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North Korea no-show raises tensions

By **KIM GAMEL**
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea was a no-show at a key regional security conference last week, dashing U.S. hopes for a sideline meeting aimed at restarting nuclear talks.

Instead, the communist state sent a fiery message with a series of missile tests that showed its determination to expand its arsenal amid the diplomatic deadlock.

ANALYSIS

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un likely has several reasons for the show of force, including an effort to increase his negotiating power and to protest U.S.-South Korean military exercises, which are expected to begin Monday.

There's also a more basic motive, experts say, as the launches made clear that the North continues to develop short-range strike capabilities that could threaten not only South Korea but thousands of U.S. soldiers and other Americans stationed there.

Kim personally oversaw all the launches, which have shattered a lull in such activity after the leader announced last year that he was suspending long-range and nuclear tests to facilitate diplomacy with the U.S.

However, the North stopped short of

crossing the red line set by President Donald Trump, who has said he's not worried because the weapons launched were not intercontinental ballistic missiles that could target the U.S. mainland.

Critics noted that Trump's reaction minimizes the threat to regional targets, which could raise concerns about the U.S. commitment to South Korea, which has been a key ally since the 1950-53 Korean War.

Military officials said the missiles, which use solid fuel and were launched from a truck, were similar to Russia's Iskander and apparently designed to evade U.S. and South Korean defense systems on the divided peninsula.

"Kim may want to demonstrate two things: that he could be testing ICBMs, as North Korea threatened to do a few weeks ago, but is so far exercising restraint," said Ferial Saeed, a former American diplomat who has worked on North Korea policy.

If the missiles were undetectable by radar, as suggested, the North's "capabilities have improved — and in ways Washington would find particularly worrisome," she said.

North Korea's state-run media described them as a "solemn warning" to Seoul against joining the United States in joint drills, which it considers rehearsals for an invasion.

It also criticized South Korea's purchase of F-35 stealth fighter jets — the first of which have already been delivered.

On Wednesday and Friday, the North test-fired what it called a new "large-caliber multiple launch guided rocket system," which analysts said could improve its ability to strike key military bases in the South, including the U.S. military's new headquarters base, Camp Humphreys, and Osan Air Base.

Friday's test "satisfactorily confirmed the altitude control level flight performance, track changing capability, accuracy of hitting a target and warhead explosion power of the guided ordnance rocket," the state-run Korean Central News Agency reported.

Germany, France and the United Kingdom condemned the launches as violations of U.N. sanctions resolutions that ban the North from using ballistic missile technology.

In a joint statement after a closed U.N. Security Council meeting, the three countries also urged the North to engage in "meaningful negotiations" with the United States and "to take concrete steps toward its complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization."

Report: Iran seizes tanker carrying 'smuggled fuel'

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iranian forces seized a ship in the Persian Gulf suspected of carrying smuggled fuel, state media reported Sunday, marking the Revolutionary Guard's third seizure of a vessel in recent weeks and the latest show of strength by the paramilitary force amid a spike in regional tensions.

State TV and the semi-official Fars news agency reported that seven crewmembers were detained when the ship was seized late Wednesday carry-

ing 185,000 gallons of "smuggled fuel" from Iran. The local reports did not provide further details on the vessel or the nationality of the crew.

The news agency reported the ship was seized near Farsi Island, where a Revolutionary Guard naval base is located. The island sits in the Persian Gulf between Saudi Arabia and Iran, north of the Strait of Hormuz.

Guard commander Gen. Ramazan Zirahi was quoted by Iran's state TV saying the ship was seized in Iranian territorial waters and had been

transporting diesel fuel. State TV and other local media also ran footage of the ship, but did not show any flag or identifying marker for the vessel.

"This foreign vessel had received the fuel from other ships and was transferring it to Persian Gulf Arab states," Zirahi said in comments carried by Fars new agency.

It was not immediately clear why a ship carrying Iranian fuel would transfer its cargo to energy exporting Gulf states, but smuggling has been a source of concern in Iran. Iranian media reported last month

that some 8 million liters of government-subsidized Iranian fuel are smuggled daily to other countries where prices are much higher.

The new claims would make this the third vessel seized by the Guard in the past two weeks, and the second accused of smuggling fuel.

The U.S. 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, said it did not have information to confirm the reports. Maritime tracking experts also said they did not have any immediate information about the incident or details on the vessel.

Experts: Exercise flexed Indo-Pacific coalition strength

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

Talisman Sabre 2019, the monthlong, multinational military exercise led by the U.S. and Australia, demonstrated that the U.S. has allies ready to help keep order in the Indo-Pacific region.

This year's version of Talisman Sabre, the eighth, was the biggest yet. While intended as a generic team-building exercise, it also sent a message to China that any attempt to assert dominance in the region will be met by a unified front, outside observers say.

Starting in 2005 with 11,000 U.S. and 6,000 Australian troops taking part, Talisman Sabre this year involved 34,000 troops from six countries, according to the Australian Department of Defence. Japan, Canada, New Zealand and the U.K. sent contingents to join those from the U.S. and Australia.

The Indo-Pacific region is where the future of the world will be shaped, "but it's also a region where there are challenges that more than one nation is going to address itself," said Rear Adm. Fred Kacher, commander of the Sasebo, Japan-based Amphibious Force 7th Fleet, on Tuesday. "The Indo-Pacific is a region that I would say is too big for one nation to go it alone."

Military units drilled across the eastern coast of Australia including, for the first time, Japan's newly formed Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade. The U.S. sent an aircraft carrier strike group and an amphibious assault ship and supporting vessels, along with other units. The Australians

and Japanese sent two ships built for amphibious assault, including a Japanese helicopter carrier. The exercise concluded with a ceremony Tuesday.

Officially, Talisman Sabre is not aimed at any one country, Kacher told reporters aboard the USS Wasp July 15. The exercise scenario called for liberating a fictional island nation from a fictional invader, according to the Australian Defence Department.

However, to outside observers, the intent was clear. The exercise was "meant to send the strongest message to China," said Stephen Nagy, a politics and international studies professor at Tokyo's International Christian University and Japan Institute for International Affairs visiting fellow.

"Multilateral exercises such as Talisman Sabre demonstrate to rule-breakers that states are willing to work with like-minded countries to protect, preserve and buttress a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific," Nagy said Thursday in an email to Stars and Stripes.

Since 2012, Beijing has claimed and militarized islands in the South and East China seas, extending its influence in the resource-rich waters where more than 20% of the world's commerce flows, according to the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Its neighbors in the region, some with competing claims, object to Chinese assertions, and the U.N. in 2016 rejected its territorial claims in the South China Sea in a case brought by the Philippines. The U.S. maintains that the seas are international waters and free for all countries to sail through.

Military considers weaponry plans as INF treaty expires

Associated Press

SYDNEY — U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper said he wants to deploy an intermediate-range conventional missile in the Pacific region within months, now that the Trump administration has formally pulled out of a Cold War-era arms control treaty with Russia.

Esper, however, added that it will likely take some time to develop the more advanced land-based missile capabilities. The move is likely to anger China, but Esper said Beijing shouldn't be surprised by it.

"It's fair to say, though, that we would like to deploy a capability sooner rather than later," Esper told reporters traveling with him to Australia on Friday. "I would prefer months. I just don't have the latest state of play on timelines."

Esper's comments come as the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces treaty expired Friday, and the U.S. said it planned to begin testing new missiles that would have been prohibited under the accord. The U.S. has complained for years that Moscow has been violating the treaty and that a Russian system banned by the agreement is a direct threat to the U.S. and its allies.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced the formal U.S. withdrawal Friday, saying that "the United States will not remain party to a treaty that is deliberately violated by Russia."

Esper, who was confirmed as Pentagon chief on July 23, wouldn't detail possible deployment locations in Asia, saying it would depend on discussions with allies and other factors.

US confident allies will be persuaded to help form Gulf maritime coalition

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Senior U.S. leaders expressed confidence that they will be able to persuade allies to help protect shipping in the Persian Gulf area against Iranian threats, but they provided no new details Sunday on which nations may be willing to participate.

Speaking at a meeting between U.S. and Australian leaders, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said he has already gotten a good response from allies and some announcements could be expected soon. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told reporters that a lot of conver-

sations are taking place.

But their Australian counterparts here made no commitments.

Esper broached the idea of a coalition to allies during a NATO meeting, but so far the U.S. has received few public commitments from other nations. Instead, some European nations have expressed concerns that the operation could provoke conflict, and they are more interested in a diplomatic solution.

Pompeo and Esper, however, suggested Sunday that nations are quietly expressing some support and may be willing to make public commitments soon.

Gunman opens fire in Dayton, killing 9

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — A gunman in body armor opened fire early Sunday in a popular entertainment district in Dayton, Ohio, killing nine people, including his sister, and wounded dozens of others before he was quickly slain by police, city officials said.

Connor Betts, 24, was killed by police less than a minute after he started shooting a .223-caliber rifle in the streets of Dayton's historic Oregon District about 1 a.m. in the second U.S. mass shooting in less than 24 hours. Police haven't released further information about Betts or publicly discussed a motive.

His sister, Megan, 22, was the youngest of the dead, and they were all killed in the same area, police said. The other men and women who were killed ranged in age from 25 to 57.

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley

said the shooter was wearing body armor and had additional high-capacity magazines. Had police not responded so quickly, "hundreds of people in the Oregon District could be dead today," she said.

The neighborhood, home to bars, restaurants and theaters, is "a safe part of downtown," said police Lt. Col. Matt Carper.

Whaley said at least 27 people were treated for injuries, and at least 15 of those have been released. Several more remain in serious or critical condition, hospital officials said at a news conference. Some suffered multiple gunshot wounds and others were injured as they fled, the officials said.

Nikita Papillon, 23, was across the street at Newcom's Tavern when the shooting started. She said she saw a girl she had talked to earlier lying outside the Ned Peppers Bar.

"She had told me she liked my

outfit and thought I was cute, and I told her I liked her outfit and I thought she was cute," Papillon said. Papillon had been to Ned Peppers the night before, describing it as the kind of place "where you don't have to worry about someone shooting up the place."

"People my age, we don't think something like this is going to happen," she said. "And when it happens, words can't describe it."

Tianycia Leonard, 28, was in the back, smoking at Newcom's. She heard "loud thumps" that she initially thought was someone pounding on a dumpster.

"It was so noisy, but then you could tell it was gunshots and there was a lot of rounds," Leonard said.

Staff of Ned Peppers said in a Facebook post that they were left shaken and confused by the shooting. The bar said a bouncer was treated for shrapnel wounds.

A message seeking further comment was left with staff.

President Donald Trump was briefed on the shooting and praised law enforcement's speedy response in a tweet Sunday.

Gov. Mike DeWine issued his own statement, announcing that he ordered flags in Ohio remain at half-staff and offering assistance to Whaley and prayers for the victims.

Whaley said she has been in touch with the White House, though not Trump directly, and with DeWine. She said more than 50 other mayors also have reached out to her.

The FBI is assisting with the investigation. A family assistance center was set up at the Dayton Convention Center, where people seeking information on victims arrived in a steady trickle throughout the morning, many in their Sunday best, others looking bedraggled from a sleepless night.

El Paso attack to be treated as domestic terrorism

Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — The shooting that killed 20 people at a crowded El Paso shopping area will be handled as a domestic terrorism case, federal authorities said Sunday as they weighed hate-crime charges against the gunman that could carry the death penalty.

A local prosecutor announced that he would bring capital murder charges against the suspect, saying the assailant "lost the right to be among us."

The attack on Saturday morning was followed less than a day later by another shooting that claimed nine lives in a nightlife district of Dayton, Ohio. That shooter was killed by police.

Investigators were focusing on whether the El Paso attack was a hate crime after the emergence of a racist, anti-immigrant screed that was posted online shortly beforehand. Detectives sought to determine if

it was written by the man who was arrested. The border city has figured prominently in the immigration debate and is home to 680,000 people, most of them Latino.

Using a rifle, the El Paso gunman opened fire in an area packed with as many as 3,000 people during the busy back-to-school shopping season. More than two dozen people were wounded, some with life-threatening injuries, police said.

Federal officials were treating the attack as a domestic terrorism case, according to the U.S. attorney.

The Justice Department was weighing federal hate-crime charges that would carry the death penalty, according to a person familiar with the department's decision-making process. The person was not authorized to speak on the record and spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press.

Despite initial reports of pos-

sible multiple gunmen, the man in custody is believed to be the only shooter, police said.

Law enforcement officials identified him as 21-year-old Patrick Crusius from Allen, which is a nearly 10-hour drive from El Paso. He was arrested without police firing any shots, authorities said.

El Paso Police Chief Greg Allen said the suspect was cooperative and "forthcoming with information."

"He basically didn't hold anything back. Particular questions were asked, and he responded in the way that needed to be answered," Allen said.

Police did not know where the weapon was purchased. Allen acknowledged that it is legal under Texas law to carry a long gun openly in a public place.

Police say more than two dozen people were wounded in the attack at a shopping area about 5 miles from the

main border checkpoint with Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. Many of the victims were shot at a Walmart.

"The scene was a horrific one," Allen said, adding that many of the 26 people who were hurt had life-threatening injuries.

The shooting came less than a week after a 19-year-old gunman killed three people and injured 13 others at the popular Gilroy Garlic Festival in California before dying of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Adriana Quezada said she was in the women's clothing section of the Walmart with her two children when she heard gunfire.

"But I thought they were hits, like roof construction," Quezada, 39, said of the shots.

Her daughter, 19, and son, 16, threw themselves to the ground, then ran out of the store through an emergency exit. They were not hurt, Quezada said.

3 in family killed in Calif. cliff collapse

Associated Press

ENCINITAS, Calif. — Three women killed when a Southern California sea cliff collapsed were members of a family gathered on a beach to celebrate one of them having survived breast cancer, authorities and relatives said Saturday.

Anne Clave, 35, and her mother, Julie Davis, 65, died at hospitals after tons of sandstone were unleashed Friday at Grandview Beach, the San Diego County Medical Examiner said. A family email obtained Saturday by KNSD-TV identified the third victim as Elizabeth Cox, Clave's aunt.

The victims were part of a family gathering celebrating Cox surviving breast cancer, the email said.

Cox died instantly at the scene, the email said. Her age wasn't given.

Clave "enriched the lives of all those around her with the joy and fun she brought to all," the email said, and Davis was an "incredible grandmother."

The three women leave behind spouses,

children and many members of their extended families, the news station reported.

"The nature of the accident and the loss is incomprehensible to all of us, our children and those around us," the email said.

Officials on Saturday reopened much of the popular surf beach that was closed following the tragedy.

Encinitas lifeguard Capt. Larry Giles said a lifeguard was posted near the collapse zone, which is still marked by yellow caution tape. Someone left a bouquet of flowers on a nearby rock.

A 30-foot-long slab of the cliff plunged onto the sand Friday afternoon north of downtown San Diego.

Geologists were on scene Saturday assessing the area around the collapse zone. Homes on top of the cliff were in no immediate danger, Giles said.

A lifeguard reported feeling and hearing the thud as the dense dirt landed on the beach.

"It just happened to take place outside

his peripheral (vision)," Giles said, noting that the lifeguard had his eyes trained on the water.

Lifeguards and beachgoers scrambled to the towering pile of debris — estimated to weigh tens of thousands of pounds — to help search for victims.

"I saw first responders and I saw lifeguards frantically digging people out of the debris," Jim Pepperdine, who lives nearby, told the San Diego Union-Tribune.

Pepperdine said he saw people trying to resuscitate a woman before her body was covered.

The woman died at the scene, and two more people later died at hospitals. Another person was taken to a hospital, and a person who had minor injuries was treated at the scene, officials said.

Authorities said they were all adults.

Search dogs were brought in to hunt for other possible victims, and a skip loader was used to move the dense, heavy debris. No other victims were found.

French inventor flies over English Channel

Associated Press

SANGATTE, France — Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a French inventor flying over the English Channel on his hoverboard.

Looking like a superhero, Franky Zapata successfully completed the famed 22-mile journey in just 22 minutes Sunday morning, reaching speeds of up to 110 mph on the hoverboard that has made him a household name in France.

Propelled by a power pack full of kerosene, Zapata set off from Sangatte in France's Pas de Calais region and landed in Saint Margaret's Bay in the Dover area of southeast England. He stopped only once, on the British side, to refuel his invention from a boat in the choppy waters.

"I tried to enjoy it and not think about the pain ... I'm very lucky," he told reporters after the feat.

It was, of course, the record for such a trip; no one else has tried to cross the channel in his way.

It was also a personal record — the furthest distance that the 40-year-old, who drew nationwide attention after whizzing above European leaders in Paris at Bastille Day celebrations, had ever traveled atop his hoverboard.

The wind in the Channel, especially gusts, presented a major challenge, he said, adding that he bends into gusts but is destabilized if the wind quickly dies.

Sunday was the inventor's second attempt to cross the Channel.

His first — 10 days earlier — culminated in him colliding with a refueling boat several minutes into his flight. That destroyed his transportation, a version of the flyboard that his company sells commercially.

Cummings urges Trump to 'come to Baltimore'

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Maryland Rep. Elijah Cummings took the high road in inviting President Donald Trump and other Americans to visit Baltimore but declining to respond in kind to the barrage of presidential tweets and comments disparaging him and the majority-black city he has long represented.

"We are a great community," Cummings, the chairman of a powerful House committee investigating the administration, said Saturday in his first public remarks about the controversy as he participated in the opening of a small neighborhood park near his home.

Community leaders and residents gathered to cut the ribbon on a pocket of greenery and flowers, built from what had been a vacant lot often used as a dumping ground for trash.

"Come to Baltimore. Do not just criticize us but come to Baltimore, and I promise you, you will be welcomed," he said.

Cummings said he doesn't have time for those who criticize the city where he grew up but wants to hear from people willing to help make the community better. He noted the outpouring of support he has received, the thousands of emails and the presence at the event of leaders from the University of Maryland's medical center, foundations and businesses. He wore a hat and polo shirt of Under Armour, the popular apparel maker headquartered in Baltimore.

Asked directly by reporters afterward if there would be a meeting with Trump, the congressman said he'd love to see Trump in the city.

"The president is welcome to our district," he said.

In a weeklong series of attacks, Trump called the Baltimore district a "rat and rodent infested mess" and complained about Cummings, whose district includes key parts of the city.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man: Dog saved him as house caught fire

MS NEW ALBANY — A Mississippi man said the family dog saved him and his son from a house fire.

Marvin Foster, of New Albany, told the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal that he was getting out of the shower when Dudley the dog bumped the bathroom door and alerted him about a fire in the kitchen.

Foster got dressed and yelled to his son, Terrance.

The two men escaped, but a wall fell and jammed the bathroom door, trapping Dudley inside. New Albany firefighters rescued the dog and gave him water and oxygen.

Dudley is recovering at a veterinarian's office.

Flag stolen decades ago returned to island

GA JEKYLL ISLAND — A handmade flag that pranksters stole from Jekyll Island more than 40 years ago has been returned to the state park.

The Brunswick News reported the flag featuring a crest of a seashell and a cotton ball was handed over to its executive editor and president, Buff Leavy, recently along with a handwritten note explaining that it had been swiped by Georgia Tech fraternity pledges in 1975. Leavy returned it to the Jekyll Island Authority.

Rose Marie Kimbell, archivist of the island's Mosaic museum, said the flag will be placed on display at the museum.

Longhorn on the loose corralled by cowboy

CO COLORADO SPRINGS — An enterprising cowboy lassoed a

longhorn inside the lobby of a Colorado Springs building after the cow broke free from a downtown parade and charged its way inside.

Pedestrians scurried out of harm's way during the brief escape as the longhorn romped across a street and through an open door at the Plaza of the Rockies.

Fast-thinking spectators quickly shut the door to contain the animal, which emerged moments later, roped by a cowboy atop a horse.

The parade was held to mark a weekend rodeo in Colorado Springs.

Man found guilty punches prosecutor

OR PORTLAND — Authorities said a man who'd just been found guilty of stealing a U-Haul truck punched the prosecutor in the face in front of a stunned jury in a Portland courtroom.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Ryan Wayne Perkins, 38, suddenly got up and punched Deputy District Attorney Kevin Demer a few times in what appeared to be the face or upper body, according to the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office and witnesses.

Sheriff's spokesman Sgt. Brandon White said Perkins was handcuffed and taken back to jail.

Barrel-maker fined for amputations

MO LEBANON — A barrel-making company in southwest Missouri where five amputations were reported in a 14-month period is facing thousands of dollars in fines.

Federal regulations announced proposed fines of more than \$413,000 against Missouri

Cooperage Co., a subsidiary of the Independent Stave Co. in Lebanon.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration said the company exposed employees to amputation, noise and other safety and health hazards.

The company was cited for the same violation in February 2018.

Man arrested in toilet paper bandit case

AL TRUSSVILLE — Alabama authorities said they've wiped out a spate of toilet paper thefts by arresting a man accused of stealing dozens of rolls of bath tissue from a local market.

Trussville Police Detective Ben Short told news outlets Ira Glover, 50, led officers on a short chase before they arrested him.

Police said Glover was caught on security video swiping dozens of rolls of toilet paper from a pallet before attempting another theft a week later. Investigators think he's been trying to refill his janitorial business' supply.

Police: Dad put beer in toddler's bottle

PA BELLEFONTE — A Pennsylvania couple faces child abuse charges over reports that the father put a mix of beer and formula in his child's bottle.

Online court documents show Garrett Gunsallus, 23, was arrested on two felony child abuse charges, and a misdemeanor assault charge.

His former wife, Ashley Gunsallus, 30, also faces one felony count of endangering the welfare of a child.

According to a criminal complaint, a witness told police Garrett Gunsallus filled a baby

bottle with beer, put formula on top and gave it to his toddler.

The witness said the child drank the entire bottle and Gunsallus "thought it was funny and laughed."

Joyride on school floor cleaner leaves damage

MI TROY — Authorities said three people who broke into a suburban Detroit high school caused more than \$1,200 in damage while riding a floor cleaning machine through the hallways.

Surveillance video shows the suspects riding in hallways, sometimes two at a time on the machine, crashing into things along the way.

WXYZ-TV reported police said they damaged about \$1,200 in musical instruments as well as furniture.

Kids throw bananas at allergic teacher

OH COLUMBUS — An Ohio school district said students endangered a teacher by intentionally exposing her to bananas despite knowing she is severely allergic to the fruit.

WSYX-TV reported the teacher at the Starling K-8 school in Columbus went into anaphylactic shock and ended up at the hospital after three seventh-graders smeared bananas on her door and threw the fruit at her in class last November.

A sign on the door had warned students that the room was supposed to be a "banana-free zone."

The station reported the students were charged with assault in juvenile court and have since served probation.

From wire reports

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Gonzalez and Reed among Hall inductees

Associated Press

CANTON, Ohio — What a defensive backfield in gold jackets: Ed Reed, Ty Law and Champ Bailey.

And what a challenge they had throughout their careers, trying to cover fellow inductee Tony Gonzalez.

All four entered the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday night.

“Fitting to be in here with Mr. Johnny Robinson and Champ and Ty,” Reed said. “My DBs know it was always about us.”

Sort of. But Gonzalez, like Bailey elected in his first eligible year, showed how pro football could be all about the tight end.

A six-time All-Pro, Gonzalez helped revolutionize the position, lining up in traditional tight end spots as well as flanked out or in the backfield — pretty much everywhere on the field. Then he beat many of those defensive backs everywhere on the field in 12 seasons with Kansas City and five with Atlanta. He stands second in receptions with 1,325 only to Jerry Rice.

His final totals included 15,127 yards receiving and 111 touchdowns in the regular season. He made 14 Pro Bowls and the NFL All-Decade Team of the 2000s.

He particularly thanked his 101-year-old grandmother, his wife, who he said doesn't like football, and the fans in KC. Gonzalez was one of the most popular players in the entire league for those 17 seasons.

“After I was traded, I went back to play a game in Kansas City,” he recalled. “During pregame they introduced me, which I thought was very special. Then something happened, one of the greatest moments of my career: The fans began yelling for me.”

While Gonzalez, now a broadcaster, delivered a smooth speech until his eyes welled up when addressing his mother, Bailey, Reed and Law's voices frequently broke during theirs.

Law spoke of his family's support, and his hometown, Aliquippa, Pa, which also pro-

duced his uncle, Tony Dorsett, and Mike Ditka — both Hall of Famers.

“I know there ain't no crying in football,” Law joked.

Law became the first inductee from New England's stand-out defense that won three Super Bowls in the early 2000s. One of the most versatile and physical cornerbacks the NFL has seen, Law was selected for five Pro Bowl teams and was a two-time All-Pro. He finished with 53 career interceptions, twice leading the NFL in that category, had more than 800 tackles, 169 passes defended, five sacks, and scored seven times.

Perhaps Law's most noteworthy game came in the 2002 Super Bowl, when his hard-hitting style upset Rams receivers and threw off the “Greatest Show on Turf. That was emblematic of his attacking style — and soon after led to rules changes limiting how physical defenders could be against receivers.

Reed was just as big a playmaker for Baltimore, a safety who fellow enshrinee Ray Lewis called “a gift” to the Ravens and himself. He was elected in his first year of eligibility, just as Lewis was last year, and called for unity in America, setting a standard like a team's — each pushing one another toward an achievement.

“Help each other, encourage each other, lift each other up,” Reed said. “Encourage those around you. Encourage yourself.”

Reed, a five-time All-Pro safety and member of the NFL 2000s All-Decade Team, was the 2004 Defensive Player of the Year and made nine Pro Bowls. He had 64 career interceptions, seventh overall; led the NFL in picks three times; and his 1,590 yards on interception returns is a league mark. His 13 non-offense TDs rank fifth all time.

Bailey played for Washington and Denver in his 15-year career, and was a force in each of those seasons. He intercepted 54 passes, including one against New England he returned for 100 yards in the

2005 divisional playoffs.

A 12-time Pro Bowler, a record for the position, and three-time All-Pro who made the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 2000s, Bailey was the seventh overall draft pick by the Redskins in 1999. He was dealt to Denver in 2004 for running back Clinton Portis in a steal for the Broncos.

Bailey credited Hall of Fame cornerbacks Darrell Green and Deion Sanders, mentors with the Redskins, for setting his foundation in the pros. Yet he noted he was “consumed by the game” that “gives a person discipline and perseverance,” but it doesn't prepare you for “real life.”

Referring to his fellow African Americans, Bailey asked that everyone listen “when we tell you about our fears. ... When we tell you there are many challenges we face because of the color our skin, please listen. And please do not get caught up in how the message is delivered.

“If we start listening, there is no limit to the progress we can make.”

Inducted earlier were Kevin Mawae, Pat Bowlen, Johnny Robinson and Gil Brandt.

Mawae never betrayed the lessons he learned when he first began playing football — flag football, no less.

“I learned to love the preparation, the plays and the puzzle,” Mawae said. “I loved putting on my uniform and cleats. I learned to never step on the field without being ready to work.”

Mawae was an outstanding center for three NFL teams, and a key union force during the 2011 lockout of players. His leadership, along with his talent and determination, made him a three-time All-Pro and eight-time Pro Bowler with the Seahawks, Jets and Titans, and the center on the NFL's All-Decade Team of the 2000s.

Offensive lineman rarely should be judged by statistics, but consider that Mawae blocked for a 1,000-yard rusher in 13 of his 16 seasons — by five different runningbacks, capped

by the NFL's sixth 2,000-yard rushing performance, by Tennessee's Chris Johnson in 2009, Mawae's final season.

Mawae, who was presented by his wife, Tracy, is the first player of Hawaiian descent and the second Polynesian member of the hall, following the late Junior Seau. His speech paid warm tribute to his family and the inspiration and love they provided.

“I knock on this door and I tell all of you,” he concluded in his speech, “I am home.”

Bowlen's Denver Broncos made more Super Bowls (seven, winning three) than they had losing seasons. Under Bowlen's leadership, Denver went 354-240-1 from 1984 through last season. He was the first owner in NFL history to oversee a team that won 300 games — including playoffs — in a span of three decades.

On the league level, the highly respected Bowlen, who died in June, worked on several influential committees, including co-chairing the NFL Management Council and working on network TV contracts such as the league's ground-breaking \$18 billion deal in 1998.

Brandt has been in the NFL so long he scouted Robinson. Brandt was procuring talent for the Dallas Cowboys in their initial season of 1960 when Robinson came out of LSU as a running back and eventually became a star safety.

Finally, in 2019, they are wearing gold jackets.

“After all this time, I thought I had been forgotten,” Robinson said. “To receive that knock on the door ... was surreal to me.”

Brandt paid tribute to his true calling: talent evaluation.

“What you do in securing talent is the lifeblood of football,” he said. “Seeing that player that was something special ... or going to a D-3 campus and finding a diamond in the rough. I want all of you to look at my election into the Hall of Fame as a tip of the cap to you.”

Yanks sweep doubleheader with Red Sox

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Chris Sale threw an 0-2 fastball at the letters past Gio Urshela in the fourth inning and didn't get the call. He raised both arms as if to say, "What's wrong?" and muttered at plate umpire Mike Estabrook. Sale's outing in a doubleheader opener spun out of control from there, just like Boston's season.

Boston was swept 9-2 and 6-4 by New York on Saturday and fell 13½ games behind the AL East-leading Yankees and 5½ games back of second-place Tampa Bay. The Red Sox are 59-54, with as many losses as their 2018 World Series champions (108-54).

"It seems like it has flipped from last year, where they are at right now, where we are right now," Red Sox manager Alex Cora said.

DJ LeMahieu homered twice in the day game and Gleyber Torres twice at night as New York moved a season-high 32 games over .500 at 71-39 and improved to 4-0-1 in doubleheaders this year with its first twinbill sweep of the Red Sox since August 2006.

Domingo German (14-2) won the day game and the Yankees then improved to 9-0 when using Chad Green as an opener, beating the Red Sox for the 10th time in 14 meetings.

New York slugger Edwin Encarnacion broke his right wrist when hit by a pitch from Josh Smith in the eighth inning of the opener and estimated he will miss three-to-five weeks. Outfielder Aaron Hicks hurt his elbow on a sixth-inning throw in the second game and was to have an MRI on Sunday.

Sale (5-11) tied his career high by allowing eight earned runs in 3⅔ innings and fell to 0-4 with a 9.90 ERA against the Yankees this season. He was 29-12 with a 2.56 ERA for the Red Sox when he signed a \$160 million, six-year contract in March but has a 4.68 ERA since.

Sanchez shines in Astros debut

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Aaron Sanchez looked like a re-invented pitcher in his Houston debut, throwing six stellar innings to start the Astros on a combined no-hitter Saturday night in their 9-0 victory over the Seattle Mariners.

Sanchez was an All-Star in 2016 and led the American League in ERA, but he's struggled badly this season and had lost 13 straight decisions to lead the majors with 14 losses. Three days after he was acquired from Toronto at the trade deadline, the 27-year-old right-hander teamed with Will Harris, Joe Biagini and Chris Devenski to shut down Seattle.

"Just trying to have a good first impression," Sanchez said.

It was the second time in less than a month the last-place Mariners were no-hit by multiple pitchers. The Los Angeles Angels used two pitchers in a combined no-hitter July 12 against Seattle on a night when they honored late left-hander Tyler Skaggs by all wearing his No. 45 in their first home game since his death.

Sanchez (4-14) was replaced by Will Harris to start the seventh after throwing 92 pitches.

Harris and Joe Biagini, also obtained from the

Blue Jays in the same deal that netted Sanchez, each worked one inning before Devenski tossed a perfect ninth. He retired All-Star slugger Daniel Vogelbach on a routine fly for the final out, setting off an Astros celebration on the field.

"This is awesome," Sanchez said, adding: "You can't write it up any better than this."

Sanchez struck out six, walked two and hit a batter with a pitch in his first win since late April.

Houston manager AJ Hinch patted Sanchez on the chest after he finished the sixth, and pitching coach Brent Strom offered a hearty handshake.

The Astros have a history of improving the performance of pitchers they acquire.

"We don't have magic dust," Hinch insisted after Sanchez was added.

Still, Sanchez was eager to get going with his new team.

"I'm sure there's things that are on their mind and things that are on my mind. It's an open line of communication here," he said after the deal. "I'm thrilled to see what they've got for me. I'm thrilled to kind of share my thoughts with them and bounce ideas off of each other and see where it goes."

Roundup

Twins' Cruz hits three HRs in win over KC

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Nelson Cruz is hardly slowing down. If anything, he's heating up.

The 39-year-old Minnesota slugger extended his recent tear Saturday night, hitting three home runs in a game for the second time in 10 days and powering the AL Central-leading Twins to an 11-3 victory over the Kansas City Royals.

A day after he homered, doubled twice and drove in five runs, Cruz again had five RBIs.

"I think my approach is the right one," Cruz said. "My body feels good, and I have the right approach."

Cruz hit a two-run homer in the first inning, a solo drive in the second and a two-run shot in the sixth. He didn't get a chance at a record-tying fourth home run — he was left on deck when Jorge Polanco grounded out to end the eighth.

Cruz has 11 homers and 23 RBIs in his last nine starts.

Dodgers 4, Padres 1: Walk-

er Buehler struck out 15 in his second career complete game, leading host Los Angeles to the victory.

Braves 5, Reds 4 (10): Atlanta star Ronald Acuna Jr. hit an RBI single off Robert Stephenson with two outs in the 10th inning.

Mets 7, Pirates 5: Wilson Ramos hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning, lifting visiting New York to the win after Marcus Stroman had a shaky debut with the Mets.

Cubs 4, Brewers 1: Cole Hamels pitched five shutout innings for host Chicago after spending five weeks on the injured list, and Albert Almora Jr. hit a tiebreaking homer.

The Cubs lost catcher Willson Contreras to a right hamstring injury in the seventh. He'll undergo an MRI on Monday.

Rays 8, Marlins 6: Eric Sogard homered twice and finished with a career-high five RBIs, powering host Tampa Bay to the victory.

Indians 7, Angels 2: Fran-

cisco Lindor and Jason Kipnis homered during host Cleveland's five-run fifth inning.

Diamondbacks 18, Nationals 7: Eduardo Escobar hit two of host Arizona's five homers and drove in a career-high seven runs.

Athletics 8, Cardinals 3: Oakland's Mike Fiers took a shutout into the sixth inning for his eighth consecutive win.

Rangers 5, Tigers 4 (10): Rougned Odor homered with two outs in the 10th inning, lifting host Texas to the victory.

Orioles 6, Blue Jays 4: Trey Mancini homered and drove in four runs, and host Baltimore stopped Toronto's five-game win streak.

Phillies 3, White Sox 2: Aaron Nola pitched seven strong innings for host Philadelphia, and Bryce Harper and Rhys Hoskins homered.

Giants 6, Rockies 5: Pinch-hitter Buster Posey came through with a two-run double in the eighth inning to rally San Francisco to the road win.

Ngakoue ends holdout with no contract

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Yannick Ngakoue's holdout failed to land him a new contract.

The standout pass rusher reported to Jacksonville Jaguars training camp Sunday following an 11-day absence and is ready to play out his rookie deal. He insisted he's not angry and not worried about risking an injury that could cost him millions.

Ngakoue passed his conditioning test an hour before practice and took his usual spot with the first-team defense. The Jaguars traveled to Baltimore later Sunday for two days of joint practices with the Ravens — it's about a 45-minute drive from Ngakoue's hometown.

"At the end of the day, they had a chance to sign me for a long-term deal, but it didn't get done," he said. "I love football, love my teammates and I'm here to play games."

Ngakoue is entering the final year of a \$3.84 million contract. He is due to make

\$2.025 million this fall — far less than other top playmakers at his position. He also is facing \$528,650 in fines — more than a quarter of his salary — because he skipped a three-day minicamp in June and nearly two weeks of training camp.

He had been seeking more than \$20 million a year, but the Jaguars seemingly don't consider the former third-round draft pick from Maryland a complete or elite defensive end.

Jacksonville also selected Ngakoue's potential replacement, Josh Allen from Kentucky, with the seventh overall pick in the NFL Draft and is expected to make Jalen Ramsey the league's highest-paid cornerback next year.

Ngakoue is willing to bet on himself in 2019.

"I know my value, I know my worth," he said. "That's all I can say. Doesn't matter about anybody else knowing my value. I showed each and every year."

According to the NFL's collective bargaining agreement, Ngakoue had to report by Tues-

day to accrue a fourth season and become an unrestricted free agent in 2020. Had he reported after the deadline, he would have become a restricted free agent.

Being a restricted free agent would have allowed the Jaguars to match any team's contract offer.

Instead, Ngakoue will try to prove his worth to Jacksonville or persuade someone else to give him a lucrative deal in March. The Jags also could use the franchise tag on him next year, locking him up for 2020 or possibly try to trade him.

"I don't get myself involved in that stuff," coach Doug Marrone said. "We're happy to have him back and ready to go."

The 24-year-old Ngakoue had 29½ sacks and 10 forced fumbles the last three seasons. He had with 28 tackles and 9½ sacks last year but had no strip sacks for the first time in his NFL career.

Still, he had hoped to join a list of top-flight pass rushers who have cashed in recently.

Dallas' Demarcus Lawrence and Kansas City's Frank Clark signed five-year, \$105 million contracts. Lawrence got \$65 million guaranteed; Clark received \$62.3 million guaranteed.

Trey Flowers signed a five-year, \$90 million deal with Detroit that included \$56 million guaranteed. And Dee Ford signed a five-year, \$85 million contract with San Francisco that included \$45 million guaranteed.

Ngakoue has more sacks than Lawrence (26), Ford (25) and Flowers (21) over the last three years. Clark has 32 during the same span.

Lawrence, Ford and Flowers have each missed multiple games, though.

"I view myself as unique," Ngakoue said. "I don't even compare myself to no other pass-rusher. No disrespect to those guys. ... I'm my own player. I feel like I bring a different aspect to the game. Stats show."

US women kick off World Cup victory tour

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — FIFA President Gianni Infantino took time out of his vacation to drop by the Rose Bowl for a celebration of the newest women's World Cup champions.

And Infantino is confident the winners of that trophy in four years will reap even bigger rewards.

Departing coach Jill Ellis and the U.S. women's national team opened their post-World Cup domestic victory tour with a 3-0 victory over Ireland on Saturday night.

Infantino turned up in the stadium tunnel after the game to congratulate Ellis and her players, even posing for photos with the veteran coach. The Swiss executive repeated his desire to see constant growth in the women's game, including his recent declarations of his determination to double the prize money to \$60 million for an expanded 32-team women's tournament in 2023.

"We have until 2023 to discuss about the prize money," Infantino said. "I think we need to market it as well in a certain way, and I'm very confident. I'm sure we can go

higher than [doubling the prize money]. We need to be optimistic."

Optimism about the women's game abounded on a celebratory evening at the famed Rose Bowl, where the U.S. women kicked off a five-city tour bringing the champions to their eager stateside fans. They'll also stop in Philadelphia, St. Paul and Charlotte before finishing in Chicago on Oct. 3 to conclude Ellis' 5½ years in charge.

Ellis announced her decision Tuesday to walk away as the first two-time women's World Cup champion coach, and this win improved her record to 103-7-18 in the U.S.' top job since 2014. The Americans' new boss will have a compressed time frame to prepare the team for the Tokyo Olympics, which will be in the semifinals at this time next year.

"To do two World Cups, it's the start of a cycle and the finish of a cycle, so I feel complete in that sense," Ellis said. "I love change. I embrace change. I have a family, and sometimes it's 150-plus days on the road. All of those things combined in this decision."

Nearly four weeks after their World Cup-clinching victory over the Netherlands, the Americans showed off the ample two-way talent with which their new coach can work.

With an enthusiastic crowd of 37,040 cheering their every move, they had little trouble with Ireland, FIFA's 33rd-ranked side. Tobin Heath, Lindsey Horan and Carli Lloyd scored first-half goals.

"The U.S. team, the way they performed, the way they won, the way they came over and contributed greatly to the success (of the World Cup), now it's up to us together with them to build something sustainable and meaningful for the future," Infantino said.

Late in the scoreless second half, that crowd started a loud chant of "Equal pay! Equal pay!" Players on the women's team sued the U.S. Soccer Federation in March, alleging gender discrimination in areas including financial compensation.

Megan Rapinoe and Alex Morgan missed the game while healing from minor injuries, and Mallory Pugh was scratched during warmups with a minor muscle issue.