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stripes.com

Pentagon urged to gird for space warfare

The Washington Post

Picture this: A Chinese fighter jet accidentally crashes into a Navy P-8 Poseidon surveillance plane while attempting to buzz it over the South China Sea, killing all on board both aircraft. Fearing U.S. retaliation, China goes a relatively unexpected route: It uses surface-to-air missiles to shoot numerous U.S. satellites out of the heavens in quick succession.

Very quickly, the Navy is forced to navigate the Pacific with little use of GPS and degraded communications, causing chaos and uncertainty. The Chinese strikes also have knocked out some of the Pentagon's ability to control its arsenal of precision-guided weapons.

None of this has happened. But the hypothetical scenario points out the reliance the Pentagon has on space and the military technology it keeps in it. Satellites have soared over the earth's atmosphere for decades, providing the United States with a huge advantage militarily, even at a time

when the conventional weapons U.S. rivals have are formidable.

A new report released on Wednesday by the Center for a New American Security highlights the vulnerabilities the Pentagon has in space, and calls for a shift in strategy to safeguard it and prepare for conflict there. It's written by senior fellow Elbridge Colby, a former member of the presidential campaign staff of Gov. Mitt Romney, R-Mass., and argues that potential adversaries like China and Russia have noticed the degree to which the United States is reliant on its "space architecture," and have begun to seek ways to threaten it.

"Indeed, many observers have noted that these potential opponents judge the U.S. space architecture to be the Achilles' heel of U.S. military power, in light of the depth of American reliance on these systems and the vulnerability of the U.S. military satellite architecture," the report said.

Threats to satellites include not only missiles, but also cyberspace and electronic attacks that could disable them. In effect,

Colby argues, "space is becoming a domain like any other — air, sea, land, and electromagnetic — in which the United States will have to compete and fight the ability to access and exploit the domain rather assume safe and uncontested passage within and use of it."

The Pentagon already has begun to prepare in response. Last year, for example, Defense Secretary Ash Carter directed the military to begin looking at reducing its reliance on GPS satellites, arguing in a podcast that the Defense Department probably won't buy them within 20 years.

In a phone interview, Colby said that space is a perfect example of the challenges to American military superiority. There's no reason to think China and Russia will be restrained there, and that prompted him to raise the questions about how the Pentagon can limit future warfare involving space.

Colby said that even if the Russians or the Chinese don't shoot down satellites, they'll look for ways to jam them and to prevent their usage.

Navy's intel chief barred from military secrets

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — For more than two years, the Navy's intelligence chief has been stuck with a major handicap: He's not allowed to know any secrets.

Vice Adm. Ted "Twig" Branch has been barred from reading, seeing or hearing classified information since November 2013, when the Navy learned from the Justice Department that his name had surfaced in a giant corruption investigation involving a foreign defense contractor and scores of Navy personnel.

Worried that Branch was on the verge of being indicted, Navy leaders suspended his access to classified materials. They did the same to one of his deputies, Rear Adm. Bruce F. Loveless, the Navy's director of intelligence operations.

More than 800 days later, neither Branch nor Loveless has been charged. But neither has been cleared, either. Their access to classified information remains blocked.

Although the Navy transferred Loveless to a slightly less sensitive post, it kept

Branch in charge of its intelligence division. That has resulted in an awkward arrangement, akin to sending a warship into battle with its skipper stuck on shore.

Branch can't meet with other senior U.S. intelligence leaders to discuss sensitive operations, nor can he hear updates from his staff about secret missions or projects. It can be a chore just to set foot in colleagues' offices; in keeping with regulations, they must conduct a sweep beforehand to make sure any classified documents are locked up.

Some critics have questioned how smart it is for the Navy to retain an intelligence chief with such limitations for so long, especially at a time when the Pentagon is confronted by crises in the Middle East, the South China Sea, the Korean Peninsula and other hotspots.

"I have never heard of anything as asinine, bizarre or stupid in all my years," Norman Polmar, a naval analyst and historian, said in an interview.

In an op-ed in Navy Times last fall, Pol-

mar urged Navy leaders to replace Branch and Loveless for the sake of national security. He cited complaints from several unnamed Navy officers that "intelligence management is being hampered at a moment of great turmoil."

It is a touchy subject for Navy brass, who have struggled to replace Branch. Twice in the past 14 months, they have taken steps to nominate a new intelligence chief — who must be confirmed by the Senate — but haven't followed through. There is no indication that a successor will be in place anytime soon.

In a statement, Rear Adm. Dawn Cutler, the Navy's chief spokeswoman, said the Justice Department's ongoing investigation of Branch and Loveless "has not impacted the Navy's ability to manage operations." She said the two still perform managerial duties while their civilian and military deputies handle the classified aspects of their jobs.

Branch and Loveless declined interview requests placed through the Navy.

Tragedies shape US military's security rules

The San Diego Union-Tribune

Tragedies at military bases that have left dozens dead and scores wounded have shaped the way the military prepares and responds to mass shootings, including Tuesday's false alarm at the San Diego Naval Medical Center.

How the military handles gunmen on the loose on its installations, intent of killing whoever is in the way, is an evolving process, but the mass shooting in 2009 at Fort Hood, Texas, that left 13 dead caused the entire Defense Department to evaluate and change how it prepares for future incidents. The subsequent deadly shootings at the Washington Navy Yard in 2013 and in Tennessee last year caused the Navy to take further action, including mandatory training for sailors as well as civilians.

The efforts have resulted in a team response from military, federal and local law enforcement agencies, as well as individual employees who know

procedures to help keep them safe in a potentially deadly situation. The result is a comprehensive reaction when there's a report of a shooter on a base, even when it turns out that the incident was nothing more than a false alarm.

About 8 a.m. Tuesday morning, a single witness reported hearing what sounded like three shots in the basement area of one of the medical center's buildings. The medical center campus went into lockdown and people were ordered to take shelter as canine units searched the building in question.

Dave Young, an expert on active-shooter incidents with 30 years of experience in law enforcement and tactical training, said most agencies adhere to the greater-danger theory.

"There is greater danger in not doing something, than in choosing to (respond)," he said. "Even if someone cries wolf, we have to make sure that wolf isn't there. You can't just write it off."

Ferguson police agree to overhaul policies, training

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The Ferguson Police Department has agreed to overhaul its policies, training and practices as part of a sweeping deal with the Justice Department following the 2014 fatal police shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

The recommendations, detailed in a 131-page proposed consent decree released Wednesday, are meant to correct problems identified in a scathing Justice Department report last year that identified unconstitutional and discriminatory practices across the city's police force and municipal court system.

The city had been under fed-

eral scrutiny since the August 2014 shooting of Brown, who was black and unarmed, by white police officer Darren Wilson. The killing led to protests and promoted a wave of national scrutiny about police use of force and law enforcement's interactions with minorities.

Wilson was cleared in the shooting, but a federal investigation into the Ferguson police force found patterns of racial bias throughout the city's criminal justice system. A Justice Department report in March found officers routinely used excessive force, issued petty citations and made baseless traffic stops in the city of about 21,000 residents, about two-thirds of whom are black.

Admiral: Study Hawaii anti-missile system

BY WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

Establishing an Aegis Ashore missile interceptor site in Hawaii "may be a good idea" to help protect the U.S. mainland, the head of Pacific Command says.

"Whether we do it or not should be an outcome of a deliberative process," Adm. Harry Harris said during a speech Wednesday at the Center for Strategic and International Studies think tank. "I'm in support of studying it further and see where it goes."

Aegis Ashore is the land-based version of the Navy's Aegis ballistic missile defense system used on ships. Similar to the Army's Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system, or THAAD, it destroys missiles as they re-enter the atmosphere.

The system was tested in December at the Pacific Missile Range Facility in Kauai, Hawaii, where it destroyed a target launched from an Air Force plane. The Navy is soon slated to use Aegis Ashore at a base in Romania, with a second system planned for Poland in 2018.

The Pacific's greatest missile threat comes from North Korea, whose secretive regime has been developing intermediate and long-range ballistic missiles. It is unclear how close it is to producing a miniatur-

ized nuclear warhead to arm them.

The country claimed an underground explosion in early January was a successful hydrogen bomb test, but nuclear experts are skeptical.

"We have to weigh all the pluses and minuses and all of that when we're talking about the defense of the homeland," Harris said. "The site in Hawaii may be a good opportunity."

Harris was asked whether future freedom-of-navigation operations in the South China Sea, through which \$1.2 trillion in annual trade transits en route to and from the U.S. mainland, would become more assertive than that of the USS Lassen last fall.

The guided-missile destroyer passed steadily and quickly within 12 nautical miles of Subi Reef in the disputed Spratly Islands, where China has been expanding tiny atolls with reclaimed sand and building landing strips and facilities on them.

"In a general sense, we will continue to do freedom-of-navigation operations in the South China Sea as we do everywhere else in the world in areas we think are being contested," Harris said. "I believe the Lassen operation did challenge some aspects of China's claims, which we don't hold to."

Sweden to deport up to 80,000 asylum-seekers

STOCKHOLM — Interior Minister Anders Ygeman says Sweden could deport between 60,000 and 80,000 asylum-seekers in coming years.

Ygeman told newspaper Dagens Industri that because about 45 percent of asylum applications are currently rejected, the country must get ready to send back tens of thousands of the 163,000 who sought shel-

ter in Sweden last year.

"I think that it could be about 60,000 people, but it could also be up to 80,000," Ygeman was quoted as saying.

His spokesman, Victor Harju, confirmed the quotes Thursday, adding that the minister was simply applying the current approval rate to the record number of asylum-seekers that arrived in 2015. Harju adds: "That rate could of course change."

From The Associated Press

Newton cites race for criticism

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton suggested for the first time Wednesday that race may play a factor in why he's become a lightning rod for public criticism heading toward his appearance in the Super Bowl.

"I'm an African-American quarterback — that may scare a lot of people because they haven't seen nothing that they can compare me to," said Newton.

Newton has his share of detractors who either don't like how he plays, his celebrations or his abundance of self-confidence.

"People are going to judge, and have opinions on things I don't have control over," Newton said.

Newton has passed for 35 touchdowns and has run for 10 this season. He has helped lead the Panthers to their first Super Bowl since 2003. Carolina plays the Denver Broncos on Feb. 7 in Santa Clara,

California.

Newton said his character is often misunderstood by outsiders.

"I said that prior to me being in this (Super Bowl) situation," Newton said.

"They talk about maturity. They talk about skillset. ... The only thing that has changed (about me) is that we're winning now."

Panthers coach Ron Rivera doesn't believe Newton wants race to be a factor in how he is assessed. While the majority of players in the NFL are African-American, most quarterbacks are white.

"He has always strived to have that separation," Rivera said. "I don't think he wants to be known as an African-American quarterback; he wants to be known as a quarterback. That is what drives him, to be able to transcend those boundaries, which is great."

Rivera said some people may simply not like Newton because of his personality.

The All-Pro quarterback plays the game with open enthusiasm, pointing his arms

forward after running for a first down, and pretending to rip open his shirt like Superman. He gets his teammates to pose for pictures on the sideline near the end of games when the outcome is no longer in doubt.

"Some people believe you should be stoic when you play this game," Rivera said. "But a lot of people disagree and think you should have fun. There is a lot of money involved, but at the end of the day it's about entertainment. If you aren't enjoying yourself, don't play the game."

Newton's teammates have their own theories about the anti-Newton uproar.

Panthers cornerback Charles Tillman said it may be because Newton wins in an "unconventional way," unlike a traditional NFL quarterback.

"Some people can't accept that," Tillman said. "He is setting a precedent as far as for how quarterbacks are now — and how they may become. He's in a league of his own. He has created his own category for winning."

Williams, Djokovic win easily

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Novak Djokovic called it the best he has ever played against old foe Roger Federer. Serena Williams was just being her dominant self.

The defending champions both made their way back to the Australian Open final, with Djokovic beating Federer 6-1, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 and Williams defeating Agnieszka Radwanska 6-0, 6-4 on Thursday.

"I've had matches where I've played similar tennis," said Djokovic, the top-ranked player in the world. "But I think against Roger, these first two sets have been probably the best two sets I've played against him overall throughout my career."

Hours earlier at Rod Laver Arena, Williams advanced to within one win of another Grand Slam milestone. If the six-time Australian Open champion wins Saturday's final against seventh-seeded Angelique Kerber, she will equal Steffi Graf's 22 major singles titles, a record in the Open era and the second-most in history behind Margaret Court's 24.

"I was able to do everything that I needed to do," Williams said of Thursday's match. "I was really hitting just all the right shots, making little to no errors, which is kind of hard to play like that."

Djokovic, a five-time champion at the Australian Open, advanced to his sixth final at Melbourne Park. He'll find out who his final opponent will be after Andy Murray takes on Milos Raonic on Friday.

For Federer, the signs were ominous from the beginning. Djokovic held his first service game at love and broke the 17-time Grand Slam champion in the second. After seven minutes, Federer was trailing 3-0.

The first set was over in 22 minutes. Most spectators — including a woman with a sign reading: "Just Married But Willing to Exchange for Federer" — were behind him, applauding Djokovic's service faults and giving Federer a standing ovation when he broke to go ahead 4-2 in the third set.

The end came quickly in the fourth. Djokovic broke Federer in the eighth game to go up 5-3 — not even a stunning down-the-line shot after he earlier chased down a lob on the same point could save the Swiss great.

In the first semifinal match, Kerber ended Sydney-born British player Johanna Konta's surprising run with a 7-5, 6-2 win to reach her first Grand Slam final. Konta was the first British woman since 1983 to reach the semifinals at a major tournament.

Williams is the overwhelming favorite in the final, and not just based on recent form. She continued her perfect streak in seven Australian Open semifinals.

"I definitely block it out," Williams said in reply to a question about equaling Graf's mark. "I was one off last year, too. If I don't win on Saturday, I'll still be one off."

Broncos' Daniels follows Kubiak around

Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — When Tom Brady took a knee with 33 seconds left in the first half of the AFC championship and turned to trot toward the tunnel, Broncos tight end Owen Daniels wasn't buying it.

He stood on Denver's sideline, pointing at the New England Patriots until they indeed disappeared into their locker room. Only then did he head off the field, passing his coach along the way.

"I got some comments about that on social media that I looked really confused," Daniels said Monday while basking in the afterglow of his two-touchdown performance in Denver's 20-18 dethroning of the defending champs.

Daniels wasn't confounded, just cautious.

You see, while he was in Baltimore last season, the Ravens came up with a scheme to fool the Steelers in the playoffs. If they had enough time, they were going to take a knee and fake like they were trotting off to their nearby tunnel only to run back to the line of scrimmage, snap the ball while the Steelers were walking off and run for an easy touchdown.

They never got that chance. But, hey, if anyone else has thought of it, you can bet Bill Belichick has, too.

"New England has always got something up their sleeve, ..." Daniels said. "So, I was just making sure I was ready to make a tackle."

It's that football acumen that led coach Gary Kubiak to vouch for Daniels last spring when he and general manager John Elway mapped out their free agency plans and offered Daniels a three-year, \$12 million contract.

Daniels has played for Kubiak his entire NFL career. He spent eight seasons with him in Houston and followed him to Baltimore in 2014 when Kubiak was hired as the Ravens' offensive coordinator following his firing as the Texans' head coach.

Together, they resurrected their respec-

tive careers before coming to Colorado.

Daniels caught 48 passes for 527 yards and four touchdowns in helping the Ravens reach the playoffs, where he scored his first postseason touchdown against New England.

In Denver, Daniels caught 46 passes for 517 yards and three TDs in the regular season. He had TD grabs of 21 and 12 yards Sunday.

"As a coach when you bounce to different places and guys' names come up, you've got to be careful," Kubiak said. "But there are certain guys you have no doubt staying up for, saying, 'Put him on your team.' And he's one of those guys."

Daniels brought pedigree to a position where Peyton Manning had lost Julius Thomas and his two dozen TD catches from 2013-14 to free agency.

He immediately received an invitation from Manning to attend his annual passing camp at Duke, where the 39-year-old quarterback picked Daniels' brain about Kubiak's offensive philosophy. Then, Daniels tutored the rest of the offense.

"He didn't like directly order me to do that, but ... it kind of happened naturally," Daniels said.

Daniels had a disappointing start in Denver as the Broncos struggled on offense early on. They were getting used to a new O-line and Manning's left foot was bothering him. Plus, they had injuries that reduced their ranks at tight end and limited their options.

Then, Elway brought in Vernon Davis from San Francisco just before the trade deadline and everything changed for Daniels and Virgil Green.

While Davis has had problems with drops and caught just 20 passes for 201 yards, his presence really opened things up for the other tight ends.

"It's been great. Having Vernon here, obviously he's a super dynamic player who has been playing really well for a long time," Daniels said. "Having him around, it's allowed us to do more two-tight end stuff. To have three guys that are really

interchangeable out there, he's been a great asset for us."

It's not just Daniels' production, but his football instincts that helped the Broncos (14-4) get back to the Super Bowl, where they'll face the Carolina Panthers (17-1).

Like his heads-up on Brady's kneel-down.

"We tried to do that to another team," Daniels said, "so I was kind of alert."

Notes: If Cam Newton has the type of Super Bowl debut Troy Aikman did, the Carolina Panthers will be in good shape for the Super Bowl.

Newton will be making his first appearance in the Super Bowl next month against Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning, who is playing in the big game for the fourth time.

"I feel that experience is often times overrated because of my own experience," said Aikman, who was 22-for-30 for 273 yards and four touchdown passes as the Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl 27 when the Dallas Cowboys routed the Buffalo Bills 52-17.

"The year we went to our first Super Bowl in 1992 we were the youngest team in football. We played in the Super Bowl against a team that had a wealth of play-off experience and Super Bowl experience, and we dominated that football game."

Aikman, a Hall of Famer, said Newton has also shown he can handle pressure during his career.

"I just think Cam Newton is a guy who doesn't get overwhelmed by the moment," he said. "He seems to thrive in the spotlight. I don't think this stage will impact him in a negative way."

Coming off a dominating win over Arizona in the NFC championship game, Carolina enters the Feb. 7 game in Santa Clara, Calif., as a favorite.

However, Aikman, who won all three Super Bowls he played in, thinks Denver shouldn't be overlooked, especially with Manning making possibly the final start of his career.



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Spurs dominate Rockets

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs were an angry team looking to take out some frustration and they did so swiftly.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and the Spurs rebounded from their worst loss in three years to bash the Houston Rockets 130-99 on Wednesday night and remain undefeated at home.

"We were very motivated," San Antonio point guard Tony Parker said. "Still a little bit mad about what happened, but you have to forget it as fast as you can and learn from it. Tonight it was great reaction from everybody."

San Antonio has won 25 straight games at home to open the season and 34 consecutive dating back to last season.

Aldridge bounced back — as did the rest of the Spurs — after he was held to five points and three rebounds in a 30-point loss to Golden State on Monday.

"Yeah, I wanted to do better than I was last game," Aldridge said. "I wanted to have a better rhythm, try to put my stamp on the game. Definitely was trying to be more in tune to the game for sure."

San Antonio had 32 assists and shot 56 percent from the field in snapping Houston's three-game winning streak and handing the Rockets their worst loss of the season.

"We've got to do a better job of attacking their paint," Rockets center Dwight Howard said. "When you play against a team like San Antonio, they wanted us to shoot jump shots and stuff like that. They can't really play with us when we run and get to the basket, but when we allow them to set their defense, they are really good."

James Harden had 20 points and Howard added 13 for Houston.

San Antonio was without Tim Duncan for a second straight game due to a sore right knee, but he wasn't needed as the Spurs won their league-high 17th game by at least 20 points.

Cavaliers 115, Suns 93: LeBron James scored 21 points before sitting out — and dancing — in the fourth quarter, Kevin Love added 21 points and 11 rebounds, and host Cleveland stormed away in the second half.

Sluggish for the first 24 minutes, the Cavs opened the second half with a 12-0 run and sent Phoenix to its 17th loss in 19 games.

Cleveland improved to 2-1 under new coach Tyronn Lue, who took over last week when David Blatt was fired halfway through his second season. The win means Lue and the Cavs' coaching staff will represent the Eastern Conference at the All-Star Game on Feb. 14 in Toronto.

Warriors 127, Mavericks 107: Klay Thompson scored a season-high 45 points, Stephen Curry got going after halftime and so did host Golden State, which avenged one of its four losses this season by beating Dallas.

Curry hit three quick three-pointers after intermission as Golden State overcame a sluggish first half, and the reigning MVP finished with a modest 14 points on a night the Warriors' role players and bench provided a balanced effort.

Clippers 85, Hawks 83: Jamal Crawford scored 21 points and visiting Los Angeles won again without Blake Griffin, holding off mistake-prone Atlanta.

The Hawks turned it over a season-high 23 times but still had a chance to force

overtime when Chris Paul lost the handle on an inbounds pass after Al Horford's free throw. Atlanta got it back with 6.7 seconds left and inbounded to Paul Millsap, who drove against Luc Mbah a Moute and got a good look at the basket but came up short on a running one-hander. The horn sounded as the Clippers celebrated their 14th win in 17 games.

Thunder 126, Timberwolves 123: Kevin Durant had 27 points, nine rebounds and five assists, and hit two huge shots in the final two minutes to help visiting Oklahoma City win a second-straight, fast-paced thriller.

Russell Westbrook had 24 points, 15 assists and eight rebounds, while Enes Kanter had 23 points and 10 boards for the Thunder.

Celtics 111, Nuggets 103: Avery Bradley matched his season high with 27 points, and host Boston beat Denver for its fourth straight victory.

Kelly Olynyk added 17 points and seven rebounds. Isaiah Thomas finished with 16 points and five assists.

Pistons 110, 76ers 97: Andre Drummond had 25 points and 18 rebounds, and host Detroit rallied past Philadelphia.

Drummond, who came into the game having gone 1-for-14 from the line in the last two games, even hit seven of his 12 free throws.

Jazz 102, Hornets 73: Rodney Hood scored 24 points and host Utah avenged a double-overtime loss to Charlotte last week.

Utah broke loose in the second quarter with a 20-2 run.

Vasilevskiy keeps Lightning surging

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Andrei Vasilevskiy had an outstanding performance with his parents watching him live for the first time in an NHL game.

Vasilevskiy made 30 saves, Steven Stamkos scored his 21st goal and the Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 1-0 on Wednesday night.

"I showed them I can play in the NHL," Vasilevskiy said with a smile. "That's an amazing feeling."

Tampa Bay entered the All-Star break by winning eight of its last nine.

"We're getting back on track," Stamkos said.

Jonathan Bernier stopped 28 shots for the Maple Leafs, who have lost nine of 10 (1-7-2). Toronto has been outscored 31-11 during that stretch.

"We worked hard, we competed hard," Toronto coach Mike Babcock said. "In the end, you like to leave the building feeling good because you finished. There's no sense feeling sorry for ourselves, no one else will. We have to find a way to get up."

Stamkos put the Lightning up 1-0 at 4:38 of the first with a shot from the left circle during a power play. The Tampa Bay captain can become a free agent July 1 and there has been ongoing speculation about the possibility of the Toronto area native joining the Maple Leafs next season.

"I don't think we can sit here and necessarily say we deserved the two points," Stamkos said. "I don't think we played very well. Vasia stepped up and had a fantastic game, and gave us a chance to win."

Vasilevskiy earned his first shutout this season and second overall in 30 career NHL games. He got the start in place of Ben Bishop, who will take part in this weekend's All-Star game.

Flyers 4, Capitals 3 (OT): Jakub Voracek scored 38 seconds into overtime and visiting Philadelphia beat NHL-leading Washington in the teams' final game before the All-Star break.

Despite 28 saves from Braden Holtby, the Caps lost at home for the first time since Nov. 19 against the Dallas Stars.

Philadelphia's Michal Neuvirth stopped 27 of the 30 shots he faced to beat his former team for the first time.

Predators 2, Flames 1: Shea Weber's power-play goal in the second period stood up as the winner, helping Nashville complete a perfect road trip with a victory over Calgary.

The Predators finished a four-game trip 4-0-0, having also beaten Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver.

In the second period, Flames defenseman Dennis Wideman sent linesman Don Henderson to the ice when he checked him from behind. Wideman was skating toward the Flames' bench when he cross-checked Henderson. Wideman said after the game that he didn't intentionally hit Henderson.

Avalanche 4, Kings 3: Nathan MacKinnon scored the tiebreaking goal with 9:25 to play, and visiting Colorado rallied for its fifth win in six games.

Gabriel Landeskog scored two goals for the Avalanche, tying it on a 4-on-3 power play with 12:22 to play. Matt Duchene also scored in Colorado's second straight victory over Los Angeles after six straight losses in the rivalry.

Arkansas snaps No. 5 Texas A&M's streak

Associated Press

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Moses Kingsley had 18 points and 11 rebounds, Dusty Hannahs and Anthon Bell scored 17 apiece and Arkansas ended No. 5 Texas A&M's 10-game winning streak with a 74-71 victory Wednesday night.

The loss was the first for the Aggies (17-3, 7-1 Southeastern Conference) since a defeat at Arizona State on Dec. 5, ending the school's longest winning streak since a 13-game stretch during the 2010-11 season.

Bell and Hannahs each hit a trio of three-pointers for the Razorbacks (10-10, 4-4), who ended a three-game losing streak and won their eighth straight against Texas A&M in Bud Walton Arena.

"We've won a bunch of games, and we haven't played a lot of close games," Texas A&M coach Billy Kennedy said. "We weren't very organized at the end, and I've got to do a better job helping them with that."

Danuel House scored 24 points and shot 4-for-5 from three-point range to lead Texas A&M.

No. 16 Louisville 91, Virginia Tech 83: Damion Lee scored 29 points and visiting Louisville used sharp shooting from behind the three-point arc to overcome foul trouble and beat Virginia Tech.

Lee hit his first six tries from long range and Trey Lewis made four threes in the second half for the Cardinals (17-3, 6-1 Atlantic Coast Conference).

No. 17 Baylor 69, Oklahoma State 65: Rico Gathers scored 14 of his 16 points in the second half to help visiting Baylor defeat Oklahoma State.

Taurean Prince scored 17 points and Lester Medford added 12 for the Bears (16-4, 6-2 Big 12), who moved into a tie with West Virginia and Oklahoma atop the conference standings.

No. 20 Kentucky 88, Missouri 54: Tyler Ulis scored 20 points, Derek Willis added a career-best 18 and host Kentucky used an early 20-0 run to blow past outmanned Missouri.

The Wildcats (16-4, 6-2 Southeastern Conference) had it easy in improving to 9-0 against the Tigers and winning their third straight overall.

No. 21 Purdue 68, Minnesota 64: At Minneapolis, Vince Edwards scored 24 points and grabbed eight rebounds to help the Boilermakers hang on without freshman standout Caleb Swanigan, the Big Ten's leading rebounder.

A.J. Hammons added 16 points, Raphael Davis pitched in 10 and Purdue (18-4, 6-3) bounced back from a loss to Big Ten leader Iowa for the second time this month.

No. 22 Wichita State 80, Loyola 54: Shaquille Morris had 12 points to lead the host Shockers (15-5, 9-0 Missouri Valley), who had seven players score at least eight points, including Rashard Kelly with 11. Fred VanVleet had eight points and eight assists.

American 63, Navy 58: Delante Jones tied his career high with 23 points and the visiting Eagles snapped Navy's six-game winning streak.

Tilman Dunbar scored 14 points, Jace Hogan 11 and Shawn Anderson 10 for Navy (15-6, 6-2 Patriot League), which was just 2-for-11 on three-pointers.

American (4-15, 2-6) pulled off the upset despite coming in as the nation's second-

to-last team in scoring offense (54.5) while Navy came in ninth in scoring defense (61.7).

Boston University 76, Army 67: Cheddi Mosely scored 23 points and Nathan Dieudonne had 17 points and a career-high 18 rebounds to lead the visiting Terriers past the Black Knights.

BU (11-11, 4-5 Patriot League) out-rebounded Army 45-33.

The Black Knights' Kyle Wilson made three free throws at the end of the first half to knot the score at 33. His jumper to start the second gave Army (12-8, 3-5) its last lead of the game. Wilson finished with 25 points and John Emezie added 11.

New Mexico 84, Air Force 55: Elijah Brown scored 17 points, leading a quartet of New Mexico players in double figures against visiting Air Force.

Hayden Graham scored 14 points for the Falcons (10-11, 1-7), who lost their seventh straight, and Zach Moer had 12.

Clemson 73, Pittsburgh 60: Jaron Blossomgame scored 22 points as the host Tigers opened a double-digit lead in the opening half to win for the sixth time in seven games.

Blossomgame became the first Clemson player to score at least 20 points in three straight games since K.J. McDaniels did it early in the 2013-14 season.

Dayton 73, Saint Louis 37: Kendall Pollard scored 18 points and grabbed eight rebounds as the host Flyers notched their fifth-straight win.

Pollard finished with 8 of 9 shooting from the field for Dayton. Dyshawn Pierre added 12 points and eight rebounds and Steve McElvene tied the school record with six blocks.