

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Navy to christen destroyer, transport vessel

BY CHRISTIAN LOPEZ

Stars and Stripes

The Navy will christen two of its newest ships, the third and final Zumwalt-class guided-missile destroyer USS Lyndon B. Johnson and the high-speed transport vessel USNS Guam on Saturday.

Lynda Johnson Robb and Luci Johnson as ship sponsors will break a bottle of wine across the bow of the ship that bears their father's name, Lyndon B. Johnson, 36th president of the United States. The christening takes place at 10 a.m. in Bath, Maine, where the vessel was built at the General Dynamics Bath Iron Works.

Half a world away, at 10 a.m. in Okinawa, Japan, Bruni

Bradley, a 25-year Navy veteran and wife of U.S. ambassador to South Korea Harry B. Harris Jr., will christen the USNS Guam. The Guam is a former fast ferry that belonged to the now-defunct Hawaii Superferry corporation.

The Navy obtained the vessel and its sister ship, the Alakai, renamed the USNS Puerto Rico, from the Department of Transportation in 2012, according to Pacific Business News.

Austal USA, the Mobile, Ala.-based arm of the Australian shipbuilding firm, built the ship now known as the Guam. The 373-foot-long ship is fast, flexible and maneuverable, making it the ideal vessel for transporting troops and equipment rapidly, according to a

statement from the Navy.

By contrast, the 610-foot-long Lyndon B. Johnson has a stealth design, meaning it's engineered to reduce its radar signature and is capable of sailing at 30 knots, according to the Navy. It has a wave-piercing tumblehome hull and a state-of-the-art electric propulsion system.

The Navy originally planned to put 32 Zumwalt-class destroyers to sea, a number trimmed to three as the price of each ship, an estimated \$8 billion, grew after 2005, according to the Project on Government Oversight, a nonpartisan, independent watchdog group based in Washington, D.C.

The Zumwalt-class ships carry the Advanced Gun Sys-

tem, which fires precision-guided, 155-mm projectiles. The cost of those projectiles last year reached nearly \$1 million each — almost as much as one of each ship's Tomahawk missiles, according to a POGO report in January.

The Navy left the system on the Zumwalt-class destroyers in inactive status until a cheaper projectile could be developed.

However, the ship is capable of anti-air warfare, anti-submarine warfare, surface warfare, land attack and strike warfare missions. It joins the two other ships of its class — USS Zumwalt and USS Michael Monsoor — already in the fleet.

Sgt. Maj. Black appointed sergeant major of USMC

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sgt. Major Troy E. Black has been selected as the 19th sergeant major of the Marine Corps, the service announced Thursday.

Black will replace Sgt. Maj. Ronald L. Green during a ceremony later this year. Green, who has serviced in the Marine Corps for 35 years, will retire after the ceremony.

The sergeant major of the Marine Corps is the senior enlisted adviser to the commandant and serves a four-year term.

Originally from Louisville, Ky., Black, 50, has been the sergeant major for manpower and reserve affairs since 2017. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1988, and he was sent to infantry school at Camp Geiger,

N.C., to be trained as a machine gunner. He has deployed multiple times throughout his career, including in support of Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Enduring Freedom, according to the Marine Corps.

Black has also served as the sergeant major of the Officer Candidates School, the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit and 1st Marine Logistics Group, according to the Marine Corps. His military awards include the Legion of Merit with gold star, the Bronze Star with combat distinguishing device, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat distinguishing device and three gold stars and the Combat Action Ribbon with two gold stars.

Shanahan to speak at the Naval Academy graduation

Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan is scheduled to speak at the U.S. Naval Academy's graduation and commissioning ceremony next month.

The academy announced Thursday that Shanahan will address the graduating class in Annapolis, Md., on May 24.

Shanahan is a former executive at Boeing, where he worked for more than three decades. He served as the Pentagon's No. 2 official since July 2017 until he was appointed the acting secretary in January.

Shanahan served as a regent at the University of Washington for more than five years.

About 1,000 midshipmen will be commissioned as either Navy ensigns or 2nd lieutenants in the Marines.

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump will deliver the Air Force Academy's graduation speech on May 30, the White House confirmed Thursday.

Trump bumped expected speaker Vice President Mike Pence from the podium for the ceremony in Falcon Stadium, where about 1,000 seniors will pin on the rank of 2nd lieutenant. It will be Trump's first stop in Colorado Springs since his visit during the 2016 presidential campaign.

The academy graduation, which draws as many as 30,000 spectators when the president is the speaker, will include an air show by the Air Force Thunderbirds and feature a galaxy of generals.

The academy is expected to announce how tickets can be obtained in the days before the ceremony.

Naval Academy police chief fired after probe

The Capital, Annapolis, Md.

The chief of the Naval Academy police department has been fired following an investigation into sexual harassment allegations even as Navy officials declined to discuss the reason behind his dismissal.

Cmdr. David McKinney confirmed the firing of Naval Support Activity Annapolis Police Chief Lance Royce on Thursday but referred all questions

to Naval District Washington.

"I can tell you that the Navy takes the job of safety and security for our people very seriously," NDW spokesman Ed Zeigler said. "It's our top priority. And that Lance Royce is no longer employed by NSA Annapolis."

Zeigler offered no further comment.

Royce was on duty during the course of the investigation, Zeigler previously confirmed. It's

unclear whether the investigation has concluded. The Naval Criminal Intelligence Service did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

According to its website, the Naval Support Activity Annapolis Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency. Its primary mission is to provide a secure environment at the Naval Academy.

"We are committed to providing the highest standards of

public service through adherence to the values of honesty, integrity, and the respect of human dignity to all," the department states.

Royce and the deputy chief of police did not answer calls for comment.

The Naval Academy recently hosted a conference on sexual assault and harassment at the service academies, but the discussion took on the military as a whole.

Navy recruit dies during boot camp training

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — An 18-year-old Navy recruit died Tuesday after collapsing during physical training at the service's boot camp at Naval Station Great Lakes in Illinois, service officials said Friday.

Seaman Recruit Kelsey Nobles died at a local hospital where she was transported after suffering cardiac arrest while conducting her final physical assessment before the end of recruit training, said Navy Lt. Joseph W. Pfaff, a spokesman for the service's Recruit Training Command. Had Nobles passed that test, she would have been set to graduate May 3, he said.

"The Navy, and Recruit Training Command take the welfare of our recruits and

sailors very seriously and are investigating the cause of this tragic loss," Pfaff said. "Our thoughts are with Seaman Recruit Nobles' family and friends during this tragic time."

Nobles of Mobile, Ala., was the second Navy recruit to die this year under similar circumstances. Twenty-year-old Seaman Recruit Kierra Evans collapsed and died Feb. 22 while conducting her final physical fitness assessment about one week before she was due to graduate from boot camp, the Navy said at the time.

Pfaff said Evans' death remained under investigation and the Navy was awaiting results of her autopsy.

He said the death investigations would look into any potential linkages between the two sudden fatalities.

"If information is discovered during the course of the investigation revealing deficiencies in our processes and procedures that could improve safety in training, it would be acted on," Pfaff said.

Nobles' father told a local television station in Mobile that the two deaths under similar circumstances raised questions. The Navy promised him a full investigation, he said.

"For me, I'm just like, what's wrong? These young people are so excited about serving their country and going into the military," Harold Nobles told WKRG News. "Are they doing enough to check them? Does physical testing need to be more in-depth?"

His daughter was a graduate of Baker High School in Mobile.

Pentagon set to expand military's role along border

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon will expand the military's mission along the southern border, sending nearly 300 additional active-duty troops there who will be authorized to have direct contact with migrants entering the United States to provide them with food and shuttle them between locations, defense officials said Friday.

Acting Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan on Friday was expected to approve a request for assistance from the Department of Homeland Security to deploy the new troops in the coming days, said Charlie Summers, the Pentagon's acting chief

spokesman. The new troops will include some 160 drivers, about 100 support troops — mostly cooks — and about 20 lawyers.

The new deployment will bring the number of active-duty troops operating along the southern border in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California to about 3,200. Another roughly 2,000 National Guard troops are also serving deployments along the U.S.-Mexico border in a separate but related mission to support Customs and Border Protection agents.

Summers said the new missions that place troops in direct contact with migrants did not represent an official change to the Pentagon's long-standing operating procedures, which barred its troops from

contact with migrants, unless that contact was to deliver emergency medical aid. He said the amendment to the operating procedures, which date back to at least 2006, was written into the DHS request to Shanahan and only applied to the newly deploying troops.

"In the past, we have had absolutely no contact [with migrants] but because we are handing the meals to them, we are delineating," Summers said, pushing back on reporting Friday by the Washington Post, which described the policy exemptions as waivers.

The expanded role at the border for the military would not include law enforcement operations, Summers said.

US economy grew at strong 3.2% rate in the first quarter

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy grew at a solid 3.2% annual rate in the first three months of the year, a far better outcome than expected, overcoming a host of headwinds including global weakness, rising trade tensions and a partial government shutdown.

The advance in the gross domestic product, the broadest measure of economic health, marks an acceleration from a 2.2% gain in the previous October-December period, the Commerce Department reported Friday. However, about half the gain reflected two factors not expected to last — a big jump stockpiling by businesses and a sharp contraction in the trade deficit.

Still, the GDP gain surpassed the 3% bar set by President Donald Trump as evidence his economic program is working.

Trump is counting on a strong economy as he campaigns for re-election.

It was the strongest first-quarter growth rate since 2015. In recent years, GDP has been exceptionally weak in the first quarter. There had been fears growth could dip below 1% this year due to a variety of adverse factors such as the December stock market nosedive, rising weakness in key economies overseas, the U.S. trade war with China and a 35-day partial government shutdown that ended in January.

But the economy shrugged off those concerns, helped by an announcement in early January from the Federal Reserve that after raising rates four times last year, it was declaring a pause on further rate hikes. That spurred a stock market rebound by easing concerns that the central bank might overdo its credit tightening and send

the country into a recession.

Still, economists believe the current April-June quarter will not match the first quarter's performance. Many are looking for GDP growth to slow to around 2% in the current quarter.

In the first quarter, inventory rebuilding added 0.7 percentage point to growth, while a falling trade deficit boosted growth by a full percentage point. Analysts think both of those factors will reverse in the current quarter.

Consumer spending, which accounts for 70% of economic activity, slowed to growth at a rate of just 1.2% in the first quarter.

Government spending was up 2.4% as a big 3.9% gain in state and local spending, reflecting increases in highway construction, offset a flat performance for the federal government.

Trump: US did not pay N. Korea for Warmbeir

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Friday that the United States did not pay any money to North Korea, which had issued a \$2 million bill for the hospice care of American Otto Warmbier, the comatose University of Virginia student sent home from Pyongyang in 2017.

"No money was paid to North Korea for Otto Warmbier, not two Million Dollars, not anything else," Trump said in a morning tweet in which he suggested he has taken a different approach to hostage negotiations than his predecessor.

The Washington Post reported Thursday that North Korea presented an invoice for Warmbier's care in an extraordinarily brazen act even for a regime known for its aggressive tactics.

The main U.S. envoy sent to retrieve Warmbier signed an agreement to pay the medical bill on instructions passed down from Trump, according to two people familiar with the situation. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

The bill went to the Treasury Department, where it remained — unpaid — throughout 2017, the people said.

Prior to Trump's tweet, the White House had declined to comment on whether the bill was paid or whether the issue came up during preparations for Trump's two summits with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

"We do not comment on hostage negotiations, which is why they have been so successful during this administration," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders wrote in an email.

Vet charged with hitting pedestrians

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — An Army veteran with a history of post-traumatic stress disorder was on his way to a Bible class when he told investigators he intentionally drove into a group of men, women and children, injuring eight people, police said.

Isaiah Joel Peoples, 34, was scheduled to appear in court Friday in San Jose after being charged with eight counts of attempted murder.

Peoples is a former Army sharpshooter who was deployed to Iraq in 2005 and 2006. He showed no remorse after his car plowed at high speed into a group of people in a crosswalk on Tuesday evening in the Silicon Valley suburb of Sunnyvale before hitting a tree, Police Chief Phan Ngo said.

Eight people were hurt, the

youngest a 9-year-old boy who was treated for minor injuries. Four remained hospitalized, including a 13-year-old girl in critical condition.

The police chief said Peoples had picked up food and was on his way to deliver it to his Bible study group.

Investigators were trying to determine a motive.

Though the FBI was assisting in the investigation, there was no evidence linking Peoples to any terrorist organization and, so far, no evidence of a federal crime, Ngo said.

Investigators were processing evidence found Wednesday in a search of Peoples' apartment in Sunnyvale, about 50 miles south of San Francisco. Police also gave him a blood test for drugs and were checking into accounts from family members that he had a history of mental illness.

Family and friends described Peoples as quiet and polite and expressed shock at his involvement.

His mother, Leevell Peoples of Sacramento, said Peoples had "a bad episode" with PTSD in 2015, for which he was hospitalized, and has told her that he had been taking medication regularly since then.

She could not imagine any situation in which her son would deliberately crash into innocent people other than something related to the PTSD.

"Unless the car malfunctioned, he would not have done that. He's like the perfect, model citizen," she said.

"He basically probably has no friends but the people he works with," she said. "He's an Army vet. He's a good kid, never been arrested. I promise you: It was not deliberate. If anything, it was that Army."

2 colleges quarantine students over measles

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A quarantine at two Los Angeles universities affected more than 200 students and staff who may have been exposed to measles and either have not been vaccinated or cannot verify that they are immune.

The order issued in connection with the University of California and Cal State University comes as the number of measles cases nationwide has hit a 25-year high. The order requires that affected people to stay home, avoid contact with others and notify authorities if they develop measles symptoms.

The virus is highly contagious, spread by

coughing and sneezing.

“One person with a confirmed measles case can expose thousands of people to measles,” the county’s public health department director Dr. Barbara Ferrer said at a news conference Thursday.

Los Angeles County public health officials issued quarantines of 24 to 48 hours until proof of immunity is established, officials said.

Some people may need to be quarantined for up to a week.

Measles in the United States has climbed to its highest level in 25 years, closing in on 700 cases this year in a resurgence largely attributed to misinformation that is turning parents against vaccines. Roughly

three-quarters of this year’s illnesses have been in New York state.

A UCLA student who was diagnosed with measles possibly exposed 500 people on campus to measles in early April, according to a statement from the school.

As of Thursday afternoon, 79 of those students and faculty members had not provided medical records showing that they are immune to measles, the university said.

At Cal State, a person infected with measles visited a library and possibly encountered hundreds of employees, some of whom were students. One hundred fifty-six of them could not provide their immunization records as of Thursday afternoon, according to a statement from the Cal State.

Sri Lanka Catholics cancel Sunday Masses

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Catholic churches in Sri Lanka canceled all Sunday Masses until further notice over concerns that they remain a top target of Islamic State-linked extremists, even as authorities said Friday a suspected local leader blew himself up in the Easter suicide bombings.

Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith told journalists that church officials had seen a leaked security document describing Catholic churches and other denominations as a major target for attackers. Ranjith, who is archbishop of Colombo, also asked the faithful to stay home for their own safety.

“We don’t want repetitions,” Ranjith said.

The cardinal’s comments come after the U.S. Embassy in Sri Lanka warned the public to stay away from places of worship over the weekend, a stark alert underlining that authorities believe that members of the group remain at large.

The group’s leader, Mohamed Zahran, killed himself in a suicide bombing at the Shangri-La hotel, one of six hotels and churches targeted in the attacks that killed at least 250 people on Sunday, police said Friday.

Police also said they had arrested the second-in-command of the group, called National Towheed Jamaat.

For the first time Friday, Catholic priests allowed journalists inside one of the

bombed churches, St. Anthony’s Shrine in Colombo.

Broken glass littered the sanctuary’s broken pews and blood stained the floor.

Shoes left behind by panicked worshippers remained in the darkened church. Broken bottles of holy water lay on the floor, where flowers were strewn. Armed soldiers stood guard outside.

Gratiano Fernando crossed himself when he looked at the church after walking out of his shop nearby. Fernando said he, like other Sri Lankans, is worried about further attacks.

There is “no security, no safety to go to church,” he said. “Now children are scared to go to church.”

Second powerful cyclone strikes in Mozambique

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — The second powerful cyclone to strike Mozambique in just six weeks ripped off roofs and killed at least three people on Friday as the United Nations warned of “massive flooding” ahead.

Cyclone Kenneth had approached Mozambique with maximum sustained winds of 136 mph, the power of a Category 4 hurricane, the Joint Typhoon Warning Center said.

Over the next 10 days, the storm is expected to dump twice as much rain as Cyclone Idai did last month, World Food Program spokesman Herve Verhoosel said. Idai killed more than 600 people and displaced tens of thousands.

This is the first time in recorded history

that the southern African nation has been hit by two cyclones in one season, the U.N. said.

Kenneth made landfall Thursday night in a part of Mozambique that hasn’t seen such a fierce storm in at least 60 years, forecasters said, renewing concerns about climate change and the country’s vulnerable 1,500-mile Indian Ocean coastline.

Mozambique’s local emergency operations center said a falling tree killed a woman in the city of Pemba and a “high number” of houses in the Macomia district of Cabo Delgado province were destroyed. Four ships sank off Palma town, with no reported deaths, the center said. On Ibo island, about 90% of houses in the main village were destroyed.

“Cyclone Kenneth may require a major new humanitarian operation” in one of the world’s poorest nations, even as post-Cyclone Idai relief operations are expected to continue for months, U.N. humanitarian chief Mark Lowcock said in a statement.

As with the earlier cyclone, thousands of people could be left exposed and hungry as flood waters rise in coming days. Forecasters expected the remnants of the storm to bring heavy rain as it lingers over the region.

While the region that took the brunt of this cyclone is more sparsely populated than the area that took a hit from Idai last month, Mozambique’s disaster management agency has said nearly 700,000 people could be at risk.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Dozens of turtles saved from sewage plant

AR WEST MEMPHIS — An east Arkansas animal shelter has rescued dozens of turtles from a wastewater treatment facility after they became trapped in sewage pond filters.

Wesley Burt with the West Memphis Animal Shelter said the treatment plant notified the shelter last Wednesday and by the end of the next day, about 75 turtles had been rescued.

According to the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, the reptiles — mostly box turtles with one snapping turtle — were eventually released at the banks of the Mississippi River.

Paul Holloway, superintendent of wastewater for West Memphis, which is about 120 miles east of Little Rock, said the turtles become trapped when the sewage ponds are pumped to prevent overflowing after heavy rains.

Animal shelter employees are now checking the pond for turtles daily, and the facility has said they'll let the shelter know when they plan to activate the pumps.

Theater near church avoids 'Hellboy' title

TN DICKSON — A Tennessee movie theater that sits across from a church and next to an elementary school is promoting the latest movie in the "Hellboy" franchise as "Heckboy."

The Tennessean reported the PG-rated advertisement at the Dickson theater has caused a local buzz around the \$50 million movie, which grossed \$19.8 million in its first two weekends.

Manager Belinda Daniel said the theater avoids putting up words on its sign that may be seen as profanity. She said they

want to be respectful to everyone, including the hundreds of children who pass by every day. But she said the response to the theater's play on words has been more exciting than expected.

Flesh-eating bacteria infects fisherman

FL TAMPA — A Florida man is being treated for flesh-eating bacteria he contracted while fishing in the Gulf of Mexico.

Mike Walton told Tampa television station WFTS that he was stuck by a fish hook while fishing about 20 miles off the coast of Palm Harbor last Saturday. He later went to a hospital, where he received antibiotics for his hand, which had started swelling.

Walton said that by Easter Sunday, there were black bubbles growing on his injured hand. He was rushed to Tampa General Hospital where infectious disease doctors began treating him.

Officer charged with trying to shock partner

MO ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis police officer has been charged with trying to shock another officer with a department-issued Taser as she was driving their patrol car.

Christopher Childers, 34, was charged Tuesday with one misdemeanor count of fourth-degree assault. Charging documents say Childers' partner feared losing control of their car. The incident is alleged to have happened in February.

Police said in a statement that the Internal Affairs Division investigated and then presented its findings to prosecutors for review. The department said it couldn't comment further. Childers' employment status wasn't clear.

Childers has been with the department for nearly 10 years. His attorney, Nicole Moody, said she anticipated he would enter a not guilty plea. She said she could provide no other information at this time.

Man who hid out in attic now faces charges

PA PITTSBURGH — A man who allegedly had been hiding out in the attic of his ex-girlfriend's Pittsburgh home is now facing burglary charges.

Authorities said the woman found Cary Cocuzzi, 31, in her bedroom last Saturday. They say she had a protection from abuse order against him.

Cocuzzi allegedly grabbed the woman and put a hand over her mouth. But she pushed him away and ran outside screaming, spurring several neighbors to call 911.

Police searched the house and found Cocuzzi hiding under clothes and furniture. They say he told officers he was homeless and had been sneaking in and out of the house for about two weeks.

Walleye record falls for 2nd time in a year

ND BISMARCK — North Dakota's walleye record has fallen for the second time in less than a year.

The state Game and Fish Department said Lincoln angler Tom Volk on April 21 was shore-fishing the Heart River in Mandan when he hauled in a 16-pound, 9-ounce walleye.

It broke the record set last May when Neal Leier of Bismarck caught a 15-pound, 13-ounce walleye from the Missouri River.

Before Leier's fish, North Dakota's walleye record had stood for nearly six decades.

Bug related to fatal disease is spotted

DE WILMINGTON — An insect that can pass along a fatal disease and is nicknamed for biting people around their mouths has officially been spotted in Delaware.

The News Journal of Wilmington reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week confirmed arrival of *Triatoma sanguisuga*, otherwise known as the "kissing bug."

The CDC says the bug has been making its way north from South and Central America.

It has already been spotted in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

The bloodsucking bug's bite is often painless, but it can spread Chagas as their infected feces flows through the open wound.

Job sales pitch: "Low Pay and Cool Helmets!!"

MO CAPE GIRARDEAU — A Missouri county on the hunt for new firefighters is getting real with its sales pitch, saying in signs posted outside its stations that the job offers "Hard Labor, Odd Hours, Low Pay and Cool Helmets!!"

KFVS-TV reported that the Scott County Rural Fire Protection District's chief, Jeremy Perrien, said most advertisements are "kind of boring." He said that's why they "wanted to add some humor to it" and "try to catch people's attention." The fire district posted a picture of the help wanted message on its Facebook page this week.

Perrien said they're short about 15 firefighters, but they rarely have a full staff. The ad comes amid a shortage of volunteer firefighters in the Heartland.

From wire reports

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and Military News

Cards choose QB Murray with top pick

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback at the top, two more QBs along the way — and a whole lot of guys who like nothing better than putting passers on the ground.

That was the look for the first round of the NFL Draft Thursday night.

Arizona defied NFL custom and at least temporarily created a quarterback quandary by selecting Oklahoma's Kyler Murray to start proceedings in a wet and wild selection show.

As thousands of fans withstood rain that began just about when Commissioner Roger Goodell spoke Murray's name, the Cardinals spent a second straight high pick on a signal caller. Arizona moved up from 15th overall to 10th in 2018 to grab Josh Rosen.

NFL teams simply don't do that, but with a new coach in college-trained Kliff Kingsbury, the Cardinals made the bold move. At least until they likely move Rosen elsewhere in a trade.

"My job is to come in every day, work hard and get better each and every day, do what I can to make this team better," Murray said. "I've known Josh since high school, so me and him are cool. We got along really well, so I've always been fond of him. But us being teammates now, I can't control anything but going in there and working hard."

Resplendent in a pink suit — nothing close to the Cardinals red he will be wearing in Arizona — Murray was a first-round baseball pick by the Oakland A's. He becomes the 22nd Heisman Trophy winner to go first overall and is the second straight Sooners quarterback to pull it off: Baker Mayfield went to Cleveland in 2018.

"BACK TO BACK!!!! CONGRATS K1!!!! Well deserved my brotha!!!!" Mayfield tweeted.

As for bypassing baseball, Murray has no qualms about the decision.

"I love playing multiple sports. I grew up playing multiple sports," he said. "I just think there's no reason to limit yourself to one sport. I love to compete, so it wasn't a big deal for me."

With quarterbacks so in demand these days, the Giants might have reached a bit for Duke's Daniel Jones at the sixth spot, and the Redskins did just the opposite to get Dwayne Haskins. They stayed put at No. 15 and the Ohio State star fell to them.

Perhaps serendipitously, he held a bowling party about 30 miles away Thursday night.

"I'm just going to work on getting my head in that playbook," said Haskins, a one-year starter for the Buckeyes. "I'm going to do all I can to get physically and mentally ready for the upcoming season and just motivate my guys that's coming in with me in this rookie class."

After Murray, though, defense became the order of the night. Of the first 20 picks, 12 were for that side of the ball, all of them pass-rushing threats.

Ohio State edge rusher Nick Bosa went second to San Francisco as expected. The 49ers have used a first-round selection on four defensive linemen in the past five drafts.

"I see him as a three-down player," general manager John Lynch said. "He's got to come in and do it, but he plays the run well. His best strength is rushing the passer, but he can play all three downs and play in all situations."

Bosa's older brother, Joey, plays for the Chargers and was the 2016 Defensive Rookie of the Year. Their father also played in the NFL.

"Good genes, man," Bosa said with a laugh. "It was just excitement all around. My brother wanted me to go higher than he did (third overall), so just for my dream to come true and my family to be there to watch, it was pretty great."

Bosa is the highest Ohio State draft pick since offensive tackle Orlando Pace went No. 1

to St. Louis in 1997. He missed all but three games last season with a core muscle injury, but already had exhibited the kind of playmaking that lifts players to lofty status. Such as the second pick in the draft.

The Jets, widely speculated to trade the third pick, used it on Alabama defensive tackle Quinnen Williams. Not even a starter until 2018, he won the Outland Trophy last season and is Alabama's highest-drafted defensive player since linebacker Cornelius Bennett went No. 2 overall in 1987.

More defense with Clemson end Clelin Ferrell going to Oakland and LSU linebacker Devin White to Tampa Bay, both addressing huge needs.

The Giants, looking for Eli Manning's eventual successor, took Jones, the Senior Bowl MVP. Jones generally was not considered a first-round prospect when the college season ended. But he's been tutored at Duke by David Cutcliffe, who also coached Peyton and Eli Manning in college.

"I think it's a tremendous opportunity to learn for a young quarterback, Jones said of Eli Manning.

"He is a guy that's had a whole lot of success in the NFL and there is a reason for that. I'm looking to understand that and do my best to learn as much as I can from him while he's in New York."

Kentucky edge rusher Josh Allen followed to Jacksonville, then it was Iowa tight end T.J. Hockenson to Detroit and Houston DT Ed Oliver to Buffalo.

Finally, in the 10th spot, a trade: Pittsburgh sending the 20th spot, the 53rd selection and a third-rounder next year to Denver. The Steelers, with Hall of Famer Joe Greene making the announcement, selected Michigan linebacker Devin Bush — a player apparently coveted by AFC North rival Cincinnati at No. 11.

The Bengals grabbed Alabama tackle Jonah Williams instead.

Three consecutive picks were dealt later in the round. Denver had gotten No. 20 from the Steelers and took Noah Fant, the second Iowa tight end chosen Thursday night. Green Bay acquired the next pick from Seattle and got Maryland safety Darnell Savage, a somewhat surprising choice. Then the Eagles dealt with Baltimore and probably got a replacement for longtime left tackle Jason Peters with Tytus Howard of Alabama State, the initial non-FBS player chosen.

One spot later, at No. 24, Oakland used its second pick on Alabama's Josh Jacobs, the first running back to go. The Raiders' third selection was Mississippi State safety Johnathan Abrams.

Baltimore's new GM, Eric DeCosta, made his first choice in charge of the draft Oklahoma receiver Marquise Brown, who also wept upon being called.

Through its bartering, Seattle had consecutive spots at 29 and 30, selecting TCU's L.J. Collier — yet another defensive lineman — before sending the 30th to the Giants, who grabbed cornerback DeAndre Baker of Georgia. That gave New York three first-rounders.

One team that stuck to the trenches, but on the offensive side, was Atlanta. Desperate for blocking help, the Falcons drafted Boston College guard Chris Lindstrom and Washington tackle Kaleb McGary, who they got by trading back into the opening round to get the Rams' 31st spot.

New England concluded a first round that saw 18 defensive players taken (only three in the secondary) and 14 on offense with receiver N'Keal Harry of Arizona State.

Overall, the SEC had nine players, the ACC eight and the Big Ten seven. Clemson, Alabama and Mississippi State had three draftees apiece.

Celtics great Havlicek dies at age 79

Associated Press

BOSTON — John Havlicek's legacy was built over 16 years with the Boston Celtics, eight of them as NBA champions, making him among the best to ever play the game.

One play immortalized him forever.

"Havlicek stole the ball! Havlicek stole the ball!" Celtics radio announcer Johnny Most screamed, a moment that remains among the famous plays in NBA history.

The Celtics said Havlicek died Thursday in Jupiter, Fla. He was 79. The cause of death wasn't immediately available. The Boston Globe said he had Parkinson's disease.

Voted one of the 50 greatest players in NBA history, Havlicek's steal of Hal Greer's inbounds pass helped the Celtics hold off Philadelphia in the 1965 Eastern Conference final.

"John Havlicek is one of the most accomplished players in Boston Celtics history, and the face of many of the franchise's signature moments," the Celtics said in a statement. "He was a champion in every sense, and as we join his family, friends, and fans in mourning his loss, we are thankful for all the joy

and inspiration he brought to us."

Nicknamed "Hondo" for his resemblance to John Wayne, Havlicek was drafted ninth in the first round in 1962 out of Ohio State by a Celtics team stocked with stars Bill Russell, Bob Cousy, K.C. Jones, Sam Jones, Tom Sanders, Tom Heinsohn and Frank Ramsey. Boston won championships in six of his first seven years.

Then, as the veteran players gradually moved on, Havlicek became the elder statesman and moved up to become a starter. The team won championships in 1973-74 and 1975-76 with Havlicek leading squads that included Dave Cowens and Jo Jo White.

"John Havlicek was a wonderful friend who represented the best of the NBA," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said in a statement. "He described himself as a man of routine and discipline — a humble approach that produced extraordinary results."

Havlicek was the MVP of the 1974 Finals, and set Celtics career records for points and games. He was named one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History and enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basket-

ball Hall of Fame in 1984. At Ohio State, he helped lead the Buckeyes to the 1960 national championship.

As much as his deadly jump shot or his play in Boston's triple-overtime NBA Finals victory over Phoenix in 1976, Havlicek was known for his durability.

In his NBA career he scored 26,395 points in 1,270 games and played in 13 All-Star Games.

"The Boston Celtics are not a team, they are a way of life," Hall of Fame coach and executive Red Auerbach once said. And no one personified the Celtics way more than Havlicek.

His No.17 was raised to the rafters in old Boston Garden and now resides in TD Garden, retired soon after he retired in 1978. He averaged 20.8 points, 6.3 rebounds and 4.8 assists in the regular season, and 22.0 points, 6.9 rebounds and 4.8 assists in 172 playoff games.

Born April 8, 1940, in Martins Ferry, Ohio, Havlicek became a standout athlete at Bridgeport High School in the small coal-mining town of 2,500 near Wheeling, W.Va.

The 6-foot-5 Havlicek was also an outstanding football and baseball player in high

school and was given a tryout by the Cleveland Browns after graduating from college.

As a sophomore at Ohio State, he scored 12.2 points a game as the Buckeyes won the national championship, beating California 75-55 in the final. His junior and senior years, Ohio State again won Big Ten titles and made it to the NCAA title game but lost to Cincinnati each time. During Havlicek's three years at Ohio State, the Buckeyes went 78-6, dominating most games unlike any team up to that time.

All five starters from Ohio State's title team in 1960 — which included Jerry Lucas and future Celtics teammate Larry Siegfried — played in the NBA. Backup Bob Knight went on to a Hall of Fame coaching career.

Havlicek remained in Boston after his retirement, managing investments. He later split time between New England and Florida. He occasionally returned to Ohio State for reunions of the championship team and Celtics events. His Ohio State number was retired during ceremonies in the 2004-2005 season.

Spurs force Game 7 despite 43 points from Nuggets' Jokic

Associated Press

SANANTONIO—LaMarcus Aldridge and DeMar DeRozan helped San Antonio overcome a huge effort by Nikola Jokic and force a Game 7 against Denver.

Aldridge scored 26 points and DeRozan added 25 to help the Spurs beat the Nuggets 120-103 on Thursday night.

"They've been great at throwing a punch at us and running away with it," DeRozan said. "We tried to sustain that and understand whatever they do we have to match it, be more aggressive, understand we have to keep our rhythm, being aggressive on both ends

and we did that."

Jokic scored 27 of his 43 points in the second half to post the third-highest point total this postseason behind the 50 by Portland's Damian Lillard and 45 from Golden State's Kevin Durant. Jokic also finished with 12 rebounds and nine assists to fall an assist shy of his second triple-double of the series.

Game 7 is Saturday in Denver, where the Nuggets had the league's best home record during the regular season. The winner will face Portland.

"I don't know, it's my first Game 7," Jokic said when asked what he expected in the finale. "It's probably going to be even tougher than this one."

The young Nuggets have to ponder that after a strong effort wasn't enough in Game 6.

Denver dominated the paint, outscoring San Antonio 72 to 36, but the Nuggets were 8-for-31 outside the paint. The Spurs were 4-for-9 on three-pointers in the fourth quarter to help overcome Jokic's output.

"He played great tonight, he did his thing, that's for sure," San Antonio center Jakob Poeltl said. "But I think we answered that with a team effort. We had a lot of guys coming in and putting up big points and contributing in different ways."

The Spurs had five players score in double figures, including a series-high 19 points from

Rudy Gay. Every San Antonio starter shot 50 percent from the field and, for the first time in the series, the Spurs' bench outscored the Nuggets', 36-13.

The Spurs needed the win to continue the series after a listless performance in a 108-90 loss in Denver on Tuesday in which the Nuggets led by as many as 30 points.

San Antonio surged to a 34-24 lead by shooting 67 percent from the field in the first quarter while Denver missed all seven of its three-point attempts.

Jokic kept the Nuggets in the game in the third quarter, scoring 17 points on 8-for-9 shooting.

NHL roundup

Coyle, Bruins edge Blue Jackets in OT

Associated Press

BOSTON — Charlie Coyle wasn't thinking about his first goal, which tied things up at the end of regulation.

Or his second, which won it in overtime.

What was weighing on him was the time he coughed up the puck and handed Columbus a goal, even though he redeemed himself by leading Boston to a 3-2 victory in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semifinals on Thursday night.

Asked about his two late goals, Coyle said: "I had a costly turnover in the third period. You can't have that during the game.

"I'm just relieved we got the win," he added somberly. "I didn't really care who scored."

Coyle tied the game in the final five minutes of regulation and scored again with 5:15 gone in overtime to help the Bruins take the opener of the

best-of-seven series and send Columbus to its first loss of the playoffs.

Tuukka Rask stopped 20 shots for Boston, which took a 1-0 lead on Noel Acciari's short-handed goal in the first period, then fell behind in the third after Brandon Dubinsky and Pierre-Luc Dubois scored in a span of 13 seconds.

"I think we know how to respond to that. We didn't get rattled," Rask said. "We felt like we were going to get it back, and we did."

Coyle tied it when he one-timed a backhanded centering pass from Marcus Johansson into the net with 4:35 left to force overtime. He ended it by deflecting a shot from Johansson into the net.

A native of nearby East Weymouth who was acquired at the trading deadline from the Minnesota Wild, Coyle said that when he would play street hockey on the cul-de-sac where

he lived he used to imagine himself coming through for his hometown team.

"You always think about that stuff," he said. "I'm sure we've all done that. It's pretty cool to be living it."

Sergei Bobrovsky made 34 saves for the Blue Jackets, who swept the Presidents Trophy-winning Tampa Bay Lightning in the first round.

Game 2 is Saturday night in Boston before the best-of-seven series moves to Columbus for Games 3 and 4.

The Blue Jackets were the last team to qualify for the NHL playoffs, then they knocked out the Lightning in four games for their first-ever playoff series victory. While Columbus waited more than a week for an opponent, Boston tangled with Toronto for seven games before finally advancing on Tuesday night.

"You can't simulate a playoff game, especially a second-

round playoff game against a really good team like that," Dubinsky said. "I figured we'd come out with a little rust. Obviously, we need to be sharper."

Blues 3, Stars 2: Vladimir Tarasenko scored two goals and host St. Louis beat Dallas in the first game of the teams' Western Conference semifinal series.

Robby Fabbri also scored and Jordan Binnington made 27 saves for the Blues, who had lost three of four to Dallas during the regular season.

It was Tarasenko's seventh career multi-goal game in the postseason, tying him with Bernie Federko for second-most in franchise history.

Jason Spezza and Jamie Benn scored for the Stars. Ben Bishop made 17 saves.

Game 2 will be Saturday in St. Louis, before the series moves to Dallas for the third and fourth games of the best-of-seven series.

MLB roundup

Dodgers spoil Lester's return to rotation, hold off Cubs

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Los Angeles Dodgers spoiled Jon Lester's return to the Cubs' rotation by scoring on an error and a sacrifice fly, beating Chicago 2-1 on Thursday to avoid a three-game sweep.

Lester (1-1), who spent 16 days on the injured list with a left hamstring strain, allowed one run on four hits in five innings.

Cody Bellinger drove in the Dodgers' second run with a sacrifice fly off Kyle Ryan in the eighth after Los Angeles loaded the bases with two walks and a hit batter. It was Bellinger's 31st RBI of the season, tying Milwaukee's Christian Yelich for the most in the majors. Bellinger went 1-for-2, raising his

major league-leading batting average to .426.

Pedro Baez (2-1) struck out three in 1 1/3 innings for the win. Kenley Jansen allowed Albert Almora Jr.'s homer in the ninth but got the final three outs for his eighth save.

The Dodgers took a 1-0 lead in the fifth. Alex Verdugo led off with a triple to center. With the infield playing in, Chris Taylor hit a routine grounder to shortstop that Javier Baez booted for an error. Verdugo easily scored once the ball scooted away.

In the bottom of the fifth, Kyle Schwarber led off with a double. Ross Stripling then struck out pinch-hitter Mark Zagunis and retired Ben Zobrist on a grounder to first base. He was lifted for Baez, who walked Kris Bryant but

got Anthony Rizzo to fly out.

Stripling allowed five hits and struck out six.

Diamondbacks 5, Pirates 0: Zack Greinke (4-1) and two relievers allowed five hits as visiting Arizona completed a four-game sweep of Pittsburgh.

Red Sox 7, Tigers 3: Michael Chavis hit a two-run homer, Rick Porcello (1-3) got his first win of the season and host Boston beat Detroit.

Mariners 14, Rangers 2: Marco Gonzales (5-0) became the first pitcher to reach five wins this season and host Seattle chased Texas' Taylor Hearn (0-1) in the first inning of his major league debut.

Angels 11, Yankees 5: Tommy La Stella and Kole Calhoun hit two-run home runs in

the fifth inning, David Fletcher drove in a career-high five and host Los Angeles avoided a four-game sweep by beating New York.

Marlins 3, Phillies 1 (10): Starlin Castro hit a two-run homer with two outs in the 10th inning to lift visiting Miami past Philadelphia.

Indians 2, Astros 1: Trevor Bauer (3-1) threw eight strong innings, Leonys Martin and Jake Bauers homered off Gerrit Cole, and visiting Cleveland beat Houston.

Reds 4, Braves 2: Reliever David Hernandez struck out three straight with the bases loaded, Eugenio Suarez drove in three and host Cincinnati beat Atlanta in a rain-delayed victory and won for the second time in the three-game series.