

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Milley tapped as top US military adviser

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump announced Saturday that he's picked a battle-hardened commander who oversaw troops in Iraq and Afghanistan to be the nation's next top military adviser.

If confirmed by the Senate, Gen. Mark Milley, who has been chief of the Army since August 2015, would succeed Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dunford's term doesn't end until Oct. 1. Trump said the date of transition is yet to be determined.

Trump tweeted the announcement, say-

ing "I am pleased to announce my nomination of four-star General Mark Milley, Chief of Staff of the United States Army — as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, replacing General Joe Dunford, who will be retiring. I am thankful to both of these incredible men for their service to our Country!"

Dunford is a former commandant of the Marine Corps and commander of coalition troops in Afghanistan. Milley commanded troops during several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Trump's decision, which he announced before leaving Washington to attend the

annual Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia, caught some in the Pentagon by surprise on Friday. Normally an announcement on a new chairman wouldn't be expected until early next year. The officials said the Air Force chief, Gen. David Goldfein, was also a strong contender for the job.

Milley is known as a charismatic, outgoing leader who has not been afraid to offer candid and sometimes blunt assessments to Congress. Last year he admonished the House Armed Services Committee for its inability to approve a defense budget, slamming it as "professional malpractice."

Fallen Marine captain lived his dream of flying

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY
AND COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — All Capt. Jahmar Resilard wanted to be since he was a child was a pilot. He had Lego plane sets and played flight simulation games growing up. His mother even paid for a few flying lessons.

"It's just been amazing that he was able to achieve his dreams and travel the world," said older sister, Janine Horne, a nurse living in Upper Marlboro, Md.

His mother, Joni Moore-Resilard, of St. Augustine, Fla., said when her son was in elementary school, "he came up to me one day, he said, 'You know, mom, I don't want to drive, I don't need a driver's license. I just want to fly.'"

The 28-year-old Marine Corps pilot from southern Florida was killed Thursday after his F/A-18 Hornet fighter collided with a KC-130 Hercules aerial tanker during training off the coast of Japan, an accident in which five other Marines remain missing, service officials said.

The collision happened just before 2 a.m. local time, the

Marine Corps said. Another unnamed pilot in the fighter jet was rescued alongside Resilard's body in the hours after the crash. That pilot was in stable condition, officials said.

Search-and-rescue efforts for the five missing Marines — the crew of the KC-130 — were ongoing Friday, according to the Marine Corps. An investigation into the cause of the collision also was ongoing Friday. Marine officials did not say if investigators had determined what led to the midair crash.

Resilard was from Miramar, Fla., just north of Miami, and was stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni in Yamaguchi, Japan, with the Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242.

"He's always been a driven person," said his mother. "He really — once he makes up his mind and he wants to do something, he sticks with it until it is achieved."

His passion for flying led him to join junior ROTC at Miramar High School and then to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Fla., where he took aviation courses, his family said. He graduated in

2012 with a bachelor's degree in homeland security, according to a university spokesperson.

After graduation, he joined the Marines to become a fighter pilot because they are "family oriented and driven," said his mother. "Everyone in the Marines is family."

"[Jahmar] meant so much to my family," said Horne. "We have a very small family and he was the world to my mother and that's what hurts me the most."

Horne said he was also a mentor and like a big brother to her daughter, his niece Anaiyah Williams. "He's just that person that you always want to be around with," his mother said.

Horne used to joke with her mother that Jahmar was her favorite child.

"And she would get so upset with me, like, 'that's not true.' But she lived for him," Horne said.

"He was my heart," Moore-Resilard said. "I'm just really at a loss with this tragedy and the suddenness of it. It's just really taken us all by surprise."

She had just spoken with Jahmar this week about the family's plans to be in Maryland for Christmas to celebrate.

Horne, who is pregnant with a son and due on Christmas, said her brother was supposed to be there for the birth.

Horne said she is devastated by the death of her brother, her only sibling, and while she knew his job had risks, she believed he would be OK because he was always the best at what he did.

"And I'm like, Jahmar trained for this for years, I know he'll be OK. He'll pull through and he'll make it," she said. "But it's just reassuring to know that he really, really truly died doing what he loved to do most in this world."

Horne was married at the end of September, and the whole family was there, including Resilard who she hadn't seen in a while. "I just never thought that a couple months later, he wouldn't be here anymore," she said. "I'm just glad that my whole family were together for my wedding and he was here and we were all together at least that last time."

Moore-Resilard will be there to receive her son's body at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware, and then he will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia in the coming days.

Sailor's remains back home 77 years later

BY ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

DALLAS — None of the family members attending the funeral of Navy Fireman 1st Class Albert Kane on Friday ever met him.

As a 26-year-old sailor aboard the USS Oklahoma during the attack on Pearl Harbor, he was killed long before they were born. But they still understood the importance of bringing him home to Dallas where he can rest in peace among his fellow veterans.

"I wish my dad, his grandparents and my uncles were alive to see this," said Charles Kane, 67, the nephew of the sailor. "I been told that you die three deaths."

The first, he said, is the physical death. Then the funeral.

"Your third death is when the last person that remembers you dies," Charles Kane said. "At least he hasn't had his third death yet."

Albert Kane was buried on the 77th anniversary of his death at the Dallas Fort Worth

National Cemetery in Texas. The sailor was born in Fort Worth, and many of his family members remain in the area today.

Beneath a gray, cloudy sky, more than 50 people gathered at the cemetery to honor the sailor's sacrifice. Atop the casket sat a sailor hat worn by the deceased's brother, Raymond Kane, who enlisted in the Navy after his brother's death.

A Navy chaplain recited several psalms, following a 21-gun salute and the playing of taps.

Though the family had visited the mass grave that previously held Albert Kane's remains, it brought a sense of closure and relief to know he was now in his own individual grave, said retired Navy Capt. Bob Golden, a nephew-in-law of the deceased.

"It brings closure, regardless, but it's more poignant that it happened today," he said, noting the anniversary of the attack on the U.S. naval base in Hawaii that forced America into World War II.

Born in Fort Worth on Jan.

5, 1915, Albert Kane joined the Navy on Oct. 28, 1940, and worked in the engine room of the USS Oklahoma. He died along with 428 other crewmen onboard the battleship on Dec. 7, 1941. Moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, the ship sustained multiple torpedo hits, causing it to capsize quickly. In total, 2,400 servicemembers died when the Japanese attacked the base.

At the time, the Navy sent the young sailor's belongings back to his mother — a wallet, a watch and a can of popcorn.

Dee Dee King, a contract genealogist for the Navy's POW/MIA Accounting Agency who helped identify Albert Kane's remains, attended the funeral Friday.

From December 1941 to June 1944, Navy personnel recovered the remains of the deceased crew of the Oklahoma, which were subsequently interred in the Halawa and Nu'uaniu cemeteries in Hawaii.

In September 1947, tasked with recovering and identify-

ing fallen U.S. personnel in the Pacific theater, members of the American Graves Registration Service disinterred the remains of U.S. casualties from the two cemeteries and transferred them to the Central Identification Laboratory at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

The laboratory staff was able to confirm the identifications of only 35 men from the USS Oklahoma at that time, and subsequently buried the unidentified remains in 46 plots at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, in Honolulu.

Two years later, a military board classified servicemembers who could not be identified as nonrecoverable, including Kane.

So far, the agency has identified 186 sailors and Marines from the Oklahoma who were previously unidentified, reported The Associated Press. Albert Kane's remains were identified Aug. 9.

ISIS fights to hang on a year after defeat in Iraq

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A year after it was routed from Iraq in a devastating war that left entire neighborhoods and towns in ruins, Islamic State is fighting to hang on to its last enclave in eastern Syria, engaging in deadly battles with U.S.-backed forces.

Cornered in the desert near the Iraqi border with nowhere to run, the militants are putting up a fierce fight, inflicting hundreds of casualties among their opponents and releasing a stream of beheading videos reminiscent of the extremist group's terrifying propaganda at the height of its power.

The battle for Hajin has dragged on for three months, highlighting the difficulty of eradicating an extremist group

determined to survive. In Iraq, there is rising concern that the group may stage a comeback. ISIS sleeper cells have recently launched deadly attacks against security forces and kidnapped and killed civilians, mostly in four northern and central provinces that were once part of the group's self-declared caliphate.

"There is still major danger for Iraq and Syria, especially in areas close to the border, when it comes to Daesh," a senior Iraqi intelligence official said, using an Arabic acronym to refer to the extremists. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media about security matters.

He said ISIS lost most of the income it once made from oil and taxes imposed in areas it controlled. The group now re-

lies on selling gold and other reserves that they had accumulated after declaring their caliphate in June 2014. He said the money is being used to buy weapons and finance attacks in Iraq and Syria.

Another Iraqi intelligence official said ISIS has begun restructuring its command, relying more on non-Iraqi commanders after most of its leaders were killed in coalition strikes.

ISIS once held an area the size of Britain across vast territories straddling parts of Iraq and Syria, running a so-called caliphate and planning international attacks from its headquarters in the Syrian city of Raqqa. Tens of thousands were killed in both countries as an array of local forces, some backed by a U.S.-led coalition,

eventually drove the extremists out of virtually all the lands they once held.

Iraq's then-Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi declared final victory over the group on Dec. 9, 2017. Two months earlier, the coalition, working with Kurdish-dominated fighters known as the Syrian Democratic Forces, liberated Raqqa after a bombing campaign that decimated much of the city.

The area that ISIS still holds in Syria represents less than 1 percent of the territory it controlled at its height. The pocket is home to some 15,000 people, including ISIS fighters and their families. The U.S. military estimates there are about 2,000 remaining ISIS fighters there.

Kelly to depart White House at year's end

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Saturday that chief of staff John Kelly will leave his job by year's end amid an expected West Wing reshuffling reflecting a focus on the 2020 re-election campaign and the challenge of governing with Democrats reclaiming control in the House.

An announcement about Kelly's replacement was expected in the coming days, the president told reporters as he departed the White House for the Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia.

Only a day before, Trump named his picks for attorney general and ambassador to the United Nations, and two senior aides shifted from the White House to Trump's campaign.

Kelly had been credited with imposing order on a chaotic West Wing after his arrival in June 2017 from his post as homeland security secretary. But his iron first also alienated some longtime Trump allies, and he grew increasingly isolated, with an increasingly diminished role.

Known through the West Wing as "the chief" or "the general," the retired Marine Corps four-star general was tapped by Trump via tweet to try to normalize a White House riven by infighting and competing power bases.

"John Kelly will be leaving — I don't know if I can say retiring — but he's a great guy," Trump told reporters. "John Kelly will be leaving at the end of the year. We'll be announcing who will be taking John's

place — it might be on an interim basis. I'll be announcing that over the next day or two, but John will be leaving at the end of the year. ... I appreciate his service very much."

Kelly had early successes, including ending an open-door Oval Office policy that had been compared to New York's Grand Central Station and instituting a more rigorous policy process to try to prevent staffers from going directly to Trump.

But those efforts also miffed the president and some of his most influential outside allies, who had grown accustomed to unimpeded access.

In any administration, the role of White House chief of staff is split between the responsibilities of supervising the White House and managing the man sitting in the Oval Office.

Striking that balance in the turbulent times of Trump has bedeviled both Kelly and his predecessor, Reince Priebus.

Trump had discussed replacing Kelly on multiple occasions, including following the negative publicity surrounding Kelly's handling of domestic violence accusations against then-White House staff secretary Rob Porter. Some lower-level White House staffers believed Kelly had lied to them about when he knew of the allegations and when he made clear to Porter that he'd have to leave.

Trump had often tossed around potential replacements, but sensitive to charges that his administration has been marked by record turnover, he said in July that he would keep Kelly in the job through 2020.

Comey spars with GOP over Clinton emails, alleges bias

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former FBI Director James Comey spoke to House investigators behind closed doors for almost seven hours Friday, begrudgingly answering questions about the Justice Department's decisions during the 2016 presidential election.

Comey, who appeared under subpoena, announced after the meeting that he would return for more questioning Dec. 17. Appearing annoyed, he said, "We're talking about Hillary Clinton's emails, for heaven's sake, so I'm not sure we needed to do this at all."

Two GOP-led committees brought Comey in as they sought to wrap up a year-long investigation into the department's decisions in 2016. Republicans argue that department officials were biased against Donald Trump as they started an investigation into his campaign's ties to Russia and cleared Democrat Hillary Clinton in the probe into her email use. Comey was in charge of

both investigations.

Democrats have said the investigations by the House Judiciary and Oversight and Government Reform committees are merely a way to distract from and undermine special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia probe. Mueller took over the department's investigation when he was appointed in May 2017.

After the questioning was underway, some Republicans signaled they were unhappy with Comey's level of cooperation. California Rep. Darrell Issa said Comey had two lawyers in the room — his personal lawyer and a lawyer from the Justice Department. He said the department lawyer instructed Comey not to answer "a great many questions that are clearly items at the core of our investigation."

Democrats disagreed. "He answered the questions he had to answer," said Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, of Illinois. But he added that he was left with the impression that "we got nowhere today."

Prosecutors connect Trump to federal crime of illegal payments

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department said that President Donald Trump directed illegal payments to buy the silence of two women whose claims of extramarital affairs threatened his presidential campaign, the first time prosecutors have connected Trump to a federal crime.

In a court filing, prosecutors said former Trump lawyer and fixer Michael Cohen arranged the secret payments at the height of the 2016 campaign "in coordination with and at the direction of" Trump. Cohen has previously said Trump was involved in the hush-money scheme, but court documents filed ahead of Cohen's sentencing made clear prosecutors believe Cohen's claim.

The filing stopped short of accusing the president of committing a crime. Whether a president can be prosecuted while in office remains a matter of legal dispute.

But there's no ambiguity in Friday's filing that prosecutors believe Cohen's act was crimi-

nal and Trump was directly involved, a remarkable disclosure with potential political and legal ramifications for a president dogged by investigations.

Federal law requires that any payments made "for the purposes of influencing" an election must be reported in campaign finance disclosures. The court filing Friday makes clear that the payments were made to benefit Trump politically.

In August, Cohen pleaded guilty to eight criminal charges.

Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, was paid \$130,000 as part of a nondisclosure agreement signed days before the 2016 election and is currently suing to dissolve that contract.

Trump denied in April that he knew anything about Cohen's payments to Daniels, though the explanations from the president and his attorney, Rudy Giuliani, have shifted multiple times since then.

Man convicted in Va. car-ramming death

The Washington Post

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — An avowed supporter of neo-Nazi beliefs who took part in the violent and chaotic white-supremacist “Unite the Right” rally in this city last year was found guilty Friday of first-degree murder for killing a woman by ramming his car through a crowd of counterprotesters.

A jury of seven women and five men began deliberating Friday morning and took just over seven hours to reach its decision that James Fields Jr., 21, of Maumee, Ohio, acted with premeditation when he backed up his 2010 Dodge Challenger and then roared it down a narrow downtown street crowded with counter-protesters, slamming into them and another car. Heather Heyer, 32, was killed and 35 others were injured, many grievously. Fields was also found guilty on eight counts of malicious wounding.

When Fields was brought into the courtroom Friday evening, he nodded slightly toward his mother, who was sitting nearby. As the clerk read the verdict, his face betrayed no emotion.

The deadly attack in the early afternoon of Aug. 12, 2017, culminated a dark 24 hours in this quiet college town. It was marked by a menacing torchlight march through the University of Virginia campus the night before, with participants shouting racist and anti-Semitic insults and wild street battles on the morning of the planned rally between white supremacists and those opposing their ideology.

As the sounds and images of brutal beatings, bloodied faces and hate-filled chants spread across the country and around the world, this city quickly became identified with the emergence of a new order of white supremacy that no longer felt compelled to hide in the shadows or the safety of online anonymity.

Many in their emboldened ranks shouted fascist slogans, displayed Nazi swastikas and Confederate battle flags and extended their arms in Sieg Heil salutes. Many also wore red Make America Great Again hats, saying they were encouraged in the public display of their beliefs by President Donald Trump, who came under intense criticism when he said later that there were “very fine people” on both sides of the demonstration.

Fields’ conviction followed six days of testimony in Charlottesville Circuit Court, where Heyer’s deadly injuries were detailed and survivors of the crash described the chaos and their own injuries. Jeanne Peterson, 38, who limped to the witness stand, said she’d had five surgeries and would have another next year. Wednesday Bowie, a counter-protester in her 20s, said her pelvis was broken in six places. Marcus Martin described pushing his then-fiancee out of the Challenger’s path before he was struck.

SpaceX Christmas delivery arrives at space station

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A SpaceX delivery full of Christmas goodies arrived at the International Space Station on Saturday, following a slight delay caused by a communication drop-out.

The Dragon capsule pulled up at the orbiting lab three days after launching from Cape Canaveral. Commander Alexander Gerst used the space station’s big robotic arm to grab the cargo carrier, as the two craft soared 250 miles above the Pacific.

It took two tries to get the Dragon close enough for capture.

NASA called off the Dragon’s first approach because of trouble with the communication network that serves the space station. Equipment failure in New Mexico for NASA’s Tracking and Data Relay Satellite system resulted in a temporary loss of communication with the station. For safety, Mission Control ordered the Dragon to back up.

It was a successful take two — just

an hour-and-a-half late — after NASA switched to another TDRS satellite.

The Dragon holds everything the station astronauts need for Christmas dinner, as well as mice and worms for science experiments, and more than 5,000 pounds of station equipment.

The holiday food includes smoked turkey, green bean casserole, candied yams, cranberry sauce and fruitcake. There also are shortbread and butter cookies, with tubes of icing for decorating.

Landmark environmental protections being trimmed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One after another, landmark U.S. protections for climate, air and land are in the crosshairs of the Trump administration as his agency leaders move past early fumbles and scandals to start delivering on a succession of promised environmental rollbacks.

On Thursday, the Interior Department proposed easing rules on oil and gas drilling for millions of acres of range in the West. And as soon as next week, the Environmental Protection Agency is expected to unveil its proposed rewrite of a major 2015 Obama rule that extended federal protections to thousands of waterways and wetlands.

Supporters and opponents expect the

overhaul of the national water rule could go even further, also changing aspects of how the U.S. enforces the 1972 Clean Water Act, one of the country’s foundation environmental measures.

Environmental groups said the rewrite could lift federal protections for millions of miles of streams and wetlands in the lower 48 states.

The broad outline of the administration water rule to emerge so far points to “an unprecedented rollback of Clean Water Act protections,” said Jan Goldman-Carter, senior director of wetlands and water resources at the National Wildlife Federation.

The pending water rule changes and other major rollbacks already announced

give big wins to energy companies, farmers, builders and others who’ve fought for decades against environmental rules they see aimed at stalling or stopping projects until developers give up.

“This is what’s being done in the country to stifle ... progress. President Trump is very aware of this,” said Myron Ebell, a director at the Washington-based Conservative Enterprise Institute who led President Donald Trump’s environmental transition team.

Many farmers, miners, builders and others loathe the federal protections for remote creeks and seasonally dry frog ponds, seeing the water protections as unjustified federal barricades to plowing or building on their own land.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Foes continue fight against telescope

HI HONOLULU — Opponents of a giant telescope planned for Hawaii's tallest mountain have vowed to keep fighting after the legal battle over the \$1.4 billion project appears to have ended.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported dozens of University of Hawaii faculty, staff and students rallied at the Honolulu campus Wednesday, demanding that officials terminate agreements to build the Thirty Meter Telescope.

The state Supreme Court refused last week to reconsider its October ruling that the state land board was correct in approving a construction permit for the project on Mauna Kea, a mountain some Native Hawaiians consider sacred.

Police say day spa owners set it fire

VT BERLIN — Police said the owners of a spa intentionally set it on fire.

Vermont State Police charged Lesilee Kirby, 48, and Kristopher Kirby, 47, with arson of an occupied dwelling.

Fire crews responded to the blaze at the Sundara Day Spa in Berlin on Sunday. A family who lived upstairs escaped unharmed.

Police say firefighters noticed a strong smell of an accelerant at the scene and found a partially burned gas container nearby.

Investigators said surveillance video showed one of the spa owners pouring gas on the building, lighting it on fire and running to a nearby businesses where they parked their car.

Police said the owners plotted to burn down the spa due to financial issues.

Species of aquatic salamander found

FL TALLAHASSEE — There's a new swamp critter in the state, and no, this isn't a political joke.

A paper published recently in the science journal PLOS ONE confirmed the existence of the reticulated siren, a new species of large, fully aquatic salamander.

Native to the swamps of Florida's Panhandle and southern Alabama, the creature appears to be covered in a blue and black leopard print, with frilly face appendages.

It can grow to be almost 2 feet long.

The Bradenton Herald reported it ranks among the largest amphibians in the world.

Two researchers spent nearly a decade searching for the creature after one heard the legend of an "leopard eel" around a campfire in 2001.

Lawyer: Man accused of theft never left US

MN MINNEAPOLIS — The attorney for a former grain elevator manager accused of stealing \$5 million from the cooperative said his client disappeared for nearly three months because he needed to clear his head.

Jerry Hennessey, 56, of Dalton is the former manager of the Ashby Farmers Cooperative Elevator Co. in Ashby.

Minneapolis attorney Thomas Kelly told the Star Tribune Hennessey never left the country after vanishing Sept. 10, but he wouldn't disclose details on where he went. Hennessey turned himself in to federal authorities on Tuesday. He's charged with mail fraud.

He and his wife, Rebecca, also face a lawsuit in Grant

County alleging that they stole about \$5 million over the past 15 years from the grain elevator that Hennessey managed for nearly 30 years. Rebecca Hennessey has not been criminally charged.

Trooper put on leave over Instagram post

NC RALEIGH — A North Carolina state trooper has been placed on administrative duty over an Instagram post that said police beatings are deserved.

State Highway Patrol Sgt. Michael Baker told The News and Observer that the agency is investigating Sgt. Jonathan K. Whitley, who's been a trooper since 1996. The post by Instagram user "jkwhitley2608" said people beaten by police shouldn't "get on TV in hopes of getting your check. The police already gave you what you deserved."

Candidate misses vote that ends up tied

AR HOXIE — A first-time political candidate in northeast Arkansas has learned a valuable civics lesson: vote early.

Cliff Farmer didn't make it to the polls in time to vote Tuesday, and his race for a Hoxie City Council seat ended up as a tie.

The Jonesboro Sun reported Farmer and his wife were returning from a Florida vacation on Tuesday when their plane landed only an hour before polls closed. The plane landed in Memphis, Tenn., 80 miles from Hoxie.

His wife voted early, but Farmer said he'd intended to vote after they returned. That resulted in Farmer and incumbent Alderwoman Becky Linebaugh each receiving 223 votes.

Linebaugh said she voted.

A winner will be declared next week by a coin toss or another game of chance.

Moose accidentally rings home's doorbell

AK ANCHORAGE — A moose used the doorbell to awaken a couple.

The couple thought maybe it was an aftershock or some kids playing a prank when the doorbell rang in their Anchorage home early Wednesday.

Kyle Stultz told KTVA-TV he looked out the door and found nothing. He assumed it was kids playing "ding dong ditch." Stultz decided to check his security camera.

The video showed a large moose backing its caboose right into the doorbell.

Workers sickened by bear repellent fumes

NJ ROBBINSVILLE — An automated machine punctured a can of bear repellent at an Amazon warehouse in New Jersey on Wednesday, releasing fumes that sickened workers and sent two dozen to hospitals, officials said.

At least one of the workers was said to have been in critical condition Wednesday afternoon, but communications representative Rachel Lightly said that worker is among those expected to be released. She said no packages were impacted by the incident.

"The safety of our employees is always our top priority and a full investigation is already underway," Lightly said in a statement.

The injured workers were taken to five hospitals, officials said. About 30 other workers were treated at the warehouse in Robbinsville.

From wire reports

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Eagles, Cowboys in must-win situations

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys saved their season with a victory in Philadelphia a month ago.

Carson Wentz and the Eagles will try to do the same in Texas — actually for the third straight week since the defending champs found their season on the brink following a blowout loss to New Orleans a week after falling to their NFC East rivals.

While Eagles coach Doug Pederson isn't big on the word "desperation" coming off his team's first back-to-back wins this season, he isn't dodging the significance of Sunday at AT&T Stadium, where the division lead will be on the line for the second time in three games.

On Thanksgiving Day, Dallas beat Washington to pull even with the Redskins. Now the Cowboys (7-5) have a chance for a fifth straight win that would all but eliminate the Eagles (6-6) and make things difficult for the Redskins as well.

"Every game for us is definitely a must win," Pederson said. "I think every game for them is a must win. Both of us are trying to accomplish the same goal. We've just got to get ourselves ready to go."

The Cowboys were in danger of losing touch with the playoff race when they visited the Eagles in early November.

The debut of new No. 1 receiver Amari Cooper, acquired in a trade, had been ruined in a loss to Tennessee. The offense had been struggling for the equivalent of a full season going back to 2017.

Including that 27-20 win to start the four-game surge, the offensive average is up almost 50 yards per game, Prescott's efficiency at quarterback is significantly improved and there's little doubt that Cooper's impact has influenced both of those developments.

While the scoring hasn't spiked as much because of the surprising defensive struggle against the high-scoring Saints, the 13-10 win that ended New Orleans' 10-game winning streak was the signature moment for a defense that's been carrying the Cowboys all season.

"Honestly we have been the same team," Prescott said. "We knew the team that we had in some of the games that we lost. And it was just about making those few plays here and there."

Things to consider with the Cowboys going for a season sweep of the Eagles for the first time since 2012:

Balanced attack: The Eagles are running more effectively and more frequently than they have all season. Running backs have 56 carries for 263 yards the past two games. Undrafted rookie Josh Adams has emerged as the lead back and has 169 yards

on 42 rushes. Corey Clement has been productive and Darren Sproles scored on a 14-yard run in his first game since the season opener.

"We've been persistent with the run game," offensive coordinator Mike Groh said. "Guys are doing a heck of a job of creating lanes, and if there is not a lane there, there have been enough times where the backs have done a good job creating on their own."

Rested, recharged: Running back Ezekiel Elliott had 90 touches (72 carries, 18 catches) for 479 yards in the annual busy stretch of the season for the Cowboys — three games in 12 days around Thanksgiving. The 2016 NFL rushing champion welcomed four days off. "It's definitely helped me getting my feet back under me," said Elliott, who lost his league rushing lead to Todd Gurley last week. "It's the best I've felt on a Wednesday in a while."

Bulletin board material: Eagles linebacker Kamu Grugier-Hill was the trash talker of the week, telling a Philadelphia TV outlet, "Look at Dallas' history. They always choke. So we'll go down there and make them choke."

Prescott was aware of it but didn't bite. "When you play a team like this, a game like this that means what it means, what somebody says doesn't add any motivation," he said.

MLB briefs

Nats' GM: Corbin deal 'independent' of Harper

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As with most things involving the Washington Nationals' offseason, a day that was supposed to be all about introducing Patrick Corbin morphed into a day about Bryce Harper.

Washington announced its six-year contract with Corbin, a heavily back-loaded deal worth \$140 million, and the All-Star lefty starter donned a No. 46 Nationals jersey as rotation-mates Max Scherzer and Stephen Strasburg looked on from the front row Friday. After the news conference, general manager Mike Rizzo was asked a key question:

How might the big bucks he used to outbid the New York

Yankees and Philadelphia Phillies for Corbin affect the pursuit of Washington's own big-deal free agent, right fielder Harper?

"I think they're independent of each other. I really do. We've gone about this business of creating a roster for 2019, and at the end of the day, we'll figure out whether that includes 'Harp' or not," Rizzo said. "We thought it was good business — we had to fix the things we needed to fix. 'Harp' is a big part of our family, and we'd love to have him back."

But in an interview Friday with radio station 106.7 The Fan, Nationals owner Mark Lerner painted a different picture about where things stand

with Harper, who didn't accept a late-season offer from Washington.

"I really don't expect him to come back at this point," Lerner said. "I think they've decided to move on. There's just too much money out there that he'd be leaving on the table."

Lerner also described the team's earlier offer to the 2012 NL Rookie of the Year and 2015 NL MVP, reportedly for \$300 million over 10 years, as "the best we can do."

Kelly gets 2-year deal with Diamondbacks

PHOENIX — Right-hander Merrill Kelly is joining his hometown Arizona Diamond-

backs, agreeing to a \$5.5 million, two-year contract.

The 30-year-old spent the past four seasons with SK Wyverns in South Korea. He was 48-32 with a 3.86 ERA, including 16-7 in 2017.

A Scottsdale native, Kelly attended Desert Mountain High School, Yavapai College and Arizona State. He was taken by Tampa Bay in the eighth round of the 2010 amateur draft and rose to Triple-A in the Rays' system.

He gets \$2 million next season and \$3 million in 2020. The Diamondbacks have a \$4.25 million team option for 2021 with a \$500,000 buyout, and if that is exercised they have a \$5.25 million option for 2022.

No. 6 Nev. rallies past No. 20 Ariz.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Sixth-ranked Nevada played what might be its only ranked opponent of the regular season. The Wolf Pack knew a win could help bolster their case come March.

Yet coach Eric Musselman couldn't believe how his team responded to start the game.

"Coach mentioned at half-time, 'You finally meet some talent and this is how you react?'" Caleb Martin said. "It kind of turned some guys up in the locker room."

Martin scored 14 of his 17 points in the second half, rallying the Wolf Pack past 20th-ranked Arizona State 72-66 Friday night in the Basketball Hall of Fame Classic tripleheader.

"The second half showed our maturity and showed our experience with each other," Martin said.

Jordan Caroline added 16 points and eight rebounds for the senior-dominated Wolf Pack (9-0), off to their best start since the Division I era began in 1969-70.

"I thought we were going to win it the whole time," Caroline said. "We knew what we had to do."

Luguentz Dort scored 24 points and Zylan Cheatham had 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Sun Devils (7-1), whose 20-game, regular-season, non-conference winning streak ended.

"We got a lot to learn from it," said Cheatham, who didn't score over the final 14 minutes.

Remy Martin's three-pointer drew the Sun Devils to 64-63 with 1:39 to play, but Cody Martin got fouled and made both. After Dort made 1 of 2 free throws, Cody Martin's layup kept Nevada ahead 68-64.

Caleb Martin's layup tied the game at 48-all after the Wolf Pack trailed by 16 in the first half.

From there, Nevada outscored ASU 24-18 to complete the comeback.

Dellavedova returning to Cavs

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Matthew Dellavedova is coming back to the Cavaliers. He won't recognize them.

Cleveland re-acquired the popular, scrappy guard on Friday in a three-team trade with the Milwaukee Bucks and Washington Wizards.

The Cavaliers also received forward John Henson and 2021 first- and second-round picks from Milwaukee, and a 2022 second-rounder from Washington. The Cavs sent guard George Hill and a 2021 second-round selection to the Bucks, and forward Sam Dekker to the Wizards. Milwaukee also got forward Jason Smith from Washington.

Affectionately known to Cleveland fans as "Delly," Dellavedova was a key member of the Cavs' 2016 title team before he signed with the Bucks later that summer. He's not the same player, and the Cavs are far from being the same team, but his return will soften what has been a difficult season.

Cleveland is just 5-20 and rebuilding in the wake of LeBron James' departure last summer.

"I'm glad my Aussie brother is back," Cavs center Tristan Thompson said following a 129-110 loss to Sacramento. "Brings us veteran leadership, a guy that's won before, a guy that's going

to push Collin (Sexton), control the game for the second unit and he'll make shots."

Hill helped the Cavs reach the Finals last season, but the team wanted to unload his contract while giving rookie Sexton more playing time.

Sexton has already heard stories about Dellavedova.

"Everybody said he's a real good guy, a real good locker-room guy," he said. "They say he practices hard, too, so we're going to have some battles."

The Bucks are getting a 46-percent shooter from three-point range in Hill, who fits into their new long-range shooting philosophy under first-year coach Mike Budenholzer, plus a backup to starter Eric Bledsoe. They also could potentially save roughly \$16 million in salary, assuming they waive Hill after this season.

Dekker was in his first season with the Cavs, who got him in an August trade with the Los Angeles Clippers. He averaged 6.3 points and 3.7 rebounds but missed significant time with a severely sprained left ankle.

"This trade allows us to continue to work to improve our team and gives us a young, developing player in Sam whose versatility and athleticism at the forward position will allow him to earn an opportunity to contribute," said Wizards president Ernie Grunfeld.

NBA roundup

Nets beat Raptors in OT to end skid

Associated Press

NEW YORK — D'Angelo Russell scored 29 points, including six in overtime, and the Brooklyn Nets snapped an eight-game losing streak by beating the Toronto Raptors 106-105 on Friday night.

Brooklyn picked the most unlikely way to end its skid, snapping a 12-game slide against Toronto with its first win over the Raptors since April 3, 2015.

Jarrett Allen made the go-ahead basket for the Nets with a little more than a minute left, their only basket in overtime not made by Russell.

Kawhi Leonard scored 32 points for the Raptors, but Toronto couldn't get a look for him on its final possession and had to settle for Fred VanVleet's three-pointer that just missed.

Spencer Dinwiddie scored 17 points for Brooklyn.

Warriors 105, Bucks 95:

Klay Thompson and Stephen Curry each scored 20 points and Golden State wrapped up a five-game trip with its third straight win, beating host Milwaukee.

76ers 117, Pistons 111:

Jimmy Butler scored 38 points and visiting Philadelphia overcame Joel Embiid's absence, rallying from a 15-point third-quarter deficit to beat Detroit.

Spurs 133, Lakers 120:

DeMar DeRozan had 36 points and nine assists and host San Antonio rallied to beat Los Angeles.

Bulls 114, Thunder 112:

Lauri Markkanen scored 24 points and drove for the go-ahead layup in the closing seconds to lead host Chicago to its first win under coach Jim Boylen.

Hornets 113, Nuggets 107:

Kemba Walker had 21 points,

eight assists and six rebounds, fellow point guard Tony Parker added 19 points off the bench and Charlotte snapped visiting Denver's seven-game winning.

Grizzlies 107, Pelicans 103:

JaMychal Green scored 24 points in a reserve role to help Memphis beat host New Orleans.

Heat 115, Suns 98:

Bam Adebayo scored a career-high 22 points, 20 in the first half, and Miami opened a six-game trip by handing host Phoenix its eighth straight loss.

Pacers 112, Magic 90:

Bojan Bogdanovic scored 26 points and Cory Joseph added 15 to help visiting Indiana beat Orlando for the eighth straight time and 15th in the last 16 meetings.

Kings 129, Cavaliers 110:

De'Aaron Fox had 30 points and 12 assists and Sacramento beat host Cleveland.

Hurricanes blow past Ducks

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Clark Bishop scored his first NHL goal by crashing into the Anaheim net along with the puck. Two lengthy video reviews later, the rookie finally got to celebrate.

That ramshackle goal was a fairly appropriate symbol for a night of gritty work by the Carolina Hurricanes, who don't have enough time or healthy players to worry about style points.

Brett Pesce scored the tiebreaking goal early in the third period, and the Hurricanes ended their three-game skid and the Ducks' five-game winning streak with a 4-1 victory over Anaheim on Friday.

Justin Williams also scored in the third period and Petr Mrazek made 18 saves in his first victory since Oct. 26 as the Canes won in Anaheim for just the second time in nine years.

Sebastian Aho added an empty-netter as Carolina salvaged one win from its three-game California trip despite the injury absences of top goal-scorer Micheal Ferland, veteran forward Jordan Staal and starting goalie Curtis McElhinney.

"We're not going to score a lot of pretty goals,"

Carolina coach Rod Brind'Amour said. "We've pretty much established that. We've got to find some other ways to get them."

Bishop tied it for the Canes with his messy goal in the second period. The 22-year-old former fifth-round pick slid into John Gibson while the puck trickled underneath the goalie, but the goal survived two reviews that concluded the puck had crossed the line and refuted Anaheim's claim of goalie interference.

"It was definitely kind of a weird goal," Bishop said. "Not something that I ever pictured scoring my first NHL goal like that, but they all count, and luckily that one did."

Jakob Silfverberg scored his 100th career goal for the Ducks, who had won seven of eight and earned points in nine of 10 before an uncharacteristic third-period flop.

"We didn't play anywhere near to the blue collar-type of game that was required," Ducks coach Randy Carlyle said. "Nothing we seemed to try to do had any positive effect. It was all frustration and a lack of ability to execute."

Gibson stopped 32 shots for Anaheim, but took just his second regulation loss in nine appearances.

Shiffrin earns 2nd victory in super-G

Associated Press

ST. MORITZ, Switzerland — Mikaela Shiffrin won a World Cup super-G on Saturday, confirming the slalom great's arrival as a pure speed racer and all-round threat.

Shiffrin, who got her first career super-G win last weekend, was 0.28 seconds faster than Lara Gut-Behrami and 0.42 clear of third-placed Tina Weirather on the sun-soaked Engiadina course in St. Moritz.

Saturday's race was just Shiffrin's 10th super-G start in her nine seasons on the World Cup circuit, and the win six days ago at Lake Louise, Canada, had been her first podium finish in the discipline.

"I did not expect to win today," Shiffrin said, acknowledging the confidence boost she brought from Canada to Switzerland. "Something is working right now and I'm enjoying it. Coming into this race I thought, 'Yeah, now I have no excuses.'"

The victory was the 47th on the World Cup tour for the 23-year-old American. Her fourth victory in eight races this season already gives her a runaway lead in defense of her overall World Cup title.

In other skiing news:

■ Marcel Hirscher dominated yet again in the World Cup on Saturday, winning a giant slalom in Val d'Isere, France, by a huge 1.18-second margin.

The seven-time defending overall champion protected his first-run lead in steady falling snow to leave Henrik Kristoffersen runner-up yet again.

Kristoffersen has finished second to Hirscher in seven giant slaloms, including at the Pyeongchang Olympics, since last December.

Matts Olsson placed third, trailing by 1.31 on the Face de Bellevarde slope.

NHL roundup

Draisaitl, Oilers cruise past Wild

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — This time, the Edmonton Oilers showed off their high-powered offense.

Leon Draisaitl scored twice and Connor McDavid had a goal and three assists, leading Edmonton to a 7-2 victory over the Minnesota Wild on Friday night.

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, Zack Kassian, Alex Chiasson and Darnell Nurse also scored for the Oilers. Draisaitl assisted on Nurse's goal in the third period.

Cam Talbot made 31 saves to earn back-to-back victories after dropping his six previous starts.

Edmonton (15-12-2) won for the fifth time in six games. But the Oilers had scored just six times in their previous three outings, including a 4-1 loss at Dallas on Monday night.

"Offense is something that comes in waves, and for whatev-

er reason we haven't been able to find it, but we've been solid defensively," McDavid said. "It doesn't really matter how good your offense is if you're only giving up two a night. You're going to be in the game. It was nice to get a few tonight."

Oilers coach Ken Hitchcock improved to 6-2-1 since replacing Todd McLellan last month.

"I think for me and for the players, scoring seven goals is more of a relief and it makes you feel good for all the hard work you're putting in and it becomes an easier sell for me now," Hitchcock said.

"The reward is worth all the work so we're going to keep pushing that forward."

The Wild (15-12-2) lost for the fifth time in six games. Marcus Foligno and Nino Niederreiter scored, and Alex Stalock made 22 stops in relief of an ineffective Devan Dubnyk.

"I'm concerned about every aspect of our game," Wild coach Bruce Boudreau said.

Blues 1, Jets 0: Jake Allen made 26 saves in his first shutout of the season, helping St. Louis to the road win.

Colton Parayko scored for the Blues during a second-period power play. The Jets managed just six shots on goal in the third period.

Allen's last shutout was a 3-0 victory over Dallas on Dec. 7, 2017. He's 8-7-4 in 21 games this season.

Connor Hellebuyck made 25 saves for Jets, who had won four in a row.

Winnipeg was last shut out in its fourth game of the season, a 3-0 loss in Nashville on Oct. 11.

Stars 3, Sharks 2: Ben Bishop made a season-high 41 saves, Miro Heiskanen and Brett Ritchie scored in the third period and host Dallas beat San Jose for its fourth consecutive victory.

Mattias Janmark also scored. Evander Kane and Logan Couture scored for San Jose.