

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## Pentagon buries study citing waste

*The Washington Post*

The Pentagon has buried an internal study that exposed \$125 billion in administrative waste in its business operations amid fears Congress would use the findings as an excuse to slash the defense budget, according to interviews and confidential memos obtained by The Washington Post.

Pentagon leaders had requested the study to help make their enormous back-office bureaucracy more efficient and reinvest any savings in combat power. But after the project documented far more wasteful spending than expected, senior defense officials moved swiftly to kill it by discrediting and suppressing the results.

The report, issued in January 2015, identified “a clear path” for the Defense Department to save \$125 billion over five years.

The plan would not have required layoffs of civil servants

or reductions in military personnel. Instead, it would have streamlined the bureaucracy through attrition and early retirements, curtailed high-priced contractors and made better use of information technology.

The study was produced last year by the Defense Business Board, a federal advisory panel of corporate executives, and consultants from McKinsey and Co. Based on reams of personnel and cost data, their report revealed for the first time that the Pentagon was spending almost a quarter of its \$580 billion budget on overhead and core business operations such as accounting, human resources, logistics and property management.

The data showed that the Defense Department was paying a staggering number of people — 1,014,000 contractors, civilians and uniformed personnel — to fill back-office jobs far from the front lines. That workforce sup-

ports 1.3 million troops on active duty, the fewest since 1940.

The cost-cutting study could find a receptive audience with President-elect Donald Trump. He has promised a major military buildup and said he would pay for it by “eliminating government waste and budget gimmicks.”

For the military, the major allure of the study was that it called for reallocating the \$125 billion for troops and weapons. Among other options, the savings could have paid a large portion of the bill to rebuild the nation’s aging nuclear arsenal, or the operating expenses for 50 Army brigades.

But some Pentagon leaders said they fretted that by spotlighting so much waste, the study would undermine their repeated public assertions that years of budget austerity had left the armed forces starved of funds. Instead of providing more money, they said, they worried

Congress and the White House might decide to cut deeper.

So the plan was killed. The Pentagon imposed secrecy restrictions on the data making up the study, which ensured no one could replicate the findings. A 77-page summary report that had been made public was removed from a Pentagon website.

“They’re all complaining that they don’t have any money. We proposed a way to save a ton of money,” said Robert “Bobby” Stein, a private-equity investor from Jacksonville, Fla., who served as chairman of the Defense Business Board.

Stein, a campaign bundler for President Barack Obama, said the study’s data were “indisputable” and that it was “a travesty” for the Pentagon to suppress the results.

“We’re going to be in peril because we’re spending dollars like it doesn’t matter,” he added.

## Navy seeks to upgrade 2 to Medal of Honor

By TARA COPP  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Two Navy Cross recipients honored for acts of valor in Afghanistan or Iraq instead deserved the Medal of Honor for their actions and are being nominated for an upgrade, the Navy said Tuesday.

The announcement, first reported by USA Today, is part of a review of all Silver Stars and service crosses awarded since Sept. 11, 2001. As part of the review, the Navy also has determined that an unspecified number of Silver Stars will be upgraded to Navy Crosses.

The names of the two service-

members awarded the Navy Crosses, the service’s second-highest medal, have not been made public.

The departmentwide medals review was directed by former Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel in 2014 after questions arose about how there appeared to be so few Medal of Honor recipients from more than a decade of combat in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Navy is the first to announce its findings. The service did not specify whether the Medal of Honor nominees were Marines or sailors.

To date, there have been four Medal of Honor recipients for actions in Iraq, all awarded

posthumously. There have been 14 Medal of Honor recipients for actions in Afghanistan.

Earlier this year, the services told Stars and Stripes that a total of 1,357 medals were being reviewed to determine whether they should be upgraded. The Army is reviewing 785 Silver Star and Distinguished Service Cross awards; the Navy, including the Marines, reviewed 425 Navy Cross and Silver Star medals; and the Air Force is reviewing 147 medals, including 135 Silver Stars and 12 Air Force Crosses. None of the medals under review would be downgraded, officials said.

Capt. Patrick McNally, a

spokesman for Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, said the secretary had “recommended that two Navy Cross recipients be considered for the Medal of Honor.”

Those recommendations would have to be approved by the president, and the Pentagon might need to get a waiver from Congress, depending on when the act of valor took place.

McNally also said the Navy has completed its review of potential Silver Stars that will be upgraded to Navy Crosses. He could not say how many Navy Crosses would be awarded or when.

# Carter: Pacific fleet pace unlikely to slow

BY ERIK SLAVIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy's operational tempo in the Asia-Pacific region isn't likely to relax anytime soon as North Korea's threat continues, Defense Secretary Ash Carter told sailors pierside on Tuesday.

The 7th Fleet ships at Yokosuka, home of the largest Navy base overseas, include several ballistic-missile-defense-capable destroyers and cruisers that represent a major defense component against a potential North

Korean attack.

"We're very busy these days, and you guys know that out here in the Asia-Pacific, your ops tempo is extremely high," Carter told the crew of the destroyer USS John S. McCain. "North Korea, for example, [there is a] serious need for deterrence and defense that only we can provide."

North Korea has continued developing its nuclear program and testing ballistic missiles despite international sanctions and condemnation.

Carter's trip to Japan, which is likely his last as defense sec-

retary, is largely viewed as a visit to reassure a key ally in the weeks prior to President-elect Donald Trump's inauguration.

Carter was scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Japanese officials have expressed concerns about what Trump's foreign policy will look like when he assumes power.

During his campaign, Trump stated that Japan was not paying for the basing of about 50,000 U.S. troops in the country, then later said it was not paying enough.

Japan pays an average of

189.3 billion yen, or \$1.66 billion, per year — which has fluctuated depending on the exchange rate — to support U.S. bases in the country as part of a five-year deal signed in 2015.

Japan also spent \$1.55 billion in 2016 toward realignment of U.S. forces in the region, which includes transferring Marines to Guam in the 2020s.

Abe, who was the first foreign head of state to meet Trump following his election victory, expressed confidence in future relations with the new administration while speaking to reporters last month.

## Defense bill requires F-35-Warthog showdown

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers want to make certain the aging A-10 gets at least one more air-power showdown before retiring into the history books.

The Senate is expected to vote this week on a defense bill that requires the Defense Department to submit a side-by-side comparison of the 1970s-era Thunderbolt II and the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, which is slated to take over many U.S. tactical air-power roles, including the close-air support that made the A-10 beloved among infantry troops.

Supporters of the legislation, including former A-10 pilot Rep. Martha McSally, R-Ariz., want to see whether the high-tech and expensive F-35 can really fill the role of the A-10, also known as the Warthog, before approving Air Force efforts to retire the battlefield stalwart and its powerful nose cannon. The Pentagon's Operational Test and Evaluation office said earlier this year that it was planning the fly-off.

The side-by-side test is in-

cluded in the \$619 billion National Defense Authorization Act approved by the House last week. President Barack Obama must sign the bill for it to become law.

"It includes critical language I authored to require a fly-off between the A-10 and the F-35 before a single A-10 can be retired," McSally said.

McSally has contended the Defense Department has been unclear on how it will manage the future of two of the A-10's most crucial roles — protecting ground troops on the battlefield and rescuing downed pilots and troops caught in enemy territory.

The bill calls for a "comparison test and evaluation that examines the capabilities of the F-35A and A-10C aircraft in conducting close-air support, combat search and rescue, and forward air controller airborne missions."

The director of Operational Test and Evaluation, J. Michael Gilmore, told Congress earlier this year that the test made "common sense" and that he was planning the side-by-side comparison of the two aircraft.

## Manning's request to change to 'female' in Army benefits file denied

*Associated Press*

A military prison psychologist is refusing to recommend that Chelsea Manning's gender be officially changed to female in her Army employee-benefits file.

Lawyers for the transgender soldier imprisoned for leaking classified information made the assertion in a federal court filing Monday in Washington.

The document says the chief of mental health at the Fort Leavenworth, Kan., prison recently declined Manning's request. Manning contends she has "achieved stability in her female gender."

The document doesn't say why psychologist Ellen Gallo-way declined the request.

Manning's lawyers say an Army policy enabling soldiers to officially change their gender does not provide an avenue for Manning to do so unless she is released or receives transgender surgery.

Her lawsuit seeks a court order allowing Manning to wear her hair longer than 2

inches.

Also on Monday, the American Civil Liberties Union and gay-rights groups lobbied President Barack Obama to commute Manning's prison sentence.

The ACLU said the letter co-signed by more than a dozen civil rights groups considers Manning's 35-year sentence unprecedented.

Attorneys on behalf of Manning made a similar pitch last month for commutation.

Manning was arrested in 2010 and convicted in 2013 in military court of charges related to her leaking more than 700,000 secret military and State Department documents to WikiLeaks.

At that time, she was known as Bradley Manning. She later filed a transgender prisoner rights lawsuit and has tried to commit suicide at least twice, citing her behind-bars treatment.

# Obama memo outlines rules on force

*The Washington Post*

WASHINGTON — On the eve of a new administration that has promised more aggressive counterterrorism operations, President Barack Obama has released a lengthy compendium of his own administration's policies governing the use of force.

The 61-page document outlines eight years of administration legal opinions, executive orders and military directives. In a strong defense of its actions, it lists rules for lethal drones and terrorist detention, and describes the international and domestic law that undergirds them.

Such rules are important to reduce “the risk of an ill-considered decision,” Obama wrote in an introduction to the document. When making policy on war and peace, he wrote, it was critical to disclose “as much information as possible to the public ... so that an informed public can scrutinize our actions and hold us to account.”

Obama said that together

with the report, he was issuing a Presidential Memorandum “that encourages future Administrations to build on this report and carry forward the principles of transparency it represents.” The memorandum, he said, asks for it to be updated by the National Security Council staff at least on an annual basis and released to the public.

There is no statutory requirement for the document, titled “Report on the Legal and Policy Frameworks Guiding the United States’ Use of Military Force and Related National Security Operations,” and no obligation to make it public.

## ‘A helpful guidebook’

Rather than targeted directly at the incoming Donald Trump administration, which will be led by a president who has spoken approvingly of using torture, a senior administration official said the White House-compiled report had “been in the works” since before the election.

“Putting it together and pre-

senting it to the next administration, it would be a helpful guidebook, certainly,” said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in advance of the official release. “But it wouldn’t have the same import as informing the American public.”

Although some of the procedures it outlines are based on court decisions and legislation, many come from executive orders that the next president is free to amend or override. For instance, the use of interrogation techniques, such as waterboarding and other methods that have been deemed torture, are a combination of legal interpretations and legislation, as well as military and presidential directives.

Obama said repeatedly this year that he wanted to “institutionalize” the policies that have governed his administration’s use of force in hopes that they would serve future administrations and better position the public to judge the actions of its government.

## ‘On the weak side’

The U.S. ban on waterboarding, Trump said early this year, was a sign of weakness. “I think we’ve become very weak and ineffective,” he said. The Islamic State group “must think we are a little bit on the weak side.”

Following strong criticism of those views, including his willingness to target family members of terrorists, Trump appeared to reverse himself somewhat and said that he understood “that the United States is bound by laws and treaties.”

“I will not order a military officer to disobey the law. It is clear that as president, I will be bound by laws just like all Americans, and I will meet those responsibilities.”

Last month, in comments on his meetings with retired Gen. James Mattis, subsequently selected as his nominee for defense secretary, Trump said he was “surprised” when Mattis told him he had “never found [torture] to be useful.”

## Okinawa commissary has plan for rodents

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Kadena Air Base’s commissary is using traps, inspections and preventative measures to combat a rodent problem, Defense Commissary Agency officials said Tuesday.

The issue arose late last week after photos appeared on social media showing a rodent inside the store. The images caused a stir around the island, which is home to about 30,000 U.S. troops.

“We are aware of the problem at the Kadena Air Base Commissary, and store management is working with base entomology to address the problem,” DeCA spokeswoman Nancy O’Neill wrote in a statement to Stars and Stripes. The rodents are part of a larger infestation in areas and buildings surrounding the commissary, she said.

From staff reports

## Army holds Pearl Harbor ceremony at Wheeler

BY WYATT OLSON

*Stars and Stripes*

Remembrances of Japan’s Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Oahu, Hawaii, usually focus on the immense destruction wrought upon the Navy in Pearl Harbor.

But the Army suffered losses, too, and mounted a counterattack with the few fighter planes that were left airworthy.

Wheeler Army Airfield was a top target for the Japanese. The attack’s planners knew it was the Army’s primary fighter base, and those planes had to be stopped from joining the fight.

On Monday, the 25th Infantry Division and Army Garrison Hawaii held a remembrance ceremony and wreath presentation at Wheeler to honor those who fell, those who fought and those who went on to wage war in the Pacific.

“Today, 75 years later, the bomb scars are still etched in the tarmac’s concrete, just as the etching of the hot, molten shrap-

nel remains as it splayed out 360 degrees from those explosions,” Maj. Gen. Christopher Cavoli told an audience in Hangar 206. “Bullet holes, scars remain in these buildings, and you can see them even today.”

Cavoli focused most of his speech on the men who lived through that sudden attack, some of whom were at the ceremony.

He took note of where they had been on that “day of infamy.”

“During the Dec. 7 attacks, 11 of the veterans sitting here among us were on ships attacked at Pearl Harbor,” he said. “One of you was on Ford Island. One was at Hickam Airfield. Two were in the Coastal Artillery, and four were right here at Wheeler and Schofield Barracks during those attacks. There was one over at Kaneohe Naval Air Station, and one at Fort Armstrong.”

Just before 8 a.m. that day, roughly two dozen Japanese

dive-bombers flew in from the north, bombing and strafing hangars.

More than 50 P-40s and other aircraft were destroyed on the tarmac.

Meanwhile, Japanese planes also were attacking Hickam Field, Bellows Field, Ford Island, Kaneohe Naval Air Station and Ewa.

A second wave of attacks at Wheeler ended about 9:45 a.m.

In the midst of the attacks, however, 12 pilots assigned to the 15th Pursuit Group at Wheeler managed to get their P-36 Hawks and P-40s into the air, commencing dogfights with a number of Japanese planes.

The attack left 33 dead and 75 wounded at Wheeler, which was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987. Seventy-six aircraft were destroyed, leaving only 83 in commission.

“For those of you who were here that day, this is truly hallowed ground,” Cavoli said.

# Trump tweet: Cancel Boeing contract for Air Force One

*The Washington Post*

President-elect Donald Trump tweeted Tuesday morning that Boeing's contract to build the next Air Force One should be canceled because of the high cost of the program.

"Boeing is building a brand new 747 Air Force One for future presidents, but costs are out of control, more than \$4 billion. Cancel order!"

Boeing was selected as the manufacturer in January 2015, but it wasn't much of a competition. Boeing's 747-8 was the only plane made in the United States that could meet the requirements for the presidential aircraft while also being "consistent with the national public interest," Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James said in a statement at the time.

She insisted that the Pentagon "will insist upon program affordability through cost-conscious procurement practices."

Talking to reporters Tuesday in New York, Trump explained his tweet: "The plane is totally out of control. It's going to be over \$4 billion for Air Force One program, and I think it's ridiculous. I think Boeing is doing a little bit of a number. We want Boeing to make a lot of money, but not that much money."

The Air Force and Boeing didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Richard Aboulafia, an aerospace analyst with the Teal Group, said Trump's tweet was "completely nonsensical and based on exactly nothing. But it's very difficult to adjudicate on complicated program management and military require-

ments questions with Twitter as your medium."

Loren Thompson, a defense consultant, said that "Air Force One has unique communications, safety and self-protection features so that the president can function under the most trying circumstances — like nuclear war." The price tag, he said, "is driven by the demands of the mission."

Boeing is under contract to build two planes to serve as Air Force One, said Todd Harrison, a defense analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "I think once [Trump] sees an actual Air Force One and the unique capabilities it is outfitted with he may start to understand why it is so expensive to replace," Harrison said.

## Congress to unveil stopgap budget

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Congress is quickening its pace toward adjourning late this week, marching toward a final vote on legislation boosting medical research and speeding drug approvals and readying a separate stopgap spending bill to prevent the government from shutting down this weekend.

The temporary budget bill, which was scheduled to be unveiled Tuesday, would keep federal agencies functioning into next spring, giving the new Congress and the incoming Trump administration time to approve more than \$1 trillion to fund federal agencies through the Sept. 30 end of the current government budget year.

Current spending expires at midnight Friday. Since the measure is the only absolute must-do bill before Congress adjourns, it's likely to carry several add-ons, including flood relief, money for overseas military operations, and help for Flint, Mich., to fix its lead-tainted water system.

The overall measure would keep the government running through April 28.

The Senate, meanwhile, appeared on track Tuesday to pass the \$6.3 billion biomedical bill, which includes a \$1.8 billion cancer research "moonshot" strongly supported by Vice President Joe Biden.

The stopgap spending measure is needed because of a deadlock between Republicans controlling Congress and the Obama administration over spending levels for the Pentagon and a number of other issues, including opposition from conservatives to advancing a huge "omnibus" spending package in the post-election lame-duck session.

## Recount focus shifts to Mich., Pa.

By **SCOTT BAUER**

*Associated Press*

MADISON, Wis. — Presidential candidate Jill Stein's fight to force ballot recounts in three states focused Monday on Pennsylvania, where her Green Party was seeking an emergency federal court order for a statewide recount, and Michigan, where a hand recount began on the orders of a federal judge.

Here's what's happening in each state and in Nevada, where a partial recount of the race was requested by independent presidential candidate Roque De La Fuente:

### Wisconsin

The recount began Thursday and continued over the weekend, with little change so far in the unofficial results as reported on election night. Six counties had completed their work as of Monday morning, with

the margin between Trump and Clinton unchanged. Both candidates lost 20 votes.

A federal lawsuit was filed late last week by a Trump voter and two super PACs seeking to stop the recount. The judge rejected a request to halt the recount while the lawsuit is pending and scheduled a hearing for Friday.

### Michigan

A federal judge late Sunday night in Detroit ordered a statewide hand recount of roughly 4.8 million ballots, which started in some counties Monday afternoon. Republicans appealed that ruling Monday. Trump won the state by about 10,700 votes, or two-tenths of a percentage point, over Clinton.

### Pennsylvania

The Green Party filed a federal lawsuit on Monday seeking a statewide recount — a move that came after the party on Sat-

urday dropped a case set to be argued Monday in state courts.

An updated count Friday by state election officials showed Trump's lead shrinking to 49,000 from 71,000 over Clinton, out of 6 million votes cast, as more counties finish counting overseas ballots and settled provisional ballot challenges.

### Nevada

A recount began Monday in Nevada at a county election warehouse near Las Vegas where officials say they expect it will take all week to review votes. Only nine other precincts in four Nevada counties are being reviewed at the request of De La Fuente. He picked the 93 precincts statewide that he wanted reviewed. If the sample shows a discrepancy of at least 1 percent for De La Fuente or Clinton, a full recount will be launched in all 17 Nevada counties.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Botched balloting keeps town afloat

**KS** TOPEKA—The central Kansas town of Frederick has dwindled over the decades to just 10 people. Its only real expense is a \$55-a-month electric bill for a half-dozen or so street lights that illuminate the unpaved streets.

Some residents want to dissolve their town, but that hasn't been easy.

For a community with nine registered voters, the tally at the ballot box last month was 13-7 in favor of keeping Frederick a third-class city.

Workers at the polling place handed out the wrong ballots to some voters who live outside of it. Local and state officials were at a loss for what to do and are letting the results stand.

## Stabbing sparked by complaint over chores

**SC** SPARTANBURG—A South Carolina man is accused of stabbing his uncle after he raised a complaint about doing household chores.

Multiple media outlets reported that Darnell Lee Angelo Wells, 26, of Spartanburg is accused of stabbing his uncle in the head and neck. Deputies said he was taken to the hospital, but his injuries were not considered life-threatening.

Spartanburg County sheriff's deputies said Wells told investigators his uncle came into his room and yelled at him about cleaning up. That sparked an argument that turned physical.

## Weasel-like mammal makes a comeback

**WA** MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK—Pacific fishers have declined on the West Coast over the

decades, but the forest-dwelling, weasel-like mammals are slowly making a comeback in Washington state.

Officials released 10 Pacific fishers into the forest of Mount Rainier National Park on Friday as part of a multiyear effort to restore them to their historic range.

The carnivores once were found throughout many forested areas of the West Coast. But they declined in numbers due to trapping and the loss of forest habitats.

The reintroduction effort comes as conservation groups have sued the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over a decision not to protect the mammals as a threatened species.

## Man dubbed 'Grinch' is arrested again

**FL** BOYNTON BEACH—Hours after a man described by police as a Christmas "Grinch" was released from a Florida jail, he was back in the slammer.

The Boynton Beach Police Department said Francis Keller was arrested Sunday, accused of holding up a fast-food restaurant and pointing a gun at patrons. Keller, 56, was charged with armed robbery and armed carjacking.

The alleged robbery occurred just hours after Keller was released from jail on charges that he tried to steal packages from a post office. A police statement said Keller was a former postal employee who gained access to the office by using a door code and called him "the Grinch who tried to steal Christmas."

## Substation incident leads to street of foam

**PA** PHILADELPHIA—A possible explosion at a power substation in down-

town Philadelphia sent waves of white foam billowing into the streets that spread across a two-block area.

Deputy Fire Chief Gary Loesch said the wind Saturday whipped the foam into five-foot peaks in places. He said it's not yet clear if a transformer exploded or something else caused the situation at the Peco Energy Co. site.

Loesch said the fire-suppression foam is not toxic to the environment. He said it was being washed into the sewer system.

## Johnny Cash covers played live at prisons

**VT** RUTLAND—A Burlington man is touring Vermont prisons and performing Johnny Cash songs in tribute to the late musician.

The Burlington Free Press reported George Richard started his Cash tribute band in the spring and last week played at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility in Rutland. He plays alongside a band known as the Johnny Cash Tribute Show.

They've toured prisons in South Burlington, St. Albans and Springfield and hope to play at each of the state's seven prisons.

## Classes on Trump, election win offered

**OH** AKRON—Donald Trump is a businessman, celebrity, the next president of the U.S.—and now the topic of a new class being offered at a northeast Ohio university.

Matthew Akers, director of government relations at the University of Akron, has created a course called "Trump's Triumph."

Akers said the course will delve into how Trump garnered

support. It will also examine his policies and why pollsters got the election wrong.

## Suspect who stabbed sheriff's dog is shot

**CA** SAN DIEGO—Both a suspect and a San Diego County sheriff's dog were hospitalized after the man attacked the dog and then was shot by a deputy.

The San Diego Union-Tribune reported that deputies were called to investigate an armed man yelling and breaking things in Rancho Santa Fe.

Sheriff's Lt. Kenneth Nelson said a man in his 50s was armed with a knife when deputies deployed a sheriff's dog to subdue him. The man stabbed the dog, named Banjer, under his left eye. The suspect threatened deputies with the knife and was shot.

He was treated at the scene and taken to a hospital.

Banjer was rushed to an animal hospital for emergency surgery and is expected to recover.

## WTC-climbing teen facing new charges

**NY** NEW YORK—A teenage daredevil who climbed the World Trade Center's centerpiece tower in 2014 surrendered to police after videos posted on social media showed him dangling from other New York skyscrapers.

Police said Justin Casquejo, 19, faces charges of reckless endangerment and trespassing.

Casquejo is from Weehawken, N.J. He was sentenced to community service for scaling the 1,776-foot-tall One World Trade Center.

The recent videos show him perched precariously on buildings and scaffolding near Central Park.

From wire reports

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# Jackson leads 5 finalists for Heisman

Associated Press

NEW YORK — After putting on a show in Death Valley back in October, Clemson's Deshaun Watson and Louisville's Lamar Jackson will face off again.

This time in New York with the Heisman Trophy on the line.

The Atlantic Coast Conference quarterbacks who dueling in one of the best games of the college football season were named Heisman finalists Monday, along with Michigan's versatile star Jabrill Peppers and Oklahoma teammates Baker Mayfield and Dede Westbrook.

The award will be presented Saturday in Manhattan.

Watson finished third in last year's voting, won by Alabama running back Derrick Henry. Just like last year, he heads to New York not as the favorite but as the contender coming on strong at the end.

"You just don't have a lot of two-time Heisman finalists over the history of your program. He is our first, and

he's very deserving," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said in a statement. "I've said it before: I believe he is the best player in the nation and has been a great representative of our university."

Mayfield finished fourth last season, but did not get an invitation to attend the Heisman presentation in New York.

Westbrook and Mayfield are the first teammates to be finalists since Reggie Bush and Matt Leinart from Southern California finished first and third, respectively, in 2005.

"I knew he was going," Mayfield said of Westbrook. "I had all the confidence in the world that Dede was going to get invited. It was more of a relief that my name got called. And then, I was just waiting to see his name pop up and see his highlights. It's enjoyable the two of us up there together."

Peppers is the first defensive player to be a Heisman finalist since Notre Dame linebacker Manti Teo was a distant runner-up to Johnny Manziel in

2012.

Finalists are determined by the margins between vote-getters. The ballots of more than 900 voters, which include former Heisman winners, were due Monday.

Watson entered as the pre-season favorite in what looked like a strong field of contenders, but Jackson quickly swept past them all to be front-runner. He was brilliant for the first two months of the season and Louisville was looking like a College Football Playoff contender.

It seemed as if Jackson would be a runaway Heisman winner, but the 15th-ranked Cardinals lost their final two games. He was sacked 11 times in a lopsided loss at Houston and he committed four turnovers in a last-second loss against Kentucky. The last player to win the Heisman after his team lost its final two games was Notre Dame's Tim Brown in 1987.

Watson, meanwhile, has surged since Clemson's only loss to Pitt in mid-November.

He also had the benefit of playing in the ACC title game last Saturday and took full advantage of the spotlight. Watson threw three touchdown passes and ran for two scores in a 42-35 victory against Virginia Tech to seal a spot in the College Football Playoff.

The raw numbers still favor Jackson, who is second in the nation in total yards per game (410.7) and has accounted for 51 touchdowns (21 rushing TDs and 30 TD passes) with 13 turnovers (nine INTs and four lost fumbles) in 12 games. Watson averages 341.8 yards per game and has 43 touchdowns (six rushing and 37 passing) with 15 turnovers (all interceptions) in 13 games.

When the two met on Oct. 1 at Clemson, Watson threw for 306 yards and five touchdowns, ran for 91 and was picked off three times. Jackson had 295 yards passing, 162 rushing and accounted for three touchdowns with one interception. Clemson won 42-36.

## Colts embarrass Jets, move into tie atop AFC South

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — With their star quarterback behind center again, Dwayne Allen and T.Y. Hilton had field days against the New York Jets.

Make that a field night at the Meadowlands as they helped the Indianapolis Colts (6-6) move into a tie atop the AFC South with a 41-10 romp that looked easy from the outset.

Allen caught a career-high three touchdown passes from Andrew Luck and hauled in all four throws on which he was targeted for 72 yards. The tight end couldn't have been more open on his first two TDs, and Luck sent a perfect pass his way on the third.

Considering he had 24 receptions and two scores in 2016 before this prime-time rout, was Allen surprised by his production?

"No, not at all," he said. "Woke up this morning prepared to execute the game plan and do whatever my team needed me to do to win. After the second one I said, 'It doesn't get much easier than that to just walk in.'"

Which is precisely what Allen did. And he praised his offensive coordinator.

"Rob Chudzinski does a great job of spreading the ball around," Allen explained. "At the beginning of the year he said, 'Guys, be patient. It can be anyone's night on any given night.' Tonight just happened to be mine."

Not entirely. Hilton toyed with cornerback Darrelle Revis and other Jets defensive backs, making nine catches for 146 yards. Hilton went over 1,000 yards for the fourth time in his five pro seasons.

No one stepped up for the Jets (3-9).

"I thought they kicked our ass," coach Todd Bowles said. "I don't think we had a lot of effort. I'm sure there are some people who showed up, but for the most part we got our ass kicked."

Other observations from the game:

**QB shuffle:** An ineffective Ryan Fitzpatrick was benched in the third quarter for Bryce Petty, who will start the final four games for the Jets.

"The plan was to start him the last four games, anyway," Bowles said. "So, we just started a half early."

Petty, a fourth-round draft pick out of Baylor last year, finished 11-for-25 for 135 yards with a touchdown to Robby Anderson and two interceptions.

Fitzpatrick, in what could be his last appearance on the field in a Jets uniform, was 5-for-12 for 81 yards with a pick. He re-signed with New York

on a one-year, \$12 million deal after setting a franchise record with 31 touchdown passes last season.

**Mini-playoff:** Now that the Colts have caught Houston, which has led the AFC South most of the year, it's created a three-way tie (including the Tennessee Titans) atop the division. Indy hosts the Texans on Sunday in what several players and coach Chuck Pagano dubbed "a playoff game."

The Colts lost three of their first four, but now they've won three of four.

The schedule has a two-game trip to Minnesota and Oakland and a finale at home against Jacksonville. Houston must play the Jaguars and Bengals at home before finishing at the Titans. Tennessee has an imposing next two weeks, hosting Denver and visiting Kansas City. It then gets Jacksonville before the season ends.

# Warriors' Thompson scores 60 points

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Klay Thompson wanted one more quarter. He wanted to score 80, and thinks he absolutely could have.

Hard to argue that one: He went off for 60 points in 29 head-shaking, jaw-dropping, defense-breaking minutes.

"Who knows? I know he would have kept shooting," coach Steve Kerr said. "Klay's never going to stop shooting."

Thompson had an NBA season-high and career-best performance for the highest-scoring output by a Golden State player in more than 42 years, and the Warriors whipped the Indiana Pacers 142-106 on Monday night. At one point, Pacers coach Nate McMillan looked downright speechless during a quiet timeout on his bench.

Thompson raised his arms to encourage more of those steady "KLAY! KLAY! KLAY!" chants

then let it fly again and again. He had 60 through three and called it a night, sitting down with 1:22 left in the period as fans jumped to their feet for an extended standing ovation.

"It's just unfortunate two times I got my career high I didn't get to play the fourth quarter," Thompson said.

He scored 40 by halftime in just 18-plus minutes. Nearly two years ago, Thompson had a 37-point quarter on the way to 52 points against Sacramento.

Thompson joined Hall of Famers Wilt Chamberlain, Rick Barry and Joe Fulks as the only Warriors to score 60 points. Barry was the last to do so, going off for 64 on March 26, 1974, against Portland.

Now, Thompson hopes he gets a chance to go for more.

"Maybe. I think I could have, maybe one day I'll have the opportunity," he said, "But 60 in 29 minutes is not too bad."

Thompson shot 21-for-33 and 8-for-14 on three-pointers —

15-for-22 with five threes in the first two quarters — and converted 10 of 11 free throws in 29 minutes. When he knocked down a turnaround baseline three under pressure midway through the second quarter right in front of a resting Curry on the bench, the shot sent the MVP into a tunnel-dashing frenzy of delight.

"That's a feat that I put money on will probably never be touched ever again in the history of basketball," Curry said.

Previously this season the highest scorers were Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook with 51 in an overtime game and Anthony Davis with 50 in regulation for the Pelicans.

"I felt every shot I took was a good shot," Thompson said.

Kevin Durant added 20 points, eight rebounds, four assists and two blocks for Golden State in another display of impressive passing. The Warriors' 15 first-quarter assists

matched a franchise record done twice previously and they wound up with 45 total — two off the franchise record they set Nov. 24 against the Lakers.

In one sensational third-quarter play worthy of the highlight reel, Thompson had no part: Off a jump ball, Draymond Green hit Curry with a long heave and Curry made a leaping, one-touch pass to Durant for the dazzling alley-oop. Curry had 13 points and 11 assists.

Thompson scored 17 points in just under 9 minutes to begin the game and Golden State had 15 assists on its initial 17 baskets and led 38-27 after the first.

"A guy like that, the best defense is not to allow him to catch," McMillan said.

Paul George had 21 points and 10 rebounds a night after playing nearly 34 minutes and much of that with tissue in his bloody nose.

## No. 25 Iowa State has easy time with Nebraska-Omaha

Associated Press

AMES, Iowa — Iowa State moved the ball and yet again played strong defense.

The result was a surprisingly satisfying win on the heels of two tough losses.

Deonte Burton scored 20 points and the 25th-ranked Cyclones pummeled Nebraska-Omaha 91-47 on Monday night, snapping a two-game losing streak.

Donovan Jackson had 15 for the Cyclones (6-2), who hit 15 of 29 three-pointers and rolled to their third win of 40 or more points this season.

"I thought we did some things better," Iowa State coach Steve Prohm said. "Pace of play. Sharing the basketball, moving the basketball, the ball moving side to side. And defensively, for the majority of the game, I thought we competed."

Iowa State knew it had to take the Mavericks (4-5) seriously

after they stunned Iowa on Saturday. The Cyclones never let Nebraska-Omaha think it had a chance, storming ahead 36-9 after just 12 minutes — with Burton scoring their first 13 points.

"I just took what they were giving me, and it was falling," Burton said.

Iowa State, which fell six spots in Monday's AP Top 25 poll but remained ranked for the 61st week in a row, held the Mavs to 28 percent shooting.

The Cyclones, not typically known for their defense, have held three of their last four opponents to 56 points or less.

"We play in a really good league," Prohm said, looking ahead to Big 12 play. "You better guard, and you better play the right way."

Tra-Deon Hollins had 13 points to lead the Mavs, who hit just five of 22 from three-point range.

### The big picture

**Iowa State:** One of the big issues for Iowa State this season was inconsistent ball movement. That was clearly a focus for Prohm in practice after last week's 55-54 home loss to Cincinnati, and the Cyclones had the ball flying around the perimeter from the opening tip. Iowa State had 10 assists on its first 16 baskets.

**Nebraska-Omaha:** The Mavericks crossed the Missouri River for a road trip against Iowa and Iowa State. They split, having beaten the Hawkeyes 98-89 on Saturday. That's a result any Summit League program would take.

### Poll implications

Ranked teams are supposed to beat low-major teams handily at home. How the Cyclones look in Iowa City on Thursday will determine if their streak

reaches 62 weeks.

### The numbers

Darrell Bowie scored 12 points, including a pair of threes, for Iowa State. Naz Mitrou-Long had 11 points, five rebounds and three assists and Monte Morris had seven points and nine assists. ... Omaha hit just 5 of 22 from three-point range. ... Solomon Young returned from a hand injury and scored six points and five rebounds off the bench. His size will be crucial against Iowa, which has depth along its frontline.

### Up next

The Cyclones hit the road to face Iowa on Thursday. The Hawkeyes haven't looked as bad as they've looked this season in years, but those rivalry games tend to be close and intense.

Omaha hosts Montana State on Saturday.

# Westbrook posts 6th straight triple-double

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Russell Westbrook floated off the man he was covering, anticipated the pass into the lane and slipped back to pick it off.

Then he sped off the other way, with only a single defender able to get back and Victor Oladipo serving as wingman. At about the three-point line, Westbrook whipped a bounce pass toward his teammate, who took it from there for a layup.

With that, Westbrook earned his 10th assist and another triple-double.

It wasn't even midway through the third quarter.

"He can do so many different things," Atlanta's Thabo Sefolosha marveled after Monday night's 102-99 loss to Westbrook and the Thunder. "It's definitely mind-blowing. And the way he does it. He's everywhere."

The Oklahoma City star is working on one of the greatest seasons in NBA history, having already piled up 11 triple-doubles in the Thunder's first 22 games.

He's had six in a row, the league's longest such streak since Michael Jordan had seven straight in 1989. More impressively, Westbrook is averaging 31 points, 11.3 assists and 10.9

rebounds through more than a quarter of the season.

The last player to average a triple-double for an entire season was Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson in 1961-62. He finished at 30.8 points, 12.5 rebounds and 11.4 assists.

"Obviously, the league hasn't seen something like this in a long, long time," Thunder coach Billy Donovan said.

To give it a bit more perspective, Jordan's streak came during a season in which he finished with 15 triple-doubles.

Westbrook is only four off that total with 50 games still to go.

No wonder he heard chants of "MVP! MVP!" — even while playing on the road.

"It's crazy, man," Westbrook said. "It's definitely catching me off guard."

He got off to a slow start offensively against the slumping Hawks, missing seven of his first eight shots. But Westbrook was helping his team in other ways — crashing the boards and looking for the open man, giving him seven rebounds and eight assists by halftime.

"It's unbelievable," teammate Anthony Morrow said. "He's getting it within the game. It's not like he's forcing

it. It's something I've never seen before. It's a blessing for all of us to be a part of that type of greatness."

Of course, it was just a matter of time before Westbrook found his shooting range.

That came in the third quarter, when he suddenly got hot.

Westbrook made five of his last seven attempts in the period, swishing three of them from outside the three-point arc. He had 16 points in the third, outscoring the Hawks all by himself to stretch Oklahoma City's one-point halftime lead to a 14-point cushion heading to the final quarter.

**Cavaliers 116, Raptors 112:** LeBron James scored a season-high 34 points as host Cleveland broke a three-game losing streak with a victory over Toronto.

**Rockets 107, Celtics 106:** The Rockets' James Harden scored 37 points and Al Horford missed a shot just before the buzzer, allowing host Houston to hold off Boston.

**Spurs 97, Bucks 96:** LaMarcus Aldridge was credited for the go-ahead basket with 21.2 seconds left after Giannis Antetokounmpo was whistled for goaltending, completing San Antonio's rally from 15 points

down against host Milwaukee.

**Trail Blazers 112, Bulls 110:** Damian Lillard had 30 points and seven assists, CJ McCollum scored 24 and Portland beat host Chicago for its third consecutive victory.

**Grizzlies 110, Pelicans 108 (2OT):** Marc Gasol had 28 points, including a tying three-pointer with 7 seconds left in regulation, to go with 11 rebounds and 11 assists, and Memphis outlasted host New Orleans in double overtime.

**Hornets 109, Mavericks 101:** Kemba Walker scored 19 points, Nicolas Batum had 14 points and 15 rebounds, and Charlotte came back to defeat host Dallas.

**Jazz 107, Lakers 101:** Gordon Hayward scored 23 points and Utah overcame the absence of ill coach Quin Snyder to beat host Los Angeles for its sixth win in seven games.

**Nuggets 106, 76ers 98:** Danilo Gallinari scored 24 points and Will Barton had 22, including a big three-pointer late, to lead Denver over host Philadelphia.

**Wizards 118, Nets 113:** John Wall scored 25 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter, as Washington rallied to beat host Brooklyn.

# Pastrnak's overtime goal propels Bruins past Panthers

Associated Press

BOSTON — David Pastrnak scored his second goal of the game 2:23 into overtime and the Boston Bruins continued their recent success against the Florida Panthers with a 4-3 victory on Monday night.

Pastrnak got his team-leading 15th goal by cutting in from the left wing, shifting around goaltender Roberto Luongo and tucking in the game-winner.

David Backes and Tim Schaller also scored for the Bruins, who are 15-2-1 in their last 18 games against the Panthers. Tuukka Rask stopped 27 shots to raise his record to 14-4-1 this season and 17-3-1 in his

career against Florida.

Jaromir Jagr had a goal for the Panthers, the 754th of his career, and Luongo finished with 32 saves.

Florida's Jason Demers slipped a shot under Rask, tying it with 1:29 to play, after the Bruins had moved ahead when Backes tipped in Ryan Spooner's shot for the go-ahead goal with 6:52 remaining.

Aleksander Barkov also scored for the Panthers.

**Capitals 3, Sabres 2 (OT):** Marcus Johansson scored the tying goal late in the third period and got the winner midway through overtime to lift host Washington past Buffalo.

The goals were Johansson's

third and fourth in his last five games. He has 11 for the season.

Jay Beagle added the Capitals' first even-strength goal in three games, as Washington snapped a three-game losing skid. Braden Holtby made 31 saves in the victory, the Capitals' second over the Sabres in an 11-day stretch.

**Blue Jackets 4, Coyotes 1:** Sam Gagner had two goals and two assists to help host Columbus beat Arizona for the second time in three days.

Nick Foligno and Zach Werensky also scored for the Blue Jackets, who won for the fourth straight time and ninth of their last 12. Columbus picked up its

500th win in franchise history in sweeping the two-game season series with the Coyotes.

Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 17 shots for Columbus.

**Penguins 8, Senators 5:** Bryan Rust had his first career hat trick, Sidney Crosby added his NHL-leading 17th goal and host Pittsburgh raced past Ottawa.

Evgeni Malkin and Phil Kessel each had a goal and two assists for the Penguins, and Matt Cullen and Justin Schultz also scored. Pittsburgh scored six times over the final 32 minutes after spotting the Senators a 4-2 lead.

Pittsburgh has won three straight overall.