

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Military to review handling of misconduct cases

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Military leaders are trying to fix the lengthy, inconsistent process for investigating senior officers accused of misconduct, The Associated Press has learned. They are seeking to change a hodgepodge system in which investigations can drag on for years while taxpayers pay six-figure salaries to officers relegated to mid-level administrative posts.

Trust in the disciplinary system “is strained,” the chiefs of the four military services said in a memo to Defense Secretary Ash Carter. The memo was obtained by the AP.

The chiefs said they planned to set up a task force to study the issue. It would be created by the end of the year and likely would include former members of the military, lawmakers and former investigators

or inspectors general. The panel would be charged with providing specific proposals within 10 months.

The memo said the service leaders have concerns about “our internal processes to respond promptly and equitably when there are accusations of misconduct.”

There are no real policy guidelines or regulations that govern where the officers go and what jobs they can hold while they wait for investigations to end. Instead, decisions are made by commanders on a case-by-case basis that provides little guarantee of equal treatment across the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the Marine Corps, or even for those within the same service.

“We are very frustrated by the amount of time it takes for us to process things,” said Lt. Gen. Gary Cheek, director of the Army staff. “In many cases this is in fairness to

the individual as well as to run the process through the levels of review. But it can take months to adjudicate some of these and we would greatly prefer that to be weeks, not months.”

Eugene Fidell, a lawyer who specializes in military cases, said the lengthy process wastes money and is particularly damaging for those ultimately found not guilty or not charged. And he said it can treat officers differently.

“There are people who are hung out to dry, and it’s extremely unfair because it’s virtually impossible to put Humpty back together again,” Fidell said.

There are about a half-dozen active-duty senior leaders, mainly two- and three-star officers who are working in administrative jobs now, waiting for final decisions on misconduct investigations. Over the past five years, there have been nearly 30.

## Islamic State urges attacks on US installations in Bahrain

By E.B. BOYD

Stars and Stripes

The Islamic State has called on its followers to carry out attacks in Bahrain, including on U.S. installations, ahead of a high-powered international meeting.

The annual Manama Dialogue is scheduled to take place in the island country this weekend. The gathering brings together security ministers from Persian Gulf and other nations to discuss regional developments. Both Secretary of Defense Ash Carter and British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson are scheduled to attend.

The prime purpose of the Islamic State video, released earlier this week, appeared to be to inspire attacks on the country’s Shites. The Islamic State has sought to foment discord between that group, which forms the majority of the population, and minority Sunnis, who include the country’s ruling family and many members of its security forces.

The video also showed images of other Bahrain targets, including the country’s air force, the Bahrain-based Gulf Air airline, the King Fahd Causeway, which links the island to the Saudi mainland, and other sites in the country’s capital, The Associ-

ated Press reported.

It specifically called for attacks on U.S. installations, presumably including the U.S. 5th Fleet, which is based in Bahrain.

“The muzzles of your weapons should not miss those American bases where from military aircraft took off to pour their flames on the monotheists in the territories of Islam,” one Islamic State fighter says, according to a transcript provided by the U.S. jihadi-monitoring SITE Intelligence Group, according to the AP. The fighter appears to be referencing the use of Bahrain-based bases to support air operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As of last year, about 8,300 U.S. personnel were based in Bahrain, along with about 1,300 dependents.

A spokesman with the 5th Fleet said force protection experts within U.S. Naval Forces Central Command had assessed the video, but he declined to say what action, if any, had been taken.

“We use our detailed assessment to, when required, adjust our force protection posture and measures to ensure the safety of our units and personnel,” Lt. Cmdr. Richard Chernitzer said in an email.

## Family IDs Marine killed in jet crash

By TARA COPP

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — U.S. Marine Corps F/A-18C pilot Capt. Jake Frederick was killed Wednesday when his fighter jet crashed off the coast of Japan, his family confirmed Thursday.

Frederick, 32, was based with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing on Okinawa. He ejected from his aircraft about 6:40 p.m. local time Wednesday. A fellow Hornet pilot who had been on the training flight remained above the site until they had to depart to refuel.

The Japanese Ministry of Defense confirmed to local media Thursday that a Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force ship had recovered Frederick, but did not report on his condition.

Frederick was a graduate of W.B. Ray High School in Corpus Christi, Texas, and attended the University of Texas at Austin, where he met his wife, Kiley, his mother, Donna Frederick, said Thursday. The couple have a young son and a baby on the way, she said.

The Marines have not identified a cause for the crash.

# Congress sends defense policy bill to Obama

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — A defense policy bill with the largest troop pay raise in six years will now be sent to President Barack Obama following a Thursday vote in the Senate.

The Senate overwhelmingly passed the annual National Defense Authorization Act with the 2.1 percent raise, which could kick in Jan. 1, and measures to add troops and halt an

Army drawdown. Last week, the House passed the \$619 billion bill, which sets defense policy for 2017.

The White House threatened a veto earlier this year, and over its objections Congress moved to add \$3.2 billion in military priorities including the pay raise and more troops. But the administration has not issued any new warnings, and the NDAA passed by large enough majorities in the

House and Senate that lawmakers could likely override any Obama veto.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, was an architect of the bill and urged the passage Thursday, but he also warned fellow lawmakers that greater investment is still needed to keep the military prepared.

The House originally proposed adding \$18 billion worth

of defense priorities into the NDAA, which could have broken the spending caps agreed to by Congress. The final compromise bill passed Thursday backed off such a major increase and instead opted for the \$3.2 billion bump.

The White House had called the \$18 billion increase a budget “gimmick.” Last week, it was still reviewing the sprawling policy bill but said it was encouraged.

## High court halts ban on some night flights at Atsugi

BY ERIK SLAVIN  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO  
*Stars and Stripes*

TOKYO — The Japan Supreme Court on Thursday rejected a lower-court ruling banning Japan Self-Defense Forces nighttime flights out of Naval Air Facility Atsugi and reduced compensation for noise while also allowing late U.S. military flights to continue.

The ruling means JSDF flights can resume from 10 p.m. through 6 a.m., according to parties involved in the discussion.

Last year, the Tokyo High Court awarded about \$72 million in compensation to more than 7,000 residents living near Atsugi for noise created by U.S. Navy and JSDF aircraft.

That compensation wasn't appealed. However, the high court also provided for about \$10.6 million in compensation for noise expected to continue through the end of this year, which the supreme court rejected Thursday.

The added compensation was supposed to end by the end of this year, after which the Navy's aircraft were projected to move to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni in Japan's southwest.

The Navy move, once slated for 2014, is now scheduled for an indefinite date in 2017.

The Japanese government had appealed to the supreme

court over the flight ban and the future-compensation ruling while the residents appealed, seeking tighter restrictions.

The plaintiffs sought an 8 p.m.-to-8 a.m. ban on JSDF flights.

The residents also continued to argue for a U.S. flight ban at night, which successive courts ruled was outside of their jurisdiction due to the status-of-forces agreement.

Few legal analysts expected the court to bar U.S. flights, a position that frustrated Tokio Kaneko, leader of the residents' group.

“We don't know what to do when Japanese courts can't stop something that endangers residents' lives,” Kaneko said during a phone call prior to Thursday's ruling.

Although Carrier Air Wing 5's move to Iwakuni is expected to substantially lessen aircraft noise at the base, Kaneko remained concerned that U.S. jets would still use Atsugi for refueling and other tasks.

The group is considering filing another lawsuit over U.S. flight noise, Kaneko said following the ruling.

U.S. Naval Forces Japan was not party to the ruling and had no comment on the decision. However, officials noted they restrict flights during Japanese holidays, cultural events and school-exam days.

## Pentagon eyes quick relief for some Guard bonus debt

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — About half of California National Guard soldiers now being forced to repay wartime enlistment bonuses soon could have their debt wiped clean without any more effort on their part, a top Defense Department official told House lawmakers Wednesday.

A preliminary screening of the 1,400 bonuses being recouped in the state indicated about 700 could be forgiven based on existing paperwork, said Peter Levine, who is performing the duties of the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

Levine said the screening was an initial assessment as the department pours over about 17,000 bonus cases in California. The Defense Department froze the collection efforts and launched a full review in October of bonuses doled out during the height of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars after public outcry erupted over National Guard efforts to claw back the recruitment incentives, which were worth between \$15,000 and \$80,000.

“We are going through a process where we are going to be looking at these cases to look at which ones should be subject to recoupment and we are going to do it as expeditiously as possible,” Levine, who is head-

ing the Defense Department review, said during testimony to a House Armed Services subcommittee.

The California National Guard discovered widespread fraud and mismanagement in 2010 — much of it related to a single recruiter who was jailed — and struggled to adjudicate thousands of cases. A story in the Los Angeles Times in October detailed the problems and the Guard's sometimes-aggressive efforts to reclaim money from soldiers who enlisted to serve in the wars. Levine said the majority of the 17,000 bonus cases now under review at the Pentagon also likely will be cleared soon.

The department expects to focus on about 1,000 to 2,000 cases for closer investigation during the next six to seven months, meaning soldiers could be called to justify receiving their bonuses, he said. Defense Secretary Ash Carter ordered the review to be complete by the end of June. Levine said there still will be instances in which soldiers are ordered to repay their bonus money.

Meanwhile, the Army National Guard assured House lawmakers that it had taken measures to avoid the fraud and mismanagement that led to the California scandal, and said the problems had not spread to Guard operations in any other states or territories.

# US acts to end drunken driving on Okinawa

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND CHIYOMI SUMIDA

*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — With a pen as his weapon, Lt. Gen. Lawrence Nicholson took aim Tuesday at eliminating drunken driving on Okinawa. History shows that is easier said than done.

The III Marine Expeditionary Force commander and leaders from each branch of service on the island signed a proclamation announcing the “Drugged and Drunk Driving Awareness and Prevention Campaign” that will last through the holiday season and into the new year.

It urges military commanders and civilian supervisors to promote awareness of why people drive impaired, to support programs and policies to reduce the problem, and to promote healthier and safer activities.

“I can tell you that although the numbers are down this year, we still will not rest. We will continue to work very, very hard because one is too many, and we have an obligation to ourselves and to the citizens of Okinawa to eliminate all cases of drinking and driving,” Nicholson said.

While the military has succeeded in reducing other crimes by servicemembers, their dependents and civilian workers — cutting the rate well below that of the general Okinawan populace — drunken driving has remained relatively steady in recent years and has kept up with or surpassed the local community, which has had Japan’s highest number of drunken driving crashes for decades.

Experts say the Marine Corps has been doing the right things, but that it is impossible to eliminate the problem — it speaks more to people’s fallibilities than to the failings of command leadership to get troops to follow orders. However, the campaign

is a positive step, Okinawan police said, because each drunken-driving incident inflames residents who have become increasingly agitated about the 50,000-strong U.S. presence on the small Pacific island.

“One incident, even a minor one, is an obstructive factor to the cooperative strategic relationship between Japan and the United States; each one of them damages the smooth strategic relations little by little,” said Kazuya Sakamoto, professor of international politics and Japan-U.S. relations at the Graduate School of Law and Politics of Osaka University. “When minor cases are repeated, they will gradually diminish tolerability of the public.”

That is the case on Okinawa.

The overall crime rate since 1972 has been about seven crimes per 1,000 people locally and 2.75 among the U.S. military community. But the number of alcohol-related incidents is almost even, and that’s what catches the attention of Okinawans and the media.

There were 3,811 drunken-driving arrests on Okinawa through the two-year period ending in July. Of those, 136 have involved Status of Forces Agreement members. Okinawa has a population of about 1.4 million and there are about 50,000 SOFA personnel. It works out to 2.9 drunken-driving arrests per 1,000 people locally, and about 2.7 per 1,000 for SOFA members.

The number of drunken-driving crashes causing injury or death on Okinawa since 2014 was 4.2 per 10,000 people for SOFA, compared with 2.2 per 10,000 locally.

Okinawan police say they believe one of the biggest problems is day-after driving, when people suffer from hangovers.

“Many people tend to take what we call ‘hangover driving’ lightly,” said Mitsuru Araki, a spokesman for the Okinawa prefectural police’s traffic planning section. “Alcohol is not out of your system just be-

cause you have been asleep a while.”

Robert Eldridge, an academic and former deputy assistant chief of staff of government and external affairs for the Marines in Okinawa, believes crime by U.S. servicemembers has a direct and indirect impact on U.S.-Japan alliance objectives in Okinawa, with less effect on relations with Japan at large.

Incidents can affect Okinawa elections, as shown by Gov. Takeshi Onaga’s 2014 victory on an anti-base platform, or delay projects like the effort to relocate Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to the island’s remote north.

While polling data from the local Ryukyu Shimpo newspaper suggests the majority of Okinawans support the U.S.-Japan alliance, the same polls suggest they are overwhelmingly against the relocation within Okinawa.

The U.S. military, their families and civilian support personnel “are held to a higher standard and a double standard,” Eldridge said, referring to the local crime and drunken-driving numbers. “The fact that we can’t get it right is what is so distressing.”

Masaaki Gabe, professor of international relations at the University of the Ryukyus, sees the impact of alcohol-related incidents.

“The U.S. military has tightened its regulations to the greatest extent possible, and for the military and Japanese government, those routinely occurring incidents are within an acceptable error range,” Gabe said. “For Okinawan people, they are a matter of daily occurrence. In this era of the internet, news of even a small incident spreads not only to the mainland but to the world, and this news accumulates into people’s minds.”

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## Philippines: No help for US patrols in South China Sea

*Associated Press*

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippine defense secretary said Thursday that to avoid antagonizing China, it’s highly unlikely his country will allow the U.S. military to use it as a springboard for freedom-of-navigation patrols in the disputed South China Sea.

Delfin Lorenzana said U.S. ships and aircraft could use

bases in Guam or Okinawa or could fly from aircraft carriers to patrol the disputed waters.

Under President Rodrigo Duterte’s predecessor, Benigno Aquino III, some U.S. aircraft and ships stopped in the Philippines on the way to patrolling the disputed waters to challenge China’s territorial claims.

Duterte, who took office in June, has taken steps to mend ties with China and has become

hostile toward the Obama administration after it raised concerns over Duterte’s deadly crackdown on illegal drugs.

Asked if the Philippines will continue to host U.S. ships and aircraft patrolling the disputed waters, Lorenzana said that Duterte likely will not allow that to happen “to avoid any provocative actions that can escalate tensions in the South China Sea. It’s unlikely.”

“We’ll avoid that for the meantime,” Lorenzana said. “Anyway, the U.S. can fly over there coming from other bases.”

U.S. officials did not comment immediately. The commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, Adm. Harry Harris, said last month that despite Duterte’s rhetoric, military cooperation with Manila has not changed.

## 3rd GI dies from attack in Bagram in November

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — A third Army soldier has died from wounds suffered last month in a suicide attack at Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan, the Pentagon announced Wednesday.

Army Sgt. 1st Class Allan E. Brown died Tuesday at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., where he was taken for treatment in the days following the Nov. 12 attack inside the base's security walls, the Defense Department said in a statement.

Brown, 46, of Takoma Park, Md., was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Special Troops Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division stationed at Fort Hood in Texas.

Brown, a senior data systems integrator, enlisted in the Army in March 2004, according to a Fort Hood statement. He was serving his fifth war-zone deployment and previously had served three tours in Iraq and another in Afghanistan.

Two other American soldiers were killed in the explosion. They were Sgt. John W. Perry, 30, of Stockton, Calif., and Pfc. Tyler R. Iubelt, 20, of Tamaroa, Ill. Both were assigned to Brown's unit and were deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel, a U.S. training and counterterrorism mission.

Two American civilian contractors also were killed in the blast. Fifteen other American servicemembers and one Polish soldier were wounded, according to NATO.

The attack occurred as Americans on the base were starting a 5K race in honor of Veterans Day. It was the first suicide bombing inside the walls of the United States' largest military installation in Afghanistan since American forces entered the country in 2001. Bagram, about 35 miles north of Kabul, is among the most heavily guarded facilities in the country.

# Trump picks Okla. AG to lead EPA

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — President-elect Donald Trump confirmed on Thursday that he will nominate Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, a global warming skeptic, to lead the Environmental Protection Agency, which he has repeatedly sued and derided for pursuing an "activist agenda."

"My administration strongly believes in environmental protection, and Scott Pruitt will be a powerful advocate for that mission while promoting jobs, safety and opportunity," Trump said in an early-morning statement.

Trump said Pruitt, 48, will restore the EPA's "essential mission of keeping our air and our water clean and safe" while ensuring that the agency doesn't spend tax money on an "out of control, anti-energy agenda."

Pruitt, in a statement released by Trump's transition team, said Americans "are tired of seeing billions of dollars drained from our economy due to unnecessary EPA regulations, and I intend to run this agency in a way that fosters both responsible protection of the environment and freedom for American businesses."

After word broke Wednesday of the expected pick, environmental groups took a strong stand against Pruitt, describing him as a puppet of polluters. The Sierra Club said it was like "putting an

arsonist in charge of fighting fires."

Representatives of mining and oil interests cheered Trump's choice.

"Scott Pruitt is a businessman and public servant and understands the impact regulation and legislation have in the business world," said Jeffrey McDougall, an oilman who serves as chairman of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association. "His appointment will put rational and reasonable regulation at the forefront."

Though his academic degrees are in political science and law, Pruitt has been a vocal denier of the science showing that the planet is warming and that man-made carbon emissions are to blame.

In an opinion article published this year by National Review, Pruitt suggested that the debate over global warming "is far from settled" and claimed "scientists continue to disagree about the degree and extent of global warming and its connection to the actions of mankind."

According to NASA, 97 percent of the world's climate scientists agree that the planet is getting hotter and that burning fossil fuels is the primary cause. Ten of the warmest years in history have occurred in the past 12, with 2016 on pace to be the hottest recorded. Studies show the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets have decreased in mass, while the world's oceans have risen, on average, nearly seven inches in the past century.

## Trump's tack on immigrants splits GOP

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump's promise to "work something out" for immigrants brought here illegally as kids is dividing fellow Republicans, underscoring how difficult it will be for Congress to take any action on immigration, whether it's building a wall or dealing with immigrant youths.

Complicating matters, the president-elect's advisers worked to walk back his comments almost as soon as they were published, with one transition aide demanding anonymity to deny that Trump intended to set any new policy.

Trump's remarks about the young immigrants, known to their supporters as "Dreamers," came in a Time magazine interview in connection with his designation as "Person of the Year."

During the campaign Trump pledged to "immediately terminate" President Barack Obama's executive actions on immigration, including the 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, known as DACA, which has extended work permits and temporary deportation relief to more than 700,000 immigrants brought illegally to this country as youths.

But in the interview published Wednesday he adopted a far more sympathetic tone.

"We're going to work something out that's going to make people happy and proud," Trump said. "They got brought here at a very young age,

they've worked here, they've gone to school here. Some were good students. Some have wonderful jobs. And they're in never-never land because they don't know what's going to happen."

Trump did not offer details, and Time said that he did not back off his pledge to undo Obama's executive actions.

But Republicans who've supported congressional action to help immigrant youths welcomed Trump's new tone.

"I can tell you I'm very relieved at his comments today, and I think folks back home in my district and across the country are going to be very relieved as well," said Rep. Mike Coffman, R-Colo. "Obviously, Dreamers is one part of the equation. I clearly hope we do more. But I think that's got to be the top priority to do."

Trump's comments also were welcomed by some Democrats. Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada cited them in an interview Thursday on NPR as evidence that Trump is "not as bad as I thought he would be."

For immigration hard-liners, on the other hand, Trump's comments set off alarm bells.

"We have an obligation to restore the rule of law and you can't do that while you're rewarding people who break it," said Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa. "It's the principle of the rule of law that's at stake and I'm hopeful that prudent heads will prevail."

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Man reunited with ring he tossed decades ago

**WY** POWELL — A Wyoming man has been reunited with his high school class ring more than 45 years after he threw it as far as he could in a fit of teen rage.

Mike Peyton said he's flabbergasted to get the ring back after losing it so long ago.

The Powell Tribune reported that a man with a metal detector found the 1968 Powell High School ring inscribed with Peyton's initials. The man's wife and a family friend tracked down Peyton's mother, who surprised her son with the ring.

Peyton said his girlfriend at the time was wearing the ring when they broke up in the early 1970s. He said he can laugh now about how he'd taken the ring and flung it away.

## Teacher accused of taping 2 to their chairs

**SC** LEXINGTON — A South Carolina teacher is facing criminal charges after taping two middle school students to their classroom chairs.

Lexington County Sheriff Jay Koon said substitute teacher Janeeen Suzette Clark, of Irmo faces two counts of cruelty to children after restraining the students at Sandhills Middle School in Gaston.

Investigators said Clark taped two male students to their desk chairs and bound their hands with tape during the school day. Authorities say Clark put tape over the mouth of one of the students and allowed another student to tape the second victim to a chair.

Clark was booked into the Lexington County jail early Saturday and was released on her own recognizance hours later.

## Man held after meth lab found at homeless camp

**MA** YARMOUTH — A man has been accused of running a methamphetamine manufacturing lab in a tent at a Cape Cod homeless camp.

The Cape Cod Times reported that officers went to the camp on old cranberry bogs in Yarmouth owned by Cape Cod Healthcare after complaints from workers. A Yarmouth Natural Resources officer was allegedly attacked in the area on Nov. 11.

Inside two of five tents, police said they found propane tanks, several dozen batteries, a burner, vials, lye, lighter fluid and household chemicals, among other items that can be used to make meth.

Stewart Catchings, 31, was charged in connection with the discovery and was ordered held on \$10,000 cash bail.

## Mother sues after baby is fed by another

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — A Minnesota woman has filed a lawsuit against a health care provider after her newborn mistakenly was given to another mother at a hospital and was breast-fed.

Tammy Van Dyke, of Apple Valley, filed the lawsuit in Hennepin County, seeking more than \$50,000 in damages for an incident that happened four years ago.

Van Dyke gave birth to her son on Dec. 3, 2012, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis. The lawsuit contends the hospital failed to care for her infant who was mistakenly taken to the wrong mother.

KSTP-TV reported the hospital's operator, Allina Health, said it has since started using electronic ID bands for mothers and infants.

## Woman is accused of punching police officer

**MD** CUMBERLAND — Authorities said a woman punched a Cumberland police officer in the face after he responded to a disturbance call at an Allegany College of Maryland sporting event.

Janai Bailey, 19, was charged with second-degree assault after police say she punched the officer Saturday while he was attempting to handcuff her for disorderly conduct.

Investigators said Bailey and Jasmine Ukaegbu and Tatyana Furr, both 20, had been asked to leave the event for causing a disturbance, but they refused.

Among other counts, Ukaegbu was charged with resisting arrest while Furr was charged with disturbing the peace.

## Cars on interstate are struck by flying objects

**AL** HOOVER — Police are investigating after vehicles were struck by chunks of concrete or other objects in four separate cases on or near Interstate 65 in the Birmingham area.

Al.com reported that all four incidents happened in a two-day span last week in Hoover.

The most recent scare came Dec. 2, when police say a piece of concrete the size of a football struck the hood and then smashed through the windshield of a car as a couple drove south on I-65. Police said the driver was able to stop on the shoulder. Neither occupant was injured.

Hoover police Capt. Gregg Rector said there's a high likelihood that someone is throwing rocks from overpasses but haven't ruled out the possibility that someone could be tossing rocks from another moving vehicle.

## Cops: Man tried suicide, then shot wife instead

**PA** CHICORA — A Pennsylvania man jailed on charges he fatally shot his wife told police he did so after he tried unsuccessfully to kill himself, only to hear her encouraging the effort.

Joshua Crawford, 31, was in the Butler County jail on charges of criminal homicide and aggravated assault Monday.

Police said Crawford and Sarah Crawford, 30, were arguing at their Donegal Township home Sunday night when he decided to take his own life.

Crawford told police the gun wouldn't fire and that his wife continued to call him names and urged him to shoot himself, so he turned the gun on her and fired. State police investigators found her sitting on a couch, dead from a single gunshot wound to the chest.

## Breakfast argument spurs fight, stabbing

**GA** MACON — Authorities say an argument about breakfast at a Salvation Army in Macon led to a fight involving a cooking pot and ended in a stabbing.

The Bibb County Sheriff's Office said Benny Rhodes, 64, was arrested and charged with aggravated assault after the stabbing around 5:30 a.m. Saturday at the Salvation Army on Broadway.

Sheriff's officials said Rhodes was arguing with Joseph Quenga, 52, in the kitchen about his breakfast when Rhodes picked up a pot and struck Quenga.

Police said the men began to struggle and that Rhodes grabbed a knife and stabbed Quenga in his forearm. Quenga was listed in stable condition at a hospital.

From wire reports

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# Navy relying on backups against Army

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Navy's triple option will have to rely on spare parts Saturday against Army, a less-than-ideal position for a team seeking to beat its biggest rival for the 15th time in a row.

Record-setting quarterback Will Worth and slot back Toneo Gulley both sustained season-ending foot injuries last week in the American Athletic Conference championship, a 34-10 loss to Temple.

Sophomore Zach Abey will get his first college start at quarterback in the most important game of the year for Navy (9-3) and seldom-used Calvin Cass Jr. will replace Gulley, the team's co-captain and third-leading rusher.

"You don't want to make excuses," Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo said Tuesday, "but it's not the most ideal situation."

Not only that, but the Midshipmen have only one week to prepare. Army (6-5), in contrast, hasn't played since Nov. 19.

When Navy joined the AAC

two years ago, it was well aware of the possibility of this happening. Having just one week to get ready for Army is bad enough, but losing two key players in the title game made things a whole lot worse.

"Obviously you'd like some time between games," Niumatalolo said. "You don't want your big rivalry game after a championship game, but what can you do? You've just got to make the best of it."

Army coach Jeff Monken fully understands Navy's plight. The third-year coach experienced a severe paring of his defensive backfield because of injuries and the death of Brandon Jackson, who was killed in a car crash in September.

The Black Knights have two converted safeties at cornerback: freshmen Jaylon McClinton and Elijah Riley.

"We've lost our four top corners," Monken lamented. "You call most defensive coordinators around the country and tell them I'm going to take away your top four corners, and they couldn't function as a defense. So, everybody is feeling that

this time of year."

Still, Monken feels compassion for Worth and Gulley, seniors who will miss their last chance to fulfill the battle cry, "Beat Army!"

"I feel terrible for the guys that got injured in that last game," Monken said. "Those kids have had great seasons. They mean so much to their team, and playing in this game means so much to them. It's tough to lose players like that, but Kenny does such a great job that he'll have somebody step in at each one of those positions and they'll be ready to go."

Abey will be the third quarterback to play for Navy this season. Tago Smith won the job in the preseason but tore his right ACL in the second quarter of the opener against Fordham. He was replaced by Worth, who had an NCAA-high 25 rushing touchdowns and set a school record with 2,595 yards in total offense before breaking a bone in his foot last Saturday.

Now it's up to Abey to direct the triple option in a glaring spotlight.

"It is going to be a big re-

sponsibility and I will be up for it," he said.

Playing from behind, Abey went 7-for-13 for 104 yards and two interceptions against Temple. Against Army, as always, Navy will focus primarily on running the ball.

"Obviously, you're going to have to tweak the playbook for what he does," Niumatalolo said. "But he's been running the second huddle all season, so he knows what we do. We've got to do what makes us successful, but we've got to also play to his strengths."

Gulley ran 43 times in 2016, averaging a whopping 9.9 yards per carry and scoring four touchdowns.

He was a star on field and will be a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps after graduation. On Tuesday, he had his leg on a scooter with a Lisfranc injury.

"It's a big disappointment," Gulley said. "I embrace my new role as being a mentor for the guys who are actually going to be playing in the game. That's what brings me peace."

## Chapman back to NY, Davis heads to Cubs

Associated Press

OXON HILL, Md. — The champion Chicago Cubs filled their only real need, getting All-Star reliever Wade Davis. He'll take the spot of closer Aroldis Chapman, who locked down a spot by returning to the New York Yankees with a whopping \$86 million deal.

As for the Washington Nationals, well, they opened quite a debate Wednesday by trading not one, not two, but three talented, young pitchers for White Sox outfielder Adam Eaton.

And as the winter meetings wound down, the Yankees struck just before midnight. They reached a five-year deal with Chapman, according to a person familiar with the contract. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the contract was still pending a physical — it would be the richest deal ever for a reliever, shattering the \$62 million, five-year pact Mark Melancon got from San Francisco just a couple days ago.

Chapman was acquired by New York from the Cincinnati Reds last offseason, then missed the first 29 games of the season due to a domestic violence suspension from Major League Baseball. The Cuban was traded to the Chicago Cubs in late July and helped them win the World Series, becoming a free agent when it was over.

Ian Desmond also wound up in a new spot, reaching a \$70 million agreement with Colorado on the last full day of baseball's annual gathering. The session ended Thursday morning after the Rule 5 draft, mostly for players left off 40-man rosters.

"The free agent market and the trade markets have both been a little slow," Mets general manager Sandy Alderson said earlier in the day. "Things are picking up a little bit."

Closer Kenley Jansen was still in play, and Pittsburgh didn't trade — not yet, anyway — outfielder Andrew McCutchen.

As expected, the Cubs completed a deal for Davis. To get a closer who's been domi-

nant for the last three years, the World Series champions sent outfielder Jorge Soler to Kansas City.

Davis, who finished out the Royals' win that clinched their 2015 title, moved right into the ninth-inning role Chapman held at Wrigley Field.

CA day after missing out on White Sox ace Chris Sale, Washington traded top prospect Lucas Giolito, strong-armed Reynaldo Lopez and 2016 first-round draft pick Dane Dunning to get Eaton from Chicago.

Right away, Nats fans lit up Twitter, wondering why their team paid such a hefty price. Washington GM Mike Rizzo didn't blink at swapping the trio.

"We feel comfortable with the deal. We've done a lot of deals. I like win-win deals," he said.

Eaton, who turned 28 on Tuesday, batted .284 with 14 home runs and 59 RBIs, stealing 14 bases and hitting an AL-leading nine triples. He topped the majors with 18 outfield assists.

# Streaking Bucs prove they're relevant

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — There are no more lingering questions about whether the Tampa Bay Buccaneers are relevant again.

The team's four-game winning streak not only has catapulted Jameis Winston and his supporting cast into playoff contention, but the Bucs (7-5) also are tied for first place in the NFC South with the Atlanta Falcons.

Winston has cut down on mistakes that hindered the offense earlier in the season, Doug Martin has returned from an injury that sidelined him seven weeks to give the team at least the threat of a productive running attack, and a defense that has been a liability at times has rebounded from a shoddy two-game stretch to do its part in the turnaround.

"I just think we're one of those teams that is starting to believe," coach Dirk Koetter said. "It is crazy what confidence can do when you start making plays. It seems to build on itself."

The winning streak is Tampa Bay's longest since 2012, when the Bucs got off to a 6-4 start before losing five of their final six games to finish 7-9. The team is two games over .500 this late in a season for the first time in six years and sitting atop the division standings through Week 13 for the first time since 2008, when a 9-3 start was followed by a four-game, season-ending slide that cost former coach Jon Gruden his job.

The Bucs have missed the playoffs the past eight seasons and haven't won a postseason game since their 2002 Super

Bowl run.

"It feels great, but we have not arrived. We have to keep playing one game at a time," Winston said after Sunday's 28-21 win over San Diego improved Tampa Bay's record to 5-1 on the road, compared to 2-4 at home, where the Bucs will host division rival New Orleans on Sunday.

"We have to take advantage of the opportunity. We cannot stop now," Winston added. "We have to keep going. We have to keep playing. I believe we will because we're playing so well as a family right now, and it's really inspiring."

The surge begins with the play of Winston, who threw seven interceptions and lost two fumbles during a three-game losing streak that dropped Tampa Bay's record to 1-3 a

month into the season. He has thrown for 15 touchdowns with just four interceptions and two lost fumbles while the Bucs have won six of the last eight to fuel the push for their first playoff berth since 2007.

The No. 1 overall pick from last year's draft has emerged as the team's unquestioned leader in the locker room, too.

The Bucs are 4-0 since Martin returned from a hamstring injury that had sidelined him since Week 2. And even though the league's second-leading rusher from last season hasn't run for the impressive numbers the team is accustomed to getting, he's clearly taken some of the burden off Winston and receiver Mike Evans to carry the offense.

Martin gained 45 yards on 17 carries against San Diego.

## Scott leads Indiana State to upset of No. 16 Butler

Associated Press

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — Indiana State's Brenton Scott wanted to show everyone that he's just as good as his twin brother.

And just as capable of leading his team to a big upset.

Scott broke a tie by making the first of two free throws with 0.8 seconds left and finished with 25 points Wednesday night as the Sycamores snapped a nine-game losing streak against ranked teams with a 72-71 upset of No. 16 Butler.

"I just wanted to show how good a player I am and that I can help this team win games," he said after celebrating fans stormed the court. "The last two years, we haven't won a lot. But now that I'm stepping into a bigger leadership role, I wanted to prove a point and make a statement."

If the big boys of Indiana college basketball didn't know it then, they certainly do now: The Scott brothers are a pretty good tandem.

Two weeks ago, Bryson Scott

scored 18 points to help IPFW pull off one of the most stunning upsets of the season, 71-68 over then-No. 3 Indiana.

After watching that game and the commotion that surrounded it, Brenton Scott wanted to match his brother's milestone win. But Brenton Scott one-upped his brother by scoring more points, finishing with nine rebounds, three assists and two steals to knock Butler (8-1) from the unbeaten ranks.

Matt Van Scyoc made six three-pointers and finished with 23 points, both career highs, as the Sycamores (5-4) won their third straight overall, snapped a four-game losing streak in the series and handed coach Greg Lansing a school-record fifth career win over a Top 25 team. He had been tied with Bill Hodges, who coached Larry Bird, and the late Royce Waltman.

"He's going to keep trying (to drive) even if they stop him," Lansing said, referring to Scott. "Brenton doesn't have to

go all the way, though. He's got a pretty good pull-up jumper."

Plus a few other tricks that made it difficult for the Bulldogs to keep up with him.

Andrew Chrabaszcz had 18 points for Butler and Tyler Lewis added 15 on a night that got away from the Bulldogs fast.

They fell behind a little more than 5 minutes into the game because of woeful shooting. They didn't lead again until Tyler Wideman scored on an alley-oop pass with 13:41 left in the game. W

"We've obviously got a long way to go," Bulldogs coach Chris Holtmann said. "I've been saying that for a while now and nobody wanted to believe me. But you saw that tonight, we've got a long way to go."

**No. 6 Kentucky 87, Valparaiso 63:** Bam Adebayo scored 16 points, Malik Monk added 15 and the host Wildcats scored 21 straight points in a first-half run.

**No. 7 North Carolina 83, Davidson 74:** Justin Jackson matched his career high with

27 points and hit a career-best seven three-pointers for the host Tar Heels.

**No. 8 Gonzaga 98, Washington 71:** Nigel Williams-Goss scored 23 points for the host Bulldogs in a resumption of the cross-state rivalry.

**No. 10 Creighton 77, Nebraska 62:** Maurice Watson Jr. scored a season-high 25 points and Cole Huff added 13 as the visiting BlueJays dominated the second half.

**No. 11 Louisville 74, Southern Illinois 51:** Mangok Mathiang scored 15 points to lead the host Cardinals.

**Colorado 68, No. 13 Xavier 66:** Derrick White scored 23 points and had a crucial block with 13 seconds remaining to help the host Buffaloes hold off the Musketeers.

**No. 15 West Virginia 90, Western Carolina 37:** Esa Ahmad scored 14 points for the host Mountaineers.

**No. 17 Wisconsin 78, Idaho St. 44:** Bronson Koenig scored 21 points and Ethan Happ had 12 points and 12 rebounds for the host Badgers.

# Warriors handle Clippers once again

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Golden State lacked its usual outside shooting touch. The Warriors still had an easy time with the Clippers.

Klay Thompson scored 24 points, Draymond Green added 22 points and the Warriors won 115-98 Wednesday night for their seventh straight victory over Los Angeles.

Stephen Curry had 19 points for Golden State, and Kevin Durant, who came in averaging a team-best 27.0 points, was held to 16 on 5-for-17 shooting.

Curry failed to make a three-pointer for just the second time this season, going 0-for-8. The Warriors were 7-for-30 from long range.

“You try to affect the games other ways when your shot is not falling,” Curry said. “That’s kind of the test. To stay locked in and not get frustrated because I know it won’t happen that often. We’d like to make every shot every night and have that free-flowing offensive rhythm. But for us, if we can defend and not turn the ball over, we’re going to be in good shape most nights. Tonight was a testament to that.”

Jamal Crawford scored 21 points for the Clippers, who have lost five of seven. Four

of their seven overall losses have come at home.

“Our spirit wasn’t right,” said Chris Paul, who shot 7-for-14. “We gave them a lot of baskets. A team that shoots as well as they do, we can’t give them points.”

Blake Griffin struggled, scoring 12 points on 5-of-20 shooting and while committing seven of the Clippers’ 14 turnovers. J.J. Redick had two points, well under his 15.5 average.

“I turned the ball over, I missed some easy shots, forced some bad shots,” Griffin said. “We got some work to do, obviously.”

“Great night defensively,” Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. “If we defend like that and take care of the ball, even on a night when shots aren’t going in, we have a chance to win anywhere, even on the road against a great team.”

**Cavaliers 126, Knicks 94:** LeBron James scored 25 points, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love also surpassed 20, and visiting Cleveland crushed New York.

**Bucks 115, Trail Blazers 107:** Giannis Antetokounmpo had his second triple-double of the season to lead host Milwaukee.

Antetokounmpo had 15 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists for his seventh career triple-double — second-most in franchise

history — and is the only NBA player averaging at least 20 points, eight rebounds, five assists, two blocks and two steals this season.

**Rockets 134, Lakers 95:** Eric Gordon made a career-high eight three-pointers and scored 26 points to help host Houston.

**Hawks 103, Heat 95:** Dwight Howard had 23 points and 17 rebounds, Paul Millsap added 21 points and host Atlanta snapped a seven-game losing streak.

**Hornets 87, Pistons 77:** Kemba Walker scored 14 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, and Nic Batum had 14 points and 14 rebounds for host Charlotte.

**Nets 116, Nuggets 111:** Brook Lopez scored 24 points, Sean Kilpatrick had 22 and host Brooklyn held off Denver.

**Celtics 117, Magic 87:** Avery Bradley scored 23 points to help Boston rout host Orlando.

**Pacers 109, Suns 94:** Paul George had 25 points and 13 rebounds and Indiana pulled away to beat Phoenix.

**Kings 120, Mavericks 89:** DeMarcus Cousins had 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Sacramento snapped a three-game losing streak with a victory over last-place host Dallas.

## Backstrom scores in OT to push Caps past Bruins

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Capitals didn’t exactly end their overtime victory with a raucous celebration.

No, instead Washington held a players-only meeting, still salty over blowing a three-goal lead.

Nicklas Backstrom scored 1:36 into overtime, helping the Capitals beat the Boston Bruins 4-3 to avert a disastrous defeat Wednesday night.

Justin Williams scored twice and Daniel Winnik also had a goal to put Washington ahead 3-0 about six minutes into the second period.

After Winnik’s tally, Washington went over 26 minutes without a shot on goal. Boston dominated the final five minutes of the second period, when Dominic Moore and David Pastrnak beat goaltender Braden Holtby. Colin Miller’s power-play score 8:19 into the third

tied it at 3.

Backstrom saved the day, but not the Capitals from feeling uneasy.

“In the second and third period they outplayed,” Backstrom said. “We were lucky that we came up with two points. We’re not satisfied at all. We’re happy with the two points, but not the way we played.”

The locker room remained closed for approximately 15 minutes after the win, Washington’s second in a row after losing three straight.

“We had a little talking here,” said T.J. Oshie, who returned to the lineup for the first time since injuring his shoulder on Nov. 18. “There are some things we’ve got to clean up. I think it’s more of a mentality more than it is the systems or anything like that. ... Once we get a step up on someone, we have to get that mentality that we’re going to finish them off.”

Evgeny Kuznetsov had two assists for the Capitals and Alex Ovechkin got his first point since Nov. 26.

Boston arrived in Washington 4-0-1 over its last five games with three wins in a row, including a 4-3 overtime triumph against Florida on Monday night. The Bruins outshot Washington 34-20.

“Hell of an effort. We got a big point for us. To come back from 3-0 against Washington, it’s not that easy,” Pastrnak said. “Too bad we couldn’t get the two points, but in this case the one point is huge for us.”

Backstrom patiently waited on the right side before firing the winner past goaltender Tuukka Rask, who entered second in the league with a 1.68 goals-against average. Rask allowed three goals in his previous outing, too.

**Ducks 6, Hurricanes 5 (SO):** Corey Perry and Nick Ritchie

scored late in the third period to tie it and rookie Ondrej Kase got the deciding goal in a shootout, lifting host Anaheim over Carolina.

After Ritchie deflected in Cam Fowler’s shot with 3:59 left in the third, Perry got his fifth goal of the season with 2:28 remaining to tie it at 5.

**Senators 4, Sharks 2:** Chris Kelly scored with 1:06 remaining and Jean-Gabriel Pageau added an empty-net goal, giving visiting Ottawa a victory over San Jose.

Mark Stone and Erik Karlsson also scored for the Senators, who beat the Sharks for a fifth straight time.

**Wild 3, Maple Leafs 2:** Eric Staal scored yet another goal against Toronto, lifting visiting Minnesota to victory.

Staal has 47 points in 43 career games against Toronto, and three of his six goals this season have come against the Leafs.