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\$4.4T budget sharply raises US deficit

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump unveiled a \$4.4 trillion budget for next year that heralds an era of \$1 trillion-plus federal deficits and — unlike the plan he released last year — never comes close to promising a balanced ledger, even after 10 years.

The growing deficits reflect, in part, the impact of last year's tax overhaul, which is projected to cause federal tax revenue to plummet. And Monday's budget submission does not yet reflect last week's two-year, bipartisan, \$300 billion pact that wholly rejects Trump's plans to slash domestic agencies.

Tax revenue would plummet by \$3.7 trillion during the 2018-27 decade, the budget projects.

The spending spree, along with last year's tax cuts, has the deficit moving sharply higher with Republicans in control of Washington. Trump's plan sees a 2019 deficit of \$984 billion, though \$1.2 trillion is more plausible after last week's budget pact and \$90 billion worth of disaster aid is tacked on. That's more than double the 2019 deficit the administration promised last year.

All told, the new budget sees accumulating deficits of \$7.2 trillion over the coming decade; Trump's plan last year projected a 10-year shortfall of \$3.2 trillion.

The 2019 budget originally was designed to double down on last year's proposals to slash foreign aid, the Environmental Protection Agency, home heating assistance and other non-defense programs funded by Congress each year.

"A lot of presidents' budgets are ignored. But I would expect this one to be completely irrelevant and totally ignored," said Jason Furman, a top economic adviser to President Barack Obama.

In a preview of Monday's release, the White House on Sunday focused on Trump's \$1.5 trillion plan for the nation's crumbling infrastructure. He also is asking for a \$13 billion increase over two years for opioid prevention, treatment and long-term recovery. A request for \$23 billion for border security, including \$18 billion for a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border and money for more detention beds for detained immigrants, is part of the budget, too.

Trump again would spare Social Security retirement benefits and Medicare as he promised during the 2016 campaign. And while his plan would reprise last year's attempt to scuttle the "Obamacare" health care law and sharply cut back the Medicaid program for the elderly, the poor and the disabled, Trump's allies on Capitol Hill have signaled there's no interest in tackling hot-button health issues during an election year.

The budget also endorses a plan by Sens. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Bill Cassidy, R-La., to replace the Obama-era health law with \$1.6 trillion in subsidies to states in the coming decade.

It reprises proposals from last year's Trump budget to curb crop insurance costs, to cut student loan subsidies, to reduce pension benefits for federal workers and to cut food stamps, among other proposals.

Mick Mulvaney, the former tea party congressman who runs the Office of Management and Budget, said Sunday that Trump's new budget, if implemented, would tame the deficit over time. "The budget does bend the trajectory down, it does move us back towards balance. It does get us away from trillion-dollar deficits," Mulvaney said on "Fox News Sunday."

Pentagon seeks \$686.1B to restore and rebuild military

By Corey Dickstein

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON—The Pentagon is seeking a 10 percent hike in funding, asking Congress for \$686.1 billion next year to grow the size and might of the U.S. military while investing in modern hardware, primarily in response to China and Russia's growing capabilities.

The Defense Department's fiscal year 2019 budget request, unveiled Monday, asks lawmakers to fund an increase of more than 15,000 active-duty troops and invest in key modernization programs to rebuild the United States' long-held battlefield capability advantages over Russia and China.

"Great power competition, not terrorism, has emerged as the central challenge to U.S. security and prosperity," said David Norquist, the Defense Department comptroller. "The U.S. seeks cooperation with our competitors from a position of strength ... (but) the U.S. must be prepared to compete, deter war and, if necessary, fight and win."

It means the Pentagon needs more money, especially after operating through the current fiscal year under a continuing resolution, a stopgap funding measure that appropriates money to the Pentagon at fiscal year 2017 levels — about \$611 billion for the year, Norquist said.

The Pentagon's request dwarfs the military budgets of China, Russia and other potential foes including Iran and North Korea, identified in recent strategy documents as the primary threats to America's security. Norquist said Monday the proposed budget takes the initial steps to "restore and rebuild" the U.S. military, as President Donald Trump has pledged.

The budget represents a \$74 billion increase over the Defense Department's current funding. It calls for \$617.1 billion in base funding and \$69 billion for Overseas Contingency Operations, which pays for ongoing actions in war zones like Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, as well as reassurance operations in Europe. The request does not include national defense money for the Department of Energy and other agencies that contribute to the Trump administration's overall national defense request of \$716 billion.

It marks the second request under Trump, far surpassing the \$639.1 billion his administration asked for last year, which drew criticism from Capitol Hill defense hawks who called for higher military spending.

If enacted, the Pentagon's budget request would include money to build 10 Navy ships, including three guided-missile destroyers, two Virginia-class submarines and one littoral combat ship. It also would fund more than 400 new aircraft, including 77 F-35 Joint Strike Fighters, 24 F/A-18E Super Hornet fighters, 60 AH-64 Apache helicopters and 68 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

The budget would also jumpstart the Pentagon's rebuild of its nuclear infrastructure, which it committed to do in the Nuclear Posture Review released this month. The request includes \$7.77 billion in upgrades to U.S. nuclear programs, including \$2.3 billion for its nuclear-capable B-21 Raider heavy bomber.



Saudi terrorist testifies about perks at Gitmo

Miami Herald

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — A tortured al-Qaida terroristturned-prosecution witness is being rewarded with a comfortable, cabin-style lockup where he can garden, paint, exercise, learn English, cook meals for his interrogators and attorneys and watch American

In sworn testimony Saturday, Ahmed al Darbi, 42, described changing from a lying, feces-flinging prisoner with a bad behavior record in the maximum-security Camp Five prison to a cooperating witness now cloistered in Camp Echo, an annex of the prison compound across the street.

Darbi has his own kitchen with a freezer stocked with meat and spices, and has other never-before-disclosed perks to pass his time while preparing to testify as a witness for the war court prosecutor in two cases, one that seeks the death penalty. The prison provides him with lamb, rabbit, chicken, shrimp and other halal meat, he said.

Darbi is scheduled to go home to a Saudi rehabilitation program on Feb. 20 under a plea agreement if diplomats can close the deal and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis approves the release. Four years ago, he pleaded guilty to being an accomplice in a 2002 al-Qaida attack on a French oil tanker, the Limburg, in Yemeni waters.

Last year he recorded testimony to be used as possible evidence against the alleged mastermind of the attack, Abd al Rahim al Nashiri. Also, he has testified about his life as an al-Qaida jihadi and pointed to an Iraqi captive in court and identified him as a former al-Qaida commander named Abd al Hadi al Iraqi to counter the Iraqi's claim that his true name is Nashwan al Tamir.

This past weekend, Hadi's attorneys questioned Darbi on the truthfulness of his statements and memory for what could be used as time-capsule testimony if the Trump administration releases him.

Darbi got to Guantanamo 14 months after it opened. He testified Sunday that he was kept in solitary confinement, deprived of sleep and subjected to midnight-to-dawn, no-bathroom-break questioning in an interrogation room stinking of urine and vomit. Threats included rape and sending him to Israel or Camp X-Ray.

Now, Darbi has a battery-powered toothbrush, a Magic Bullet blender, free weights, a spin bike, and Under Armour T-shirts and socks to wear when he works out.

"Yes, Nike also," he told Miller. "Don't forget that."

Report: Niger ambush probe to call for mission scrutiny

By John Vandiver

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A military investigation into an ambush last year in Niger in which four U.S. soldiers were killed is expected to recommend tighter oversight of elite forces on the ground and higher command approval for dangerous patrols in the region.

A draft of the U.S. Africa Command report on the Oct. 4 attack by Islamic Stateaffiliated militants calls for reducing the number of U.S. ground missions in Niger and stripping field commanders of authority to dispatch troops on risky missions, The New York Times reported Saturday.

Operations will be subject to more scrutiny and may require approval from senior leaders at AFRICOM headquarters in Stuttgart and at the Pentagon, the Times reported, citing unnamed military officials.

Commanders in Niger currently have the authority to make decisions on when to launch reconnaissance patrols.

The report, which is expected to be released publicly in the coming weeks, also found a series of missteps on the ground, such as "a breakdown in communications that may have stemmed from a failure by members of the American and Nigerien team, and their superiors, to check their equipment before heading out on the Oct. 4 mission," the Times reported.

AFRICOM said Monday that the investigation remains ongoing.

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, speaking to reporters Sunday, said he still needed to review the final report.

"That report is making its way to me. It's not yet been sent to me," he said. "I would expect it as soon as the AFRICOM commander has reviewed it. It is extensive. It is thousands of pages long."

For several years, U.S. forces have been operating outside the public eye in Niger, where troops have worked alongside indigenous forces to counter various extremist groups.

Even before the Oct. 4 ambush, forces in Niger have come under occasional fire while conducting joint reconnaissance patrols with their Nigerien counterparts. However, the October ambush of a 12person U.S. special operations team led to an outcry in Washington. Some lawmakers claimed they were largely unaware of military activities in the region, despite White House letters advising Congress of troop levels.

The Times reported that the AFRICOM investigation would produce three reports — one classified, one for the public and one for the families of the slain soldiers Sgt. La David Johnson, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah W. Johnson, Staff Sgt. Bryan C. Black and Staff Sgt. Dustin M. Wright.

U.S. military operations have intensified in Africa in the past several years, with Libya and Somalia being the focus. Scores of airstrikes have been conducted in both countries, where U.S. troops also conduct occasional raids. So far, there is no indication that events in Niger — and the possible scaling back of some operations on the ground there — will prompt similar calls for curtailment in Somalia.

Smith tapped to command SOCEUR

By John Vandiver

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Air Force Brig. Gen. Kirk W. Smith has been tapped to serve as the next head of U.S. Special Operations Command Europe, bringing recent NATO experience to the Stuttgart headquarters, the Pentagon announced Friday.

Smith, who has been selected for promotion to major general, now oversees NATO special operations efforts in Afghanistan out of Bagram Air Base.

Smith will replace Maj. Gen. Mark

Schwartz in Stuttgart this spring. Schwartz, who assumed command of SOCEUR in June 2016, will next serve as deputy commander for the Joint Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Smith comes to Germany at a time of transition for U.S. Europe Command, which contends with a resurgent Russia in the east and instability to the south.

Along NATO's eastern flank, U.S. special operations forces have been a quiet but steady presence as troops conduct a range of training missions with allies.

Smith graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1989.

US, Egypt steadfast in ISIS fight

Associated Press

CAIRO — The United States and Egypt on Monday reaffirmed their commitment to battle Islamic militants in the Middle East as U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson held talks with Egyptian officials in Cairo at the start of his weeklong trip to the region.

Tillerson and his Egyptian counterpart, Sameh Shoukry, cited productive discussions on regional security and the struggle against Islamic State, whose Egyptian affiliate, based in the Sinai Peninsula, has struck military and civilian targets across the Arab world's most populous country.

At a joint news conference with Shoukry, Tillerson said Egypt was an important part of the anti-ISIS coalition and that Washington was "committed to strengthening this partnership in the years to come."

"We agreed that we would continue our close cooperation on counterterrorism measures, including our joint commitment to the defeat of ISIS," Tillerson said.

"We highly value the support the U.S. gives us in this war," Shoukry said.

The visit comes as Egypt is undertaking a major military operation in Sinai, where Islamic militants have been leading an insurgency for years, and in remote areas of the mainland where extremists have attacked security forces and civilians.

The campaign also comes ahead of March elections in which President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi faces no serious competitors after authorities sidelined his opponents using a variety of charges and disqualifications, leaving only a little-known supporter to run against him.

El-Sissi, who will hold talks with Tillerson later in the day, says he is the only one who can bring stability to the country. Militant attacks, however, have surged under his leadership.

Washington, which gives Egypt some \$1.3 billion in an-

nual military assistance and hundreds of millions more in civilian aid, withheld some of the funding last summer, ostensibly over new Egyptian legislation that blocks much foreign funding of nongovernmental organizations, especially those involved in human rights research.

Asked about his country's view of the upcoming vote, Tillerson said the U.S. always advocates for free and fair elections and would continue to do so. He did not specifically mention el-Sissi's virtually uncontested election, or the aid being withheld.

"We have always advocated for free and fair elections, transparent elections, not just for Egypt but any country," Tillerson said.

After his talks with el-Sissi, Tillerson is traveling to Kuwait, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, where he will meet local officials as well as Saudi, Emirati, Iraqi and Syrian delegations.

Tourists in Grand Canyon helo crash ID'd

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Three British people who died in a helicopter crash at the Grand Canyon were in the American Southwest to celebrate one of their birthdays, a trip they had been looking forward to for a long time, family and friends said.

They were identified early Monday as veterinary receptionist Becky Dobson, 27; her boyfriend, Stuart Hill, 30; and his brother, Jason Hill, 32. Dobson's father, Peter Dobson, told Britain's Press Association news agency that the three were staying in Las Vegas for a long weekend.

From there, they took a helicopter to the west rim of the Grand Canyon where it crashed under unknown circumstances Saturday evening on the Hualapai reservation outside the boundaries of Grand Canyon National Park. The three died and four others, including the pilot, were injured.

Peter Dobson said his daughter and Stuart Hill "were really happy together" and they were celebrating his birthday with a group of friends.

The group was traveling aboard a Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters chopper near Quartermaster Canyon. Crews tackled difficult terrain in a remote area to try to recover the victims' bodies.

A witness said he saw flames and black smoke spewing from the crash site, heard explosions and saw victims who were bleeding and badly burned.

"It's just horrible," witness Teddy Fujimoto said. "And those victims — she was so badly burned. It's unimaginable, the pain."

Windy conditions, darkness and the rugged terrain made it difficult to reach the helicopter's wreckage, Hualapai Nation police Chief Francis Bradley said. Rescue crews had to fly in, walk to the crash site and use night-vision goggles to find their way around, he said.

The survivors were airlifted to a Las Vegas hospital by around 2 a.m. Sunday, Bradley said. All six passengers were from the United Kingdom.

Trump aide expects memo release

Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Democrats on the House Intelligence Committee are prepared to black out parts of their memo about the FBI's Russia investigation to ensure there's no harmful spilling of secrets, then try again to get President Donald Trump to let it come out. A White House aide said he's confident it will be released once Democrats "clean it up."

That possible nudge toward progress came as both sides traded steamy recriminations over the matter.

Rep. Adam Schiff, of California, senior Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, said Trump is putting his personal interest above the country's in blocking a memo that "completely undermines his claim of vindication" in special counsel Robert Mueller's continuing investigation of the

2016 Trump campaign's relationship with Russian interests and Russia's meddling in the election. "The president doesn't want the public to see the underlying facts," Schiff said Sunday on CBS's "Face the Nation."

The White House legislative director, Marc Short, countered that Democrats padded their memo with sensitive information, knowing Trump would stop its release, in an effort to make him look obstructionist.

"We're not afraid of transparency," Short said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "I think you're going to see us release the memo."

Trump overrode strong Justice Department objections when he declassified a Republican memo alleging an abuse of surveillance powers in the FBI's Russia investigation. The FBI expressed "grave concerns" about the memo's accuracy, and

the Justice Department said in advance that its release, without proper review, would be "extraordinarily reckless."

But Trump has blocked the Democratic document, which tries to counter the Republican allegations of surveillance excesses. The president has the authority to keep such information under wraps, and exercised it only against the Democrats.

"Their goal here is to put the FBI on trial, to put Bob Mueller's investigation on trial, and the president is only too happy to accommodate," Schiff said.

Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Caif., chairman of the intelligence panel, said if Democrats were intent on making important information public, they should get to work. "Their memo is sitting at the House Intelligence Committee, down at the bottom of the Capitol, waiting to be redacted," he told Fox News.



Power back after Puerto Rico blackout

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Officials with Puerto Rico's power company said Monday they have restored power to most customers who were hit by a blackout overnight after a fire at a substation, a setback that added to the U.S. territory's struggle to recover from Hurricane Maria and years of deteriorating infrastructure.

Two power plants that were knocked offline by the fire were repaired by dawn, while crews were still trying to repair two substations, power company spokesman Geraldo Quinones told The Associated Press. Power had returned to Puerto Rico's largest public hospital and its main international airport.

Quinones said he could not provide any numbers on how many customers remained without power as a result of Sunday's outage, which affected the island's northern region. "They'll be working throughout today to fully restore service," he said, adding that authorities are investigating what caused the fire.

Union leader Angel Figueroa said in a phone interview that a breaker normally would have prevented the incident, but that it's too early to say if the problem was due to mechanical failure or lack of maintenance amid an 11-year recession.

"It's very strange what happened," he said.

The outage adds to the woes of an island still struggling to fully restore power more than five months after Hurricane Maria started the longest blackout in U.S. history. More than 400,000 power customers remain in the dark after the Category 4 storm destroyed two-thirds of the island's power distribution system and caused up to an estimated \$94 billion in damage.

The blast also illustrated the challenges of restoring a power grid that was already crumbling before it was devastated by the storm.

In many cases, power workers are repairing equipment that should have long been replaced but remained online due to the power authority's long financial crisis. The stateowned power company is worth roughly \$4 billion, carries \$9 billion in debt and has long been criticized for political patronage and inefficiency. It also has suffered frequent blackouts, including an islandwide outage in September 2016.

Puerto Rico's governor announced last month that he plans to privatize the company, which relies on infrastructure nearly three times older than the industry average. It would be the largest restructuring of a public entity in U.S. history.

One week after his announcement, a federal control board overseeing the island's finances asked that a judge authorize a loan of up to \$1.3 billion so the power company can keep operating. The board said the company could see an estimated \$1.2 billion loss in revenue in the first six months after Hurricane Maria.

Brazil's politicians targets at Carnival parade

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — There are some Brazilians who probably aren't finding much to enjoy in Rio de Janeiro's colorful Carnival parades — the mayor, the governor and the president.

An anti-establishment tone is echoing through this year's celebrations in Brazil. Sunday night's parade at Rio's Sambadrome featured entries that blasted the country's political leadership at a moment of economic slump and political scandal.

President Michel Temer, Rio de Janeiro state Gov. Luiz Fernando Pezao and Rio Mayor Marcelo Crivella were expected to skip the two-day bash at the Sambadrome. The samba parades used to be a magnet for politicians before a sprawling corruption investigation around state-run oil giant Petrobras began in 2014. Now officeholders fear being booed and even attacked by critics.

Temer, whose popularity is in single digits, spent his last Carnival as president with a group of 40 people on a military-guarded beach south of Rio. Earlier, a few hundred revelers in the capital of Brasilia organized a street party to make fun of his poor health and his unpopular pension overhaul.

Crivella was photographed by the newspaper O Globo at Sao Paulo's international airport near the time the parade began.

In the Sambadrome or at street parties, Carnival revelers usually take the five-day extravaganza to forget everyday problems,

and most of them will do just that. But the political message is more present than in recent years.

"This has been the most political bash since the middle of the '80s when Brazil's military dictatorship was about to end," Carnival historian Luiz Antonio Simas said. "Brazil has been mired in political chaos and corruption scandals, and people want to vent their frustrations at the same time they want to be in the party. That is a great mix for Carnival."

Brazil is holding a presidential election in October, and the results are hard to predict in a polarized society. The front-runner in opinion polls is former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, but he faces a growing risk of being arrested following a corruption conviction.

Da Silva has also been a polarizing figure at Carnival, with supporters using costumes and banners criticizing Brazil's judiciary in his defense and adversaries bringing dolls of the former president in prison clothing.

In Rio, though, the most criticized politician is the mayor.

Mangueira, one of Rio's most popular samba schools, prepared a float featuring a plastic butt with Crivella's name on it. Since taking office last year, the evangelical bishop-turned-politician has cut city funding for samba schools and avoided the bash.

A shirt popular among revelers says

"Carnival will kick the Crivella out of you." Earrings, tiaras and banners have also been used against the mayor, who has said he has nothing against Carnival but considers it to be "only a party."

"The mayor has no idea what Carnival is and doesn't separate his religion from our city's most important party," said Lucia Araujo, who was wearing a "Fora Crivella" (Crivella out) tiara at a street party. "This tiara doesn't mean I don't want all the others out, too. These politicians are destroying our hope for a better Brazil, they all need to go."

Sao Paulo Mayor Joao Doria, who was until recently seen as a presidential hopeful, heard insults as he visited that city's sam-

hands and take photos with singer Zeca Pagodinho, who is also a friend of da Silva's.

Other samba schools had a broader, but also political theme.

Paraiso do Tuiuti featured plastic ducks manipulated by puppeteers, in a reference to a giant plastic duck used by conservatives to complain about Brazil's high taxes during demonstrations two years ago pushing for the impeachment of then-President Dilma Rousseff. The group's float also had a vampire wearing the presidential sash under several false dollar bills.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Beach is beset by stinging men-of-war

MELBOURNE — Beachgoers in one part of central Florida are encountering dozens of stinging sea creatures known as the Portuguese man-of-war.

Florida Today reported that a number of people on Brevard County beaches have suffered stings from the animals. Officials said most of the stings occur when people pick the creatures up on the beach, rather than in the water.

Man-of-war warnings were posted at some of the northern county beaches Saturday. There were reports of stings as far south as the Sebastian River State Park.

Boston skyline to be lit in blue for hospital

BOSTON — Boston's skyline is being illuminated in blue to support a local children's hospital.

City Hall, the Zakim Bridge, the Prudential Tower, the TD Garden and dozens of other city landmarks are turning on blue lights on Thursday to show support for Boston's Children's Hospital. More than 35 sky-scrapers and structures will light up in the hospital's signature color when a patient flips a switch at sunset.

The hospital says the lighting and a related fundraising campaign are meant to provide young patients with "hope and light" during the dark days of winter.

Police: Homeless man attacked by 20 to 30

NEW YORK — Police in New York said a homeless man suffered injuries after a group of 20 to 30 people

attacked him while he was on a train, and two teens have been taken into custody.

Police said the 29-year-old man was on a northbound A-train about 9:30 p.m. Saturday when he was attacked as it approached the Columbus Circle station in Manhattan. He was taken to a local hospital for treatment of minor facial injuries.

A spokesman for the New York Police Department said a girl and a boy, both 16, are in custody. They face possible assault charges.

Rescued beluga whale is going to SeaWorld

AK KENAI — Officials said a rescued Cook Inlet beluga whale soon will call SeaWorld San Antonio home.

The Peninsula Clarion reported National Marine Fisheries Service official Kate Brogan said the Texas location is the best fit for the whale, named Tyonek, which has become both nutritionally and socially dependent and lacks the survival and socialization skills that are necessary for life in the wild.

The National Marine Fisheries Service in January began reviewing applications for which facility would make the best home for the whale, which has been under care of experts from the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward since he was found in September in south-central Alaska.

Police dog honored for capturing suspect

CROWN POINT — A police dog that captured a double-murder suspect in December has been honored by a northwestern Indiana city.

Crown Point's City Council recently named Radar and his

officer handler, Stanko Gligic, the city's employees of the month.

Gligic sent Radar to track down double-murder suspect Robert Stewart on Dec. 26 after the armed Merrillville man fled police. The dog led officers about a mile to a backyard shed.

The Times of Munster reported Gligic commanded Stewart to step outside and disarm but he didn't cooperate. He then sent Radar inside and the dog dragged Stewart enough outside the shed for police officers to take him into custody.

Stewart is charged in the shooting deaths of Ryan Halbe, 27, and his mother, Candy Halbe, 55.

Dozens of teens cited over alcohol party

JAMAICA — More than 50 teens from New Jersey are in trouble in Vermont, where state police say troopers broke up a party involving a "vast quantity" of alcohol.

Police said they were responding to an unrelated vandalism case in Jamaica early Sunday morning when they found 55 underage high school seniors from New Jersey, the alcohol and some marijuana. Troopers collected the alcohol, supervised the teens as they destroyed it, called their parents and issued them paperwork for juvenile court diversion programs.

Judge arrested in prostitution sting

NAPLES — A Florida judge was arrested along with five other men in an undercover police prostitution sting.

The Naples Daily News reported that Lee County Circuit

Judge Jay B. Rosman was arrested along with the others after arranging to meet someone Friday they thought was a prostitute but who was actually an undercover Naples police officer. A police report says Rosman, 64, offered to pay \$300 for an unspecified sex act.

A spokeswoman for the Lee County courts confirmed the arrest and said Rosman was released on bail.

Bus driver takes gun from kindergartner

OH ALLIANCE — Authorities in northeast Ohio are investigating how a 5-year-old boy managed to carry a loaded handgun onto a school bus.

The Alliance Review reported the kindergartner thought the .32-caliber revolver he put into his backpack for show-andtell at an Alliance elementary school was a pellet gun.

A bus driver took the weapon from the boy Friday morning and gave it to police when they arrived at school.

Police said the boy lives with his grandmother and Stark County's children's services agency has been notified.

High school is treated after bed bugs found

WOONSOCKET

— Woonsocket High
School has undergone a professional pest control treatment
following reported incidents of
bed bugs.

WPRI-TV reported a letter sent out by the superintendent of Woonsocket schools said that on Thursday one bed bug was detected in a classroom, which was subsequently treated by custodial staff that evening. On Friday, two students were seen by the high school nurse.

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Anderson wins slopestyle gold

Associated Press

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Jamie Anderson will almost certainly spend more time gazing at her newest Olympic gold medal than watching replays of the slopestyle run she put down to win it.

Nobody, not even the Olympic champion, would want to relive the ugliness that played out Monday on the sport's biggest stage.

The day Anderson cemented herself as an all-time great by defending her Olympic title will also go down as one of the most unpleasant, dangerous days snowboarding has ever seen.

Shifting, bitter winds whipped tiny ice pellets across the iced-over jumps at the Phoenix Snow Park and stiffened the orange-colored wind socks in one direction, then another. Hundreds of numbed fans streamed toward the exits while the action was ongoing, and the stands were half empty as the afternoon wore on, with wind chills dipping to 5 degrees Fahrenheit and below.

Twenty-five riders each took two trips down a course that, by many of their accounts, should not have been open for action. Of the 50 runs, 41 ended with a rider on her backside, or in a face plant, or, in the case of Canadian Spencer O'Brien and a few others, in a slow ride toward the bottom after simply pulling up because they couldn't build enough speed to reach the crest of a jump.

"All I wanted to do," said fourth-place finisher Silje Norendal, "was sit up top and cry."

This was not just sour grapes.

Even Anderson — the sport's biggest gamer and its No. 1 bigday rider — conceded, "I'm not extremely proud of my run." Her modest score of 83 still resulted in a blowout of nearly seven points over silver medalist Laurie Blouin of Canada.

But really, what was Anderson to do? After the qualifying round was scrubbed due to wind a day earlier, all the riders were summoned back for a two-run final and ordered by their world ranking, giving the top-ranked American the privilege of going last.

After watching rider after rider fail to make her way down the course during Run 1, Anderson added a little wax to her board and stood on top, hoping for a 60-second stretch of calm

that would allow her to simply stay upright.

"It was a lottery," O'Brien

Two weeks ago, Anderson won the Winter X Games with a cab double cork 900 — two head-over-heels flips with $2\frac{1}{2}$ twists mixed in. It was one of the gold standards in a sport that prides itself on — in fact, lives for — progression, sometimes at the cost of safety, sanity and everything else.

On this day, Anderson was never tempted to try that kind of trick. Her three jumps at the bottom consisted of a backside 540, a cab 540 and a front 720 — $1\frac{1}{2}$ twists, $1\frac{1}{2}$ twists and two twists. It was the sort of run that might've won a contest in, say, 2005 — if the rest of the riders were having an off day.

Anderson owned the fact that she won by simply surviving, and also took credit for being one of the few snowboarders who actually wanted to ride.

"I was trying to keep the spirits high, like, 'Let's run it," she said. "A handful of the girls were like, 'No, it's not safe,' and things like that. It's not like what we're doing is safe, anyhow."

Kim qualifies with top score in halfpipe

Associated Press

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Snowboarder Chloe Kim was close to her best in leading the qualifying round of the women's halfpipe at the Olympics on Monday. For that, she was off to get some ice cream.

American teammate Kelly Clark was nowhere near her best over her qualifying runs. Because of that, she had a long, drawn-out wait.

Clark advanced — barely. It was too close for comfort for the three-time Olympic medalist.

"Tomorrow is a new day," said Clark, who finished in 11th place, with the top 12 advancing to the final on Tuesday. "Today was a fluke."

The blustery conditions that wreaked havoc across the way on the slopestyle course at the Pyeongchang Games played a factor on the halfpipe, as well. But more than anything, for Clark, nerves played a role. Not that that's a bad thing.

"You know, if you didn't get nervous you wouldn't care enough," Clark said. "It still takes everything I have and requires all of me to be my best."

Clark stumbled on the last trick of her first run and didn't have her customary impeccable pass through the pipe on her second. No matter, she's moving on, along with all of her teammates. Teenager Maddie Mastro was fourth and Arielle Gold grabbed the 12th and final spot.

The afternoon really belonged to Kim, the California teenager whose parents are from South Korea. She landed a superb first run and increased the difficulty on her second — posting a score of 95.50, which was quite a bit ahead of the next finisher, Liu Jiayu of China.

Immediately after finishing for the day, Kim said her plan was to go get ice cream despite the frigid conditions. Her favorite flavor: vanilla Swiss almond.

"But I'll be OK with mango sorbet," Kim said.

Nagasu helps Americans to bronze

Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — Mirai Nagasu and Adam Rippon shared tears of sorrow when they were left off the Olympic team four years ago, each of them passed over in decisions that could have gone either way.

They shed tears of joy together Monday.

The veteran figure skaters put together flawless back-to-back performances, Nagasu becoming the first American woman to land a triple axel in the Olympics, Rippon nailing both of his triple axels. They helped earn the United States the bronze medal in the team competition.

Canada won the gold medal, with the Russians taking the silver.

"For both of us to be on this team, and to be on the same floor in the village, it's all super exciting," Nagasu said. "He won't stop talking about how exciting this all is, and I go: 'Adam! Adam! You know we still have a job to get done? We still have to skate well!"

They skated better than well. It was Rippon who led off the final day of the team event, when the Americans were still in a nip-and-tuck struggle with Italy for the podium. The 28-year-old, wearing a sequined outfit that sparkled like a million diamonds, dumped a planned quad lutz but other-

wise ripped through his routine with confidence and precision.

His jumps were sharp. His lines were smooth. His emotion, as usual, was worn on his sleeves.

Rippon thrust his arms out with a triumphant grin when he finished his program, basking in a loud ovation from a crowd filled with plenty of American fans. He finished with 172.9 points, less than a point behind Russian skater Mikhail Kolyada and less than seven points behind Patrick Chan, part of the winning Canadian squad.

More importantly, he finished ahead of Italian skater Matteo Rizzo to build on the U.S. cushion.

Medals roundup

Wurst captures gold; US shut out in 1,500

Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea
— Very few can rise to the occasion quite like Ireen Wust.

The Dutchwoman set the record for most Olympic medals in speedskating by winning the 1,500 meters on Monday, spurred on by a bitter loss on the opening day of competition.

"Only gold is the one that counts for me," Wust said, reflecting on the medal that eluded her by only 0.08 seconds in the 3,000 on Saturday.

Two days after that disappointing silver medal, Wust stormed back with a stirring last lap to win the 1,500 and turn the Oval into another Dutch party scene.

Wust won her fifth Olympic gold medal, and her 10th medal overall, beating the record set by Claudia Pechstein. She finished ahead of Miho Takagi of Japan on Monday, while Marrit Leenstra made sure two more speedskating medals went to the Netherlands.

After three events, the Dutch have won six of the nine medals. It was nearly seven but Takagi's silver broke up another Dutch sweep and left Lotte van Beek in fourth.

"I am not able to count right now but I think it will be like Sochi," Wust said of the Games four years ago when the Dutch won 23 of 36 medals.

Yet again, orange was the color of the Oval while American teammates Brittany Bowe and Heather Bergsma slumped to fifth and eighth, respectively.

Ski jumping: After dominating the ski jumping World Cup this season, Maren Lundby wasn't about to be denied on the sport's biggest stage.

The 23-year-old Norwegian overcame frigid temperatures Monday to win the women's ski jumping normal hill gold medal at the Pyeongchang Olympics.

Lundby, who has won seven

of 10 events this season, nailed a jump of 110 meters for 264.6 points to capture Norway's second gold medal of the games.

Katharina Althaus of Germany was second, followed by Sara Takanashi of Japan.

Biathlon: It was hard to imagine Martin Fourcade staying down for long.

Sure enough, the world's most dominant biathlete bounced back with a vengeance Monday to win Olympic gold in the men's 12.5-kilometer pursuit in dominating fashion. The victory came after an uncharacteristically poor eighth-place performance in the opening sprint race Sunday that left the world's No. 1 biathlete questioning himself.

Fourcade's victory came after Laura Dahlmeier gave Germany its third straight gold medal in the biathlon — and her second overall — in the women's 10-kilometer pursuit.

Dahlmeier is 2-for-2 in gold medal opportunities at the Pyeongchang Games and is the first woman to win the sprint and the pursuit in the same Olympics since the latter race was added as an event in 2002.

Dahlmeier was nearly perfect again in her second race, connecting on 19 of 20 shots to cruise to victory by more than 29 seconds. Anastasiya Kuzmina of Slovakia was second and Anais Bescond of France took bronze.

Men's moguls: Canada's Mikael Kingsbury stormed his way to gold in men's moguls, filling the one hole in his résumé with a dynamic performance in the final round on Monday night.

Kingsbury, a six-time world champion and silver medalist in Sochi four years ago, posted a score of 86.63, the best of any in the three elimination rounds.

Matt Graham of Australia took silver and Daichi Hara of Japan earned bronze, each picking up the first medal of the games for their countries.

Colts hire Eagles' OC Reich as head coach

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts' second choice for head coach could turn out to be even better than the first.

And Frank Reich has the Super Bowl championship gear to prove it.

Five days after New England Patriots offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels reneged on a deal to take the Colts' job, Ballard hired Reich, the man who outwitted McDaniels last week and helped lead the Philadelphia Eagles to their first NFL title since 1960.

"Frank is a leader of men who will demand excellence from our players on and off the field," Ballard said in a statement released Sunday. "I look forward to working with Frank to deliver a championship-caliber team to the city of Indianapolis."

Terms of the deal were not immediately available, but Reich is expected to be introduced at a news conference Tuesday.

Colts officials posted a photo of Reich signing the deal on the team's website.

The move ends a search that spanned 41 days, included two coaching announcements and the embarrassment of McDaniels changing his mind Tuesday night just eight hours after telling the Colts he'd take the job.

On Wednesday, Ballard answered questions for nearly 20 minutes before finishing with "the rivalry is back on."

By hiring Reich, another touted offensive coordinator and a potential leading candidate next season, only added another chapter to the long and bitter series.

Exactly one week after backup quarterback Nick Foles executed an exquisite game plan to beat Tom Brady and the favored Patriots, the Colts brought back a longtime assistant who spent two seasons working with Peyton Manning.

But this wasn't just about sending a message.

"Frank has all the ingredients of a successful head

coach: intelligence, innovation, character, organizational and leadership skills, and a commanding presence," team owner Jim Irsay said. "He also has a stellar reputation, and his myriad of life experiences and the people he has worked with make him the perfect fit for us and our fans. I feel extremely fortunate and could not be more excited for Colts Nation and the future of our franchise."

It sure didn't take long to make the decision.

Ballard interviewed the 56-year-old Reich on Friday, the day after Philadelphia held its victory celebration.

He replaces Chuck Pagano, who was fired hours after finishing the season with a 4-12 record and missing the playoffs for the third consecutive year.

Reich takes over a franchise that appears to have some key pieces in place — especially if Andrew Luck is healthy.

Luck missed the entire 2017 season after having surgery for a partially torn labrum in his throwing shoulder. He went on injured reserve in November because of lingering pain in his right shoulder after he had started throwing a football.

On Wednesday, Ballard said Luck still hasn't thrown a football since October.

"He's going to do everything right to get himself ready to play and I'm very confident, he's very confident, that he's going to come back and prove a lot of people wrong," Ballard said.

The Colts also have a defense that showed steady improvement throughout the season, the No. 3 overall draft pick in April, nearly \$80 million to spend in free agency and a promising backup quarterback in Jacoby Brissett, who started 15 games in 2017.

And the Colts already have three assistants on Reich's staff—probable defensive coordinator Matt Eberflus, Mike Phair and Dave DeGuglielmo. All three agreed to join McDaniels' staff in Indy and have been promised by Ballard that they will remain on the staff.



Top 25 roundup

Cincinnati extends win streak to 16

Associated Press

DALLAS — Kyle Washington had 17 points and eight rebounds and No. 6 Cincinnati remained undefeated in American Athletic Conference play, stretching its overall winning streak to 16 games with a 76-51 victory over short-handed SMU on Sunday.

The Bearcats (23-2, 12-0 AAC) missed their first seven shots, but were down only 5-2 when they finally scored on a dunk by Nysier Brooks. That started a 9-0 run that put them ahead to stay.

"We obviously know where we're at, but we have to keep on going," Washington said. "We just know how many games we lost, and we know when practice is and when's the next game. And that's the truth."

Jimmy Whitt and Jahmal McMurray each had 19 points for SMU (15-10, 5-7).

No. 9 Duke 80, Georgia Tech 69: Grayson Allen scored 23 points and the visiting Blue Devils snapped a two-game losing streak.

Held to single-digits the last two games in losses at St. John's and North Carolina, Allen was 5-for-14 from the field, including three three-pointers.

Duke (20-5, 8-4 Atlantic Coast Conference) won without center Marvin Bagley, the ACC's leading scorer and rebounder. The freshman sat out with a mild right knee sprain.

Josh Okogie had 29 points, six rebounds and four assists for Georgia Tech (11-14, 4-8).

No. 20 Michigan 83, Wisconsin 72: Moe Wagner scored 20 points, went 8-for-14 from the field and added 11 rebounds, and the visiting Wolverines rode a hot-shooting first half to beat the Badgers.

Duncan Robinson scored 16 points for Michigan (20-7, 9-5), which won for the first time on the road since upsetting Michigan State on Jan. 13.

Ethan Happ led Wisconsin (11-16, 4-10) with a season-high 29 points.

NHL roundup

Penguins' Crosby scores 400th career goal in victory over Blues

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Sidney Crosby got another milestone goal on Sunday. The puck went right to his dad.

Crosby scored twice, including his 400th career goal, and the Pittsburgh Penguins pulled away from the St. Louis Blues for a 4-1 victory.

Bryan Rust snapped a tie with a third-period tally and Riley Sheahan also scored for the Penguins, who have won 12 of their past 17. Matt Murray made 33 saves.

Crosby had not scored in his previous 10 games dating to Jan. 14. The captain stopped the drought in the second period in front of his father Troy, who was on the two-game fathers' trip that began Friday in Dallas.

"It's tough when you're waiting that long to get it, but it's definitely worth the wait to have my dad here," Crosby said. "So many early mornings and sacrifices so I could play hockey. It's special to have him here."

Flyers 4, Golden Knights 1: Sean Couturier had a goal and two assists to help Philadelphia become just the fourth team to beat host Vegas at home in regulation this season.

Bruins 5, Devils 3: Adam McQuaid got his first goal of the season with 8:05 to play, and Boston extended its road point-scoring streak to 13 games.

Sharks 3, Ducks 2 (S0): Logan Couture had a goal and an assist and then scored in the shootout to help host San Jose beat Anaheim.

Red Wings 5, Capitals 4 (OT): Tomas Tatar scored his second goal of the game 2:47 into overtime, helping Detroit avoid a second straight embarrassing loss.

Avalanche 5, Sabres 4: Tyson Jost and Gabriel Bourque scored rebound goals in the third period, and host Colorado held on for the win.

Flames 3, Islanders 2: Visiting Calgary's Matthew Tkachuk scored twice in the third period, getting the tiebreaking goal with 1:05 left.

Rangers 3, Jets 1: Jimmy Vesey scored with 3:53 left in the third period, sending the visiting Rangers to the win.

Canucks 6, Stars 0: Reid Boucher scored his first two goals of the season and Jacob Markstrom made 30 saves for his second career shutout, leading the Canucks to the runaway road win.

NBA roundup

New-look Cavaliers rout Celtics

Associated Press

BOSTON — LeBron James quieted a Celtics crowd that came to celebrate Paul Pierce on Sunday, finishing with 24 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds to give new-look Cleveland a 121-99 victory over Boston in an individual performance reminiscent of the rivalry's heyday.

And this time, Pierce was sitting courtside in street clothes, unable to do anything about it.

James shook off a first-quarter leg injury to score 13 in the second quarter — eight of them during a 13-2 run that turned a one-point deficit into a double-digit lead. The Celtics made it 64-55 on the first basket of the third quarter but never got within 10 again.

Terry Rozier had 21 points and nine assists, and Kyrie Irving had 18 points against his former team before sitting out the fourth quarter.

Thunder 110, Grizzlies 92: Paul George scored 33 points and Oklahoma City beat visiting Memphis without starters Russell Westbrook and Carmelo Anthony.

Jazz 115, Trail Blazers 96: At Portland, Ore., Donovan Mitchell scored 27 points and newcomer Jae Crowder had 15 in his Utah debut to help the Jazz win their 10th straight game.

Pacers 121, Knicks 113: Victor Oladipo had 30 points, nine assists and eight rebounds to help host Indiana beat New York.

Timberwolves 111, Kings 106: Karl-Anthony Towns scored 29 points, Jeff Teague added 12 points and 10 assists and Minnesota overcame a sloppy performance at home.

Rockets 104, Mavericks 97: James Harden scored 27 points, Chris Paul added 25 and host Houston routed Dallas for its eight straight win.

Raptors 123, Hornets 103: DeMar DeRozan had 25 points and eight assists, C.J. Miles added 24 points and visiting Toronto routed Charlotte for its fifth straight victory.

Hawks 118, Pistons 115: Dewayne Dedmon gave host Atlanta the lead with a threepoint play and then padded the margin with a three-pointer, lifting the Hawks past Detroit.

