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Adm. Moran backs plan to scrap Truman

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The admiral nominated as the Navy's next top officer told senators Tuesday that he backed a controversial plan to scrap one of the service's aircraft carriers halfway through its lifespan to fund newer technology, including unmanned warships.

Adm. Bill Moran, President Donald Trump's selection for the next chief of naval operations, said he supported the plan unveiled in the service's fiscal year 2020 budget request to forgo a \$3.5 billion midlife overhaul of the USS Truman scheduled for 2024. The admiral's comments came during a confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee to consider his nomination and that of Lt. Gen. David Berger, Trump's pick for

the next commandant of the Marine Corps.

If confirmed, the two senior officers would take their positions on the Joint Chiefs of Staff later in the summer when their predecessors are set to retire.

The Navy's plan to decommission the Truman early has been met with skepticism from Democratic and Republican lawmakers. Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., on Tuesday called the plan "just kind of a head-scratcher for us."

Later Tuesday, Vice President Mike Pence told sailors aboard the Truman that the White House would actually keep the ship, a reversal of the administration's earlier position, according to a statement sent out by his office.

Pence told the crew their ship would continue as the Navy had long planned. He seemed to attempt to blame Congress for

the retirement decision, though lawmakers had largely vowed not to support retiring the aircraft carrier.

"As we continue to fight Congress to give you the resources you need to accomplish your mission, President Trump asked me to deliver a message to each and every one of you on this deck: We are keeping the best carrier in the world in the fight," Pence said, according to the statement. "We are not retiring the Truman."

The Navy's plan calls for the Truman to be decommissioned in 2024 when it would otherwise receive its midlife refueling, a three-year process to replace the ship's expended nuclear fuel and conduct other needed upgrades that would allow it to remain in commission through at least 2048.

Moran, a 1981 U.S. Naval Academy graduate and career

pilot, said the move was part of a strategic shift that would require new technology deemed more critical than the loss of one carrier. The decision was made, he added, as Navy leaders shift their focus to great-power competition with potential rivals Russia and China and also amid worry that sequestration-mandated budget cuts could return in the coming years.

"We believe we're going to need to modernize our force in a way we haven't thought of in the past — especially in the unmanned arena," Moran said Tuesday in response to a question about the plan from another of its critics, Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark. "We clearly believe that unmanned undersea and unmanned surface [vessels] will help us expand those threat factors in the future at a lower cost because of the requirement not to man them."

USAF fires commandant of its cadets amid probe

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The general in charge of the U.S. Air Force Academy's 4,000 cadets has been removed from her duties and is under investigation, officials at the Colorado institution said Monday.

"Effective immediately, Brig. Gen. Kristin Goodwin is no longer performing her duties as the commandant of cadets pending the results of an ongoing investigation," Lt. Col. Tracy Bunko, a spokesman for the academy, wrote in an email. She declined to provide any additional details about the nature of the investigation or who was conducting it.

Bunko said Air Force Col.

Scott Campbell had temporarily taken command of the academy's Cadet Wing. Campbell most recently had been serving as commander of the 355th Fight Wing at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona.

Bunko did not answer questions Monday, including who relieved Goodwin of her duties or whether Goodwin would be temporarily assigned elsewhere while the investigation is conducted.

Goodwin's direct superior is the Air Force Academy's superintendent, Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria.

Goodwin's firing comes just weeks before she was slated to leave her position in a regular rotation of leadership. The Air Force announced in December

that Brig. Gen. Michele Edmondson was scheduled to replace Goodwin in the summer.

Goodwin was expected to transfer to the Pentagon and serve as the director of current operations for the Air Force deputy chief of staff, according to a service announcement last year.

The commandant of cadets is in charge of overseeing daily life for Air Force Academy cadets. The person is responsible for "character and leadership development, military training, supervising cadet life activities, and providing facility and logistical support to all cadets," according to an Air Force description.

Goodwin's selection for commandant of cadets, a position

she took in May 2017, garnered media attention because she was the first openly gay Air Force general to serve in leadership at the academy.

Her selection was praised by LGBT advocates, but it faced criticism from religious groups. That included one organization that filed a complaint with the Pentagon Inspector General's Office claiming Goodwin must have lied about her sexual orientation to enter the service, which at the time barred any gay individuals from serving.

The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which allowed gay individuals to serve if their sexual orientation was not made public, was enacted about one year after she entered the service.

Bases seek supplemental disaster funding

Air Force, Marines reeling from unexpected costs of recovery after 2018 hurricanes

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Marine Corps and Air Force are raising alarms about their financial predicament after two hurricanes that devastated several bases in 2018 forced the services to redirect millions of dollars toward the recovery efforts.

They now need additional supplemental funding from Congress — and soon — to pay for new recovery and rebuilding projects at the bases; otherwise, the services contend their readiness will be impacted as they continue to redirect their funds away from other areas such as flight line repairs or aircraft maintenance.

Lawmakers returned to Congress this week and face the Marine Corps that needs additional funding immediately and the Air Force that has declared without supplemental funding by May 1, no new construction projects at Tyndall Air Force Base will happen, affecting the progress of their recovery efforts.

Marines fight Florence

When Hurricane Florence hit North Carolina in September 2018, it devastated not only Camp Lejeune, one of the largest Marine Corps bases in the country, but also two nearby Marine bases: Air Station New River and Air Station Cherry Point.

Thousands of personnel and families were affected by the storm, which damaged hundreds of buildings, infrastructure — including roads and flight lines — and privatized military housing. About 3,000 Marines were displaced from their offices as roofs leaked or collapsed.

In the aftermath of the storms, the Marines spent \$250 million on rebuilding Camp Lejeune and the surrounding bases after the hurricane, according to Nat Fahy, a spokesman at Marine Corps Installations East.

The funds were spent on work projects that span from immediately after the storm, such as initial damage assessments, restoring power and debris removal and cleanup, to the initial recovery efforts of drying out facilities, putting tarps on buildings and repairing damage to roads, flight lines and railroads.

The \$250 million came from Marine Corps Installations Command, causing delays in “other planned facilities sustainment, restoration and modernization projects across the Marine Corps,” Fahy said. One hurricane, in essence, affected the en-

tire Marine Corps, not just the three East Coast bases.

The devastation left by the hurricane and the impact of the unexpected costs to the Marine Corps were so concerning to Gen. Robert Neller, the service’s commandant, that he penned an internal memo to the Navy secretary requesting assistance in receiving more funding.

“As you know, the Marine Corps faces fiscal challenges without precedent. The inability to reprogram money and the lack of a supplemental for Hurricane Florence damage is negatively impacting Marine Corps readiness,” Neller wrote in the March 18 memo, which was reported first by the Los Angeles Times.

The lack of additional funding forced the Marine Corps to reduce or cancel participation in several exercises and reduce maintenance expenditures for combat equipment in April in order to save \$6 million in operating costs, according to the memo.

At Camp Lejeune now, some Marines are working in trailers while their buildings are repaired. However, they still need an additional 140 trailers, Fahy said, because they have “personnel working in degraded facilities or sharing workspaces.”

Congress authorized \$600 million in reprogrammed Defense Department funds for disaster recovery in early April. The Marine Corps was authorized \$400 million and the Air Force was authorized \$200 million.

Air Force faces deadline

The Air Force is also facing funding shortfalls due to impacts from severe natural disasters.

In March, the Air Force secretary released a document that laid out the impacts that the Air Force will face if they do not receive supplemental funding from Congress. They have already had to delay awarding funding for 61 projects across 18 states in order to save money, further affecting the overall state of the service’s infrastructure and readiness.

Their next deadline regarding impacts to the service is May 1, when the “Air Force will be unable to move forward with awarding new contracts for facility repair or the planning and design work necessary to begin rebuilding Tyndall,” according to Capt. Hope Cronin, an Air Force spokeswoman. “This 1 May action would cause risk since we aren’t able to repair water-damaged facilities, allowing them to mold and decay.”

Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida took a direct hit from Hurricane Michael, a Category 5 storm, and its winds and rain affected most of the base’s buildings as well as infrastructure. Due to the hurricane damage to the 95th Fighter Squadron’s area, they had to disperse their F-22 aircraft and personnel to three other bases: Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.; Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska; and Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Tyndall’s deadline is just the next on a “risk timeline” highlighted in the secretary’s natural disaster supplemental document that extends into September, affecting aircraft repairs, flying operations and also the recovery of Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska after it experienced severe flooding in March.

“Without the depot maintenance, five bombers will be grounded as early as Sept. 19,” Cronin said about the aircraft repairs that would be affected in the future without funding and are highlighted in the document.

The Air Force said it needs \$1.2 billion in supplemental funding for fiscal year 2019 for rebuilding and recovering of Tyndall and Offutt. The money will go toward repaying the accounts that they used to pay for the bases’ recovery efforts and will allow them to continue with their plans for rebuilding projects and design planning.

The \$200 million in reprogrammed Defense Department funds that the service was recently authorized is also going toward refunding the operations and maintenance funds. The Air Force has said it will need \$3 billion for five years to rebuild Tyndall.

Tyndall has also been proposed as a potential site for placing up to three F-35 squadrons and will need funding to transform the base into a 21st-century installation to accommodate those aircraft. This could also be affected if the Air Force does not receive supplemental funding.

The Air Force is committed to rebuilding and keeping Tyndall a fighter base, John Henderson, assistant secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy said, but “the greatest source of uncertainty right now is whether we get the funding or not.” They need to make certain the rebuilding effort is done right, he said, because it could lead to inefficiencies and not being able to operate effectively, and creates risk to the mission.

“All those things concern me if adequate funding is not available to do the full recovery right,” Henderson said.

Guaido urges Venezuelan military to rebel

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — Anti-government demonstrators clashed with troops loyal to Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro at an air base in the capital hours after opposition leader Juan Guaido took to the streets in a bold and risky attempt to lead a military uprising against the embattled socialist.

The early morning rebellion seemed to have only limited military support.

But it was by far the most serious challenge yet to Maduro's rule since Guaido, with the backing of the U.S. and dozens of other countries, declared himself the country's interim president in January in rejection of a government he accused of stealing

last year's presidential election.

The dramatic events began early Tuesday when Guaido, flanked by a few dozen national guardsmen and some armored crowd control vehicles, released a three-minute video filmed near a Caracas air base in which he called on civilians and others in the armed forces to join a final push to topple Maduro.

In a surprise, standing alongside him was Leopoldo Lopez, his political mentor and the nation's most prominent opposition activist, who has largely been silent and unseen since he was detained in 2014 for leading a round of anti-government unrest. Lopez said he had been released from house arrest by security forces adhering to an order from Guaido.

"I want to tell the Venezuelan people: This is the moment to take to the streets and accompany these patriotic soldiers," Lopez declared.

As the two opposition leaders coordinated actions from vehicles parked on a highway overpass, troops loyal to Maduro sporadically fired tear gas from inside the adjacent Carlota air base.

A crowd that quickly swelled to a few thousand scurried for cover, reassembling later with Guaido at a nearby plaza.

A smaller group of masked youths stayed behind on the highway, firing rocks and Molotov cocktails in an attempt to storm the air base. Amid the mayhem, an armored utility vehicle drove at full speed into the crowd. It was unclear if anyone was hurt.

Army veteran held in plot to bomb Nazi rally

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An Army veteran who converted to Islam and discussed launching various terrorist attacks throughout Southern California was arrested as he plotted to bomb a white supremacist rally as retribution for the New Zealand mosque attacks, federal prosecutors said Monday.

Mark Domingo, an infantryman who served a combat stint in Afghanistan, was arrested Friday after visiting a park in Long Beach where authorities said he planned to plant home-made explosive devices made with nail-filled pressure cookers in advance of a Nazi rally scheduled Sunday.

Domingo, 26, was arrested on a charge of providing material support to terrorists. A criminal complaint said he had been planning since March to "manufacture and use

a weapon of mass destruction in order to commit mass murder."

U.S. Attorney Nick Hanna told a news conference that Domingo supported violent jihad and spoke about becoming a martyr and of pledging allegiance to Islamic State if it established a presence in the United States.

"This is a case in which law enforcement was able to identify a man consumed with hate and bent on mass murder, and stop him before he could carry out his attack," Hanna said. "The criminal case outlines a chilling terrorism plot that developed over the past two months and targeted innocent Americans that he expected to gather this past weekend."

Investigators said Domingo posted an online message March 3 that said "America needs another Vegas event," an apparent reference to the 2017 mass shooting

that killed 59. He allegedly said it would spark civil unrest to weaken "America by giving them a taste of the terror they gladly spread all over the world."

After Domingo began to discuss seeking revenge for the March 15 attacks that killed 50 people at New Zealand mosques, a confidential source who has worked with the FBI since 2013 began chatting with him about his plans.

Domingo said he had an assault rifle, semi-automatic rifle and several magazines of ammunition.

He discussed picking off Jews walking to synagogue, shooting police officers or attacking a church or military base, according to investigators.

When the source asked him how he planned to carry out violence without getting caught, court records said Domingo replied, "Martyrdom, bro."

Trump proposes application fee for asylum-seekers

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is proposing charging asylum-seekers a fee to process their applications as he continues to try to crack down on the surge of Central American migrants seeking to cross into the U.S.

In a presidential memorandum signed Monday, Trump directed his attorney general and acting homeland security

secretary to take additional measures to overhaul the asylum system, which he insists "is in crisis" and plagued by "rampant abuse."

The changes are just the latest in a series of proposals from an administration that is struggling to cope with a surge of migrant families arriving at the southern border that has overwhelmed federal resources and complicated Trump's efforts to claim victory at the border as

he runs for reelection.

Most of those arriving say they are fleeing violence and poverty, and many request asylum under U.S. and international law.

As part of the memo, Trump is giving officials 90 days to come up with new regulations to ensure that applications are adjudicated within 180 days of filing, except under exceptional circumstances.

And he is directing officials

to begin charging a fee to process asylum and employment authorization applications, which do not currently require payment.

The White House and Department of Homeland Security officials did not immediately respond to questions about how much applicants might be forced to pay, and it is unclear how many families fleeing poverty would be able to afford such a payment.

P-8A a hit at NAF Atsugi spring fest

BY CHRISTIAN LOPEZ
Stars and Stripes

More than 40,000 Japanese citizens recently converged on Naval Air Facility Atsugi to munch on American barbecue, mingle with servicemembers and get an up-close look at military aircraft.

The main draw for this year's open-base Spring Festival — held this past weekend at the installation about 25 miles southwest of Tokyo — was a series of static aircraft displays that included the P-8A Poseidon, the Navy's latest generation of anti-submarine warfare aircraft.

Also on hand to greet visitors was the saberhawk mascot for Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 77.

"Local Navy leadership is honored to be able to partner with our JMSDF counterparts and share a look at the base, flight line, aircraft and best of the officers and sailors who work here and appreciate the opportunity to serve in Japan," NAF Atsugi spokesman Sam Samuelson told *Stars and Stripes* in an email.

Japanese jet scrambles for Chinese aircraft on the rise

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The number of jets Japan scrambled to intercept Chinese aircraft approaching its airspace rose sharply in fiscal year 2018, according to the nation's Ministry of Defense.

Fighter jets of the Japan Air Self-Defense Force were scrambled 638 times between April 1, 2018, and March 31 in response to approaching Chinese drones, fighters, bombers and surveillance planes, according to statistics released in April by the ministry. That number represented an increase of 27.6%, nearly a third more flights than the previous fiscal year but a decline of 25% from fiscal year 2016.

The ministry's Joint Staff could not be reached for comment Tuesday due to the Japanese Golden Week holiday. In the past, it has attributed increases to the modernization of Chinese air power.

"They are intensifying intelligence gathering, reconnaissance and expanding their sphere of training activities," a Joint Staff spokesman said in 2017. "From the perspective of our national security, it is necessary for us to keep a watchful eye."

All incidents of foreign military aircraft entering or coming close to Japanese airspace have increased steadily in recent years.

In fiscal 2018, the Defense Ministry counted 999 incidents, a 321% increase over the number of incursions in fiscal 2009 and the second-highest total since Japan in 1958 started scrambling aircraft to meet foreign trespassers.

Thus far, the peak year for all Japanese sorties occurred in fiscal 2016. That year, Japan reported 1,168 incursions. A sortie is a single mission by a single plane.

Most often, Japanese pilots encounter Chinese fighter jets, but the type of aircraft may vary.

For example, on March 30, four Chinese H-6 bombers, one Tu-154 reconnaissance plane and two possible fighter jets entered Japanese territorial airspace, flying between Okinawa's main island and Miyako Island.

Responses to Russian incursions, mostly by surveillance aircraft, accounted for 34% of the total sorties in fiscal 2018.

Japanese pilots last year flew 343 sorties directed toward Russian aircraft, a 12% drop from the previous year, the ministry said. Japanese pilots flew 390 sorties in 2017.

Russian aircraft generally fly farther north, where Russia administers islands near Hokkaido that are also claimed by Japan.

Only 2% of Japanese scrambles in fiscal 2018 were in response to aircraft that did not belong to China or Russia.

GoFundMe campaign set up for Okinawa victim's kids

BY AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CHATAN, Okinawa — A friend of the woman who police believe was stabbed to death last month by a Navy corpsman who then killed himself has started a GoFundMe campaign for the woman's two children.

Tamae Hindman, 44, was apparently stabbed to death April 13 in her Chatan, Okinawa, apartment by Petty Officer 3rd Class Gabriel Olivero, according to Okinawa Prefectural Police. Olivero, 32, of North Carolina, attached to the 3rd Marine Division, then fatally stabbed himself.

A self-described close friend of Hindman's, Alan Joseph III, on April 24 launched a cam-

paign with Matthew Smuckler, another close friend, on the GoFundMe website to raise money for the children Hindman left behind — a boy, 10, and a girl, 7.

One of Hindman's children was present during the incident and called a relative, who then called police, according to previous reports. Police on Okinawa are still investigating.

Joseph told *Stars and Stripes* by email Tuesday that "there was an immediate vocal outpouring on social media of people from around the globe asking how they may contribute to help the surviving children."

He said he felt compelled by his close connection to their parents "to do anything and everything within my abilities

to help."

Joseph is also "a father of two school-age children in Okinawa," he wrote. He said he understands "the children's devastating loss not only of Tamae as their mother but also the loss of her as the link to their Japanese cultural heritage."

He wrote that "100% of the funds raised will go towards supporting the children's needs and activities they love to do and that Tamae would want to see them doing in life."

Hindman's children "still struggle to come to terms with the heartache" caused by the death of their mother but have the emotional and physical support of their father, Jeremiah Hindman, according to Joseph.

The children's father is listed

as the fund administrator.

"He hopes to be able to use whatever this fund generates to financially support their children in taking care of their needs, as well as following their interests and building up their talents," according to the fundraising plea.

The Hindmans' son plays football and soccer and has been nominated for several awards. Their daughter loves swimming and hanging out at the beach and dominates her Ripstick skateboard, according to the GoFundMe page.

The campaign goal is a half-million dollars. More than \$5,100 had been donated as of Tuesday afternoon in Japan.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

School to parents: No student hoodies

NM CHAPARRAL — Officials at a southern New Mexico elementary school are facing criticism after sending a letter to parents about a ban on students wearing hoodies.

KVIA-TV in El Paso, Texas, reported that parents last week received a letter from Sunrise Elementary in Chaparral with a warning not to send students to school in “hoodies coats or other non-weather appropriate clothing.” The letter says students will have hoodies taken away if they bring them to school.

The Gadsden Independent School District said in a statement that the new policy does allow students to wear hoodie sweaters in the morning hours, which normally have chilly temperatures.

State trooper dragged when patrol car stolen

CO PUEBLO — Authorities said a man stole a Colorado State Patrol squad car during a traffic stop, dragged a trooper for a short distance and then led other officers on a high-speed chase until he crashed and was arrested.

Officials said the trooper and the car thief were treated for minor injuries after the confrontation on Interstate 25 near Pueblo on Sunday. Authorities identified the suspect as Richard Twomey, 31, of Livermore, Calif.

The injured trooper’s name wasn’t released.

Tucker brings \$1.8M as museum ends run

MS TUPELO — A Mississippi car muse-

um’s four-wheeled stock was auctioned off for \$8.6 million, with \$1.8 million of that for one of the 51 Tucker automobiles ever made.

The Tupelo Automobile Museum’s signs and other “automobilia” brought in \$428,000 a day earlier.

Designer Preston Tucker’s grandsons, Mike and Sean Tucker, were present as Tucker No. 1028 was gaveled down Saturday, the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal reported. They were inspecting the Tucker — one of 47 that still exist — for a client.

No. 1028 went to Tim Stentiford, representing the Maine Classic Car Museum in Arundel.

The Tupelo museum’s owner, Jane Spain, has said she’ll use auction proceeds to pay off the balance of a \$3.2 million loan from the city and to start an education foundation.

Speeds reach 115 mph in police chase

WI SHEBOYGAN — Authorities said speeds during an interstate chase in Sheboygan County reached 115 miles per hour before the fleeing driver crashed into a squad car, a tree and two parked vehicles.

Sheriff’s officials said a deputy tried to stop the man on Interstate 43 on Saturday night because he was driving erratically. The 25-year-old man sped away and led authorities on a chase.

Deputies used pepper spray to arrest the driver after he crashed.

Police: Man stole, then applied for job

WY GILLETTE — Police in northern Wyoming said a man who allegedly shop-

lifted at the same store twice in one day also asked to fill out a job application during one of his visits.

The Gillette News Record reported Sunday the 36-year-old man went to the Sportsman’s Warehouse in Gillette and bought some items with a rewards card but allegedly took sunglasses and ammunition without paying for them. Police said he returned a few hours later, asked to fill out the job application and left with two more pairs of sunglasses, allegedly without paying for them.

Officers issued the man a citation and recovered the items.

Bounce house goes airborne at event

OK MUSKOGEE — Officials said three children suffered minor injuries when an inflatable bounce house went airborne on a windy day in Oklahoma.

The bounce house was in place Saturday for a Muskogee Public Library event at the city’s airport. The library said a strong gust of wind picked up the bounce house while three children were inside.

Anthony Salcido, whose daughter was inside the bounce house at the time, said the inflatable “kept on flipping over.” Salcido told Tulsa television station KOKI that his daughter fell from the bounce house and landed on some grass.

The library said emergency crews were already on scene for the event, and that the children were “shaken up” but no one was seriously hurt.

District won’t allow teacher to be honored

GA ATLANTA — A gym teacher named Teacher of the Year by his colleagues has been stripped of the title.

WSB-TV reported that educators at Henderson Mill Elementary School in metro Atlanta voted physical education teacher James O’Donnell their teacher of the year. But DeKalb County Schools Superintendent Steve Green said O’Donnell doesn’t meet the requirements because he was suspended last November.

O’Donnell returned to work in February under a legal agreement even though the school’s new principal didn’t want him back, and his colleagues honored him in March. At issue was his discipline of a 10-year-old who was acting up; O’Donnell made him stand outside the door. Instead, the boy ran out in the rain, arriving to his next class wet and cold, and O’Donnell was accused of endangering the child.

Man and his blind dog finish 1,100-mile hike

FL MIAMI — A Florida man and his blind dog have completed a 1,100-mile hike across the Sunshine State.

Kyle Rohrig is an avid hiker and his Shiba Inu named Katana usually accompanies him. She’s easily logged 30 miles a day on their past trails, but when the Japanese hunting dog lost both eyes to glaucoma two months before the trek, he worried how she would fare on the trail.

Along with a friend, they headed north on the trail from Big Cypress near Miami in January and finished April 1 at Fort Pickens near Pensacola.

The Daytona Beach News-Journal reported Rohrig hoisted the 21-pound Katana onto his backpack when they approached deep swampy areas and treacherous spots. He estimated he carried her for more than 800 miles.

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Twins' Odorizzi outduels Astros' Verlander

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Jake Odorizzi punched out Yuli Gurriel looking, and the usually stoic right-hander couldn't help but clench his fist and let out a yell.

Odorizzi and the Minnesota Twins made another early season statement.

Odorizzi pitched seven solid innings to outduel Justin Verlander, Ehire Adrianza homered off Houston's ace and Minnesota beat the Astros 1-0 Monday night.

"There's not too many times where I show emotion when I pitch," Odorizzi said. "But certain instances, I feel like, it kind of takes you over. That was definitely one of them. I

think hopefully there's more times this year."

Odorizzi (3-2) gave up four hits while beating Houston for the second time in two starts. He walked one and struck out seven, and Minnesota won for the eighth time in 10 games.

Adrianza's first homer of the season led off the third. He hit a towering, deep shot to the plaza in right field on a full count against Verlander (4-1), who allowed two hits, walked two and struck out seven over six innings.

"Adrianza doesn't normally hit the fastball in like that," Astros manager AJ Hinch said. "Pulls the ball, hits the homer, these guys have homered a lot. At that point in the game, you don't think it's going to be the

difference in the game. But 1-0, pitchers' duel, one swing can be the difference, obviously."

Adrianza check swung on the pitch prior to the home run and the umpires said he didn't swing. Verlander and catcher Robinson Chirinos felt Adrianza went around, but Verlander didn't blame the umpires.

"I think slow, in slow-mo, you can say, 'Yeah he went,'" Verlander said. "But this game isn't played in slow motion and these umpires have a difficult job to do. Live speed, I thought it was a very questionable, 50/50 call."

Coming off a dominant sweep of Baltimore, the Twins faced Houston for the second time in a week. They also saw Verlander in the previous series, when

he gave up one run and needed just 98 pitches to get through eight innings.

This time, the Twins made Verlander work, and he was out after 100 pitches.

The Astros were more aggressive against Odorizzi, who had 52 pitches through five innings. Josh Reddick led off the second with a single before Odorizzi set down 13 straight.

"I went with the curveball less," Odorizzi said of the change from the last outing. "I think I only threw like two or three of them. I think the last game I threw like 20. So, we went more cutter, slider today. It's tough to go with the same look twice against a team of that caliber."

MLB roundup

Longoria's timely double rallies Giants past Dodgers

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Evan Longoria's most significant hit with the Giants was more than a year in the making. Given the situation, the timing couldn't have been much better.

Longoria hit a three-run double in the seventh inning to rally San Francisco past Los Angeles 3-2 on Monday night, ending the Dodgers' four-game winning streak despite two more hits from Cody Bellinger.

Joe Panik and Yangervis Solarte had two hits apiece for the Giants. San Francisco had lost seven of 10, including a series sweep by the New York Yankees last weekend.

"I've been waiting for that hit in a Giants uniform for a long time," said Longoria, traded from Tampa Bay to San Francisco before last season. "The rivalry is a big deal, so it's a big situation there. For me and for this team, every one right now is big. We have a lot of work to do."

The Giants were shut out through six innings and stranded three runners in scoring

position before nearly batting around in the seventh.

Panik singled off Ross Stripling (1-2) with one out and moved to third on Solarte's double. After Stripling walked Brandon Belt to load the bases, Buster Posey struck out swinging against Dylan Floro. Longoria, who flied out as a pinch hitter in the sixth, then lashed a 2-1 pitch from Floro down the left-field line to clear the bases.

Brewers 5, Rockies 1: Struggling slugger Jesus Aguilar hit his first two homers of the season and host Milwaukee beat Colorado with NL MVP Christian Yelich sidelined by lower back soreness.

Zach Davies allowed an unearned run in 5¹/₃ innings, and Milwaukee opened a 10-game homestand with a breakout game from its beefy first baseman.

Red Sox 9, Athletics 4: Xander Bogaerts hit a tying, two-run double that sailed over the head of Oakland center fielder Ramon Laureano, who made a bad read during a six-run third inning.

Rookie Michael Chavis drove

in three and Mookie Betts had three singles for host Boston, which had lost two straight to AL East-leading Tampa Bay.

Cardinals 6, Nationals 3: Harrison Bader homered to spark a six-run fifth inning as surging St. Louis rallied past Patrick Corbin and host Washington in the opener of a four-game series.

Marcell Ozuna put the Cardinals ahead 4-3 with a two-run single. Jose Martinez had an RBI double, and Yadier Molina added a run-scoring single off Corbin (2-1), who took a 3-0 lead into the fifth.

Braves 3, Padres 1: Ozzie Albies homered and drove in two, Mike Soroka gave up one run in six innings and host Atlanta beat San Diego.

Soroka (2-1) allowed four hits, struck out a career-high eight and walked one. The 21-year-old right-hander lowered his ERA to 1.62.

Rays 8, Royals 5: Tommy Pham, Yandy Diaz and Ji-Man Choi each drove in two, sending hot-hitting Tampa Bay over host Kansas City.

Michael Perez and Kevin Ki-

ermaier also drove in runs for the Rays (19-9), who have won five of six to build upon the best record in baseball. They also moved to 10-2 on the road.

Reds 5, Mets 4: Jesse Winker homered off All-Star closer Edwin Diaz with two outs in the ninth inning, and Cincinnati beat host New York after wasting a four-run lead.

Left-handed batters had been 0-for-15 this year against Diaz (0-1) before Winker drove a fastball over the right-center field fence for his career-high eighth home run, the most by a Reds player this season. Diaz was pitching for the third straight day for the first time this season.

White Sox 5, Orioles 3: Tim Anderson and Yonder Alonso each hit a two-run homer, sending Manny Banuelos and host Chicago over slumping Baltimore.

Banuelos (2-0) pitched five-hit ball into the sixth inning in his first start since replacing Ervin Santana in the rotation. The rookie left-hander has two wins in his last three games.

Nuggets avoid letdown, win opener

Associated Press

DENVER — The Denver Nuggets avoided both an emotional letdown and another Damian Lillard masterpiece.

Forty-eight hours after dispatching the Spurs in their first Game 7 triumph in 41 years, the Nuggets rode a 37-point performance from Nikola Jokic to a 121-113 win over the well-rested Portland Trail Blazers in the opener of their second-round series Monday night.

Lillard, who struck for 50 points, including a 37-footer at the buzzer, to oust Oklahoma City in five games, scored two more points than Jokic. But he had a half dozen turnovers, missed 8 of 12 three-point attempts and Gary Harris blocked his three from behind in the closing minute to keep the Trail Blazers from closing in.

"We just made him uncomfortable," said Jamal Murray, who added 23 points and eight

assists for Denver to go with just one turnover.

Despite logging 41½ minutes after playing 43½ two nights earlier, Jokic continued his playoff coming-out party by dominating once more. He made 11 of 18 shots and all 12 of his free throws to go with nine boards and a half dozen assists.

"He's a sponge," Paul Millsap said. "He picks it up. He sees how people are playing him and guarding him and he makes the right play every time. That's what's great about him — he doesn't force anything. Everything is going to be the right play. He's going to make the right reads. He's like a quarterback out there."

"I consider him like a Tom Brady — he's always going to pick you apart and make the right reads. Commend him for doing that at this stage in his career. It's unbelievable."

Denver coach Michael Malone was more concerned about

his team's emotional state than his players' physical state after a hard-fought series with San Antonio while the Blazers, making their sixth straight playoff appearance, were enjoying nearly a week off.

"Saturday night, an emotional high, winning a Game 7, that was part of my biggest concern about tonight," Malone said. "Obviously you're worried about guarding them but how would we react from that emotional hangover? I thought our guys did a pretty good job."

Game 2 is Wednesday night at the Pepsi Center.

The Nuggets were coming off a 90-86 win over San Antonio 48 hours earlier, their first Game 7 victory since May 3, 1978, against Milwaukee.

That, said Jokic, was "a really good game for us. It's Game 7 against an experienced team and I think the level of physicality, the level of pace was at a really, really high level that night. It was a really tough game for

us to win and we won it. It gave us an example of how we need to play."

That's exactly the kind of mettle Malone was looking for from his team, the youngest in the West.

The Trail Blazers got a boost from Enes Kanter, who separated his left shoulder in Game 5 against the Thunder. He scored 26 points in his return to the lineup.

"Enes was terrific, very efficient, finished around the basket playing through the shoulder injury," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "I couldn't have asked any more of him."

Kanter was more concerned about facing Jokic.

"I didn't even think about my shoulder," Kanter said. "It's the playoffs."

The game was marred by 30 turnovers, but the Blazers turned 12 takeaways to just six points while the Nuggets turned Portland's 18 turnovers into 23 points.

Sixers snap losing streak in Toronto, even series 1-1

Associated Press

TORONTO—Jimmy Butler's big game helped Philadelphia snap a lengthy losing streak in Toronto and, more importantly, brought the 76ers level in their Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Butler had 30 points and 11 rebounds, James Ennis scored 13 points and the 76ers held on to beat the Raptors 94-89 on Monday night, knotting the series 1-1.

It was Philadelphia's first win in Toronto since Nov. 10, 2012, snapping a 14-game losing streak.

"Everybody wants to paint the picture that we haven't won here in however many years," Butler said. "I'm just glad that we came out on top. We don't care how many games we've lost, nothing like that."

Butler scored 12 in the final quarter to help the 76ers withstand a late Toronto rally.

"He was just a tremendous rock," coach Brett Brown said. "He willed us to a lot of different situations. He was a stud."

Butler scored just 10 points in Game 1, when he shot 4-for-12.

"Jimmy Butler is a gamer," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. "He wasn't going to be quiet this whole series."

Game 3 is Thursday night in Philadelphia.

Down 19 in the first half, Toronto cut the deficit to one late in the third, only to go cold to start the fourth, missing six of its first seven shots.

The Raptors kept coming, however. Kyle Lowry made three-pointers on both sides of a pair of foul shots by Butler, cutting it to 90-87 with 1:36 to go.

Toronto got the ball back, and Pascal Siakam scored on a layup to make it a one-point game, but Joel Embiid answered with a driving shot at the other end, restoring the

three-point advantage with 24 seconds left.

After Lowry nearly turned the ball over, Danny Green missed a potential tying three, and Philadelphia's Tobias Harris came up with the rebound, his 11th. Harris was fouled and sealed it by making a pair of free throws with 3.9 seconds left.

"We got lucky there at the end," Brown said.

Embiid scored 12 points in 32 minutes despite missing the morning shootaround because of flu-like symptoms. Brown said Embiid received intravenous fluids before the game.

"Full credit all over the place to Joel," Brown said.

Embiid acknowledged feeling rough, but refused to sit out.

"There's no way I was missing this game," he said. "This game was really important to us. It doesn't matter what I had, I was going to play."

Kawhi Leonard scored 35

points, Siakam had 21 and Lowry 20. Toronto shot 10-for-37 from three-point range and 33-for-91 overall as its franchise-record, five-game post-season winning streak came to an end.

"We didn't play well tonight," Lowry said. "They played really desperate and played super hard tonight and they got a victory."

Toronto missed six of its first eight shots, matching the number of misses it had in the first quarter of Game 1, when the Raptors made 16 of 22. Toronto shot 7-for-24 in the first and missed its first seven from three-point range before Norm Powell connected.

Butler scored six points for Philadelphia, who led 26-17 after one. Toronto got 17 from both Leonard and Siakam in the first quarter of Game 1, when they scored 39 points.

Blues edge Stars, take 2-1 series lead

Associated Press

DALLAS — Pat Maroon paused briefly before thrusting both of his arms into the air, unsure if he had gotten the puck into the net to put the St. Louis Blues back in front late in a wild third period.

Maroon's flicked shot across the body and over the right shoulder of Ben Bishop was indeed a goal, a game-winner against the Dallas Stars with 1:38 left to give the Blues a 4-3 victory and a 2-1 series lead in the Western Conference semi-final matchup.

"I think I just had more time and more time to use my hands. Usually I'm muffing it in the pads," said Maroon, who gathered the puck before his shot. "I got it up quick. I've been working on that in practice, is just taking it from the back of the net and trying to lift it instead of just putting it into the pads."

His second goal of the playoffs ended a span of just under 5½ minutes when both teams scored two goals, including

Blues captain Alex Pietrangelo ending a 25-game drought since scoring his last goal Feb. 19.

Jaden Schwartz and Tyler Bozak each had a goal and an assist for the Blues, who are still undefeated on the road this postseason after winning all three games at Winnipeg in the first-round series they won in six games. All four of the road wins have been by one goal.

"I can't explain it. We've been a good road team all year," Blues coach Craig Berube said. "Right from the get-go we were engaged right away in the game. We were aggressive. Sets the tone for us in the game."

Game 4 is Wednesday night in Dallas.

Pietrangelo's one-timer with 5:36 left, for a 3-2 lead, came right after the end of a Blues power play during which Andrew Cogliano scored a short-handed goal to tie the game 1:18 earlier.

But Dallas quickly got even again at 3-3 on Tyler Seguin's goal with 4:08 left that was his

first point in this series, only to see the Blues regain the lead again when the St. Louis-born Maroon got the puck past the Stars goalie who grew up in St. Louis, then was drafted by the Blues and made his NHL debut for them.

"You see the amount of times we came back. It's frustrating to lose a game like that," center Jason Spezza said. "It wasn't our best game, and we still had a chance to win."

The Stars were on the power play for the final 44 seconds of the game after a delay of game penalty against Colton Parayko, a penalty that was called after a lengthy discussion by the four on-ice officials. Dallas had a two-skater advantage with Bishop out of net and on the bench, but had three shots blocked and missed another before time ran out.

Bishop stopped 30 shots, while Blues rookie goalie Jordan Binnington had 28 saves.

"It was a great playoff game. It was back and forth, both teams were giving what they

had," Stars coach Jim Montgomery said. "I just thought the Blues did a better job possessing pucks in the offensive zone than we did."

Alexander Radulov scored on a power play in the first period for the Stars, his team-high fifth goal of the playoffs.

St. Louis went ahead 2-1 midway through the second period when Vince Dunn passed to Robert Thomas, whose shot from the middle of the right circle got through Bishop's legs and behind him. Bozak was there, along with Stars forward Roope Hintz, and was able to knock the puck in for his second goal of the playoffs.

The Blues led 1-0 only 87 seconds into the game when Ryan O'Reilly made a pass from behind the net to Parayko, whose shot from the blue line was hit so hard that Schwartz's stick was reverberating when he deflected the puck past Bishop for the goal.

Dallas got even on a power-play goal in the first by Radulov.

Dolphins' Rosen says he can be a franchise QB

Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — As he embraced a fresh start Monday, Josh Rosen said all the right things, smiled a lot and even cracked a couple of jokes, such as when he noted the phalanx of photographers nearly drowning out his first news conference with the Miami Dolphins.

"These clicks," he said with a chuckle, "are loud."

Rosen does attract clicks, which is a big change for a Dolphins team low on star power. It has been so long since they had a Pro Bowl quarterback that Rosen referred to him as "Mr. Marino."

Despite a rough rookie season that prompted the Arizona Cardinals to discard him, Rosen still believes he can be a Dan Marino-type franchise quarterback. And he's glad to

get an opportunity with the Dolphins, who are eager to stop a revolving door at the position that has gone through 19 starters since Marino's last game 20 years ago.

"I couldn't be more excited to be here," Rosen said. "Very rarely do you get a second chance to make a first impression."

As for motivation, Rosen's crooked grin grew wider when he was asked about any chip on his shoulder.

"I don't think my chip has to grow any more," he said. "I might tip over."

He was the 10th overall pick in the 2018 draft but became expendable in Arizona last week when the Cardinals used the No. 1 overall pick to select Kyler Murray. A day later, the Dolphins acquired him for two draft picks to become part of

their rebuilding effort under first-year coach Brian Flores.

"I felt like I got drafted twice," he said.

Rosen took no direct jabs at the Cardinals and acknowledged that in Miami he faces a one-year tryout. If he doesn't play well this season, the Dolphins will likely have a poor record and be well-positioned to take a QB early in the first round in 2020.

Rosen also acknowledged his image needs work. Doubts about his leadership and personality linger despite efforts by Arizona teammates and coaches to dispel them.

He said the issue dates to his years at UCLA.

"I didn't have all my answers as perfectly crafted as I do now," he said. "I said some things off the cuff, and people misconstrued them. ...

"I think I'm a really good teammate. What I've tried to do is not say or do anything extra, just kind of be me and keep my head down, and eventually the story will straighten out. I think it has, for the most part. Time and consistency are the best medicine to cure the narrative."

With that in mind, Rosen had answers ready when asked about:

■ competing for the starting job with another Dolphins newcomer, veteran Ryan Fitzpatrick. "The timing on whether I play or not is not up to me."

■ Pro Football Hall of Famer Marino. "Hopefully I can follow in some semblance of his massive footsteps."

■ his belief that he can become a franchise QB. "I think I'm a good quarterback, and I think I'm a good leader."