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Trump, Macron clash over NATO, ISIS

BY JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

President Donald Trump and his French counterpart, Emmanuel Macron, clashed on key security and diplomatic issues Tuesday at the NATO conference in London, hours after Trump blasted the French leader for making “very, very nasty” comments about the alliance.

Trump, who has a track record as a NATO skeptic, and Macron were in London to mark the alliance’s 70th year and meet with other alliance leaders for security talks.

In opening remarks Tuesday morning alongside NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, Trump repeated complaints about lackluster European defense spending and then launched an attack on Macron, who said in a recent interview that NATO suffers from “brain death.”

“Nobody needs NATO more than France ... It’s a very dangerous statement for France to make,” Trump said.

Macron caused a stir last month when he said in an interview that NATO is in bad shape and suggested that U.S. leadership under Trump was a big reason for the al-

liance’s decline.

Trump seized on the comments and in so doing took on the unlikely role, for him, of NATO defender.

“You can’t go around making statements like that about NATO. It is very disrespectful,” said Trump, who in 2016 called the alliance obsolete.

In addition to the “brain death” comment, which he called a “very, very nasty statement,” Trump criticized Macron on issues such as trade and taxes and took shots at France’s high unemployment rate.

At a tense news conference later Tuesday, where the two men sat side by side, Macron refused to back down from his comments about NATO.

“I know that my statements created some reaction,” he said. “I do stand by [them].”

Macron went on to criticize Turkey for targeting Kurdish forces that were partners of the U.S. coalition against Islamic State in Syria, and voiced concern about efforts to prevent ISIS fighters escaping prisons in the country.

In response, Trump suggested sending some of the “tremendous amount of captured fighters” to France, claiming “they’re mostly from Europe.”

“Would you like some nice ISIS fighters?” the American president quipped to Macron.

“Let’s be serious,” Macron answered. “There are a large number of fighters you have on the ground, ISIS fighters coming from Syria, from Iraq, and the region.”

Only a “tiny minority of the overall problem” were originally from Europe, he said.

Asked during the meeting about NATO’s relationship with its historic foe, Russia, Trump said: “I think we get along with Russia.”

Last year, Trump accused Germany of being a “captive” of Russia because of a natural gas pipeline venture between the two countries, and lashed out at allies over insufficient defense spending. Trump’s comments during that gathering later forced a closed-door emergency session to deal with his demand that military spending levels increase at a faster pace.

This year, he repeated complaints about Germany not being on track to meet a spending benchmark set by NATO that would have each member spend 2% of their economic output on defense by 2024.

New Navy tour lengths affect more than 50K

BY JOSHUA KARSTEN

Stars and Stripes

MANAMA, Bahrain — Over 50,000 sailors will see changes in their planned sea and shore tour lengths, the Navy announced in an updated policy that will affect more than half of all job fields.

The changes to the Sea Shore Flow policy, announced in an administrative message Monday, will affect 47 ratings: 20 will have longer sea tours, 22 shorter sea tours and seven will have longer shore tours.

“This was a necessary adjustment to ensure that we have the right people in the right billets to maintain our operational readiness across the fleet,” Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. John B. Nowell Jr. said in a statement.

The Sea Shore Flow system maps out a path to balance each sailor’s time on land

and at sea over the course of a hypothetical 30-year career.

Factors that affected the changes to tour lengths included initial training, available duty billets and retention, the Navy said.

Minemen will serve in a ship for an extra year during their first sea tour, the largest average increase among all ratings; however, they’ll serve six months less of their third projected sea tour. Machinist’s mates will see a 12-month average increase on their second sea tour.

Fire controlmen will have less sea duty across their careers, with decreases between nine and 12 months during each of their first four sea tours. Mass communications and religious program specialists will each be spending, on average, an extra year in their first three shore duties.

The new policy will not affect sailors within 12 months of their next rotation

date, but those who fall outside that window will have their tour dates adjusted in their records, the announcement said.

In a separate announcement, the Navy said it will be adding more than 60 select reenlistment bonuses for critical billets, ranging from \$30,000 to \$100,000, to try to keep talented sailors in the service.

The special warfare ratings, including SEALs, and nuclear-trained ratings are receiving the biggest offers.

The bonus announcement also highlighted an expansion of the Pay for Performance pilot program for seven engineering ratings, helicopter crewmen and submarine culinary specialists.

The administrative messages announcing the tour changes and new bonuses are available at the Navy Personnel Command website, located at <https://www.public.navy.mil/bupers-npc/>.

First female Marine finishes recon training

BY CARLOS M. VAZQUEZ II
Stars and Stripes

The first female Marine to complete the Marine Corps' rigorous reconnaissance training graduated from the 12-week course at Camp Pendleton, Calif., in early November.

Lance Cpl. Alexa Barth is the only woman accepted into the basic reconnaissance course since the Pentagon lifted a ban on women in combat roles in January 2013, said 1st Lt. Samuel Stephenson, spokesman for Marine Corps Combat Development Command. The course has an average dropout rate of between 25% and 40%, according to Stephenson. From Oct. 1, 2018, to Sept. 30, only 309 of 695 candidates continued the course.

"We are proud to have a Marine as mentally and physically tough as Lance Cpl. Barth in the reconnaissance community," Stephenson told Stars and Stripes via email Nov. 27.

Barth is expected to report to 1st Reconnaissance Battalion at Camp Pendleton

after completing secondary schooling in such topics as survival, evasion, resistance and escape and the multi-mission parachute course. The Marine Corps did not make Barth available for an interview or provide other information about her.

Thus far, no other female Marines have volunteered for reconnaissance training, Stephenson said. The Marine Corps did not change the program standards after January 2013, he added.

Marine reconnaissance, or recon, units are specially trained to conduct amphibious reconnaissance, ground reconnaissance, surveillance and specialized raids.

Even before starting the 12-week course, Barth completed a routine five-week screening called the Reconnaissance Training and Assessment Program. Many would-be recon Marines wash out at this stage; the assessment's dropout rate of 50% to 60% is higher than reconnaissance training itself, according to Stephenson.

During the assessment stage, students undergo daily physical training and must complete an enhanced physical fitness

test, which includes treading water for 30 minutes in their uniforms and two back-to-back runs of the Marine obstacle course in under six minutes.

Candidates then move into reconnaissance training. There they face two to six hours of daily physical training, along with other tests, such as a 12-mile, three-hour march with more than 50 pounds of equipment and an hourlong, 1¼-mile open water swim with fins and a 50-pound pack, Marine Corps Maj. Douglas Price, commander of the Reconnaissance Training Company, said via email Thursday.

The reconnaissance course is divided into three phases: individual skills and ground and amphibious reconnaissance, Price said.

"Due to the nature of reconnaissance operations and special insertion requirements, the training is high risk and you must be a volunteer," he said. "Students that complete the course and choose to remain demonstrate an uncommon personal resolve from other Marines as a defining character trait."

Suit filed over mold in housing at MacDill

BY ROSE L. THAYER
Stars and Stripes

Jason Genrich's 17-year Army career is under threat because of his health. It's not because of injuries sustained on one of his four deployments — it's because of mold growing in his military housing at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Genrich, a chief warrant officer 3, and his wife, Jenny, moved into a house on the base near Tampa in August 2018. Within five months, Genrich visited four specialists for ongoing symptoms including chest pains, mood swings, dizziness and fatigue. For the first time in his military career, he was placed on a medical deferment from physical activity.

In February, his neurologist diagnosed him with "sick building syndrome" and started him on a regimen of four daily medications.

His story and those of four other military families are outlined in a lawsuit filed Monday in U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Tampa Division, claiming the Michaels Organization, the private company responsible for managing the on-base housing at MacDill, knew the houses there had mold problems and

did not protect the health and safety of service members and their families. Instead, the company, known locally at MacDill as Harbor Bay, took an incomplete, piecemeal approach to remediating mold problems that was ineffective, according to the suit.

The company's actions were a breach of contract, a violation of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act and negligent, according to the lawsuit. Other names for the Michaels Organization listed in the lawsuit include Michaels Management Services Inc., Interstate Realty Management Company, AMC East Communities and Clark Capital Realty. A representative for the organization could not be reached for comment Monday.

The families are seeking damages for economic losses, personal injuries and associated pain and suffering, said Shanon Carson, an attorney with the Philadelphia-based law firm Berger Montague, which filed the suit in partnership with the Tampa-based Whistleblower Law Firm. It is a class-action lawsuit that could include any current or former residents of the 572 houses at MacDill managed by the Michaels Organization.

A meeting scheduled for Dec. 11 near MacDill is open to anyone who thinks they

might want to be included the suit.

"The filing of the lawsuit today is the first initial phase of the case," Carson said. "We are interested in hearing from everyone who's been affected by the problems at MacDill or other military bases if they also experienced problems with mold and problems resulting with building issues."

At least three other multifamily lawsuits have been filed in federal courts against private companies that manage military base housing. Similar to the suit at MacDill, each one accuses housing companies of unsafe living conditions that were aggravated by shoddy maintenance work and slow response to repair requests.

For the past year, military family housing has been in the spotlight following an investigation by the Reuters news agency that exposed the toxic conditions within some on-base homes.

This week, Congress will hold a second round of hearings about the efforts of the Defense Department and private companies to fix ongoing problems. Defense officials were to speak to the Senate Armed Service Committee on Tuesday, and private management companies will testify before the House Armed Services Committee on Thursday.

Japan: More Chinese ships near Senkakus

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — China has sent a record number of its ships this year past an island group in the East China Sea whose control it disputes with Japan, according to the Japan Coast Guard.

As of Tuesday, 1,007 Chinese government ships had been spotted in the contiguous zone of the chain known as the Senkaku Islands in Japan and the Diaoyu Islands in China, the coast guard told Stars and Stripes. That's an increase of more than 18% from the previous record of 819 Chinese ship sightings in 2013.

The coast guard said the vessels include any that belong to the Chinese government, including navy and coast guard ships.

A contiguous zone is the 12-nautical-mile area between the outermost edge of a state's territorial waters and international waters, according to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The two countries for decades have disputed sovereignty over the uninhabited group of five small islands and three rocks that amount to 2½ square miles of dry land southwest of Japan and east of Taiwan. Though the islands are barren, the seabed around them is thought to contain large reserves of oil and natural gas.

The islands were "generally accepted as being Japanese-owned" until December 1970 when Beijing declared they were "part of 'China's sacred territory,'" according to a declassified CIA intelligence

report.

This year China sent its vessels into the contiguous zone for the longest stretch on record. Chinese ships were seen in the zone for 64 consecutive days between April 12 and June 14, according to the Japan Coast Guard.

A spokesman said the coast guard will continue to deal with the issue "calmly with fortitude" and continue to protect Japanese waters.

It is customary for Japanese government spokespersons to withhold their names from press reports.

The coast guard is the primary agency in charge of policing Japanese waterways and can call the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force for help if necessary.

Japan in September an-

nounced plans to create a police unit dedicated to the Senkakus. The force, which would be separate from the coast guard but likely work with the service, will be trained in border security tactics and deploy next year.

The United States considers the Senkaku Islands under the administration of Japan but takes no formal position on their sovereignty.

However, since 1972 it has held that the U.S.-Japan mutual security agreement — which obligated the U.S. to help defend Japan if attacked — covers the Senkakus, according to a 2016 Congressional Research Service report on U.S. treaty obligations.

Soldier raises \$3,000 to rescue Afghan cat

BY MEREDITH TIBBETTS
Stars and Stripes

Sully the cat is getting a new home.

Staff Sgt. Dan Brissey, on his fifth tour overseas and his third trip to Afghanistan, has raised more than the required \$3,000 to bring the feline he rescued to the United States.

Brissey found Sully while she was sunning herself in the crook of a concrete blast wall on his way back from getting fuel. Brissey, who is allergic to cats, said on his fundraising page that Sully was one in a litter of four, and none of the other kittens would allow him to get close enough to pet them.

Sully, however, "warmed right up to me and even let me pick her up," he wrote. "She's so stinking cute!" Brissey wrote in a Facebook message to Stars and Stripes.

Serving with the Maryland National Guard, Brissey said his "mind was blown" when

he realized this morning that all the money had been raised through the Afghanistan animal rescue Nowzad.

"Last night when I went to sleep, finally it was at \$2,256. Then I got up 4 hours later and it was \$3,184," Brissey said through Facebook. Donations are still coming in at fundraizr.com.

Sully is "very sweet; she likes to be held," Brissey said. She "loves human contact. She has a real soft meow, very lovable kitty."

Nowzad's mission is to relieve the suffering of animals in Afghanistan and to provide and maintain rescue, rehabilitation and education facilities. A representative from Nowzad said the extra money raised will go toward the transportation costs of getting Sully to the United States. Anything beyond that will be used for the Nowzad shelter and clinic where Sully was spayed, vaccinated and microchipped.

Marine charged with smuggling guns to Haiti

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A U.S. Marine caught smuggling guns into Haiti told investigators he wanted to help the country's military learn marksmanship and defeat "thugs" causing instability there, according to a criminal complaint.

The criminal complaint filed last week in a North Carolina federal court charges Jacques Yves Duroseau with smuggling firearms. Prosecutors say Duroseau flew from North Carolina to Haiti with baggage including eight firearms — at least five of which he bought himself — but lacked needed authorization to take them abroad.

Duroseau, an active-duty U.S. Marine, and another unnamed person departed an airport in New Bern, N.C., on Nov. 11, bound for Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, with two plastic containers of firearms and a third with ammunition, according to the court filing.

Duroseau had filled out

a firearm declaration form with American Airlines stating he was carrying unloaded guns but didn't have permission from the U.S. Marines to leave the country or permission from U.S. authorities to export firearms, according to the complaint signed by Homeland Security Special Agent Charles Kitchen. Media representatives for the airline didn't immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

Haitian authorities took Duroseau into custody and ultimately, he was questioned by U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents in that country.

The criminal complaint said he told the agents he had traveled there to "defeat the thugs that have been creating a little bit part of the instability in Haiti." In describing the eight firearms, he told the agents he "picked every gun" to teach marksmanship to the Haitian Army, according to the court documents.

House releases impeachment report

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House released a sweeping impeachment report Tuesday outlining evidence of what it calls President Donald Trump's wrongdoing toward Ukraine, findings that will serve as the foundation for debate over whether the 45th president should be removed from office.

The 300-page report from Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee makes the case that Trump misused the power of his office and, in the course of their investigation, obstructed Congress by stonewalling the proceedings. Based on two months of investigation, the report contains evidence and testimony from current and former U.S. officials.

"The President placed his personal political interests

above the national interests of the United States, sought to undermine the integrity of the U.S. presidential election process, and endangered U.S. national security," the report said.

The panel planned to vote later Tuesday, in what was expected to be a party-line tally, to send the document to the Judiciary Committee ahead of a landmark impeachment hearing Wednesday.

Ahead of the release, Republicans defended the president in a rebuttal claiming Trump never intended to pressure Ukraine when he asked for a "favor" — investigations of Democrats and Joe Biden. They say the military aid the White House was withholding was not being used as leverage, as Democrats claim, and besides the \$400 million was ultimately

released, although only after a congressional outcry.

Trump at the opening of a NATO leaders' meeting in London on Tuesday criticized the impeachment push as "unpatriotic" and "a bad thing for our country."

The findings released Tuesday laid the foundation for the House Judiciary Committee to assess potential articles of impeachment starting Wednesday, presenting a history-making test of political judgment with a case that is dividing Congress and the country.

Trump said he will not watch the judiciary panel's hearing, saying it's "all nonsense, they're just wasting their time."

Democrats once hoped to sway Republicans to consider Trump's removal, but they are now facing the prospect of an ever-hardening partisan split

over the swift-moving proceedings on impeaching the president.

The findings are expected to forcefully make the Democrats' case that Trump engaged in what Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., calls impeachable "wrongdoing and misconduct" in pressuring Ukraine to investigate Biden and Democrats while withholding military aid to the ally.

For Republicans offering an early rebuttal ahead of the report's public release, the proceedings are simply a "hoax," with Trump insisting he did nothing wrong and his GOP allies in line behind him. Trump tweeted his daily complaints about it all and then added a suggestive, if impractical, question: "Can we go to Supreme Court to stop?"

N. Korea threatens US with 'Christmas gift'

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea on Tuesday repeated its assertions that the Trump administration is running out of time to salvage nuclear negotiations, saying it's entirely up to the United States to choose what "Christmas gift" it gets from the North.

The statement, attributed to a senior diplomat, came as North Korea continues to dial up pressure on Washington and Seoul ahead of leader Kim Jong Un's end-of-year deadline for the U.S. to offer mutually acceptable terms for a deal.

Negotiations have faltered since a February summit between Kim and President Donald Trump broke down after the U.S. rejected North Korean demands for broad sanctions relief in exchange for a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

Working-level talks held in Sweden in October broke down

over what the North Koreans described as the Americans' "old stance and attitude."

Ri Thae Song, a vice foreign minister handling U.S. affairs, accused Washington of repeating talk offers aimed at buying time without offering solutions. Ri reiterated earlier North Korean statements that the country has no intention to continue nuclear diplomacy unless it gets something substantial in return.

"The dialogue touted by the U.S. is, in essence, nothing but a foolish trick hatched to keep the DPRK bound to dialogue and use it in favor of the political situation and election in the U.S.," Ri said, referring to North Korea by its formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"What is left to be done now is the U.S. option and it is entirely up to the U.S. what Christmas gift it will select to get," Ri said.

Wis. sees 2 school shootings in 2 days

Associated Press

OSHKOSH, Wis. — A police officer confronted an armed student at a Wisconsin high school Tuesday morning and both were wounded, police said, in the second such shooting at a school in the state in as many days.

The latest shooting happened at Oshkosh West High School just after 9 a.m., police spokeswoman Katherine Mann said at a news briefing. The student and the officer were taken to hospitals, but no one else was injured in the shooting, Mann said. Police will not be releasing details of the type of weapon the student was carrying, she said.

"This is a big deal," Mann said. "We're not that big of a city and we know pretty much everyone in the city and we know this affects a lot of people in our community."

An Oshkosh West student

identified only as Evelyn told WLUK-TV that she was in class when she heard screaming and her teacher walked out. "And then, like, after two minutes she ran back into the classroom and she was like, 'Everybody needs to evacuate right now!' And then we all ran out of the class and then we saw everybody from our school running to across the street."

Tuesday's shooting in Oshkosh, a city of about 67,000 people, was about 80 miles north of Monday's shooting in the Milwaukee suburb of Waukesha.

A police officer responding to a situation at Waukesha South High School shot an armed male student in a classroom. Officials say that student pointed a handgun at officers. The 17-year-old boy was wounded and is in custody in stable condition. No officers or other students were injured, Waukesha Police Chief Russell Jack said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Flight diverted after faked medical issue

FL TALLAHASSEE — A woman demanding a larger seat on an American Airlines flight was taken into custody after faking a medical condition that prompted the pilot to head back to a Florida airport.

Flight crews summoned authorities once the Miami-bound flight arrived back in Pensacola early Friday morning.

A Pensacola police spokesman said the plane was evacuated when the woman refused to deplane.

Authorities and the plane's pilot eventually removed the woman.

Police said she was taken into custody under Florida's Baker Act, which allows authorities to hold a person who could pose a threat to themselves or others.

Police: Man forgot loaded gun in eatery

TN FRANKLIN — Police in Tennessee said they were called to a Chick-fil-A restaurant after employees reported someone left a loaded gun in a bathroom stall.

The Tennessean reported Franklin police received calls from the restaurant saying someone had discovered the weapon around 9:30 p.m. Friday. Police said staffers secured the firearm until authorities arrived.

The owner of the gun later called and said he forgot his gun in the stall. The newspaper reported no charges have been filed.

Bill aims to name post office after Ernie Pyle

IN DANA — Republican Sens. Todd Young and

Mike Braun have introduced legislation to rename the post office in Dana after Ernie Pyle, the celebrated war correspondent who was born near the western Indiana town.

Pyle was reporting on the U.S. Army's 305th Infantry Regiment when he was killed on April 18, 1945, on the Japanese island of Ie Shima.

After studying journalism at Indiana University, Pyle won a Pulitzer Prize for his reporting on World War II.

Truck with beer waste topples on freeway

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A tanker truck tipped over on an Interstate 215 off-ramp in southern Davis County, blocking traffic and spilling 2,300 gallons of beer waste.

The Sunday incident was the second highway backup caused by a tipped and leaking tanker in Utah. Interstate 15 was closed in both directions for 10 hours in Lehigh on Saturday when a truck rolled and spilled butane, a flammable liquid.

KUTV reported the driver of the beer truck was not charged. South Davis Metro Fire said no injuries were reported.

Tumbleweed snowman to return for season

NM ALBUQUERQUE — A beloved snowman made of tumbleweeds is returning to Albuquerque.

The snowman goes up along Interstate 40 the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, called Tumbleweed Tuesday.

The Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority said the tradition goes back to 1995. The agency builds the snowman with tumbleweeds collected from arroyos in the metro area and with recycled material.

Field engineer Nolan Bennett said the tumbleweed used are bigger than the usual tumbleweed most people have on their property.

Last year's snowman was 8 feet tall and 12 feet wide.

Deal lets banished man return to state

KS WICHITA — A man who was banished from Kansas as a condition of a criminal plea deal could be allowed back in the state under a deal struck Monday, civil rights advocates said.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Kansas said in a news release that it has agreed to drop a civil lawsuit brought on behalf of Bo Dana Rupert in exchange for an amended Montgomery County plea agreement in a related criminal case against him.

Court transcripts show Rupert pleaded no contest in 2017 to three felony counts of making a criminal threat and three misdemeanor counts of filing a false report. He was sentenced to 12 months of probation, and the judge accepted a plea agreement under which he was banished from the state — two apparently incongruous terms.

Rupert left Kansas the next day and has never returned, according to the ACLU.

Two weeks after he was sentenced, Montgomery County issued an arrest warrant for Rupert stating he had violated the terms of his probation by not attending his probation meetings in Kansas.

Boy swarmed with cards gets good news

KY LOUISVILLE — The family of a 10-year-old Kentucky boy who received thousands of birthday cards during his last bout of chemo-

therapy has given him more great news: His cancer is now in remission.

News outlets reported Carter Matthew Willett's family announced the news Wednesday on a Facebook page documenting his illness. His most recent round of chemotherapy ended days earlier.

The family's video was posted about a year after Carter was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma and shows his mother, Kimberly Young Willett, sharing the news. Carter grins widely in response and then hugs his mom.

The page says Carter had a bump on his head since he was 4 months old, but it started to bother him last year. It was removed, and the family learned the bump had been a cancerous tumor.

Game wardens rescue stranded hunters

ME MILLINOCKET — Two hunters who got stuck on the ice are safe after Maine Game Wardens used a hovercraft to rescue them.

Officials said Jason Hartley, 42, and his nephew, Hunter Cote, 18, were trying to cross the Penobscot River in Millinocket on Saturday in an aluminum boat and towing a canoe. The pair, both from Millinocket, got stuck in ice that was too thin to walk on and too thick to break up with the boat.

Cote made it to shore, but as he tried to pull his uncle to shore in the canoe, the rope broke, sending Hartley down the river, where he got stuck in more ice.

Game Wardens used a hovercraft, which can operate in shallow moving water or ice, to rescue the men.

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STARS AND STRIPES®

Seahawks move into first in NFC West

Associated Press

SEATTLE — By the time the playoffs arrive, the Seattle Seahawks are going to feel just fine in a close, tight game.

Even when they're comfortably ahead, the Seahawks have a way of making the final minutes more than a little unnerving.

"Close games are cool, aren't they? I like them," Seattle coach Pete Carroll joked. "Maybe the 17 points was too much. Maybe we shouldn't have been ahead by that much."

Thanks to the combo of Rashaad Penny and Chris Carson, and one big strike from Russell Wilson, the Seahawks built a big second-half lead before holding off the Minnesota Vikings for a 37-30 win Monday night.

Penny scored one touchdown rushing and one receiving, and Wilson hit David Moore on a 60-yard touchdown pass as the

Seahawks scored 24 straight points to take control before needing to hold on late as the Vikings tried to rally.

Seattle (10-2) moved into a tie with San Francisco atop the NFC West but holds the tiebreaker. The Seahawks have the inside track to the division title with four games left.

"Just couldn't be more excited to have that kind of win and put us at 10 wins. That's a nice spot for this time," Carroll said. "We kick it into the fourth quarter and now it's finish time."

Minnesota (8-4) fell a game behind Green Bay in the NFC North and is only one game ahead of the Los Angeles Rams in the wild-card race. The Vikings lost star running back Dalvin Cook to a shoulder injury when he fumbled midway through the third quarter in what became a major turning point.

Cook said he believes he

should be able to play next week and took responsibility for the fumble.

"Everybody acts like this is the end of the world. We lost one game tonight," Minnesota coach Mike Zimmer said. "We're 8-4, we have four games left, three division games. This isn't the end of the world. We still have a lot of good football left to play."

Wilson wasn't great, but he came up with key plays as Seattle won its fifth straight. He had a forgettable first-half moment trying to bat down a deflected pass only to watch Anthony Harris intercept the ball and return it for a touchdown. Wilson was 21-for-31 for 240 yards.

The key was the running of Penny and Carson. Seattle rushed for 218 yards, the most allowed by Minnesota this season. Carson had 102, including a 1-yard TD. Penny added 74.

The Vikings were giving up just 94 yards per game rushing.

"Our running game has been a staple of our offense. That's our foundation and both of those guys are amazing backs. They're really coming on," Seattle offensive lineman Duane Brown said.

Minnesota quarterback Kirk Cousins was 22-for-38 for 276 yards but couldn't connect with Irv Smith Jr. on fourth-and-3 at the Vikings 42 with 2:31 left. Jason Myers' 36-yard field goal with 21 seconds left provided the final margin for Seattle.

"I think we have a football team that can go on the road in a tough environment and get a win. I think this is an opportunity we missed. It's disappointing," Cousins said.

It was a wild second half featuring 40 combined points and four key turnovers — three by Minnesota.

Washington's Petersen steps down after six seasons

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Chris Petersen has always worked according to his own schedule.

During eight seasons as the head coach at Boise State he brought the Broncos into the elite of college football, never in a rush to land the next big job despite being courted constantly by higher-profile schools.

When he finally decided to jump to Washington in 2013, Petersen realized he needed a new challenge and Boise State needed a new voice in charge.

And now after six seasons leading the Huskies, 14 overall as a head coach and more than 30 years in coaching, Petersen has decided it's time to step away.

"I'll be a Husky for life, but now is the right time for me to step away from my head coaching duties, and recharge," Petersen said.

Petersen unexpectedly resigned at Washington on Monday, a shocking announcement with the Huskies coming off a

7-5 regular season and bound for a sixth straight bowl game under his leadership. Petersen will coach the Huskies in the bowl game, his final game in charge of the program he helped grow back into national prominence.

Then Washington will be turned over to defensive coordinator Jimmy Lake, who is being promoted and tasked with continuing the Huskies' run of success over the past six seasons.

There will be no coaching search. Simply a succession plan that's seemed to be in place for several years while Lake was being sought for other jobs around the country.

The surprise is the timing.

The school said Petersen, 55, will move into a "leadership advisory role" within the athletic department. Petersen has been one of college football's most successful coaches over the last two decades, going 146-38 combined during his time at Boise State and Washington. With the

Huskies, Petersen has a 54-26 record, won two Pac-12 titles and took Washington to three New Year's Six bowl games, including an appearance in the national semifinals in 2016 and last year the school's first Rose Bowl trip since the 2000 season.

Petersen was also unbeaten against rival Washington State.

"It has been a privilege and a professional dream fulfilled to be part of this world-class institution," Petersen said. "I will forever be grateful, honored and humbled to have had the opportunity to coach our fine young men on Montlake for these past six seasons. I thank each of them, as well as our coaches and administrative staff for the incredible commitment they've made to Husky football during my tenure."

Petersen was finally persuaded to leave Boise State in 2013 after growing the Broncos into a national powerhouse. He was Washington's chosen successor to Steve Sarkisian, drawn to

the school by the history of the program and the opportunity to test himself on a bigger stage — while not leaving the comfort of a region where he had spent most of his professional career.

Within three seasons, Petersen had Washington playing Alabama in the Peach Bowl for the right to play for the national title. While the Huskies fell short that day, it was a major accomplishment for a program that less than a decade earlier had gone through an 0-12 season.

Washington was expected to be a contender in the Pac-12 again this year, but struggles to replace several key players on defense and an inconsistent offense led to a subpar campaign. The Huskies' 31-13 win over Washington State last Friday turned out to be Petersen's last home game.

Petersen, Lake and athletic director Jen Cohen were scheduled to speak at a news conference Tuesday.

Georgetown kicks 2 key players off team

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Georgetown sophomores James Akinjo and Josh LeBlanc will not play for the basketball team for the rest of the season.

Coach Patrick Ewing announced Monday the two are off the roster “effective immediately.” The written statement did not say why Akinjo and LeBlanc are gone from the Hoyas, who are off to a 4-3 start.

Without offering specifics on what led to either player’s departure, a university spokesperson issued another statement hours later, saying: “Georgetown takes student conduct issues very seriously and ensures that they are investigated thoroughly. While we are not able to comment on specific cases, we have processes for investigating and ad-

judicating alleged violations of our student code that are fair to both parties.”

Washington’s Metropolitan Police Department provided two incident reports, dating to September and centering on the same property in northwest Washington. They don’t identify either player by name. According to the reports, the victim charges one of the suspects with “showing her his erect clothed penis.”

A week later on Sept 16, three male suspects entered the property and took several items, including a camera and camera lens and two PlayStation controllers, according to one of the reports. When subsequently contacted by video call, the suspect threatened the victim, allegedly saying “If you tell anyone, we’ll send people after you.”

Akinjo, Georgetown’s start-

ing point guard, and LeBlanc, a front-court reserve, were two of Ewing’s top players, both among the top five scorers this season. They were a key part of a group the third-year coach hoped would help lead the school back to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since the 2014-15 season, when it made it under John Thompson III.

Akinjo was the 2018-19 freshman of the year in the Big East Conference, averaging 13.4 points and 5.2 assists, while making 39.1% of his three-point attempts. He started 32 of Georgetown’s 33 games and appeared in all of them.

Ewing said before this season he considered Akinjo and another sophomore, Mac McClung, one of the best backcourts in the country.

Akinjo was averaging 13.4 points and 4.4 assists this sea-

son for Georgetown, which has lost two straight games heading into a road trip — Oklahoma State on Wednesday and SMU on Saturday.

LeBlanc was averaging 7.2 points and 2.7 rebounds this season. He appeared in only six games because he was suspended for the team’s opener.

As a freshman, LeBlanc started the last 22 games and averaged 9.1 points and 7.3 rebounds, earning a spot on the Big East all-freshman team.

Georgetown opened this season 4-1, including an 82-66 victory over then-No. 22 Texas at Madison Square Garden. But Ewing’s team then lost 81-73 to then-No. 1 Duke in New York and 65-61 at home against UNC Greensboro last Saturday.

Georgetown won the 1984 national championship with Ewing at center. The team last reached the Final Four in 2007.

No. 22 Washington finally pulls away from S. Dakota

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Things are about to get serious for No. 22 Washington. Coach Mike Hopkins isn’t sure his Huskies are ready.

Washington beat South Dakota 77-55 on Monday night in what was ultimately a fairly easy game.

After the game, Hopkins appeared tired. The kind of tired when you know No. 9 Gonzaga is coming to town on Sunday and you have one warmup game this week to get ready.

“I think as coaches you’re not as optimistic as you’d like to be at this time of year,” Hopkins said. “But I think the one thing I learned over time as an assistant for years is every coach is complaining about their team this time of year. That’s why you play the preseason. You wish you could be perfect, but we’re not. You’ve just got to get better.”

The Huskies (6-1) took a step in that direction as their highly touted freshmen led the way again.

Jaden McDaniels scored 20 points and Isaiah Stewart added 16 points and 15 rebounds. The Huskies won their fourth straight game by defending the three-point line against the nation’s top long-distance shooting team, holding the Coyotes to just 17.4% from behind the arc.

South Dakota entered the game hitting 47.4% of its threes and featured college basketball’s best three-point shooter, Tyler Hagedorn. The Coyotes hit just four of 23 and the Huskies held Hagedorn, who had hit 18 of 24 threes coming in, without a three on five attempts. South Dakota has lost three of four.

Washington held South Dakota scoreless for stretches of more than three minutes three times in the first half. The longest was 5:55 and helped the Huskies put together a 13-2 run late in the first half.

McDaniels started the run with a three and a turnaround jumper from the baseline, part of a run of 10 consecutive points for the freshman forward. He added a floater on a drive and

a 17-foot jumper to end the run and put Washington up 32-23 at the break.

McDaniels’ 15 points in the first half had a lot to do with that lead, and so did the Huskies’ defense. They held the nation’s top three-point shooting team to 3-for-13 (23.1%) from behind the arc in the first half and 27.3% (9-for-33) overall.

Washington extended the run into the second half, scoring seven straight points to start the period, building a 39-23 lead on a pass from McDaniels to Stewart through traffic for a dunk on the fast break.

Stewart also played an important role on defense, directing his teammates to shooters while defending the paint in the low post.

“I have the eyes back there so I try to talk to my brothers out there, let them know when the shooter’s coming through, who’s in the high post,” Stewart said.

Stanley Umude led South Dakota with 17 points, Cody Kelly scored 11 and Hagedorn had 10.

The Coyotes cut the Huskies’ lead to four multiple times midway through the second half. But Stewart slammed home his own miss to make it 58-52 with 5:23 left and Washington pulled away from there, finishing the game on a 19-3 run.

Jamal Bey added 14 for the Huskies and Nahziah Carter had 12 points and nine rebounds.

Dominant D

No member of the Coyotes shot better than 50 percent in the team’s most difficult shooting game of the season. Hagedorn and Umude, picked as the Summit League’s preseason player of the year, missed 26 of their 37 combined shots and 10 of their 11 threes. The team made just one of 10 three-point attempts the second half.

“Defending the three-point shot is really, really important in college basketball,” Hopkins said. “It’s important for us. It’s what we stress every day. It hasn’t been great so far, but tonight it was pretty good.”

NBA roundup

Giannis' double-double propels Bucks

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Giannis Antetokounmpo needed only 14 minutes on the court to record another double-double, finishing with 29 points and 15 rebounds as the Milwaukee Bucks won their 12th straight game in a 132-88 rout of the New York Knicks on Monday night.

The Bucks (18-3) led by as many as 47 and cruised behind Antetokounmpo, who pulled down his 10th rebound with 4:43 left in the second quarter for his NBA-leading 20th double-double.

The reigning MVP shot 10-for-14 from the field, including 3-for-4 from three-point range, while playing 22 minutes. He exited with nearly five minutes left in the third quarter and the Bucks ahead 93-54.

"I watch and listen to him lead his guys," Knicks coach David Fizdale said. "He's just impressive. The league is in good hands, I know that, when you've got a guy like that at the top."

Milwaukee's winning streak is the longest in the NBA this season and the franchise's longest since the 1981-82 season. The Bucks own the league's best record, ahead of the Los Angeles Lakers (17-3).

"I think everybody shows up every day and they're hungry," Antetokounmpo said. "Nobody relaxes. We show up and do our job. We smile; we're having fun about it and it's nice. Usually teams tend to relax, but we don't do that."

Hawks 104, Warriors 79: Trae Young scored 24 points, rookie De'Andre Hunter added

18 and host Atlanta snapped a 10-game losing streak with a win over Golden State in a matchup of teams with the worst records in the NBA.

The Warriors (4-18) finished with a season low in points.

76ers 103, Jazz 94: Tobias Harris scored 26 points and Philadelphia beat Utah for its eighth win in nine games and 10th straight at home.

Rudy Gobert scored 27 points for the Jazz, who trailed by 40 points to Toronto a night earlier and faced an 18-point deficit against Philadelphia at the break.

Suns 109, Hornets 104: Kelly Oubre Jr. scored 23 points, including two clutch three-pointers in the final minute that lifted visiting Phoenix over Charlotte.

Devin Booker added 23 points for the Suns, who snapped a

three-game skid.

Pacers 117, Grizzlies 104: Malcolm Brogdon scored 19 points, Domantas Sabonis added 18 and visiting Indiana beat depleted Memphis.

Seven players scored in double figures for the balanced Pacers, including Myles Turner with 17 points. Jeremy Lamb and Justin Holiday had 15 apiece.

Bulls 113, Kings 106: Zach LaVine scored 28 points and made four free throws in the final 11 seconds, and visiting Chicago overcame a sloppy fourth quarter to beat Sacramento.

Lauri Markkanen had 20 points and seven rebounds, Wendell Carter added 10 points and 10 rebounds, and Tomas Satoransky scored 14 points as Chicago snapped a three-game losing streak.

NHL roundup

Blues blank Blackhawks, stretch winning streak to 4

Associated Press

CHICAGO — No Stanley Cup slump for St. Louis so far.

The Blues just keep rolling along.

Jake Allen made 38 saves, Brayden Schenn scored his team-leading 14th goal and St. Louis beat the short-handed Chicago Blackhawks 4-0 on Monday night for its fourth consecutive victory.

"Sometimes it might be boring hockey, but that's the way we play and that's the way we won last year and are continuing to have success," Allen said.

Jaden Schwartz, Tyler Bozak and Mackenzie MacEachern also scored for the Blues, who improved to 13-3-3 since star forward Vladimir Tarasenko was sidelined by a left shoulder injury that required surgery.

So much for that championship hangover. The Blues (18-

5-6) show no signs of slowing down coming off the franchise's first Stanley Cup title.

"We're a hard-working team," coach Craig Berube said. "We play good defense, play a North-South game. That's our identity and it works."

It was Allen's first shutout of the season and No. 20 for his career, matching Jaroslav Halak for second on the franchise list. Brian Elliott leads the way with 25.

"Hopefully a few more to come in the future," said Allen, who serves as the backup for Jordan Binnington. "But it's a credit to not just me but a lot of the boys in front of me doing a lot of hard work."

Chicago lost for the sixth time in seven games since a four-game winning streak.

Islanders 4, Red Wings 1: Jordan Eberle scored two goals and Semyon Varlamov made

30 saves as visiting New York handed Detroit its 10th straight defeat.

Anders Lee and Anthony Beauvillier also scored for the Islanders, who were outshot 31-25 but never trailed.

Golden Knights 4, Rangers 1: Alex Tuch scored twice in the first four minutes and visiting Vegas went on to a win over New York.

Reilly Smith and Max Pacioretty also scored to help the Golden Knights get their first three-game winning streak of the season. Malcolm Subban stopped 29 shots as Vegas improved to 5-2-1 after a season-high five-game skid (0-4-1).

Subban got the start while Marc-Andre Fleury is away from the team following his father's death.

Brendan Lemieux scored and Henrik Lundqvist finished with 28 saves for the Rangers,

who were 4-0-1 in their previous five games.

The Rangers went 0-for-6 on the power play against a Vegas team that came in tied for fifth in penalty-killing.

Sabres 7, Devils 1: Jack Eichel had a goal and two assists, and host Buffalo used a five-goal first period to beat New Jersey.

Eichel scored 2:46 into the game, and Conor Sheary scored twice during the first 20 minutes. Jeff Skinner and Rasmus Asplund also had goals in the first.

Ducks 4, Kings 2: Derek Grant scored two goals, Ryan Miller made 34 saves and host Anaheim beat Los Angeles in the first Freeway Faceoff rivalry game of the season.

Jakob Silfverberg scored his team-leading 10th goal as the Ducks won for just the third time in 13 games.