

The appointment wasn’t on Trump’s weekend public schedule, and his last physical was in February. Press secretary Stephanie Grisham said the 73-year-old president was "anticipating a very busy 2020" and wanted to take advantage of "a free weekend" in Washington to begin portions of his routine checkup.

She did not specify which tests he’d received or explain why the visit had not been disclosed in advance. Trump’s 2018 and 2019 physicals were both announced in advance. Trump’s 2018 and 2019 physicals were both announced in advance.

Grisham said after the visit that Trump had “a quick exam and labs” and assured he remains in good health.

The President remains healthy and energetic without complaint, as demonstrated by his repeated vigorous rally performances in front of thousands of Americans several times a week, she said.

Trump also spent time at the hospital meeting with the family of a special forces soldier injured in Afghanistan. And he visited with medical staff “to share his thanks for all the care they provide to our Wounded Warriors and wish them an early happy Thanksgiving,” Grisham said.

It was the president’s ninth visit to the hospital since taking office.

Walter Reed spokeswoman Sandy Dean said the hospital does not comment on patients who receive care at the facility and referred questions to the White House.

Trump’s last checkup in February 2019 showed he had gained weight in office. At 243 pounds and 6 feet, 3 inches tall, he passed the official threshold for being considered obese, with a Body Mass Index of 30.4.

That checkup, which was supervised by Dr. Sean P. Conley, his physician, took more than four hours and involved a panel of 11 specialists.

“I am happy to announce the President of the United States is in very good health and I anticipate he will remain so for the duration of his Presidency, and beyond,” Conley wrote afterward.

Test results were released six days later, showing that Trump weighed 243 pounds — up seven pounds from September 2016, before he became president.

A Body Mass Index rating of 30 is the level at which doctors consider someone obese under the commonly used formula. About 40% of Americans are obese, raising the risk for heart disease, diabetes, stroke and some forms of cancer.

Trump doesn’t drink alcohol or smoke but is known to enjoy fast food, steaks and desserts. His primary form of exercise is golf.

Trump’s test came as House investigators on Capitol Hill were interviewing a White House budget official as part of the impeachment inquiry.

Trump has insisted he did nothing wrong.

Poll finds Buttigieg pushes to the front in Iowa

By ANNE LINSKEY, CHELSEA JANES and SCOTT CLEMENT  
The Washington Post

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — A new poll of Iowa voters released Saturday night suggests a disruption in the Democratic primary contest in the first voting state, with South Bend, Ind., Mayor Pete Buttigieg surging to the front of the crowded pack.

The survey showed Buttigieg with support from 25% of likely caucusgoers, followed by essentially a three-way tie for second place between Sens. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass.; Bernie Sanders, I-Vt.; and former vice president Joe Biden, who all have about 15% support. None of the other candidates are in double digits.

The poll differs from other recent Iowa polls, which showed Buttigieg, Biden, Warren and Sanders knotted closely together.

The survey, released by CNN, the Des Moines Register and MediaCom, was of 500 likely Democratic caucusgoers and has a margin of error of 4.4 percentage points.

Buttigieg said that he has seen more enthusiasm for his candidacy in the state since Labor Day and credited his strong performances in the debates and big wins in the first contests with boosting his campaign.

Another bright spot in the numbers for Buttigieg is that 65% of likely caucusgoers think his views are about right, the highest of the four candidates tested. Only 7% say his views are too liberal, while 3% feel they’re too conservative.

Conservative La. reelects Edwards, a Dem governor

By MELINDA DESLATTE  
Associated Press

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Deep in the heart of the conservative South, Louisiana’s voters reelect Democratic Gov. John Bel Edwards to a second term, shocking Republicans who had hoped to reclaim the seat on the strength of President Donald Trump’s popularity.

With his focus on bipartisan, state-specific issues, the moderate Edwards cobbled together enough cross-party support Saturday to defeat Republican businesswoman Eddie Rispone, getting about 51% of the vote.

Trump fought to return the seat to the GOP, but his intense interest in the race not only motivated conservative Republicans but also powered a surge in anti-Trump and black voter turnout that helped boost Edwards over the finish line.

Coming after a defeat in the Kentucky governor’s race and sizable losses in Virginia’s legislative races, the Louisiana result seems certain to rattle Republicans heading into the 2020 presidential election. Trump made three trips to Louisiana to rally against Edwards and fashioned the run-off election between Edwards and Rispone into a test of his own popularity and political prowess.

In a victory rally of his own Saturday, Edwards thanked supporters who danced, sang and chanted his name in celebration, which he declared, “How sweet it is!”

Edwards, 53, also proved to be a formidable candidate, with a record of achievements.

Working with the majority-Republican Legislative, Edwards stabilized state finances with a package of tax increases, ending the deficit-riddled years of Jindal. New money paid for investments in public colleges and the first statewide teacher raise in a decade.

Edwards expanded Louisiana’s Medicaid program, lowering the state’s uninsured rate below the national average. A bipartisan criminal sentencing law rewrite he championed expanded Louisiana’s tenure as the nation’s top jailer.

Rispone, the owner of a Baton Rouge industrial contracting company, hitched his entire candidacy to Trump, introducing himself to voters in ads that focused on support for the president in a state Trump won by 20 percentage points. Rispone said he was like Trump, describing himself as a “conservative outsider” whose business acumen would help solve the state’s problems.

The president’s repeated visits appeared to drive turnout for both candidates.

Four guide Andrea Hartman, 40, cast her ballot for Edwards in New Orleans.

“I do not agree with what Rispone advocates,” she said. “I also don’t want Trump coming here and telling me who to vote for.”

Rispone poured more than $12 million of his own money into the race. But he had trouble drawing some of the primary vote that went to Republican U.S. Rep. Ralph Abraham, after harshly attacking Abraham in ads as he sought to reach the runoff.

He also avoided many traditional public events attended by Louisiana gubernatorial candidates and sidestepped questions about his plans. He promised tax cuts without saying where he’d shrink spending, and pledged a constitutional convention without detailing what he wanted to rewrite.

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Lawsuit may force Remington to open its marketing books

Associated Press

A recent ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court has upended a longstanding legal roadblock that has given the gun industry far-reaching immunity from lawsuits in the aftermath of mass killings.

The court last week allowed families of victims of the 2012 Sandy Hook school massacre to sue the maker of the AR-15 used in the attack. The case against Remington will now proceed in the Connecticut courts.

Remington is widely expected to win the case, but critics of the gun industry are eying what they see as a significant outcome even in the face of defeat: getting the gunmaker to open its books about how it markets firearms.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs are certain to request that Remington turn over volumes of documents as part of the discovery phase, providing a rare window into the inner workings of how a major gun manufacturer markets its weapons. Those materials might include company emails, memos on corporate strategies, or anything that might suggest the company marketed the firearm in a way that may have compelled the shooter to use the weapon to carry out the slaughter.

The plaintiffs also believe the ruling will put gun companies on notice about how they conduct business, and whether they could wind up in the courts.

“If the industry wakes up and understands their conduct behind closed doors is not protected, then the industry itself... will take steps to try to help the massive problem we have instead of doing nothing and sit by and cash the checks,” said Joshua Kosoff, the 16-year-old student who represents a survivor and relatives of nine victims who died at the Newtown school, on Dec. 14, 2012.

Anxiety up in Fla. town after judge’s ruling

By Bobby Caina Calvan

MACCLENNY, Fla. — Anxiety multiplied quickly across Baker County, a mostly rural community of 28,000 in northern Florida, when news spread that a 15-year-old had planned a massacre at the high school as part of the discovery phase, providing a rare window into the inner workings of how it markets firearms.

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MURDER-SUICIDE LEAVES 5 DEAD IN SAN DIEGO

By John Wilkens and Kristina Davis

SAN DIEGO — When an emergency dispatcher answered the first 911 phone call from a home in Paradise Hills, Calif., on Saturday morning, nobody was on the other end of the line. But an argument was heard in the background.

The second call was from a relative next door, who reported hearing what sounded like the pop-pop-pop of a nail gun.

San Diego police officers arrived, looked through a window and saw a 3-year-old boy covered in blood. They broke in, and soon all the horrible pieces came together.

A domestic dispute, a gun and five dead from the same family, three of them boys under the age of 12. Another boy was in the hospital in critical condition Saturday night. Their names have not been released.

“A senseless tragedy,” San Diego police Chief David Nisleit said.

The couple at the center of it were estranged, according to police. The woman had obtained a temporary restraining order against the 31-year-old man one day earlier.

It’s not clear whether he had been served with the papers, but police said they believe he was aware of the order.

Their conflict had brought officers to the house at least once before, two weeks ago, when the man came over to retrieve tools.

Saturday morning, he showed up again, and the shootings happened about 7 a.m. Police said they found the man, woman and their 3-year-old son dead at the scene.

The other sons, ages 5, 9 and 11, were taken to the hospital. Two died. Police initially identified the 11-year-old as the survivor but later said they weren’t sure yet which boy was which.

Police said the man shot the others and then turned the gun on himself. It was found at the scene.

“It appears to be a tragic case of domestic violence murder-suicide,” homicide Lt. Matt Dobbs said at a news conference Saturday afternoon.

It unfolded in a working-class neighborhood of single-story stucco and wood-sided homes that date to the 1940s, built to accommodate a World War II population boom.

The woman and four children lived in a granny flat adjacent to a house occupied by members of their extended family.

Neighbors said theirs is the kind of street where the kids all get together after school and on weekends, riding bikes and scooters, playing tetherball and shooting baskets at a curbside hoop.

“It’s like ‘The Sandlot,’” Jhoana Cruz said, referring to the 1993 movie about a group of baseball-playing boys.

“Everybody knows everybody.”

She agonized over whether to tell her boys about the shootings.

“But I had to,” she said. “Lots of horrible things happen in the world, and it’s better to hear it from me, I guess.”

At the Saturday afternoon news conference, Nisleit said domestic violence is a persistent problem in San Diego County and he encouraged victims to use available resources.

According to the San Diego Domestic Violence Council, 17,513 incidents were reported in San Diego County in 2018, up 4% from the previous year.

The council said there were 15 homicides in the county in 2018 in which the suspect was a current or former intimate partner.

Nationwide, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men aged 18 and older have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
Study questions use of some heart procedures

**By Marilyn Machline**
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — People with severe but stable heart disease from clogged arteries may have less chest pain if they get a procedure to improve blood flow rather than just giving medicines a chance to help, but it won’t cut their risk of having a heart attack or dying over the following years, a big federally funded study found.

The results challenge medical dogma and call into question some of the most common practices in heart care. They are the strongest evidence yet that tens of thousands of costly stent procedures and bypass operations each year are unnecessary or premature for people with stable disease.

“That’s a different situation than a heart attack when a procedure can get blood right away to restore blood flow.

For nonemergency cases, the study shows “there’s no need to rush” into invasive tests and procedures, said New York University’s Dr. Judhacjchman.

There might even be harm. To doctors’ surprise, study participants who had a procedure were more likely to suffer a heart problem or die over the next year than those treated with medicines.

Hoehman co-led the study and gave results Saturday at an American Heart Association conference in Philadelphia.

“This study clearly goes against what has been the common wisdom for the last 30, 40 years” and may lead to delayed testing and invasive treatment for such patients in the future, said Dr. Glenn Levine, a Baylor College of Medicine cardiologist with no role in the research. Some doctors still may quibble with the study, but it was very well done “and I think the results are extremely believable,” he said.

About 17 million Americans have clogged arteries that crimp the heart’s blood supply, which can cause periodic chest pain. Cheap and generic aspirin, cholesterol-lowering drugs and blood pressure medicines are known to cut the risk of a heart attack for these folks, but many doctors also recommend a procedure to improve blood flow.

Twelve years ago, a big study found that angioplasty was no better than medicines for preventing heart attacks and deaths in nonemergency heart patients, but many doctors balked at the results and quarreled with the methods.

So the federal government spent $100 million for the new study, which is twice as large, spanned 37 countries and included people with more severe disease — a group most likely to benefit from stents or a bypass.

After one year, 7% in the invasively treated group had suffered a heart attack, heart-related death, cardiac arrest or hospitalization for worsening chest pain or heart failure versus 5% of those on medicines alone. At four years, the trend reversed — 13% of the procedures group and 15% of the medicines group had suffered a problem.

Averaged across the entire study period, the rates were similar regardless of treatment.

The bottom line is there’s no harm in trying medicines first, especially for people with no or little chest pain, doctors said.

Telescope protest inspires more Native Hawaiian activism

**Associated Press**

KAHU, Hawaii — Flapping Hawaiian flags adorn a large canopy on the easement of a highway that winds along Oahu’s famed North Shore.

Under the tent, protesters came and go. Some of them keep guard overnight, and some stop by to wave at cars honking in support or to drop off supplies in a makeshift kitchen area stocked with bottled water, instant noodles and canned meat. On cots and on beach chairs, they are discussing strategies and reminding supporters to maintain a philosophy of peace and nonviolence known as kapu aloha.

They are at the site trying to prevent the construction of eight wind turbines, each taller than a skyscraper.

“Like on the Big Island movements share several traits. Like on the Big Island our people to rise up in ways of peace and nonviolence known as kapu aloha.”

The ongoing protest by mostly Native Hawaiians stalling construction of a $1.4 billion telescope on the Big Island has inspired protests on Oahu — the state’s most populous island — to block the turbines and the redevelopment of a beach park.

Since July, protesters who call themselves kiai, or guardians in Hawaiian, have gathered on Mauna Kea, Hawaii’s tallest mountain, to keep telescope construction crews away. Dozens have been arrested.

“Borrowing the civil disobedience methods of the protesters against the telescope, opponents try to block construction, burning tires to the Kahuku wind farm site. Police have made more than 160 arrests since October.

Hundreds gathered at a storage yard where an equipment convoy began late Thursday, leading to the arrests of 26 people.

“Mauna Kea has emboldened our people to rise up in ways that we have never seen before,” said Hana Kauai mea, a native Hawaiian leader who has been active in the fight against the telescope.

The Mauna Kea and Oahu movements share several traits.

Like on the Big Island mountain, there are protest camps at the Oahu sites of Kahuku and Waimanalo that feature a large tent, food and supplies and even so-called universities featuring lessons and workshops.

“We’re here to protect our aina and our community,” said Kananiliamea Ponciano, one of the leaders fighting against the turbines, using the Hawaiian word for land. Some of the leaders against the telescope went to the Kahuku encampment to provide advice and guidance, she said.

Son takes drugs to school; father pleads not guilty

**Associated Press**

HOLYOKE, Mass. — A Massachusetts man has pleaded not guilty to drug charges after authorities said his 5-year-old son took heroin to school and told his teacher that when he tastes the powder he becomes Spider-Man.

The Daily Hampshire Gazette reported that Benny Garcia, 29, of Holyoke, was arraigned Friday in Holyoke District Court. He faces charges of drug possession and reckless endangerment of a child.

Prosecutors say Garcia’s son took a plastic bag decorated with Spider-Man’s logo to kindergarten Thursday and put it in his mouth, telling a teacher eating the powder turns him into the superhero. Authorities say the boy was taken to a hospital but was unharmed.

Police searching Garcia’s home say they found more than 200 bags of heroin and cocaine.

A judge ordered Garcia held without bail until a hearing Wednesday.

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**Monday, November 18, 2019**

**NATION**

**Study questions use of some heart procedures**

**By Marilyn Machline**
Associated Press

A Stradivarius violin stolen nearly four decades ago from the virtuoso Roman Totenberg and recovered by the FBI, was returned in 2015 after being stolen in 1980.

He played the same music as Szymanowski and Henryk Wieniawski.

Star violinist Nathan Meltzer, 19, received the instrument Tuesday at the New York Public Library in Manhattan.

He played the same music as Szymanowski and Henryk Wieniawski.

“Father had minutes before his Stradivarius disappeared one night in 1980. The theft was a former student, and the violin was eventually recovered.

 Recovered by the FBI, it was returned to Totenberg’s three daughters four years ago by the U.S. Attorney in Manhattan at the Festival Proitt Program.

“Our father would have been so pleased to hear Nathan, a gifted young violinist, breathe life back into the violin,” said Jill Totenberg, a New York media strategist, who attended the concert with Nina, a National Public Radio legal affairs correspondent in Washington, and Amy, a federal judge in Atlanta.

“I felt my father was in that hall listening and smiling,” said Jill.

Roman Totenberg didn’t live to see his instrument again. He died in 2012 at age 101. When anyone would ask the Boston University music professor if he thought his violin would ever be found, he said, according to Nina, “After I have kicked the bucket.”

Likely worth millions of dollars, though it’s value has not been disclosed, the instrument made in Italy by Antonio Stradivari in 1734 is now on long-term loan to Meltzer, who is taking it around the world as he continues to study.

Meltzer studied at The Juilliard School in New York with the famed Itzhak Perlman.

In Cambridge, at a performance titled “Homecoming,” Meltzer offered an audience seated in a circle around him the music Totenberg last played on what he called his “musical partner” that he would never see again: pieces by Bach, Beethoven, the Hungarian composer Bela Bartok and the Frenchman Cesar Franck.

Son takes drugs to school; father pleads not guilty
VENICE, Italy — Venice was hit Sunday by a record third exceptional tide within a week as authorities shut the historic St. Mark’s Square, but tourists donned high rubber boots or even hip waders to witness and photograph the spectacular flooding.

People walk on raised gangways in a flooded St. Mark’s Square in Venice, Italy, on Sunday, Nov. 18, 2019.

By Colleen Barry
Associated Press

VENICE, Italy — Venice was hit Sunday by a record third exceptional tide within a week as authorities shut the historic St. Mark’s Square, but tourists donned high rubber boots or even hip waders to witness and photograph the spectacular flooding.

Officials said 280 civil protection volunteers were deployed to assist as needed. Young Venetian volunteers in rubber boots have also showed up at key sites, including the city’s Music Conservatory, to help save precious manuscripts from the invading saltwater.

So far, the rising waters have left millions of euros, and Italian officials have declared a state of emergency for the area. They say Venice is both sinking into the mud and facing rising sea levels due to climate change.

Luca D’Acunto and his girlfriend, Giovanna Maglietta, surveyed the rising water from a bridge, wondering how to make their way to their nearby hotel in their colorful yet inadequate rubber boots.

“We made the reservation... before the floods and had paid already, so we came,” said D’Acunto, 28, from Naples. “Instead of a romantic trip, we’ll have an adventurous one.”

Most museums were closed as a precaution, but the Correr Museum, which overlooks St. Mark’s Square and explores the art and history of Venice, remained open. Tourists enjoyed a Venetian Spritz — a colorful aperitif with an Italian bitter and Prosecco — as the waters rose.

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Ayatollah: Protesters are ‘thugs’

By Jon Gambrell
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran’s supreme leader on Sunday backed the government’s decision to raise gasoline prices and called angry protesters who have been setting fire to public property over the increase “thugs,” signaling a potential crackdown on the demonstrations.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei’s comments came as authorities shut down internet across Iran to smother the protests in some two dozen cities and towns over the rise of government-set prices by 50% as of Friday. One firm said it blocked the biggest internet outage ever seen in Iran.

Since the increase, demonstrators have abandoned their cars along major highways and joined mass protests in the capital, Tehran, and elsewhere. Some protests turned violent, with demonstrators setting fires, and there was also gunfire.

It remains to be seen how many people have been injured, killed and arrested as videos from the protests have shown people gravely wounded.

Iranian authorities on Sunday raised the official death toll in the violence surrounding the unrest to at least two. Attackers targeting a police station in Kermanshah on Saturday killed one officer there, the state-run IRNA news agency reported Sunday. Earlier, one man was reported killed.

In an address aired by state television Sunday, Khamenei said “some lost their lives and some places were destroyed,” without elaborating. He called violent protesters “thugs” who had been pushed into violence by counterrevolutionaries and foreign enemies of Iran. He specifically named those aligned with the family of Iran’s late shah, ousted 40 years ago, and an exile group called the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq.

“Setting a bank on fire is not an act done by the people. This is what thugs do,” Khamenei said.

However, he made a point to back the decision of Iran’s relatively moderate President Hassan Rouhani and others to raise gasoline prices. Gasoline in the country still remains among the cheapest in the world, with the new prices jumping up to a minimum of 15,000 rials per liter of gas — 50% up from the day before.

That’s 13 cents a liter, or about 50 cents a gallon. A gallon of regular gasoline in the U.S. costs $2.60 by comparison.

Khamenei ordered security forces “to implement their tasks” and for Iran’s citizens to keep clear of violent demonstrators.

That seemed to indicate a possible crackdown could be looming. Economic protests in late 2017 into 2018 were met by a heavy reaction by the police and the Basij, the all-volunteer force of Iran’s paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

“Such illegal actions would not solve any problem but add insecurity on top of other problems,” Khamenei said.

UK media: Prince Andrew’s effort to rebut claims he had sex with teenager a disaster

By Danica Kirka
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain’s media on Sunday slammed Prince Andrew’s effort to rebut claims he had sex with a teenager who says she was trafficked by Jeffrey Epstein, branding his televised interview a complete public relations disaster.

In a rare interview with BBC Newsnight that was broadcast late Saturday, Andrew categorically denied having sex with the woman, Virginia Roberts Giuffre. But Britain’s newspapers and social media commentators criticized him for defending his friendship with Epstein and for failing to show empathy for the convicted sex-offender’s victims.

“I expected a train wreck,” said Charlie Proctor, editor of the Royal Central website, which covers the British monarchy. “That was a plane crashing into an oil tanker, causing a tsunami, triggering a nuclear explosion-level bad.”

Giuffre has said Epstein forced her to have sex with Andrew in 2001, when she was 17. She says Epstein flew her around the world on private planes to have sex with powerful men, and that she had sexual encounters with Andrew in London, New York and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The BBC’s Emily Maitlis grilled Andrew on the details of an alleged encounter in March of that year, when Giuffre says she dined with the prince in London, danced with him at the Tramp nightclub, then had sex with him in a hotel in the London neighborhood of Belgravia.

“I can absolutely, categorically tell you it never happened,” Andrew said.

The prince, 59, said he had “no recollection” of ever meeting Giuffre, adding that there are “a number of things that are wrong” with her account. He also suggested that a picture showing him with his arm around the teenage Giuffre might have been faked.

There was no immediate comment from Giuffre’s representatives about the prince’s interview.

Giuffre had recently challenged the British royal to speak out, telling reporters in New York that “he knows exactly what he’s done.”

“And the answer is nothing,” Andrew told the BBC.

The New York medical examiner ruled Epstein’s death a suicide last summer. He had been in prison awaiting trial on federal sex-trafficking charges, which he had denied.
Hong Kong police target protesters at university

BY KEN MORITZU
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Police launched a late-night operation Sunday to try to flush about 200 protesters out of the university campus on a day of clashes in which an officer was hit in the leg with an arrow and massive barrages of tear gas and water cannons were fired.

Riot police began moving in on one group of protesters outside the campus after issuing an ultimatum for people to leave area. They used tear gas and water cannons on a resistant crowd wearing raincoats and carrying umbrellas.

Protesters used bows and arrows earlier in the day, and one arrow stuck a media liaison officer in the calf. Photos on the department's Facebook page show the arrow sticking out of the back of the officer's leg through his pants.

As riot police moved in from all sides, some protesters retreated inside Hong Kong Polytechnic University while others set fires on bridges leading to it.

A huge blaze burned along much of a long footbridge that connects a train station to the campus over the approach to the Cross-Harbour Tunnel, a major road under Hong Kong's harbor that has been blocked by the protesters for days.

The use of bows and arrows, along with gasoline bombs launched with catapults, threatened to escalate the violence in the more than five-month-long anti-government movement. Protesters are trying to keep the pressure on Hong Kong leaders, who have rejected most of their demands.

The protests were sparked by proposed legislation that would have allowed the extradition of criminal suspects to the mainland. Activists saw it as an erosion of Hong Kong's autonomy under the "one country, two systems" formula implemented in 1997, when Britain returned the territory to China.

The bill has been withdrawn, but the protests have expanded into a wider resistance movement against what is perceived as the growing control of Hong Kong by Communist China, along with calls for full democracy for the territory.

Several hundred people formed a human chain Sunday in central Hong Kong in a peaceful rally in support of the movement.

Police and protesters faced off all day outside Polytechnic University as both sides that day pitched battle the previous night in which the two sides exchanged tear gas and gasoline bombs that left fires blazing in the street.

A large group of people arrived in the morning to try to clean up the road but were warned away by protesters. Riot police shot several volleys of tear gas at the protesters, who sheltered behind a wall of umbrellas and threw gasoline bombs into nearby bushes and trees, setting them on fire.

Protesters began retreating into the university near sunset, fearing they would be trapped as police fired tear gas volleys and approached from other directions. The protesters have barricaded the entrances to the campus and set up narrow access control points.

They are the holdouts from larger groups that occupied several major campuses for much of last week.

The Education Bureau announced that classes from kindergarten to high school would be suspended again Monday because of safety concerns. Classes have been canceled since Thursday after the bureau came under criticism for not doing so earlier.

Dubai Airshow kicks off as airlines slow down purchases

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The biennial Dubai Airshow opened Sunday as major Gulf airlines rein back big-ticket purchases after a staggering $140 billion in new orders were announced at the 2013 show before global oil prices collapsed.

The airshow, which runs until Thursday, draws major commercial and military firms from around the world, as well as smaller manufacturers competing for business in the Middle East. The United States has the largest foreign presence, with over 100 companies represented.

The Chicago-based Boeing was likely to use the airshow to emphasize its dedication to safety after crashes of its 737 Max killed 346 people. The planes have been grounded around the world, affecting customers like flydubai which has more than a dozen of the jets in its fleet and more than 230 on order.

Boeing and Biman Bangladesh Airlines signed a deal for two 787-9s aircraft, which list at $292.5 million apiece. However, buyers often get better deals from manufacturers.

Report on Russian meddling raises UK election questions

Emily Thornberry, the opposition Labour Party's foreign affairs spokeswoman, said the leaks raise questions that deserve answers.

"Boris Johnson therefore needs to clear up the confusion, spin and speculation around this (intelligence committee) report by publishing it in full at the earliest opportunity," she told The Times. "If not, people will rightly continue to ask: What is he trying to hide from the British public and why?"

Johnson's government has said it needs more time to review the security implications of the report, but it will be released after the election.

Critics have alleged the report is being withheld because it shows Russians have made large donations to the Conservative Party, which is seeking to win a majority that would allow Johnson to push his Brexit deal through Parliament.

Havana celebrates 500th anniversary

As part of the celebrations, officials restored monuments, painted buildings, unveiled exhibitions and held book presentations.

"Havana grows, lives, sings, dances and dreams," said Felix Julio Alfonso, a professor who spoke before granting the public access to the revered silk floss tree.

Many in the crowd shared their wishes with the tree, including requests for health or financial well-being. Some left money while others wore white as dictated by Afro-Cuban Santeria, the island's predominant religion.
**AMERICAN ROUNDPUR**

**Officers growing beards to benefit veterans**

**VT**

ST. JOHNSBURY — Officers in a Vermont police department are growing beards to benefit military veterans and their families.

The Caledonian Record reported that the St. Johnsbury Police Department is one of more than 120 across the country participating in the “Home Base No Shave Campaign” to increase mental health awareness and to raise funds to support veterans and military families.

Five of the 11 full-time St. Johnsbury officers will be letting their beards grow through-out November to raise money for veteran clinical and support programs and promote conversation about getting care. Participating officers have pledged $100 while growing beards, mustaches and goatees.

**Doctor sentenced for fake breast implants**

**ID**

POCATELLO — A judge has sentenced an Idaho doctor to seven months in prison for receipt and delivery of misbranded breast implants given to patients.

Prosecutors announced Thurs-day that Temp Ray Patterson, 55, was also sentenced to one year of supervised release after his prison sentence.

U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Wintmill ordered the former Bur-l-ey doctor to pay $8,200 restitution and a $10,000 fine.

Authorities said Patterson knowingly implanted nine pairs of misbranded breast implants shipped from China and unap-proved by the Food and Drug Administration from March 2013 through April 2015.

**Last survivor of the Hindenburg fire dies**

**NH**

LACONIA — The last remaining survivor of the Hindenburg disaster has died.

Werner Gustav Doehner was 90.

His son said a church service was held Friday for Doehner, who died on Nov. 8 at a hospital in Laconia.

Doehner was the only person left of the 62 passengers and crew who survived the May 6, 1937, fire that killed his father, sister and 34 others.

As the 80th anniversary approached in 2017, Doehner told The Associated Press he and his family were returning from a vacation in Germany on the 804-foot-long zeppelin, bound to Lakehurst Naval Air Station in New Jersey.

As the Hindenburg arrived, flames began to flicker on top of the ship. Hydrogen, exposed to air, fueled an inferno.

**2 men arrested in robbery, shootouts**

**AZ**

TUCSON — Two men are in custody following an armed robbery, a carjacking and two shootouts with police in the Tucson area.

Pima County Sheriff Mark Na-pier said the incident began with a robbery call at a dollar store Fri-day. Responding officers arrested one man while another fled.

Four minutes later, authorities say a deputy found the suspect’s vehicle and exchanged gunfire.

The man drove off and later crashed, again exchanging gun-fire with two deputies. He ran and car-jacked a pickup truck towing a trailer.

EGUN-TV reported he was ar-rested following a ground and air search. Napier said nobody was injured in the incidents.

**Sex workers escape kidnapping attempts**

**NY**

CORAM — Federal authorities said a Long Island man with a history of vio-lence toward sex workers twice attempted to kidnap women, but each escaped by jumping from his moving vehicle.

Andrew Frey, 54, pleaded not guilty Friday to charges of attempted kidnapping and at-tempted trafficking by force.

The married father of two was ordered jailed pending a Nov. 22 court date.

Prosecutors said they found rope, zip ties and knot-tying man-uals at his Coram home and that he kept handcuffs in his car.

Prosecutors said Frey tried to abduct one woman in October 2018, approached her again after she escaped and targeted a sec-ond woman in July.

Another sex worker obtained a restraining order after Frey al-legant rammed her vehicle with his.

Ex-police clerk gets 6 years for secret videos

**CA**

LONG BEACH — A former police records clerk who secretly took videos of 69 co-workers in men’s bath-rooms at the Long Beach Police Department has been sentenced to six years in jail.

The Long Beach Press-Tele-gram said Sergio Nieto, 29, of Downey, was sentenced Friday after pleading no contest to doz-ens of misdemeanor counts of in-vasion of privacy.

Authorities said Nieto made hundreds of videos in several po-lice department bathrooms over a two-year span. He was arrested last year after he was seen film-ing in a bathroom.

Flight attendant with gun in bag charged

**FL**

ORLANDO — Authori-ties said security offi-cers found a loaded handgun in a flight attendant’s carry-on bag at a Florida airport.

The Orlando Sentinel reported that Joseph Brozyna, 29, was ar-rested Thursday and charged with carrying a concealed fire-arm and carrying a firearm in a prohibited place.

Police said the Frontier Air-lines flight attendant was passing through security at Orlando Interna-tional Airport when Transpor-tation Security Administration agents found the .40 caliber pistol. An arrest report says Brozyna acknowledged that the gun was his. He told police he recently went on a road trip with his gun in the bag and forgot to remove it.

Officials said Brozyna’s con-cealed carry permit had been sus-pended. Frontier Airlines said Brozyna is also suspended.

**Man accused of using car as battering ram**

**WI**

LA CROSSE — Pro-ecutors have accused a Minnesota man of using a Porsche as a battering ram to get his Nis-san Altima out of an Onalaska im-pound lot.

The La Crosse Tribune report-ed that Benjamin Gjere, of Lanes-boro, was charged Thursday with operating a motor vehicle without the owner’s consent, property damage, theft and jumping bail.

According to investigators, Gjere’s 2019 Altima was im-pounded Nov. 6 after he was pulled over.

Surveillance video shows Gjere and an unidentified accomplice on the lot Sunday. An unlocked 2012 Porsche with the keys inside was parked behind the Altima.

The video shows the Porsche crashing through the lot’s fence and a fence of a nearby house and the Altima being driven through the holes in the fences.

Gjere was pulled over in Winon-a County about an hour later.

4 allegedly planned to bring knives to school

**CT**

GROTON — Four Con-necticut high school stu-dents are facing breach of peace charges after allegedly planning to bring knives to school.

Police said the male students from Fitch High School in Gro-ton planned to bring the knives to school Friday. Authorities received complaints from stu-dents and parents about 10:30 p.m. Thursday and immediately investigated.

The students allegedly threat-ened violence against another one on social media, though the threats were not directed against the school or the general student population.

From wire reports
Learning to say NO

Success forcing ‘This Is Us’ actor Sterling K. Brown to be choosy

BY ALICIA RANCILIO  Associated Press

With a hit TV series, awards, plus film and TV opportunities, Sterling K. Brown admits he's experienced “a lot of pinch-me moments” in recent years. But, with all those possibilities and offers, the 43-year-old has also learned a very important lesson — how to say no.

“No has become my best friend,” said Brown without hesitation during an interview in a New York hotel suite.

He says it’s not an ungrateful no, but a “no, with integrity” and shares an example.

“Honestly, I appreciate your consideration of me to be a part of this project, but at this particular time, this is what’s on my slate and I have to say no.”

But when he says yes, the “This Is Us” star star picks some pretty powerful projects. Besides his Emmy-winning role on the NBC drama that regularly elicits tears from its viewers, Brown has three roles coming out this season that will likely amplify his rapidly rising star in Hollywood.

The first came out over the weekend in “Waves,” in which he plays a demanding father who pushes his son to reach perfection and star power but also gain diversity. Helping increase quality opportunities for actors of color is a key priority for Brown, and led him to create his own production company, Indian Meadows, named after his hometown neighborhood in St. Louis. On the docket: a film co-starring Kerry Washington that they each will help produce.

Brown hopes to produce smart, sophisticated work that he says he often didn't see when he was just entering the business.

“I think when I came out of school, the UPN and the WB hadn't merged into The CW yet. There were a lot of shows that were... simple is not the world, but I don't know, you could do laundry while you watched it. You didn't have to really pay attention to what was transpiring in terms of the story that was being told,” he said.

“In my career I played one side of the law or the other. I was a cop or I was a bad guy. I would turn on the TV and I'd see the ultra-rich or the ultra-poor,” he added. "Do I see the middle where I think most of the people that I know actually exist? I'm just trying to make television and film that reflects."

After those early years playing one-dimensional roles like the cop or the bad guy, Brown is glad to be in a groove where showing his range is just a typical day at the office.

“You’re constantly trying to broaden people’s minds,” he said. “I want to do it all and be like Tom Hanks, man.”

His strongest outing this year is in the pleasure-film and TV opportunities, Sterling K. Brown admits he’s experienced “a lot of pinch-me moments” in recent years. But, with all those possibilities and offers, the 43-year-old has also learned a very important lesson — how to say no.

Brown says that's something his mother taught him.

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The first came out over the weekend in “Waves,” in which he plays a demanding father who pushes his son to reach perfection.

While “Waves” grapples with weighty subjects and has garnered some early Oscar buzz, his other film project of the fall is a more fantastical work that he says he often didn't see when he was just entering the business.

“It’s a whole other playground. The Palladinos’ playground,” Brown said. “They write eight-page lines and as soon as you mess up you go back to the top and you do it again. It’s like doing theater, which I appreciate because I come from NYU (New York University) and I’ve got a theater background.”

“Maiel” and “Frozen 2” not only benefit from Brown’s considerable acting prowess and star power but also gain diversity. Helping increase quality opportunities for actors of color is a key priority for Brown, and led him to create his own production company, Indian Meadows, named after his hometown neighborhood in St. Louis.

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## Rosalia win top honor at Latin Grammys

Spanish singer Rosalia, the breakthrough performer known for blending flamenco music with sounds like reggaeton and Latin trap, won album of the year at the 2019 Latin Grammys, becoming the first solo female performer to win the top honor since Shakira’s triumph 13 years ago.

Rosalia took home seven Latin Grammys, including best pop solo album for "El Mal Querer," which topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart for seven weeks, is a likely contender for record of the year, a category that awards the song that best served for the writers of a song.

When Grammy submissions were due earlier this year, Lioness had not been a listed writer of “Truth Hurts,” but Atlantic Records Lizzo’s label home, told the AP they are in the process of submitting Lioness’ name as a co-writer of “Truth Hurts” to the Grammys.

“Truth Hurts,” which topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart for seven weeks, is a likely contender in categories like song of the year, in which Lioness would share the nomination with co-writers Lizzo, Ricky Reed and Jazzy Stroll John. The song could also land a nomination for record of the year, a category that awards the song’s performers, producers and engineers/mixers, or best pop solo performance, an award that would only be given to Lizzo.
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Demographics could doom Eastern Europe

By Charles Lane

Thirty years ago, the Berlin Wall fell, signaling that the end was near for communism in Eastern Europe. The question now is whether the end might be near for Eastern Europe, demographically.

This is a characterization — but not a totally unfounded one. Of the 20 most rapidly shrinking countries in the world, 15 are erstwhile Warsaw Pact members, excluding the former Yugoslavia (plus neighboring Albania).

If East Germany were still a politically separate entity, it would also be on the list, which is headed by Bulgaria. That Slavic nation’s population is on track to decline 25% from 7.2 million to 5.2 million by 2050, according to United Nations projections.

As you may also have noticed, Eastern Europe, including eastern Germany, is a hotbed of “political extremism.” Democratic—Viktor Orban reigns in Hungary (current population 9.8 million, with an annual growth rate of -0.25%), while in the eastern German state of Thuringia, whose population of 2.1 million represents roughly a 20% decline since the end of Communism, right-extremist parties captured a combined 54% of the vote in elections on Oct. 27.

The phenomenon is not limited to Eastern Europe and population decline is not coincidental — and it has powerful implications both for Europe’s political future and that of the United States.

Eastern Europe’s looming demographic crisis stems directly from its escaping the Soviet orbit in 1989. Freedom of movement, coupled with membership in the borderless European Union, enabled millions of working-age people to leave the former Soviet states to seek work in the more prosperous West.

Emigration, plus low and declining birthrates — a characteristic of modern society that Eastern Europe shares with Western Europe and the United States — has resulted in whole villages hollowing out, with only pensioners left behind.

The phenomenon is not limited to Eastern Europe.

And psychologically, it’s dispiriting to be part of a country that’s losing its own people. It can be enraging too. That goes double in countries, such as Hungary and Poland, with histories of occupation and national demarcation by outside powers.

Instead of feeling like the heroes of the 1989 revolution, or, at least beneficiaries, many, now see their shrinking populations and consider themselves victims. And if anything fuels populism, it’s a sense of victimization.

The success of cities such as Prague and Berlin offers no consolation. To the contrary, as Philipp Auenwald, of George Washington University, and Palo Alto Longevity Prize founder Joon Yun have noted in an astute recent article on the phenomenon of cultural depopulation, the rural population and economic decline against the growth and increasing prosperity of the largest cities.

By all accounts, the United States and the United Kingdom are richer, in 2016. The United States, with its robust tradi-

Yemen gets a rare, much-needed shot at peace

By Bobby Ghosh

em is a graveyard of optimism. In five years of war, a cessation of hostilities — even if temporary — seemed possible several times.

There was a truce in the summer of 2015, and a limited cease-fire in some parts of Houthi-held territory. Shortly afterward, the Saudis announced a limited cease-fire in some parts of Houthi-controlled Yemen, including Sanaa. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said CBS’ “60 Minutes” that he was open to “all initiatives for a political solution in Yemen.”

Houthi leaders echoed the sentiment. After a truce had been signed in the south, and sponsored a peace deal between Hadi and the southern separatists. This allowed the UAE to pull some troops out of Aden.

Meanwhile, elections of the Arab coalition, especially the United Arab Emirates, were tiring of the endless war. The Houthis, now receiving more support from Tehran, were launching missile, rocket and drone attacks on Hadi’s forces and their allies.

Now for the fresh signs of hope. In late September, the Houthis announced they were suspending attacks on Saudi territory. Shortly afterward, the Saudis announced a limited cease-fire in some parts of Houthi-controlled Yemen, including Sanaa. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman said CBS’ “60 Minutes” that he was open to “all initiatives for a political solution in Yemen.”

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The Emirates also declared that the Houthis were “a part of Yemeni society and they will have a role in its future”. This is an important breakthrough. The question is whether the key voice is missing: Iran’s. The Islamic Republic has been somewhat distracted in recent weeks by mass protests in Lebanon and Iraq over the rise of Iranian proxies — Hezbollah and Shiite militias — in national affairs. Iran also finds itself sidelined from the conversation in Syria, where Russia and Turkey seem to be calling the shots.

Whether the softening of the Houthi stance meets full approval from Tehran is hard to say, given its dealings elsewhere in the Middle East, Iran’s relationship with the Yemeni rebels is rela-

Yemen’s delicate truce could be the start of something bigger

A rare, much-needed shot at peace has appeared in Yemen, where a truce has been signed between the Houthi rebels and government forces. This is a significant development, as the war has raged for five years and has claimed tens of thousands of lives.

The truce was announced on October 14 by both parties, with the aim of creating a more peaceful environment for talks to begin. The parties were also said to have agreed on a number of other issues, including the release of prisoners and the easing of restrictions on movement.

The truce is seen as a positive step towards a lasting peace, as it could pave the way for negotiations to begin. However, it remains to be seen whether both sides will adhere to the terms of the truce and whether it will be extended.

The Yemeni conflict has been marked by indiscriminate violence, with civilians bearing the brunt. The truce could provide some relief to those affected by the war, allowing humanitarian aid to reach those in need.

The truce was welcomed by the international community, with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres saying that it was “a significant and timely step towards a lasting peace in Yemen.”

It is hoped that the truce will be a first step towards a wider peace process, with both sides showing a willingness to negotiate. However, the war has been long and complex, with many factors at play, including regional geopolitical considerations.

The truce is also significant in terms of the wider regional context. Yemen is seen as a proxy battlefield, with both regional and international actors playing a role. The truce could be seen as an opportunity for those involved to take a step back and consider a broader peace process.

The Yemeni conflict has been marked by widespread violations of international law, including violations of human rights and international humanitarian law. The truce could provide an opportunity to address these issues.

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US exports to China ravaged amid trade war

By Anita Sharpe
Bloomberg

The Trump administration’s trade war is ravaging exports to China across the U.S. and well beyond the farm belt, new data from the U.S. Commerce Department shows.

More than 30 states stretching from Florida to Alaska suffered double-digit drops in merchandise exports to China through September of this year. Sales to the Asian nation fell 39% in Texas, where oil and gas products comprised the largest export to that country.

In Alabama, which touts its status as the No. 3 auto-exporting state in the U.S., total shipments to China plunged 49% in the first nine months. Florida’s merchandise sales to the country slumped 40% in the period, while West Virginia and Wisconsin each saw drops of about 25%.

Product exports to China from the U.S. as a whole dropped 15% to $78.8 billion.

“Chinese demand for imports overall has been weak,” said Brad Sedgwick, senior fellow for international economics at the Council on Foreign Relations. The recovery time for various U.S. products will depend on the nature of the trade deal, he said.

“In some cases, U.S. exports will recover more quickly,” he added.

Washington state, home of Boeing’s industrial base, saw total Chinese merchandise exports fall 43% through the third quarter amid the grounding of the 737 Max, the company’s best-selling jet.

China has struck back in the trade war by imposing duties on about $135 billion of U.S. goods, targeting everything from farm products like soybeans and pork to motorcycles, cosmetics and wigs. With talks underway for a phase-one deal, Beijing has re-upped its demands for the removal of tariffs the U.S. has put on $360 billion of Chinese imports.

Meanwhile, a new report says China’s retaliatory tariffs on U.S. goods likely cost the GOP five House seats in the midterm 2018 elections, a possible warning sign ahead of next year’s presidential vote. The study didn’t identify the candidates, but it pointed to agricultural tariffs as driving the losses.

The trade war, coupled with cuts to health care, “appears to have hurt Republican candidates where swing voters matter most,” said the analysis released this month by the National Bureau of Economic Research.

If tariffs remain and companies reduce jobs or wage growth slows due to declining exports, “there’s room for stronger effects on workers and on how they vote” in the 2020 elections, said Emily Blanchard, an economics professor at Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business and an author of the study.

That’s not happening yet, said Ahmad Ijaz, an economist at the University of Alabama’s Center for Business and Economic Research.

“Although exports to China have fallen sharply in 2019, it hasn’t had any significant impact on payrolls so far,” he said, adding that vehicle manufacturers are hiring workers and some lost sales to China are being offset by gains in other places, particularly Europe.

Exports to China support more than a million U.S. jobs, according to the U.S.-China Business Council, which represents American companies doing business in China.

Amid the Chinese export carnage are a few bright spots. Buyers are still snapping up semiconductors made in Oregon, primarily by Intel Corp. which operates one of its biggest manufacturing plants in the state.

Oregon’s total exports to China surged 65% in the nine months, according to the data.

Only about a third of the state’s products are affected by the proposed tariffs, according to Business Oregon spokesman Nathan Buehler, who said semiconductors for the most part are exempt.

Similarly, South Carolina’s sales to China jumped 30% through September, partly on airplane exports. Some Boeing Co. 787 Dreamliner planes are made in the state, and about 17% of those aircraft to date have been sold to China. The Chinese were set to buy 100 more Boeing wide-body jets, including the 787 and 777X, but the deal has stalled on trade uncertainties.

**EXCHANGE RATES**

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<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
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<tr>
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**INTEREST RATES**

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<td>Discount rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>30-year bond</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**WEATHER OUTLOOK**

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

ACROSS
1 Mouth part
4 Gather
9 Beer barrel
12 Monk's title
13 Washington Sound
14 Swelled head
15 Serena, to Venus
17 A Bobsey twin
18 Plopped down
19 Mortar partner
21 2010 NBA champs
24 Tools with teeth
25 Botanist Gray
26 Evergreen type
28 Actress Holmes
31 Body powder
33 UFO ilers
35 "I did it!
36 Asparagus unit
38 Farm pen
40 Hanoi holiday
41 Persian bigwig
43 Dido's lover
45 "Debt of Honor" author
47 Mother's Day month
48 Texter's chuckle
49 Tally a team’s points
54 — carte
55 Vacant, as a flat
56 Rug cleaner, briefly

DOWN
1 NYC airport
2 Onassis nickname
3 Bankroll
4 Beekeeper's place
5 Not-to-be-missed
6 Sales rep.
7 Leaks slowly
8 Jog sans togs
9 Ohio university
10 Allie (Fr.)
11 Vanished
12 Compass dir.
20 Smack a baseball
21 Back muscles, for short
22 Now, in a memo

Down with Curly-leaved greens
23 Dish made with Doughty
24 Laughing" animal
25 The Big Apple, briefly
26 Days of yore
27 Scale amts.
28 Notion
29 Vittles
30 "Let It Snow" lyricist
31 Part of SASE
32 Accumulate, as debt
33 Like bread
34 Choke
35 "Damn Yankees" vamp
36 Cleaning cloth
37 Author Umberto

Answer to Previous Puzzle
HIP FEAR AERO IDE ELLE PLAN GEC STUB NEVE HANDSOME EVIL RENCIA BOGUS ICE HMM ANAG MABA MEAD DUG GLUM WARPS REF FIR ANGEL FOOD CAKE ROLE LING LOL AMS EST FENO BBEST CAN

11-18 CRYPTOQUIP

LSZZ-NJILJ ETJ CJPY XIRSMJP
KFS KIQMX IE HJSOJMO,
MROJNO OJY KMEEOJY: “KFS
ZOYV MC O KATHQ.”

Saturday’s Crypticomp: WEST AFRICAN REPUBLIC IN WHICH EVERYBODY LOVES ONE PARTICULAR COMPOSER OF OPERAS: CAPE VERDI.

Today’s Crypticomp Clue: K equals T

I’d like to monitor your heart for arrhythmia over the next few weeks. We’ll call when you can come back & pick it up.

DOCTOR OZ
College basketball

AP Top 25 Fared


2. Duke (5-1) beat South Carolina, Thursday.

3. Kansas (6-2) beat Texas Tech, Saturday.

4. Gonzaga (6-2) beat Arizona, Saturday.

5. Michigan (6-2) beat Minnesota, Tuesday.

6. Kansas State (5-2) beat Texas, Tuesday.

7. Michigan State (6-0) beat Wisconsin, Saturday.

8. Marquette (6-2) beat Providence, Saturday.

9. Creighton (5-2) beat Providence, Saturday.

10. Houston (4-3) did not play. New: vs. SMU, Saturday.

11. Arizona (6-1) did not play. Next: at St. Mary's, Thursday.


15. SMU (4-3) did not play. Next: vs. Memphis, Saturday.


17. Southern Miss (6-2) did not play. Next: vs. Rice, Saturday.

18. Cincinnati (5-2) did not play. Next: at South Florida, Saturday.


23. UCLA (4-4) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado, Saturday.


25. Colorado State (4-6) did not play. Next: at Utah State, Saturday.

Saturday's men's scores

Binghamton 74, Niagara 55
West Virginia 74, Brooklyn 49
Colgate 70, Yale 67
Villanova 78, Ohio 54

Michigan State 74, Loyola Marymount 64
Northern Illinois 96, Rockford 48
Miami (Ohio) 79, Alabama A&M 63

Montana St. 67, UNC-Greensboro 66
Louisiana-Monroe 72, North Alabama 67

South Florida 84, Siena 69
Florida 102, Mississippi 72
Tennessee 65, Georgia 73

ETSU, Tuesday.

Saturday's women's scores

South Florida 89, Chicago 75
Louisiana-Lafayette 86, Florida International 59

George Mason 83, James Madison 70
McCullough 70, Duquesne 57

Delaware 81, Lafayette 73
Santa Clara 92, Loyola Marymount 44

ECU, Tuesday.

Sunday's men's scores

Vanderbilt 80, South Carolina 74
Kansas 79, TCU 62

Michigan State 68, St. Louis 66

Sunday's women's scores

Tennessee 70, Mississippi 69

North Carolina Central 75, North Carolina A&T 61

Sierra Canyon 59, Loyola Marymount 57

ECU, Tuesday.

Monday's men's scores

North Carolina 68, Florida State 63

Washington State 69, Arizona State 67

1. Funk, 10-0; 2. Neuberger, 10-0; 3. Funk, 10-0; 4. Funk, 10-0; 5. Funk, 10-0.

Grabbing 10 rebounds each were: 1. Neuberger, 10-0; 2. Funk, 10-0; 3. Funk, 10-0; 4. Funk, 10-0; 5. Funk, 10-0.

1. Funk, 10-0; 2. Neuberger, 10-0; 3. Funk, 10-0; 4. Funk, 10-0; 5. Funk, 10-0.

LAP length: 2.3 miles

Margin of Victory: 1.038 Seconds.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Lead, Margin of Victory, Laps Led)

24. (19) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 199.060 mph.

10. (9) Harrison Burton, Toyota, 199.060 mph.


7. (3) Austin Cindric, Ford, 200.008 mph.

6. (2) Matt McCall, Chevrolet, 197.767 mph.

11. (8) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 196.250 mph.
Minnesota — James Harden scored 49 points on a franchise-record 41 shots from the field and the undermanned Houston Rockets won their seventh straight game, 125-105 over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Saturday night.

With Russell Westbrook resting, the Rockets needed Harden to shoulder an even bigger scoring load than usual. The 41 attempts are the most in his career, and the most in the NBA this season, surpassing the 37 Golden State’s D’Angelo Russell took in an over-time loss at the same building in Minnesota.

Harden made 16 of the 41 shots, going 8-for-22 from three-point range. Undaunted rookie Chris Clemmons scored a career-high 19 for the Rockets, who broke open the game with a 9-0 run in the fourth quarter as the Mavericks added 19 points.

Trail Blazers 121, Spurs 116: CJ McCollum scored 32 points and Portland won at San Antonio to spoil Tim Duncan’s first shot at coaching following Gregg Popovich’s expected retirement.

Povich was ejected after walking onto the court to berate official Jason Goldenberg after a non-call. Popovich calmly walked off after his first ejection of the season.

The Spurs had passed on the advances of Dunk coach Will Hardy and Becky Hammon during Gregg Popovich’s 28 seasons. The Spurs later announced Hardy and Hammon would be named assistant coaches.

The Spurs won the best 12-game start in team history, going 8-for-22 from three-point range and banked in a fadeaway three-pointer from the corner to win.

Harden scores 49, leads Rockets’ rout over Timberwolves

Associated Press

Houston Rockets guard James Harden flexes after scoring a basket and getting fouled against the Minnesota Timberwolves. He had 49 points in a 125-105 win Saturday in Minneapolis.

The Rockets were without five key players during Saturday’s game, but still have enough depth to put a win together against the Timberwolves.

Injuries to D.J. Wilson, Delon Wright and K.J. McDaniels, along with the suspension of Gary Clark, made it difficult for the Rockets to have a full roster available.

However, the team was able to make the right adjustments to stay competitive.

Houston is now 16-10 on the season, while Minnesota is 7-21. The Timberwolves have lost eight straight games.

The Rockets led by 31 points at halftime and held off several comeback attempts by the Timberwolves.

The Rockets are now 9-3 on the road and have won five straight games.

Harden finished with 49 points, the second-highest total in his career. He also had 15 rebounds and 10 assists.

The Timberwolves had five players score in double figures, but none scored more than 17 points.

San Antonio Spurs assistant coach Becky Hammon, front left, and acting head coach Tim Duncan, behind her, signal to players during Saturday’s game at San Antonio.

 associate press

Harden, 39, described the game as a “great opportunity” to showcase his team’s depth and showed off his scoring ability.

The Rockets will now have a few days off before facing the Dallas Mavericks on Tuesday in Houston.

D’Angelo Russell took in an overhead pass from Klay Thompson and after a few passes, Lou Williams drained a 3-pointer from the right corner to tie the game at 52-52.

As the crowd roared, Harden scored from 20 feet to put the Rockets up by three. Williams added a 3-pointer from the left side to break open the game with a 9-0 run in the fourth quarter.

The Spurs were unable to keep up with Houston’s scoring in the final minutes of the game.

Harden was 16-of-37 shooting from the field and made all 10 of his free throw attempts. The Rockets outrebounded the Timberwolves 42-37.

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**NHL**

**Scoreboard**

**Eastern Conference**

**Atlantic Division**
- New Jersey Devils, 1-1-1-4
- Toronto Maple Leafs, 1-1-1-4
- Buffalo Sabres, 1-1-1-4
- New York Islanders, 1-1-1-4
- Philadelphia Flyers, 1-1-1-4

**Metropolitan Division**
- Washington Capitals, 1-1-1-4
- New York Rangers, 1-1-1-4
- New York Islanders, 1-1-1-4
- Ottawa Senators, 1-1-1-4
- Pittsburgh Penguins, 1-1-1-4

**Western Conference**

**Central Division**
- Dallas Stars, 1-1-1-4
- Nashville Predators, 1-1-1-4
- St. Louis Blues, 1-1-1-4

**Pacific Division**
- San Jose Sharks, 1-1-1-4
- Vancouver Canucks, 1-1-1-4
- Los Angeles Kings, 1-1-1-4

**Seattle Kraken**

**Roundup**

**Coyotes’ Kuemper puts out Flames**

Lineusman Devin Berg, right, tries to break up a brawl between California and Arizona in the Coyotes’ 3-0 win at home Saturday.

**Associated Press**

The Arizona Coyotes’ Darcy Kuemper stopped 37 shots and added an empty-net goal to help his team to a 3-0 win over the Calgary Flames on Saturday night.

**Hurricanes 4, Wild 3 (OT):**

Andrei Svechnikov’s goal 1:33 into overtime lifted Carolina to a win at Minnesota. Joel Edmiston, Brock Mcginn and Warren Foegele also scored for the Hurricanes.

**Pelicans 6, Maple Leafs 1:**

Dominik Kahun scored two goals and(host) Philadelphia routed Toronto. Kahun matched a career-high with three points. Bryan Little also had a three-point game, with a short-handed goal and two assists.

**The Flames too much for the Coyotes**

San Jose’s Tomas Hertl scored twice to lead San Jose to a win at Vancouver.

**In the Father’s Name**

Vinnie Hinostroza scored Vancouver’s four-minute roughing penalty, and Rasmus Andersson sat for two minutes on the penalty box.

**Bisons’ Dudy a point at 1-0:**

Kevin Labanc had a goal and an assist and the Islanders won at St. Louis.

**Blackhawks 7, Predators 2**

Drew Doughty had a goal and an assist, and Nashville won at Philadelphia.

**Coyotes’ Kuemper puts out Flames**

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By PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

RIVERDALE, Ga. — Colin Kaepernick’s saga took another surreal turn Saturday — a last-minute audible to nix an NFL-arranged workout and a quick dash 60 miles to the other side of metro Atlanta, where the exiled quarterback staged his own impromptu passing display on a high school field in dwindling light as hundreds of fans cheered him on from behind a chain-link fence.

Kaepernick threw passes for about 40 minutes at Charles Drew High School and spent nearly that long signing autographs for a crowd that steadily grew as word spread that a quarterback who led the San Francisco 49ers to the Super Bowl and sparked a wave of protests and divisive debate by kneeling during the national anthem, was in the neighborhood.

Kaepernick declared again that he’s ready to play in the NFL.

“I’ve been ready for three years,” he said. “I’ve been denied for three years. We all know why. I know I am good enough to play in the NFL. He [the NFL] knows I am good enough to play in the NFL. Everyone knows I am good enough to play in the NFL. I’ve been ready for three years.”

News of the impromptu session at a high school just south of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, unlike the session at the Falcons’ facility, at a high school stadium just south of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

Sixty miles away.

With barely more than an hour to spare, the media that had been herded into a gated-off area in the parking lot and told that was as close as they would get to Kaepernick’s workout hustled to their vehicles to set off for a high school most had never heard of.

But only eight of the original 25 team representatives followed along to the new location, including Philadelphia Eagles vice president of football operations Andrew Berry. It appeared the New York Jets, Kansas City and Washington also had scouts in attendance.

They stood along the sideline, jotting into their notepads as Kaepernick tossed passes to four free-agent receivers.

“Our biggest thing with everything today was to set off for a high school most had never heard of. Everyone knows he’s good enough to play. Everyone knows he’s good enough to play in the NFL. That didn’t appear to be the point,” he said.

Kaepernick has insisted all along that everyone knows he’s good enough to play in the NFL. He claims this is all about his decision to kneel as a protest against police brutality and racial injustice, which led to a contentious national debate that stretched all the way to the White House.

Associated Press

TORONTO — Jordan Bowden scored 15 of his 18 points in the first half Saturday, Lamonte Turner had 16 points and Tennessee upset No. 20 Washington 75-62.

Yves Pons scored 15 points, John Fulkerson had 14 and Turner added seven rebounds and eight assists as the Volunteers improved to 3-0 and handed Washington its first loss in three games this season.

The game was the middle feature in the James Naismith Hall of Fame Classic, an NCAA triple header at Scotiabank Arena in downtown Toronto, home of the defending NBA-champion Raptors.

Washington, which began its season with a neutral-site win over ranked Baylor, didn’t fare so well north of the border, falling behind by as many as 14 against the Volunteers.

No. 5 Maryland 80, Oakland 50: Darryl Morsell led a balanced attack with 14 points and six rebounds for Maryland. Aaron Wiggins scored 10 and Jalen Smith added eight points and seven rebounds.

After opening with lopsided victories at home against Holy Cross and Rhode Island, the Terrapins are off a 3-0 start for the sixth year in a row.

Xavier Hill-Mais led Oakland (3-2) with 18 points. The Golden Grizzlies shot 36.5%.

No. 7 Villanova 78, Ohio 54: Saddiq Bey scored 19 points and Justin Moore added 18 to lead the Wildcats past the visiting Bobcats.

Villanova (2-1) broke the game open with a 27-4 run in the final 6:36 of the half, turning a one-point deficit into a 43-21 lead. Bey and Moore combined for 9-for-12 shooting and 4 of 6 from beyond the three-point line for 26 points.

No. 13 Memphis 102, Alcorn State 65: Lester Quinones had 21 points and 10 rebounds and Precious Achiuwa added 20 points, sending the host Tigers to a romp over the Braves.

No. 23 LSU 75, Nicholls State 62: Darius Days had a career-high 17 points and 11 rebounds to help the host Tigers beat the Colonels. Emmitt Williams added 11 points and a season-best 12 boards for LSU (2-1).

No. 25 Colorado 71, San Diego 53: D’Shawn Schwartz scored 13 of his 15 points in the second half, helping the host Buffs run past the scrappy Toreros for coach Tad Boyle’s 10th winner in 10 home openers. Colorado guard Tyler Bey added 14 points and two impressive blocked shots on Braun Hartfield.

Above: Free agent quarterback Colin Kaepernick participates in a workout for NFL football scouts and media, Saturday at Charles Drew High in Riverdale, Ga. Below: Fans watch the workout behind a fence.

Late audible: Kaepernick moves workout to school

Tennessee too much for No. 20 Washington

No. 9 Virginia 60, Columbia 42: Mamadi Diakite and Jay Huff scored 13 points each to lead the host Cavaliers.

Kihei Clark added 10 points for Virginia (3-0), which led 31-17 at halftime and submitted liberally throughout the second half. Walk-on Chase Coleman and redshirt freshman Francisco Caffaro each scored the first points of their college careers late in the game.

No. 10 Villanova 78, Ohio 54: Saddiq Bey scored 19 points and Justin Moore added 18 to lead the Wildcats past the visiting Bobcats. Villanova (2-1) broke the game open with a 27-4 run in the final 6:36 of the half, turning a one-point deficit into a 43-21 lead. Bey and Moore combined for 9-for-12 shooting and 4 of 6 from beyond the three-point line for 26 points.

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Tennessee too much for No. 20 Washington
Claypool’s 4 TDs lead Irish rout

By John Fineran

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — If Chase Claypool and Ian Book continue connecting as they did Saturday in No. 16 Notre Dame’s 52-20 rout of No. 21 Navy, the hotel roommates may deserve a penthouse suite.

Claypool caught four touchdown passes to match a school record and Book threw five for the third time this season as the Irish (8-2, No. 16 College Football Playoff) won their third straight game.

“The chemistry with Ian has definitely helped a lot,” Claypool said. “I think Ian knows this is what he likes, I think he truly trusts me now. Not that he didn’t before, but he knows exactly where to put the ball. He’s throwing the ball up and giving me a chance to make a play.”

Claypool caught seven passes from Book for 117 yards and now has 49 receptions for 768 yards this season.

“Chase is an important part of our offense, so he’s going to get the football,” Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly said. “He was outstanding. We executed flawlessly in the first half against a really good Navy team.”

The 17th straight home victory did not sell out Notre Dame Stadium. It was the first time since 1973 Thanksgiving Day against Air Force, a string of 273 sold-out games. A crowd of 74,080, 3,542 below capacity, saw Notre Dame win for the 79th time in the 93-game series that has been played continuously since 1927.

Book completed 14 of 20 passes for 284 yards and five touchdowns before exiting midway through the third quarter and the Irish up 45-0. It was his third game with five touchdowns passes this season and followed a 38-7 victory at Duke in which he rushed for 139 yards and threw for four touchdowns, a Notre Dame first.

“I think we can safely assume he is the guy we thought he would be,” Kelly said. “He started slowly but has now found himself. He is the leader of our offense and our offense is playing at a high level now.”

But Book turned the high praise toward his wide receiver.

“Chase is having an awesome year,” Book said. “It’s starting to show on Saturdays by how hard he’s working in practice.”

Claypool had scoring receptions of 7, 47 and 3 yards from Book to give the Irish a 21-0 lead early in the second quarter. Book threw his 70th touchdown pass to sophomore Braden Lenzy later in the quarter as Notre Dame took a 38-3 halftime lead and then hit Claypool with a 20-yard scoring pass on its final play of the game. Together, Claypool’s 4 TD haul matched Maurice Stovall, who caught four TD passes against BYU in 2005. The Irish ended a five-game winning streak for the Midshipmen (7-2, No. 23 CFP), who entered leading the nation in rushing with 357.9 yards per game.

“They got our butts whipped and it started with me,” Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo said. “They had a great plan on both sides of the ball and we just got a total breakdown.”

The Irish defense forced three first-half fumbles by shifty Midshipmen quarterback Malcolm Perry, who rushed 25 times for 117 yards before being replaced in the third quarter by freshman Perry Olsen.

Notre Dame defensive end Khalid Kareem forced two fumbles and linebacker Drew White had 10 tackles. The Irish turned four fumble recoveries into 24 points.

Perry was averaging 130.2 rushing yards entering the game. He managed a 46-yard run late in the first half that set up a Bijan Nichols’ 27-yard field goal, but for the most part was contained. Meanwhile, Navy’s defense, allowing just 310.6 yards a game, allowed 300 at halftime by the Irish and 410 for the game.

“We had to play almost perfect to beat these guys and fumbling doesn’t help you beat anybody, and I take full ownership of that,” Perry said.

Hammond leads Air Force rally past Colorado State

Academies roundup

From left, Air Force defensive lineman Mosese Fifita, defensive back Jeremy Fejedelem, quarterback Donald Hammond III and wide receiver Ben Peterson celebrate after beating Colorado State.

I wanted to take the lead back for our team and spark some energy and that’s what happened.

Air Force wide receiver Gerard Sanders

On a 50-yard touchdown catch

Hammond leads Air Force rally past Colorado State

Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — Gerard Sanders transformed a short catch into a turning point.

Donald Hammond III ran for 284 yards and five touchdowns in the third quarter as Army (5-6) within three points. But the Falcons responded by grinding out another scoring drive that reached the Air Force 1-yard line, setting up a 1-yard touchdown run by Hammond with 49 seconds remaining that pulled the Rams (4-6, 3-3) within three points.

Hammond capped with a 1-yard touchdown run in the final minute of the game series that has been played continuously since 1927.

He started slowly but has now found himself. He is the leader of our offense and our offense is playing at a high level now.

By John Fineran

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — If Chase Claypool and Ian Book continue connecting as they did Saturday in No. 16 Notre Dame’s 52-20 rout of No. 21 Navy, the hotel roommates may deserve a penthouse suite.

Claypool caught four touchdown passes to match a school record and Book threw five for the third time this season as the Irish (8-2, No. 16 College Football Playoff) won their third straight game.

“The chemistry with Ian has definitely helped a lot,” Claypool said. “I think Ian knows this is what he likes, I think he truly trusts me now. Not that he didn’t before, but he knows exactly where to put the ball. He’s throwing the ball up and giving me a chance to make a play.”

Claypool caught seven passes from Book for 117 yards and now has 49 receptions for 768 yards this season.

“Chase is an important part of our offense, so he’s going to get the football,” Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly said. “He was outstanding. We executed flawlessly in the first half against a really good Navy team.”

The 17th straight home victory did not sell out Notre Dame Stadium. It was the first time since 1973 Thanksgiving Day against Air Force, a string of 273 sold-out games. A crowd of 74,080, 3,542 below capacity, saw Notre Dame win for the 79th time in the 93-game series that has been played continuously since 1927.

Book completed 14 of 20 passes for 284 yards and five touchdowns before exiting midway through the third quarter and the Irish up 45-0. It was his third game with five touchdowns passes this season and followed a 38-7 victory at Duke in which he rushed for 139 yards and threw for four touchdowns, a Notre Dame first.

“I think we can safely assume he is the guy we thought he would be,” Kelly said. “He started slowly but has now found himself. He is the leader of our offense and our offense is playing at a high level now.”

But Book turned the high praise toward his wide receiver.

“Chase is having an awesome year,” Book said. “It’s starting to show on Saturdays by how hard he’s working in practice.”

Claypool had scoring receptions of 7, 47 and 3 yards from Book to give the Irish a 21-0 lead early in the second quarter. Book threw his 70th touchdown pass to sophomore Braden Lenzy later in the quarter as Notre Dame took a 38-3 halftime lead and then hit Claypool with a 20-yard scoring pass on its final play of the game. Together, Claypool’s 4 TD haul matched Maurice Stovall, who caught four TD passes against BYU in 2005. The Irish ended a five-game winning streak for the Midshipmen (7-2, No. 23 CFP), who entered leading the nation in rushing with 357.9 yards per game.

“They got our butts whipped and it started with me,” Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo said. “They had a great plan on both sides of the ball and we just got a total breakdown.”

The Irish defense forced three first-half fumbles by shifty Midshipmen quarterback Malcolm Perry, who rushed 25 times for 117 yards before being replaced in the third quarter by freshman Perry Olsen.

Notre Dame defensive end Khalid Kareem forced two fumbles and linebacker Drew White had 10 tackles. The Irish turned four fumble recoveries into 24 points.

Perry was averaging 130.2 rushing yards entering the game. He managed a 46-yard run late in the first half that set up a Bijan Nichols’ 27-yard field goal, but for the most part was contained. Meanwhile, Navy’s defense, allowing just 310.6 yards a game, allowed 300 at halftime by the Irish and 410 for the game.

“We had to play almost perfect to beat these guys and fumbling doesn’t help you beat anybody, and I take full ownership of that,” Perry said.
Georgia wide receiver Demetris Robertson, right, is knocked out of bounds by Auburn defensive back Christian Tutt during the second half of Saturday’s game in Auburn, Ala. The Bulldogs won 21-14.

By John Zenor
Associated Press
AUBURN, Ala. — Georgia’s defense entered the fourth quarter wary for another shutout. The fifth-ranked Bulldogs ended it with two big stops — and another division title.

In between, things got interesting.

Jake Fromm passed for three touchdowns and Georgia’s defense delivered in the clutch, clinching the Southeastern Conference Eastern Division with a 21-14 victory over No. 13 Auburn on Saturday.

“Our kids were very resilient to come into this place and lose momentum — obviously lose momentum — and be able to go back out and get it,” Georgia coach Kirby Smart said. “I thought that showed some fortitude and ability to handle some tough, adverse things.”

The Bulldogs (9-1, 6-1 SEC, No. 4 CFP) sailed through three quarters with a 21-0 lead before Auburn (7-3, 4-3) rallied in the fourth.

Georgia held on to become the first team to win three consecutive SEC East titles since Florida won five in a row from 1992-96.

Fromm and DeAndre Swift produced enough to keep the Bulldogs on track for a shot at the College Football Playoff. Most of the season, though, it was clear Georgia’s game featured two of the league’s top defenses.

Auburn scored two touchdowns in the fourth, then had a pair of drives stopped on fourth down in the final minutes. Freshman Bo Nix threw three incompletions and was sacked on the Tigers’ final drive starting from their 27.

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Tigers (10-0, 6-0 Southeastern Conference) burned rallied in the fourth.

 dogs clinched the Southeastern Conference.

 Jones, who went 7-for-11 for 94 yards. He was replaced in the second half by Mac

 vailoa was 14-for-18 for 256 yards and two

 yards and three TDs in the Grizzlies' 35-16 win over Weber State.

 six TDs in a 63-27 rout of Texas State.

 45-6 victory over UMass.

 Gardner-Webb.

 Campbell.

 and added three catches for 66 yards and a score in a 47-10 win over Car

 Bulldogs cruised past Princeton 51-14.

 regular season with a 52-3 victory over Wake Forest.

 Michigan State for the Spartans' fifth straight loss.

 — The Associated Press

 Northwestern's Evan Hull, center, celebrates as he scores a touchdown against Massachusetts during the first half on Saturday in Evanston, Ill. Hull ran for 220 yards and four TDs in a 45-6 victory.

 How the AP Top 25 fared

 LSU (10-0) beat Mississippi 58-37. Joe Burrow threw for 406 yards and five touchdowns and LSU built a big lead and held off Mississippi. The Tigers' 58-37 season finale scored on four of their first five possessions jump out to a 28-0 lead over the Rebels.

 vs. Arkansas, Saturday.

 Ohio State (10-0) beat Rutgers 24-7. Justin Fields threw for a career-high 305 yards and matched his best with four touchdown passes to lead the Buckeyes. J.K. Dobbins ran for two touchdowns and comeback Shaun Wade set up two early TDs with an interception and a fumble.

 vs. No. 9 Penn State, Saturday.

 Clemson (11-0) beat Wake Forest 52-3. Trevor Lawrence tied his career high with four touchdown passes after a sluggish first half for Florida. Trask completed 23 of 35 passes for 266 yards. That was plenty of offense for Florida, which held Missouri to 204 total yards. Linebacker Jon Greenard had two sacks and five tackles for loss.

 vs. Auburn, Saturday.

 Oklahoma (10-0) beat Texas 52-34. On Saturday in Evanston, Ill. Hull ran for 220 yards and four TDs in a 45-6 victory.
Hurts, Sooners rally to hand Bears first loss

QB lifts No. 10 Oklahoma past No. 12 Baylor with 3 second-half TD passes

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts was shouting at himself coming off the field after his third turnover, a fumble when running toward the end zone.

When it was all over, Hurts and coach Lincoln Riley were sharing a joyous embrace and the No. 10 Sooners’ playoff hopes were still alive.

Gabe Brkic kicked a 31-yard field goal with 5:25 left. The quarterback also ran for a game-tying 2-yarder to Braxton Willis. Hurts had more chance after the go-ahead field goal. The Bears got to the Sooners’ 40 before linebacker Nik Bonitto’s interception with 29 seconds left.

Charlie Brewer, who finished 18-of-29 passing for 194 yards, threw two touchdown passes to Denzel Mims and ran for two more in the first half when Baylor jumped out to a 28-3 lead.

Hurts was running toward the end zone to get Oklahoma within a touchdown in the third quarter when he fumbled — big defensive end James Lynch reached out and knocked the ball loose, then recovered it in the end zone.

That was after the Sooners had opened the second half with Stogner’s second TD catch, a 3-yarder that made it 31-17. Hurts bounced back from his fumble on the next drive, hitting Theo Wease for a 19-yard touchdown.

“We all felt like we had a chance,” Riley said. “We did a great job of controlling things.”

Iowa’s Nate Wieting then recovered the onside kick. Brewer had a 4-yard TD run on the first play of the second quarter that set up when Blake Lynch tripped up Hurts, who fumbled when he reached down to try to stay on his feet.

After Brkic kicked a 39-yard field goal on Oklahoma’s opening drive, Brewer had a 2-yard TD run and then lofted a perfectly thrown 30-yard touchdown pass that Mims caught crossing the goal line.

No. 23 Iowa holds off No. 7 Minnesota

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Minnesota’s undefeated season came to an end in a place where the Hawkeyes have struggled for a while.

Nate Stanley threw two touchdown passes and Tyler Goodson ran for a score to help No. 23 Iowa beat No. 7 Minnesota 23-19 on Saturday, handing the Gophers their first loss while hurting their playoff prospects.

The Gophers (9-1, 6-1, No. 8 CFP) haven’t won at Kinnick Stadium since 1999, losing nine straight on the road in the series. The loss will hurt them in the rankings, but they stay in control of their own fate in the Big Ten West Division race.

That, coach P.J. Fleck said, is something his team needs to remember.

“This is one game,” Fleck said. “Everything else is sitting right in front of us. If we can play a game that poorly, we can come back from it.”

“This is not the end of the world. It hurts. It should hurt — it’s a rivalry game. This is what college football is all about. … This is one game. That’s all that means.”

The Hawkeyes (7-3, 4-3) struck quickly, scoring touchdowns on their first three possessions, then held off Minnesota’s charge in the second half for their first victory over a ranked opponent this season.

“We did a great job of controlling the first half,” Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. “We knew we were going to have to score some points today. It’s no mirage how many points they’ve scored, the yards that they’ve had.”

“We had to open it up,” said wide receiver Nico Raganiel, who scored the Hawkeyes’ first touchdown on a 21-yard pass from Stanley.

“Defensively, we started too slow,” Gophers linebacker Thomas Barber said.

Minnesota got to 23-19 with 3:27 to play when Rodney Smith scored on a 1-yard dive. But Brock Walker’s extra-point attempt missed. Iowa’s Nate Wieting then recovered the onside kick.

The Gophers had a final chance. But quarterback Tanner Morgan was sacked by Joe Evans and A.J. Epenesa on back-to-back plays, then backup Cole Kramer’s pass was intercepted by Riley Moss.

Playing the blame game

Tagovailoa’s injury disastrous, but fault can’t be laid on Saban, Alabama

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press

The only foolproof way to avoid being injured playing football is to not play at all.

Alabama star Tua Tagovailoa started Saturday at Mississippi State, a week after he looked gimp on a surgically repaired ankle but played great against LSU. The junior quarterback seemed done for the day with the Crimson Tide up 28 points late in the first half, but Tagovailoa lobbied for one more series and Tide coach Nick Saban gave it to him.

“We can second-guess ourselves all we want,” Saban said. “We told Mac (Jones) to warm up and we were going to go 2-minute before the half. Tua wanted to play in the game and so I don’t really make a lot of decisions worrying if a guy is going to get hurt.”

That final series ended with Tagovailoa seriously injured. Alabama announced hours after it had beaten Mississippi State 38-7 that Tagovailoa had suffered a dislocated right hip and would miss the remainder of the season.

The quarterback who was a national championship game MVP and Heisman Trophy candidate before he ever started a game at Alabama will probably never take another snap for the Tide. A junior who had a real chance of being the first pick in April’s NFL draft is now facing an uncertain future. When a football player gets a hip injury the first name that comes to mind is Bo Jackson, whose career was ended by a dislocated hip in 1990. Hopefully, advancements in medicine

Inside:
- Hurts, Sooners pull off historic comeback over Baylor, Page 31
- Irish rout Navy, Page 28

Calling an audible
Kaepernick throws for scouts after shifting workout » NFL, Page 27

‘Every time you step on the football field and put your pads on, you’re at risk of being injured every single play.’

Matt Leinart
College football analyst

Alabama QB
Tua Tagovailoa
AP photo