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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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USS Truman begins mission around Europe

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — The USS Harry S. Truman has begun operations in the Atlantic Ocean, marking its first deployment into European waters this year, the Navy said.

The deployment is also the first since the Nimitz-class carrier underwent months of repairs to its electrical system, forcing its strike group to deploy without it.

The aim of the deployment is to show commitment to allies in the region, Truman commander Rear Adm. Andrew J. Loisel said.

“These vital sea lanes must remain open for global commerce and prosperity, and nothing in the world is able to foster regional security like a carrier strike group,” Loisel said in a statement Sunday.

Russia has stepped up naval activity in the Mediterranean and the Arctic, causing concern for U.S. military commanders in Europe.

The Truman strike group will perform missions in the Naples, Italy-based 6th Fleet’s area of operations before it moves to the Middle East, where the carrier is expected to relieve the USS Abraham Lincoln in the Arabian Sea where it was dispatched earlier this year as tensions with Iran escalated.

In 2018, the Truman deployed to the Mediterranean, where it conducted airstrikes against Islamic State targets in Syria and performed the first aircraft carrier patrol in the Arctic since the Cold War.

The Truman was sidelined for three months earlier this year to allow repairs to be made to its electrical system. Six days after it was declared fixed and ready to go to sea in mid-November, it set out to “re-integrate the carrier strike group,” Navy Times reported at the time.

The Truman’s entry into U.S. European Command territory comes as President Donald Trump heads to London this week for a meeting of NATO leaders. On Tuesday, allies are expected to discuss security in Europe, including an alliance initiative focused on boosting the combat readiness of allied aircraft, ground units and warships.

China to ban US military visits to Hong Kong

Associated Press

HONG KONG — China said Monday it will suspend U.S. military ship and aircraft visits to Hong Kong and will sanction several American pro-democracy and human rights groups in retaliation for the signing into law of legislation supporting anti-government demonstrations in the semi-autonomous territory.

While the nature of the sanctions remained unclear, the move followed Chinese warnings that the U.S. would bear the costs if the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act were approved.

The steps are “in response to America’s unreasonable behavior,” Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said in Beijing, adding that the legislation seriously interfered in China’s internal affairs.

The law, signed last Wednesday by President Donald Trump, mandates sanctions on Chinese and Hong Kong officials who carry out human rights abuses and requires an annual review of the favorable trade status that Washington grants Hong Kong.

The legislation was backed by U.S. lawmakers who are sympathetic to the protesters and have criticized Hong Kong police for cracking down on the pro-democracy movement.

Police say their use of tear gas, rubber bullets and other force is a necessary response to escalating violence by the protesters, who have blocked major roads and thrown gasoline bombs back at officers in riot gear.

Hong Kong has been living with almost nonstop protests for six months. The movement’s demands include democratic elections and an investigation into the police response to protests. More fundamentally, the protesters and others in Hong Kong fear that China is eroding the rights and freedoms they have under a “one country, two systems” framework.

Hua said China would sanction organizations including the National Endowment for Democracy, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, Human Rights Watch, the International Republican Institute, Freedom House and others

that she said had “performed badly” in the Hong Kong unrest.

“China urges the United States to correct its mistakes and stop any words and deeds that interfere in Hong Kong and China’s internal affairs,” she said, adding that China could take “further necessary actions” depending on how matters develop.

Hua accused the groups of instigating protesters to engage in “radical violent crimes and inciting separatist activities.”

“These organizations deserve to be sanctioned and must pay a price,” Hua said.

China has long accused foreign groups and governments of fomenting the demonstrations in Hong Kong, singling out the U.S., former colonial overlord Britain and democratic, self-governing Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory to be annexed by force if necessary.

Among the groups to be subject to the unspecified sanctions, the National Endowment for Democracy receives funding directly from Congress while others generally draw their running costs from a mixture of private and public grants.

Derek Mitchell, the president of the National Democratic Institute, said in Hong Kong last week that accusations it was colluding with protesters were “patently false.”

The institute has no role in the current protests, and “to suggest otherwise spreads misinformation and fails to recognize the movement stems from genuine grievances,” he said.

While China has in the past suspended U.S. military visits, the sanctions on the various groups could bring conditions for civil society in Hong Kong one step closer to those in mainland China.

Beijing imposes restrictions on nongovernmental organizations and is particularly concerned about those involved in humanitarian causes, gender equality, the environment or minority rights.

In Hong Kong, several hundred people who work in advertising started a five-day strike Monday to show support for the anti-government protests. They said they would not go to work, respond to work emails or take part in conference calls.

USS New Orleans in Sasebo

BY CHRISTIAN LOPEZ
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The amphibious transport dock USS New Orleans — one of two ships the Navy said would be sent to Sasebo Naval Base after the USS Wasp's fall departure — pulled into its new homeport on Sunday.

It is expected to be joined soon by the USS America, which left San Diego last month. Once in Japan, the amphibious assault ship will replace the Wasp as flagship of Amphibious Squadron 11, Expeditionary Strike Group 7.

The addition of the two ships will raise the 7th Fleet's number of deployed amphibious vessels from three to five,

alongside the Sasebo-based USS Ashland, USS Green Bay and USS Germantown. The squadron often integrates with the Okinawa-based 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

"We welcome the USS New Orleans crew and families who will be an incredible addition to our forward deployed team in the Seventh Fleet theater," Rear Adm. Fred Kacher, Expeditionary Strike Group 7 commander, said in a Navy statement.

The 684-foot New Orleans has a crew of 322 enlisted sailors and 28 officers. When accompanied by a Marine detachment, the onboard population can swell to about 800.

"The increase in capacity

to our amphibious forces this great ship represents will allow us to operate more regularly with our allies and partners in this vital region and support even stronger naval integration with our number one warfighting partner, the United States Marine Corps," Kacher said in the statement.

A 7th Fleet spokesman declined to say when the America would arrive in Sasebo, on the Japanese island of Kyushu. The ship's official Facebook page said the crew celebrated Thanksgiving "somewhere in the Pacific."

The Wasp moved to Naval Station Norfolk, Va., in September, after serving about 1½ years in Japan.

3 soldiers accused of fleeing fare

BY MARCUS KLOECKNER
AND IMMANUEL JOHNSON
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — Three U.S. soldiers in Germany are accused of running off to avoid paying a hefty cab fare on Thanksgiving Day.

German police handed the trio over to military police Thursday after the Americans had racked up a fare of about 210 euro, or \$230, for the 60-mile ride from Regensburg to Vilseck, and then allegedly ran off without paying, authorities said.

The soldiers, two of them 19 and one 22, hailed the cab in Regensburg and were dropped off at Vilseck train station around 8:30 p.m., the German police said.

They told the cab driver they needed to get cash and would return quickly, but sprinted off once they left the vehicle, Auerbach police detective Karl-Heinz Schoepf said.

The driver was able to give police a good description of the three, and after a search of the vicinity, police were able to "track the men down near a shopping market," Schoepf said.

Though it was unclear what unit the soldiers were part of — German authorities did not say — the Americans were turned over to the military police.

The Army's 2nd Cavalry Regiment is based at Vilseck's Rose Barracks, while nearby Grafenwoehr's Tower Barracks serves as headquarters for the Army's largest overseas training command.

German police are looking into the incident, Schoepf said, and will turn the matter over to the local prosecutor's office once an investigation has been completed.

Families weigh legal options over mold

BY ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

AUSTIN, Texas — Tamara Terry fears her family's legacy of military service might end with her children being denied the opportunity. The daughter of a Navy SEAL and the spouse of a soldier, Terry can rattle off the many uncles and family members who did or do serve in the military.

But after living three years in post housing at Fort Bragg, N.C., that was plagued with mold, the 27-year-old mother of three said her children have collected medical diagnoses she worries could hinder any chance at military service.

"It's something my children may not be able to pursue," said Terry, who is expecting twins. Her children are 8, 5, and 8 months old. One was diagnosed with sleep apnea, another with consistent bronchitis. Her younger son had such severe respiratory issues that, at one point, it caused him to stop breathing, she said.

After weighing their options,

Terry's family hired an attorney and intends to sue Corvias, the private company that she said was negligent and unhelpful in dealing with the mold.

It's been more than a year since Reuters news agency published an investigation of military family housing conditions that made public what was an open secret among military families. On-base housing was exposing many of them to health hazards ranging from mold caused by ongoing leaks and poor construction to infestations of insects and rodents to peeling and chipping lead paint. Remedies were difficult, often trapping families in maintenance systems where repairs were sometimes ignored and reports falsified.

Each branch of the military has tackled the problem in different ways — issuing surveys and going door-to-door to inspect homes, creating housing-focused hotlines and hosting town halls to allow residents to voice concerns. The Defense Department has coordinated with Congress on a still unfinished tenant bill of rights.

The 14 private companies who manage military housing have launched programs for resident feedback and improved maintenance request systems and have announced millions of dollars in new investments.

The Army, Navy and Air Force secretaries, the Marine Corps commandant and the director of defense capabilities and management with the Government Accountability Office will testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday to address ongoing reports of substandard housing conditions and services. On Thursday, representatives of five of the private companies that manage military housing will testify before the House Armed Services Committee.

Meanwhile, families must determine the best way to get out of living conditions they deem unsafe. Some, like the Terry family, are seeking legal remedies. At least three multi-family lawsuits have been filed in federal court against private companies that manage military base housing.

Impeachment report coming as scene shifts

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House impeachment report on President Donald Trump will be unveiled Monday behind closed doors for key lawmakers as Democrats push ahead with the inquiry despite the White House's declaration it will not participate in the first Judiciary Committee hearing.

The Democratic majority on the House Intelligence Committee says the report, compiled after weeks of testimony, will speak for itself in laying out what Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., called the evidence of "wrongdoing and misconduct" by the Republican presi-

dent over his actions toward Ukraine. It was being made available for committee members to review ahead of a vote Tuesday to send it to the Judiciary Committee for Wednesday's landmark hearing.

Late Sunday, White House counsel Pat Cipollone denounced the "baseless and highly partisan inquiry." In a letter to Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., he also declined the invitation for the president's counsel to appear before his panel Wednesday.

Cipollone, in continuing the West Wing's attack on the House process, said the pro-

ceeding "violates all past historical precedent, basic due process rights, and fundamental fairness." Trump was scheduled to attend a summit with NATO allies outside London on Wednesday.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Monday it's "very unfortunate" the Judiciary Committee is holding its hearing at the same time that Trump is representing the U.S. at the NATO summit.

As the impeachment inquiry intensifies, Wednesday's hearing will be a milestone. It is expected to convene legal experts whose testimony, alongside the report from the

Intelligence Committee, could lay the groundwork for possible articles of impeachment, which the panel is expected to soon draw up.

Democrats are focused on whether Trump abused his office by withholding military aid approved by Congress and a White House meeting as he pressed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to launch investigations into Trump's political rivals. The report also is expected to include evidence of possible obstruction of Congress by Trump's instructions that officials in his administration defy subpoenas for documents or testimony.

Ex-FBI lawyer Lisa Page ends silence, slams attacks

The Washington Post

The lone tweet appeared Sunday night on a profile bearing the name of former FBI attorney Lisa Page.

"I'm done being quiet," the tweet read.

In the roughly two years since Page made national headlines after politically charged text messages between her and then-senior FBI agent Peter Strzok were released, the lawyer has refrained from publicly addressing the events that catapulted her into the center of a political firestorm and made her a repeated target of President Donald Trump's ire.

Now, in a wide-ranging interview, Page

slammed Trump for his "sickening" attacks against her and revealed how she has struggled to keep her life together.

"I had stayed quiet for years hoping it would fade away, but instead it got worse," Page, 39, told the Daily Beast in her first public interview, published Sunday. "It had been so hard not to defend myself, to let people who hate me control the narrative. I decided to take my power back."

Page's interview comes just ahead of the planned Dec. 9 release of a report from the Justice Department inspector general on how the FBI conducted its investigation into Trump associates and Russian interference in the 2016 election. Page

and Strzok, who had been having an affair, were both involved in the probes of Hillary Clinton's emails and Russia when they exchanged text messages expressing a mutual dislike of Trump and concern that he might become president, The Washington Post's Devlin Barrett reported in 2017.

Those messages not only sparked an official ethics investigation but also fueled accusations from the president and his supporters that the federal agency's probe into the Trump campaign was prejudiced against him. According to the Daily Beast, Page left the FBI in May 2018. Strzok was fired several months later.

Storm may dump up to 20 inches of snow on East Coast

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A wintry storm that made Thanksgiving travel miserable across much of the country gripped the East with a messy mixture of rain, snow, sleet and wind, slowing the Monday morning commute, closing schools and offices, and snarling air travel.

Forecasters said the nor'easter could drop 10 to 20 inches of snow by Tuesday morning from Pennsylvania to Maine. Heavy snow was possible in the Appalachian Moun-

tains down to Tennessee and North Carolina.

Schools closed preemptively as rain was expected to turn into snow in the region's first significant storm of the season, a nor'easter so named because the winds typically come from the northeast.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo advised nonessential state employees to stay home Monday, and New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy declared government offices for nonessential employees would close at noon.

More than 180 flights into or out of the U.S. were canceled Monday morning, with more than 450 delays. Airports in the New York and Boston areas accounted for many of them.

Tractor-trailers were banned or lower speed limits put in place on stretches of interstate highways in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Inland areas appeared to be in for the worst of it, with the forecast in Albany, N.Y., predicting 6 to 14 inches.

Only 3 inches of snow was ex-

pected in New York City. Up to 9 inches, though, was possible in Boston by Tuesday night. As much as 5 inches was forecast for Philadelphia.

The trouble began in the East on Sunday as the storm moved out of the Midwest.

State police had responded to more than 550 storm-related crashes across New York by 7 p.m. Icy roads caused crashes on Interstate 84 in Pennsylvania, and ice closed part of Interstate 81 near Binghamton, N.Y., for a time.

Japan toughens penalties for cellphone use while driving

BY HANA KUSUMOTO
AND SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — Service members caught using mobile devices while driving off base in Japan could be hit with thousands of dollars in fines or up to a year in prison under a law change that came into force Monday.

The new rules toughen penalties for talking on cellphones or holding them while looking at their screens while behind the wheel, according to Japan's National Police Agency.

The maximum fine that can be issued for those offenses has increased from about \$460 to \$912 or up to six months of imprisonment with hard labor, according to the announcement on the agency website.

Japan has also increased the maximum penalty for a driver who poses a danger to traffic or causes an accident while using a mobile device. Those convict-

ed face a maximum of a year of imprisonment with hard labor or a \$2,736 fine, according to the agency website.

Those who use cellphones while driving can also have their licenses suspended, the police agency stated.

"The number of traffic accidents caused by people looking at smart phone screens while driving is increasing," the website stated.

In 2018, Japanese police tallied 2,790 vehicle accidents involving cellphone use, about 1.4 times as many as there were in 2013, according to the website.

The new rules shouldn't affect those driving on U.S. military installations in the country.

"The new [Government of Japan] changes regarding cellphone use while driving will not change the current point assessment for talking or text messaging on a cell phone while operating a motor vehicle

on any USAG Japan Installation," U.S. Army Garrison Japan spokeswoman Gwendolyn Smalls said in an email Monday. "Three points will still be assessed to the driving record for this violation."

Drivers who accumulate 12 points in a year or 18 points in two years will have their driving permit suspended for six months, Smalls said.

Officials at the provost marshal office at Camp Foster — a Marine Corps facility on Okinawa — said personnel driving on the base are permitted to use cellphones placed in hands-free devices. However, those who operate cellphones with their hands while driving could be given a citation that may lead to a suspended license.

Officials from Air Force and Navy installations in Japan did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Stars and Stripes reporter Carlos M. Vazquez II contributed to this report.

Russian scientists reveal an ancient pup

Associated Press

YAKUTSK, Russia — Russian scientists on Monday showed off a prehistoric puppy, believed to be 18,000 years old, found in permafrost in the country's Far East.

Discovered last year in a lump of frozen mud near the city of Yakutsk, the puppy is unusually well-preserved, with its hair, teeth, whiskers and eyelashes still intact.

"This puppy has all its limbs, pelage — fur, even whiskers. The nose is visible. There are teeth. We can determine due to some data that it is a male," Nikolai Androsov, director of the Northern World private museum where the remains are stored, said at the presentation at the Yakutsk's Mammoth Museum, which specializes in ancient specimens.

In recent years, Russia's Far East has provided many riches for scientists studying the remains of ancient animals. As the permafrost melts, affected by climate change, more and more parts of woolly mammoths, canines and other prehistoric animals are being discovered.

When the puppy was discovered, scientists from the Stockholm-based Center for Palaeogenetics took a piece of bone to study its DNA.

"The first step was, of course, to send the sample to radio carbon dating to see how old it was and when we got the results back it turned out that it was roughly 18,000 years old," Love Dalen, professor of evolutionary genetics at the center, said in an online interview.

Further tests, however, left the scientists with more questions than answers — they couldn't definitively tell whether it was a dog or a wolf.

He added that the scientists are about to do a third round of genome sequencing, which might solve the mystery.

Call for justice after gang rape in India

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Hundreds of people gathered in New Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai and other Indian cities Monday to demand justice in the case of a veterinarian who was gang-raped and killed last week.

The protesters demanded a fast-track investigation of the case and stringent laws for the safety of women in India.

"We are not safe anymore in India. We are scared to move out of our homes," said Sejal Kumar, a college student from New Delhi.

The burned body of the 27-year-old woman was found Thursday morning by a passerby in an underpass in the southern city of Hyderabad after she went missing the previous night.

Police said four suspects have been taken into custody.

Violent crimes against women have been in the spotlight in India since 2012, when the fatal gang rape of a young woman aboard a moving bus in New Delhi prompted hundreds of thousands to take to the streets to demand stricter laws against rape.

The attack spurred quick action on legislation that doubled prison terms for rapists to 20 years and criminalized voyeurism, stalking and the trafficking of women. Indian lawmakers also voted to lower to 16 from 18 the age at which a person can be tried as an adult for heinous crimes.

According to the most recent available official crime records, police registered 33,658

cases of rape in India in 2017 — an average of more than 90 every day. But the real figure is believed to be far higher as many women in India don't report cases to police due to fear.

The data also show that more than 90% of cases of crimes against women are pending in city courts.

Last week's incident was also discussed in Parliament.

Defense Minister Rajnath Singh said the attack had "brought shame to the entire country."

"It has hurt everyone. The accused must be given the most stringent punishment for their crime," Singh said.

Activists in India say the government has failed to control rising crimes against women.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Rig hauling butane overturns on freeway

UT LEHI — A tractor-trailer rig carrying butane leaked the flammable gas from a tank after overturning on a Utah freeway Saturday, causing evacuations in the area.

The Utah Highway Patrol said the double-trailer rig overturned on northbound Interstate 15 in Lehi and that the freeway was closed in both directions as a precaution pending cleanup.

Assistant City Administrator Cameron Boyle said the area within a quarter-mile around the crash site was evacuated, with residents of an apartment complex relocated to a church building.

State to have more than 10M visitors

HI HONOLULU — Tourism officials said Hawaii is on track to have more than 10 million visitors in one year for the first time in the state's history.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported Thursday that Hawaii Tourism Authority data shows there have been nearly 8.7 million visitors through October.

The figure is a 5.5% increase over the 8.2 million arrivals through the same period last year when the state's annual count was 9.9 million visitors.

Baby born at airport gets middle name Sky

NC CHARLOTTE — A woman who gave birth at an airport in North Carolina has given the baby a name tied to where she was born.

News outlets reported Neireida Araujo went into labor

Wednesday on a flight from Tampa, Fla., to Charlotte, N.C. American Airlines spokeswoman Crystal Byrd said the flight crew radioed medics who helped deliver the baby on the plane once it landed.

Araujo said she named her newborn daughter Lizyana Sky Taylor. She said the middle name Sky was chosen because the girl was born at the airport.

Araujo, her husband and two other children were traveling to Pennsylvania for Thanksgiving.

Butcher donates deer meat to food bank

KY TAYLORSVILLE — A Kentucky butcher is asking hunters to donate any unwanted deer so the meat can be distributed through charities.

WLKY-TV reported the Taylorsville Butcher Block announced recently it had collected 642 pounds of deer meat through the Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry program. The shop is donating hundreds of pounds of deer meat to a local food bank.

The charity said it offers a way for hunters to donate harvested deer to Kentucky's needy through processors and charities.

WDRB-TV said Kentucky Hunters for the Hungry donated 207 pounds of venison to the Healing Place men's campus in Louisville.

Police: Woman fired gun into drive-thru

GA SANDY SPRINGS — Police said a Georgia woman fired a gun into a KFC after learning her order lacked napkins and a fork.

News outlets reported Jonelle Jade Dare, 33, was arrested

Nov. 26 in Sandy Springs, Ga., on an outstanding warrant from Shelbyville, Ky., where's she's accused of shooting into the restaurant drive-thru window.

Shelbyville police said Dare visited a local KFC in October and was verbally abusive to drive-thru staff, who reported Dare was angry over not getting a fork or napkin with her meal.

Police said Dare fired a handgun into the drive-thru window and sped off in a white Mercedes-Benz.

No one was wounded in the shooting.

Car stopped going 103 mph in storm

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Utah authorities urged residents to drive safely after stopping a vehicle traveling more than 100 mph during a winter storm.

KUTV-TV reported Thursday that a Utah Highway Patrol trooper had an adrenaline-charged drive while trying to stop a car he clocked at 103 mph in a 75 mph zone during a Thanksgiving snowstorm.

Authorities posted a photo of the issued ticket Thursday to Twitter, citing concerns for the safety of other travelers.

Stores locked down after fight at mall

NC PINEVILLE — Police in a Charlotte, N.C., suburb said a few stores at a mall were placed on lockdown after a fight.

Pineville police spokesman Lt. Corey Copley said officers responded Friday around 4:40 p.m. to a fight involving two groups of people at Carolina Place Mall.

He said officers working off-duty at the mall arrived within seconds and people dispersed

immediately.

Copley said a few stores were temporarily placed on lockdown, but the mall was deemed safe and was reopened for business as usual.

Bear stuck in tree down after 5 days

FL APOPKA — For five days, workers at a Florida wildlife facility watched anxiously as a bear remained stuck in a tree, hanging precariously over a tiger enclosure.

A caretaker at Florida C.A.R.E. Foundation discovered the 50-pound bear Nov. 23. The bear appeared to be terrified by the 300- and 400-pound cats below, unaware they were in cages.

On Wednesday, workers tried to help the bear by moving the tigers to another location. The cub descended several branches but was still in the tree Wednesday night.

When the workers returned the next morning, the bear was gone.

Vintage car museum to display muscle cars

MI HICKORY CORNERS — A Michigan museum that boasts the largest vintage automobile collection in North America plans to open a new building to display muscle cars.

The Battle Creek Enquirer reported the \$5 million project at the Gilmore Car Museum would add more than 25,000 square feet of exhibit space. Groundbreaking is set for next year with plans to open the new addition by 2021.

The museum in rural southwest Michigan currently has 20 muscle cars on display, which is expected to double.

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STARS AND STRIPES®

NFL Roundup

Bengals beat bungling Jets for 1st win

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Andy Dalton returned from his three-week exile Sunday and got a long-awaited win for the coach who benched him, throwing a touchdown pass during a 22-6 victory over the New York Jets that ended the longest losing streak in Cincinnati Bengals history.

The Bengals (1-11) had lost 13 in a row since the end of last season, with newcomer Zac Taylor waiting until December to get his first head coaching win. Taylor benched Dalton after the eighth loss, deciding to see whether Ryan Finley fit into the team's long-term plans.

With the rookie struggling and the season careening toward 0-16, Taylor reversed course and went back to Dalton. He made the difference in front of the smallest crowd in Paul Brown Stadium history. Carlos Dunlap and Sam Hubbard dunked Taylor with ice water in the final seconds.

Dalton got beyond his initial bitterness over the benching and led the NFL's lone winless team to the breakthrough victory in front of 39,804 fans. Dalton also set a couple of franchise passing marks along the way.

The Jets (4-8) had their three-game winning streak snapped, unable to extend their high-scoring momentum behind Sam Darnold. The Jets also made some dubious NFL history, becoming the first team to lose to two teams who were 0-7 or worse in the same season. New York lost to Miami, which was 0-7 at the time, on Nov. 3.

Steelers 20, Browns 13: The Steelers and Browns kept things civil in their highly anticipated rematch, which ended the way they always seem to end at Heinz Field: The Steelers walking off in triumph.

Devlin "Duck" Hodges threw for 212 yards with a touchdown and an interception in his second career start. Rookie Benny

Snell ran for 63 yards and his first NFL touchdown, and the banged-up Steelers exacted revenge for their whipping at the hands of the Browns two weeks ago with a 20-13 victory on Sunday.

Pittsburgh (7-5) boosted its postseason chances by rallying from 10 points down thanks in large part to Hodges, a rookie undrafted free agent who happens to be a champion duck caller in his down time. He was aided by the emergence of wide receiver James Washington, who caught four passes for 111 yards and a juggling 30-yard score late in the first half.

The Browns (5-7) saw their three-game winning streak come to a crashing halt when they failed to handle a Pittsburgh offense riddled with injuries and inexperience at the skill positions. Baker Mayfield completed 18 of 32 passes for 196 yards with a touchdown and an interception; he played the entire second half with his right hand in a protective glove after smacking it against the face mask of Pittsburgh linebacker Bud Dupree.

Cleveland failed to pull even with the Steelers in the standings and sweep the season series from its rival for the first time in 31 years.

Ravens 20, 49ers 17: Neither rain, wind nor visiting San Francisco's top-ranked defense could prevent Lamar Jackson from guiding Baltimore to its franchise-record eighth straight win.

Jackson weathered miserable conditions to run for 101 yards and Justin Tucker kicked a tiebreaking 49-yard field goal as time expired in a possible Super Bowl preview. The combination of driving rain, a stiff wind and San Francisco's rugged defense was difficult for Jackson to handle. He completed only 14 of 23 passes for 105 yards and lost a fumble.

Baltimore (10-2) improved to 16-3 with Jackson as a starter and 12-0 when he rushes for at least 70 yards. In addition,

Jackson became the first quarterback in NFL history to have four 100-yard rushing games in a season.

Raheem Mostert ran for a career-high 146 yards and a touchdown for the 49ers (10-2), now tied with New Orleans for the best record in the NFC.

Chiefs 40, Raiders 9: Patrick Mahomes threw for a touchdown and ran for a touchdown, while Juan Thornhill returned a pick 46 yards for another score.

LeSean McCoy and Darwin Thompson also had TD runs for the host Chiefs (8-4), who took a two-game lead over the Raiders by finishing off a season sweep. That means Kansas City can clinch a fourth straight division title with a win over New England and an Oakland loss to Tennessee next weekend.

It was the Raiders' seventh straight loss in Kansas City.

Rams 34, Cardinals 7: Jared Goff threw for 424 yards and two touchdowns, and Robert Woods had 172 yards receiving as visiting Los Angeles (7-5) stayed in the hunt for a playoff berth.

The Cardinals (3-8-1) had a week to rest and prepare for the Rams after coming off their bye week but looked rusty instead of refreshed. They've lost five straight games.

Broncos 23, Chargers 20: At Denver, Brandon McManus' 53-yard field goal as time expired — set up by a long interference call — capped a furious final 14 seconds.

Rookie quarterback Drew Lock's debut win for Denver came a month after Brandon Allen beat Cleveland. It made the Broncos the first team in league history to have two quarterbacks start and win their NFL debuts in the same season.

Titans 31, Colts 17: Tye Smith returned a blocked field goal 63 yards for the go-ahead touchdown with 5:02 left to play, helping visiting Tennessee (7-5) snap a three-game losing streak in the series, win-

ning for only the third time in the past 17 meetings. It also allowed the Titans to leapfrog Indianapolis in the AFC South.

Derrick Henry carried 26 times for 149 yards and one touchdown, becoming the first runner to top the 100-yard mark against Indy in 30 games. Tannehill was 17 of 22 with 182 yards and two TD passes as he improved to 5-1 as Tennessee's starter.

Packers 31, Giants 13: At East Rutherford, N.J., Aaron Rodgers threw four touchdown passes in the snow and Green Bay rebounded from a dismal West Coast performance.

The Packers sent the Giants to their eighth straight loss, their worst skid since 2004.

Rodgers finished 21 of 33 for 243 yards with no interceptions on a slippery, snowy day at MetLife Stadium.

Dolphins 37, Eagles 31: At Miami, DeVante Parker made two acrobatic touchdown receptions and kicker Jason Sanders also had a circus-like scoring catch as the Dolphins overcame a 14-point deficit in the second half with three touchdowns in less than 13 minutes — a remarkable achievement for one of the NFL's lowest-scoring teams.

Redskins 29, Panthers 21: Derrius Guice ran for 129 yards and two touchdowns and visiting Washington made a late goal-line stand. Adrian Peterson added 99 yards and a score as the Redskins (3-9) piled up 248 yards on the ground and scored their most points this season.

Buccaneers 28, Jaguars 11: Nick Foles ended his first three drives with turnovers that visiting Tampa Bay turned into touchdowns. It was Jacksonville's fourth consecutive loss by at least 17 points and could mean the end of coach Doug Marrone's tenure with the team.

At the very least, the skid will have owner Shad Khan considering changes over the final month of the season.

Big men dominating for Kansas, Michigan

Associated Press

PARADISE ISLAND, Bahamas — Udoka Azubuike patrolled the paint with a dominating edge to help No. 4 Kansas win the Maui Invitational. Jon Teske offered a similar space-eating presence for Michigan during its unexpected title run in a loaded Battle 4 Atlantis.

The seniors showed the college basketball world not to overlook experienced big men amid all the attention on high-flying wings and sharp-shooting guards.

Entering Maui, one question about Kansas (6-1) was how well it could play with two big men on the court and Azubuike's effectiveness against quality opponents with his shooting range limited to within a few feet of the rim.

Yet the 7-foot, 270-pound senior, when not in foul trouble, often dominated.

The highlight came against

Dayton in the championship game, where Azubuike had a career-high 29 points — nine in overtime — while making 12 of 15 shots to end up as Maui's most valuable player with point guard Devon Dotson.

In the Bahamas, the 7-foot-1, 265 pound Teske finished as MVP after the Wolverines (7-0) gave first-year coach Juwan Howard some early marquee wins and an expected spot in Monday's AP Top 25.

Teske used his sturdy frame to help negate the sixth-ranked North Carolina's typically relentless board work while also flustering 6-10 freshman Armando Bacot into an ineffective performance by denying prime post position and forcing him to shoot over Teske's long arms.

Teske closed with 19 points and a career-best 15 rebounds against eighth-ranked Gonzaga. He also swatted four shots against both UNC and Gonzaga, and hit four threes during

the tournament.

Here are some takeaways from the Thanksgiving-week holiday tournaments:

Maui stars: Dayton's Obi Toppin and Georgia's Anthony Edwards have everyone's attention after their Maui showings.

Toppin, a 6-9 redshirt sophomore, has developed into one of the nation's best power forwards with length, athleticism and the ability to match up with anyone by shooting over smaller defenders or pulling bigger ones out to the three-point arc. He had 18 points, nine rebounds and three blocks against the Jayhawks in the title-game loss. He now ranks among the national leaders in scoring (23.0) and shooting percentage (.697, 53 of 76).

As for Edwards, the 6-5, 225-pound freshman proved he can take over a game regardless of the opponent. The high NBA lottery prospect had a remarkable 33 of his 37 points

after halftime in a loss to third-ranked Michigan State, including hitting 7 of 13 3s — several with a defender right on him — to frequently leave people in the intimate Lahaina Civic Center shaking their heads in disbelief.

Maryland's defense: Fifth-ranked Maryland can trust its defense.

The Terrapins won the Orlando Invitational by slowing high-scoring Markus Howard of Marquette, holding the national scoring leader to six points on 1-for-12 shooting Sunday. That came after Howard went for a tournament-record 40 points in the first-round win against Davidson, then 51 points against Southern California.

"A kid coming off 51, didn't really need a pregame speech," Maryland coach Mark Turgeon said. "I knew our guys were going to be locked in today."

Mississippi's Luke joins list of fired SEC coaches

Associated Press

Mississippi fired football coach Matt Luke on Sunday, three days after his third non-winning season ended with an excruciating rivalry game loss.

Athletic director Keith Carter said in a statement the decision to change coaches was made after evaluating the trajectory of the program and not seeing see enough "momentum on the field."

"While improvements were evident in certain aspects of the program, we are judged ultimately by our record, and, unfortunately, we did not meet the standard of success that we expect from our program," Carter said.

Luke, a former Ole Miss offensive lineman and assistant coach, was elevated to interim head coach about two weeks before preseason practice started in 2017 when Mississippi fired Hugh Freeze.

Luke guided the Rebels, who were already banned from the

postseason by the NCAA, to a 6-6 record that helped him land a four-year deal through 2021. With the program facing another bowl ban in 2018 and other NCAA sanctions, Luke and the Rebels went 5-7.

Ole Miss finished this season 4-8 overall and 2-6 in the Southeastern Conference, including a 21-20 loss on Thanksgiving night to Mississippi State. Ole Miss receiver Elijah Moore scored a potential tying touchdown with seconds left in the Egg Bowl, but was penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct after he pretended to urinate in the end zone like a dog.

The Rebels' kicker then missed an extra point that was 15 yards longer than the usual distance because of the penalty.

The 43-year-old Luke is the third SEC coach to be fired this season, joining Arkansas' Chad Morris and Missouri's Barry Odom, and the fourth head coach around the country to

lose his job Sunday.

Also, let go were Steve Addazio at Boston College, Charlie Strong at South Florida and Frank Wilson at UTSA.

USF made the move two days after finishing a 4-8 season with a blowout loss to rival UCF. That left Strong 21-16 overall but 4-14 since starting the 2018 season with seven straight victories.

The former Texas and Louisville coach was hired by USF to replace Willie Taggart after the 2016 season. Strong led the Bulls to a 10-2 record in that first year in Tampa behind star quarterback Quinton Flowers. After starting 7-0 in 2018, the Bulls ended the season with six straight losses, and this season has been filled with lopsided losses.

The 59-year-old Strong, who was a longtime defensive coordinator in the Southeastern Conference with plenty of recruiting ties to the state of Florida, is 74-53 overall in 10 seasons as a head coach.

Boston College turned to assistant and former Eagles receiver Rich Gunnell as interim coach Monday while it looks for a permanent successor to Addazio.

Meanwhile, Greg Schiano is going back to Rutgers.

Athletic director Pat Hobbs announced Sunday the university and Schiano have reached a contract agreement, a week after talks to bring back the 53-year-old former Scarlet Knights head coach fell apart.

"The next great chapter for Rutgers Football is about to begin," Hobbs said in a statement.

The contract must be approved by the schools' board of governors. It is scheduled to meet Tuesday.

Schiano, a New Jersey native, went 68-67 at Rutgers and turned the Scarlet Knights into consistent winners in the old Big East after years of being one of the worst major college football programs in the country.

NHL roundup

Backes, Pastrnak lead Bruins to 7th consecutive win

Associated Press

BOSTON — David Backes scored the deciding goal in his first game in nearly a month, David Pastrnak added his league-leading 25th goal, and the Boston Bruins won their seventh straight game, beating the Montreal Canadiens 3-1 Sunday night.

Backes' first goal of the season came off a feed from David Krejci through the right circle, with 9:31 remaining in the third period.

Backes was in the lineup for the first time since being injured during a scary collision with Ottawa's Scott Sabourin on Nov. 2.

"You could see [the emotion] on my face. That was elation," Backes said. "I've been watching this team do this for a month, and now it's great to be part of it."

Jake DeBrusk added his sixth goal of the year on a give-and-go with Charlie Coyle two minutes later.

Tuukka Rask made 28 saves for the Bruins.

Boston extended its point streak to 11 games (8-0-3) and entered the third month of the season as the only team without a home regulation loss (11-0-4).

Joel Amir scored, and Carey Price had 31 saves for Montreal. The Canadiens extended their season-high losing streak to eight (0-5-3).

Wild 3, Stars 2 (SO): Mikko Koivu scored the shootout winner in his 1,000th career game and reached 700th career points with a second-period assist in Minnesota's win over Dallas.

Koivu, playing his 15th season with the Wild, beat Ben Bishop with his trademark move, a backhand over the goalie's left shoulder. Then Alex Stalock, who made 26 saves, stuffed Corey Perry to seal the victory.

Kevin Fiala had a goal and an assist and Zach Parise also scored for the Wild. Both also scored in the first three rounds of the shootout, but Joe Pavelski and Tyler Seguin countered for Dallas.

Blake Comeau and John Klingberg scored for Dallas and Bishop stopped 27 shots. The Stars have lost three in a row after a 14-1-1 run.

Oilers 3, Canucks 2: Leon Draisaitl scored two power-play goals and visiting Edmonton snapped a two-game losing streak.

Josh Archibald also scored for the Oilers (17-9-3). Mikko Koskinen stopped 30 shots.

Josh Leivo and Brock Boeser scored the Canucks (13-11-4), who are 3-3-0 in their past six games.

Clippers blow out Wizards

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Coach Doc Rivers called the first play of the game for Paul George and he hit a three-pointer.

His teammates found him the rest of the way.

Kawhi Leonard scored 34 points, George added 31, and the Los Angeles Clippers rolled past undermanned Washington 150-125 on Sunday night for their 12th win in a row over the Wizards at home.

"It's those new shoulders. He's just a great shooter," Rivers said of George. "He's shooting deep shots on the move and doing it with great balance."

Montrezl Harrell added 23 points and a career-high 15 rebounds and Lou Williams had 22 points for the Clippers, who led all the way in improving to a franchise-best 12-1 at Staples Center.

"Their athletes are long, wiry and strong and defensive-minded," Wizards coach Scott Brooks said. "On top of that, they can score. That's a great benefit."

The Clippers shot 57% in taking a 27-point lead in the first half when George had 27 points.

"We just came out a little bit more aggressive as a unit," Williams said. "We

were very efficient on the offensive end. The shots we took a lot of times were ones we wanted to take."

George and Leonard combined to score 10 of the Clippers' first 13 points in the third when they led 95-69.

The Wizards ran off 11 straight points to close within 15 in their only major spurt of the game.

From there, the Clippers outscored Washington 19-12 to lead 116-98 going into the fourth.

For the game, the Clippers shot 55%, owned a 66-46 edge in the paint and their bench outscored the Wizards reserves 73-39.

"We're pretty good once we're clicking," Williams said.

Rookie Rui Hachimura scored a career-high 30 points and Bradley Beal added 23 points and 11 assists for the Wizards. They were without injured John Wall, Moe Wagner, C.J. Miles and Ian Mahinmi in losing for the fourth time in five games.

Davis Bertans had 20 points and a tied his career high with six three-pointers for Washington.

It was the second time this season the Clippers scored 150 points. They beat Atlanta 150-101 last month.

NBA roundup

Doncic, Mavs rout Lakers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Luka Doncic scored 21 of his 27 points in a dynamic second half, Kristaps Porzingis added 15 points and the Dallas Mavericks snapped the Los Angeles Lakers' 10-game winning streak with a 114-100 victory Sunday.

Doncic also had 10 assists and nine rebounds, and Delon Wright had 17 points and nine assists in the Mavericks' seventh victory in eight games.

Dallas underlined its status as a likely title contender with an inspired second half on the road against the NBA-leading Lakers, who had lost only once in 18 games since their season opener.

LeBron James had 25 points, nine rebounds and eight assists for the Lakers, whose longest winning streak in 10 years ended with their largest defeat of the young season.

Heat 109, Nets 106: Jimmy Butler scored 20 points, Bam Adebayo had 17 points and 16 rebounds and Miami scored the final 10 points to beat host Brooklyn.

Spencer Dinwiddie scored 29 points starting in place of Kyrie Irving, who missed his ninth straight with a right shoulder injury.

Grizzlies 115, Timberwolves 107: Dillon Brooks scored 26 points and Grayson Allen added 13 to push short-handed Memphis past host Minnesota.

Raptors 130, Jazz 110: Pascal Siakam scored 35 points, Fred VanVleet had 21 points and 11 assists and Toronto used a record-setting first half to rout visiting Utah.

Celtics 113, Knicks 104: Jayson Tatum scored 30 points, Jaylen Brown added 28 and Boston beat host New York.

Thunder 107, Pelicans 104: Chris Paul scored seven of his 16 points in a late 12-0 run as visiting Oklahoma City beat New Orleans.

Pistons 132, Spurs 98: Christian Wood scored a career-high 28 points to help Detroit rout visiting San Antonio.

Magic 100, Warriors 96: Evan Fournier tied his career high with 32 points and Terrence Ross added 19 points in host Orlando's victory over Golden State.