

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## 'Few hundred' need to repay Guard bonuses

BY COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon will require only “a few hundred” California National Guardsmen to repay bonuses that they wrongly received as part of an incentive program at the height of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, a top Defense Department official said Tuesday.

Peter Levine, the acting undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said the vast majority of some 17,500 California soldiers who were facing recoupment of enlistment and student loan bonuses paid out before 2011 will be allowed to keep the money or be reimbursed if it was already collected from them.

“If the servicemembers fulfilled their service commitment and there’s no obvious reason to believe that they knew or should have known that it was an erroneous payment, then we don’t need further review to get rid of that case,” said Levine, who in October was tapped by Defense Secretary Ash Carter to conduct a review of the issue.

The soldiers will be notified within the

next month by the Pentagon that their cases have been dismissed, he said. As part of the program, the Defense Department will notify credit bureaus of their errors and attempt to help any servicemembers whose credit was adversely affected.

The remaining cases will be reviewed by the Army Board for the Correction of Military Records to determine whether bonus money should be recouped. Levine said he expected “less than 1,000” such cases.

That process has already started, Levine said. He expected to clear those cases before the July 1 deadline established by Carter.

The soldiers whose cases are selected for review by the Army Board for the Correction of Military Records will have the opportunity to present any evidence that their money should not be recouped, Levine said.

While similar cases have been reported in other states, Levine said California was unique because servicemembers there had been convicted of fraudulently doling out enlistment bonuses.

“The error was an error on the part of the

government as to whether they were eligible,” he said. “They may have been misled as to whether they were eligible, and then the final touch is that because the California National Guard went back and looked at these cases several years later ... and said ‘By the way, you were ineligible. We’re taking your money back.’”

Spending on such incentives ramped up during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in an effort to boost troop numbers. From 2005 to 2010, the Army National Guard spent \$3.2 billion for its Selected Reserve Incentive Program, which includes enlistment and re-enlistment bonuses and student loan repayments, according to Defense Department budget records.

The money paid to recruit and retain soldiers nationwide reached a high point of \$812 million in 2008 and 2009, just before federal criminal investigations exposed the scandal in California.

Levine said Tuesday that the incident was expected to cost taxpayers “a few million dollars.”

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## Navy dolphins being used to locate rare porpoises

*The San Diego Union-Tribune*

SAN DIEGO — The U.S. Navy for decades has deployed bottlenose dolphins to search for underwater mines and detect enemy divers. Now, the versatile sea mammals and their San Diego-based trainers are preparing for an unprecedented challenge: locating some of the few surviving vaquita porpoises in Mexico’s Upper Gulf of California.

Members of the U.S. Navy Marine Mammal Program, the dolphins are part of a team being assembled on both sides of the border aimed at capturing live vaquitas — something that has never been accomplished. For an international group of scientists determined to save the species from near-

certain extinction, it represents a final hope.

Spearheaded by Mexico’s Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources, the plan involves removing vaquitas from the open water in their habitat in the Upper Gulf of California and keeping them safe from illegal gill nets, where they often end up as by-catch and drown.

Experts are expected to attempt the capture in the spring. It is unknown whether the small sea mammal would even survive captivity.

The operation “has to be done in a very careful, staged manner,” said Barbara Taylor, a conservation biologist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Southwest Fisheries Science Center

in La Jolla.

Scientists say the vaquita population has dwindled over the past two decades — from 567 in a survey in 1997 to fewer than 60.

Despite a massive two-year plan launched in April 2015 by Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto’s administration that includes an expanded ban on gill-net fishing in the porpoise’s habitat, the vaquita population has continued to fall — largely because of the rampant illegal fishery for totoaba, a large fish whose swim bladders fetch exorbitant prices in China.

The new approach would involve placing vaquitas inside a protective pen off the coast of San Felipe, with the hope that they might have a better

chance for survival. If all goes well, they also might breed and reproduce.

Based in San Diego, the Navy Marine Mammal Program uses dolphins and sea lions for a range of tasks, from finding and removing underwater mines to detecting clandestine swimmers and divers in restricted areas.

The operation planned for May is the latest in a series of efforts aimed at protecting vaquitas, a small porpoise that lives only in the rich and turbid waters of the Upper Gulf of California. The animals, which must surface to breathe, not only are rare but also extremely shy and difficult to spot, as they splash little, travel in small groups and avoid boats.

# 115th Congress opens with controversy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Republicans abruptly reversed themselves Tuesday under pressure from President-elect Donald Trump and dropped plans to gut an independent congressional ethics board.

The dizzying about-face came as lawmakers convened for the first day of the 115th Congress, an occasion normally reserved for pomp and ceremony under the Capitol Dome. Instead, House Republicans found themselves under attack not only from Democrats but from their next president over their secretive move Monday to neuter the independent Office of Congressional Ethics and place it under lawmakers' control.

GOP leaders scrambled to contain the damage, and within hours of Trump registering his criticism on Twitter, they

called an emergency meeting of House Republicans where lawmakers voted without opposition to undo the change.

The episode, coming even before the new Congress had convened and lawmakers were sworn in, was a powerful illustration of the sway Trump may hold over his party in a Washington that will be fully under Republican control for the first time in a decade. Lawmakers who have felt unfairly targeted by the ethics office had defied their own House GOP leaders with their initial vote to gut the body, but once Trump weighed in they backpedaled immediately.

"With all that Congress has to work on, do they really have to make the weakening of the Independent Ethics Watchdog, as unfair as it may be, their number one act and priority,"

Trump had asked over Twitter Tuesday morning, in an objection that appeared focused more on timing than on substance. Trump, who will take office later this month, said the focus should be on tax reform and health care, and included the hash-tag #DTS, for "Drain the Swamp," his oft-repeated campaign promise to bring change to Washington.

Democrats and even many Republicans were quick to point out that the lawmakers' plans for their ethics watchdog flew in the face of that notion. The measure was part of a rules package that faced a vote in the full House later Tuesday and looked like it could fail after Trump registered his objections.

"We were elected on a promise to drain the swamp, and starting the session by relax-

ing ethics rules is a very bad start," said GOP Rep. Tom McClintock, of California.

The Office of Congressional Ethics was created in 2008 after several bribery and corruption cases in the House, but lawmakers of both parties have groused about the way it operates.

Once the ethics controversy was dispensed with on Tuesday, lawmakers in both chambers of Congress returned to the ceremonial business. As set out in the Constitution, both chambers gavelled in at noon, and as storm clouds threatened outside, the halls of the Capitol filled with lawmakers' children, friends and spouses on hand to witness the procedures. The day had a festive feel of the first day back at school, as new arrivals roamed the halls with old hands, exchanging greetings and taking in the day.

## Cleanup begins in wake of severe storms

Associated Press

Crews were assessing damage Tuesday in the aftermath of storms that killed at least five people and brought heavy rain and strong winds to the Southeast.

The line of severe thunderstorms spawned several possible tornadoes as the storms moved across Alabama, Georgia and the Florida Panhandle. The worst of the storms had passed through the region by late Tuesday morning as the system headed toward the Atlantic Ocean.

Four people were killed Monday evening when a tree fell on their mobile home in Rehobeth, Ala., said Kris Ware, a spokeswoman for the Dothan Houston County Emergency Management Agency.

Teams of surveyors headed out Tuesday to assess apparent tornado damage at three sites in southeastern Alabama and southwestern Georgia, said Mark Wool, a meteorologist at

the National Weather Service in Tallahassee, Fla.

Wool said authorities believe a tornado is responsible for damage that left the four people dead in Alabama, but he said the weather service won't be able to say for sure until experts visit the site.

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley said in a statement on social media that the Houston County sheriff had told him about the deaths and he offered "prayers for those impacted."

In Florida, the Walton County Sheriff's Office said in a statement that 70-year-old William Patrick Corley's body was found Monday afternoon following flooding near the Shoal River in Mossy Head. Authorities said Corley's car was partially submerged and his body was floating face-down nearby.

State emergency officials reported no injuries or deaths in Louisiana and Mississippi, but a trip to Wal-Mart was memorable for some shoppers in Marksville, La., as severe

weather blew out skylights in the store, sending water and glass cascading onto shoppers.

Marksville Fire Chief Jerry Bordelon said a fireworks stand in the Wal-Mart parking lot was tossed 30 or 40 yards and mangled. The storm also knocked over 18-wheel truck trailers and punched holes in the store's roof. The fire department ordered shoppers to leave the store, but some didn't want to leave even as managers closed it.

"Believe it or not, we had some people in there who were still trying to shop," Bordelon said.

Storms in central Mississippi near Mendenhall and Mount Olive were preliminarily identified as tornadoes by the National Weather Service, based in part on radar signatures. Both storms damaged farm buildings and homes.

Other possible tornadoes will be surveyed later.

In Louisiana, there was also relatively serious damage in

the southwestern parishes of Beauregard and Allen, including the town of Reeves. Some wind damage was also reported in Houston and throughout East Texas.

Though Arkansas had also been included in warnings, there was only a stray report of hail in Jackson County in the northeast part of the state.

Tens of thousands lost power in Louisiana and Mississippi at the height of the storm, according to utilities.

It was the second episode of heavy rain within days for some areas. An area stretching from Biloxi, Miss., through Alabama and across Macon and Augusta, Ga., received more than 4 inches of rain Monday, according to radar estimates. Parts of southern Mississippi and southwest Alabama have received more than 8 inches of rain since Saturday. Though rivers along the Gulf Coast were rising rapidly Monday, only minor flooding was predicted.

# Child abuse, neglect soar in military families

Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—In September 2011, Army Sgt. 1st Class Crispin Hanson's commander at Fort Bliss ordered him into a military treatment program for child abusers.

Texas child welfare authorities had formally reported a "reason to believe" the 20-year Army veteran had severely beaten his 6-month-old son, Malachi, leaving him with a broken leg.

For the next four months, Hanson met weekly with a therapist from the Family Advocacy Program, a \$200 million-a-year Pentagon program known as FAP that seeks to prevent child abuse in the ranks. When Hanson completed the therapy, FAP officials closed the case and a state judge allowed him to see his infant son.

Three months later, on April 9, 2012, El Paso paramedics called to Hanson's house found Malachi dead. An autopsy found "blunt force injuries" and "innumerable contusions of the head, torso and extremities." The county medical examiner ruled the death a homicide.

Last year, Hanson pleaded guilty to two counts of injuring a child after prosecutors agreed to drop murder charges. A state judge sentenced him to probation. The Army gave him an honorable discharge and a full pension of about \$28,000 a year.

Army officials said the decision to close the FAP case before the infant's death was appropriate. "No program has a 100 percent guarantee of success when dealing with individuals," said William Costlow, an Army spokesman.

The Pentagon has struggled to deal with a little-noticed cascade of child abuse and neglect cases in military families in the years since America went to war in Iraq and Afghanistan, a Los Angeles Times/Tribune Washington Bureau investigation has found.

Previously unreleased reports by the Army, Navy and Air Force reveal numerous cases in which military officials knew or suspected that child abuse or neglect was occurring but failed to intervene or to alert the Family Advocacy Program

or state child welfare agencies, The Times found.

In many cases, the reports blamed military personnel for failing to report cases of abuse and neglect to FAP officials.

A 2014 report on 50 deaths in Air Force families over five years reached a similar conclusion.

Citing privacy restrictions, Pentagon officials redacted parts of each report, which were released in response to Freedom of Information Act requests. The Times was able to identify many victims and their abusers by comparing the reports with court records and other legal documents.

Even senior FAP officials concede they are able to help only a fraction of the children who suffer abuse.

## The wars' effects

America's longest wars already have been associated with poor mental health in military families, behavioral problems in children, a higher risk of divorce and higher rates of suicide, studies show.

Experts now add child abuse to that tragic list.

"We have a relatively high rate of child maltreatment," said Dr. Sharon Cooper, a pediatrician and retired Army colonel who treats child abuse victims at Fort Bragg in North Carolina. "And we know that child abuse and neglect is highly influenced by deployment."

Fatalities more than doubled from 14 in 2003 to 38 in 2012. They remained above 30 a year through 2014 before dropping to 23 in 2015, the last year that Pentagon records are available. Overall, FAP counted 5,378 child abuse and neglect victims in military families in 2015.

The Pentagon long has claimed that child abuse is less severe in the military than in the civilian population. The military weeds out alcohol and drug users with random tests and annual fitness reports, and the mental strain of unemployment isn't a problem.

Moreover, base commanders are supposed to monitor their troops' daily lives and the welfare of their families. They can order FAP to counsel parents

and even temporarily bar servicemembers from contact with their families in abuse cases.

Military bases also are required to cooperate closely with state child welfare agencies.

But in the last five years, the rate of child abuse and neglect in the military has gone up sharply — from 4.8 incidents per 1,000 children to 7.2 incidents, according to Pentagon records. Civilian rates, which vary depending on how they're counted, generally are higher.

The failure of base commanders to intervene has sparked special concern among child welfare advocates.

Experts say those failures may occur because a criminal charge of child abuse can lead to a soldier's discharge — costing the family its livelihood — and also can be seen as a blot on a commander's record.

Underlying the problems is the belief at senior levels of the Pentagon that the military can handle family violence by ordering an accused abuser into FAP counseling, experts say.

"Ultimately, an allegation of abuse is plopped down on the desk of some commander, who is supposed to take action, as if you can discipline somebody who is abusing their children and make them stop, which is absurd," said Mark Davis, an attorney involved in a decade-long lawsuit against the Army over the abuse death of a 5-year-old girl on a military base in Hawaii.

## FAP's role

FAP, created after the Vietnam War, now has more than 2,000 case workers and administrators. They offer help to 1.2 million active-duty couples and 1.1 million children at almost every U.S. military base, including in Germany, Japan and other overseas posts where families are allowed.

In the most violent cases, FAP officials can seek a protective order from the military that bars an abusive parent from contact with a child, or ask a civilian court to place a battered child in foster care.

FAP and Pentagon officials say the program provides valu-

able counseling, parenting classes, home visits and other help to thousands of military families, many of them young parents living on their own for the first time.

The Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines all have boosted training and staffing at their FAP operations over the last decade, officials say. FAP staffing at Army bases, for instance, has grown from 136 to 390, with many new hires assigned to visit homes of new parents to teach parenting techniques.

But some FAP offices are overwhelmed, especially after units deployed overseas return home.

FAP officials contend it is unfair to blame their staff for failing to foresee which military parents will abuse their children when warning signs often are fragmentary or ambiguous.

FAP has come under fire before. In the early 1980s, about a decade after the Army, Navy and Air Force each developed programs for treating domestic violence on military installations, an investigation by federal auditors found the efforts were poorly funded, understaffed and often inadequate.

Congress provided additional money in response and ordered the Pentagon to keep better track of personnel accused of abuse. After cases continued to increase, Congress in 2001 created an independent task force to evaluate the military's efforts.

The panel issued 193 recommendations, including a call for the Pentagon to hire hundreds of "victim advocates" on military bases to help abused children and spouses, whom panel members believed often received short shrift from FAP.

In 2011, Jessica Wright, then undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, ordered another "top-level rapid review" of FAP. It produced 84 "preliminary ideas" for improvements.

Congress last month passed a national defense authorization bill that requires military personnel to immediately report suspected cases of child abuse to FAP and to state child protection agencies.

# Cease-fire deal shaky in Syria

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces pressed ahead with their offensive in the water-rich Barada Valley northwest of Damascus on Tuesday as 10 rebel groups said they were suspending talks about planned peace negotiations because of what they describe as ongoing government violations of a cease-fire deal.

The cease-fire, brokered by Russia and Turkey, is meant to be followed by talks later this month in the Kazakh capital of Astana between mainstream rebel factions and government representatives.

The U.N. Security Council on Saturday unanimously adopted a resolution supporting efforts by Russia and Turkey, which support opposing sides of the Syria war, to end the nearly six-year conflict and jump-start peace negotiations.

But the nationwide truce that went into effect Friday is looking increasingly shaky, with opposition factions angered in particular about the ongoing military offensive in the strategically important Barada Valley.

The government and the opposition disagree about whether the region is part of the cease-fire agreement, which excludes extremist factions such as the Islamic State group and al-Qaida's affiliate, known as Fatah al-Sham Front. The text of the document was never released to the public.

The Syrian government says the mountainous region is not part of the cease-fire because of the presence of Fatah al-Sham Front. Local activists deny any militant presence in the area.

Opposition activists, including the Barada Valley Media Center, on Tuesday reported heavy bombardment of villages in the region. The opposition's Civil Defense first responders reported at least nine government airstrikes since Sunday, as well as acute shortages of medical supplies. Six people have been killed and 73 have been wounded, it said.

In a statement posted late Monday, 10 rebel factions said they were "freezing all discussions regarding the Astana negotiations or any other consultations regarding the cease-fire agreement until it is fully

implemented." They include the powerful Army of Islam group, which operates mainly outside the Syrian capital.

It said the violations in the Barada Valley are continuing and "threaten the lives of hundreds of thousands of people." The statement also said that the opposition will consider any military changes made on the ground to be a serious violation of the cease-fire agreement "that renders it null."

The Barada Valley, which is controlled by rebels and is surrounded by pro-government forces including the Lebanese Iranian-backed Hezbollah group, is the primary source of water for Damascus and surrounding areas. The fighting has cut off the capital's main sources of water, resulting in severe shortages since Dec. 22.

Images from the valley's Media Center indicate its Ain al-Fijeh spring and water processing facility have been destroyed, apparently by airstrikes. The government says rebels spoiled the water source with diesel fuel, forcing it to cut supplies to the capital.

## Grim selfie video may show suspect in Turkey

Associated Press

ISTANBUL — Turkish state media aired new footage on Tuesday of a man believed to be the Islamic State gunman who killed 39 people at a nightclub, showing a grim selfie video of the suspect as he circles Istanbul's most famous square.

The camera never leaves the man's unsmiling face as he walks through Taksim Square, one of Istanbul's prime tourist spots, during the 44-second video broadcast Tuesday on state-run Anadolu television and other media.

It wasn't immediately clear if it was filmed before or after the New Year's massacre at the Reina nightclub, or how the footage was obtained.

The gunman is still at large. Authorities haven't publicly identified him, and police denied that Kyrgyz passport information circulating in Turkish media belonged to the gunman.

The Islamic State group claimed the attack on Monday, saying a "soldier of the caliphate" had carried out the mass shooting to avenge Turkish military operations against the Islamic State group in northern Syria.

At least 14 people have been detained in connection with the attack.

The Hurriyet newspaper said a woman identified by Turkish media as the wife of the massacre suspect has told police she didn't know her husband was an Islamic State member.

The woman was detained in the central town of Konya as part of the investigation. Neither she nor her husband has been identified by name.

Hurriyet said on its online edition Tuesday that the woman said she learned about the attack on television and told police she didn't know her husband harbored "sympathies toward" the Islamic State group.

## DOD to crack down on some contractors

Bloomberg

The Pentagon is seeking ways to crack down on contractors that make low-ball bids for multibillion-dollar development projects in anticipation of collecting other Defense Department funds later.

Contractors oppose a proposed regulation saying that Pentagon contracts specialists could recalculate bids as higher than submitted. That would increase the risk that a company would lose the bidding to a competitor.

The question is whether some contractors rely too much in their bid calculations on estimates of future Pentagon reimbursement for their independent spending on research and development of unrelated projects. That's as opposed to a

bid based more on a contract's technological risk and labor-cost projections, as well as the fruits of a bidder's own prior independent research and development expenses.

Counting on future reimbursements can give bidders "a significant competitive advantage" so "we just want to make sure that things are transparent," Claire Grady, the Defense Department's director of procurement policy, said in an interview.

The Pentagon actively encourages companies to spend their own funds on independent research and development that meets military needs, and repays some of the expenditures. The Pentagon reimbursed industry \$3.8 billion in fiscal 2015 and \$3.5 billion in 2014 for its share of these "IR&D" ex-

penditures. The expenses are typically reimbursed as indirect costs spread across a company's entire business base.

Facing strong opposition — led by the Council of Defense and Space Industry Associations, an umbrella group for contractors — the Pentagon announced on Dec. 22 that it would extend the time for industry comments on the proposed regulation by a month, through Feb. 2. The extension increases the chances the proposal could be scrapped or revised by the incoming Trump administration.

While President-elect Donald Trump has vowed to slash the costs of major defense projects such as Lockheed Martin Corp.'s F-35 fighter, he's also promised to support U.S. businesses by cutting regulation.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Officer dives into car when driver can't stop

**NY** MANORVILLE — A Long Island police officer said he dove through an open window of a slow-moving car with a toddler in the back seat when an impaired driver said she couldn't pull over.

Suffolk County Police Highway Patrol Officer Joseph Goss said the woman was driving about 20 mph on the Long Island Expressway on Thursday in Manorville.

Goss said he saw a 22-month-old girl in a safety seat and suspected the driver was high. He said he drove ahead, parked, jumped through a passenger-side window and forced the car to park. No one was hurt.

Maria Lagatta, of Farmingville, faces charges including driving while ability impaired by drugs and aggravated driving while intoxicated with a child passenger 15 years or younger.

## 2-year twins: Babies are born Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

**CA** SAN DIEGO — For the second straight year, twins in San Diego are getting attention because, though born just minutes apart, one has a birthday in 2016 and one in 2017.

KFMB-TV reported the twin girls were born at Sharp Mary Birch Hospital for Women & Newborns.

One girl arrived at 11:56 p.m. on Dec. 31, and the other came on Jan. 1, 2017 at midnight.

The family was not available for comment.

Last year, a baby girl and boy arrived one minute before and two minutes after the New Year at San Diego Kaiser Permanente Zion Medical Center.

## \$27M contract to pay for naval shipyard repairs

**ME** KITTERY — The U.S. Navy is going to give a Maine company nearly \$27 million for construction and dock repairs at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Cianbro Corp. of Pittsfield is getting the contract. Maine Sens. Susan Collins and Angus King say the work will help make sure the shipyard is able to fulfill its role in protecting national security.

Collins, a Republican, and King, an independent, say the contract will pay for replacement of part of dry dock number 3. It will also pay for repairs to the concrete entrance structures of the dry dock.

## Man drowns while hiding from police

**OR** SALEM — Salem Police said a 34-year-old man drowned after he ran from police following a traffic stop and attempted to hide under a bridge in the water.

The police department said Christopher Free, of Salem, died early Sunday morning. Police said officers tried to negotiate with him for 20 minutes to get out of the water before he submerged. An officer jumped into the water and pulled him out. He died at a local hospital.

An officer spotted a speeding car and attempted to stop the driver. As the officer approached the car on foot, the driver took off and later crashed. The driver fled on foot and was found hiding under the High Street bridge.

## Dogs suspected of starting house fire

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — Two dogs have been blamed for causing their

southeast Albuquerque home to catch fire.

The Albuquerque Journal reported that firefighters responded to the house Sunday morning to find flames and heavy smoke coming from the garage. They were eventually able to extinguish the blaze.

Albuquerque Fire Department spokeswoman Diane Burns said firefighters suspect the dogs bumped into a kerosene heater in the garage.

The house had been unoccupied at the time, and the two dogs escaped unharmed.

## Hotel guest falls to his death in boiler shaft

**DC** WASHINGTON — Police and fire officials said a guest at a Washington hotel died after falling into a boiler shaft on the roof and plunging 10 floors to the basement.

D.C. police spokesman Rachel Schaerr told The Washington Post that John Leonard, 23, of Herndon, Va., fell around 2:30 a.m. Sunday at the Dupont Circle Hotel. Authorities said he had gone to the roof with someone else, possibly his girlfriend.

A spokesman for the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department said crews that specialize in confined-space rescues recovered Leonard's body.

## Man wins lifetime hunting, fishing license

**VT** MONTPELIER — A Bridport man will be entitled to hunt and fish for free in Vermont for life.

David Girard, 56, won the 2016 Vermont lifetime hunting and fishing license lottery. He was the winner from among more than 10,000 lottery tickets bought. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department holds

the drawing each year.

## Police: Old munitions discoveries common

**OH** TOLEDO — A family cleaning out the Toledo-area home of a relative who recently died stumbled across a live hand grenade from the World War II era.

Authorities in Toledo say it's becoming a more common occurrence. A police spokesman said the bomb squad retrieves old military munitions about once a month. He said that too often people who discover grenades or a mortar shell will haul it to the police station. Police say the best thing to do is call 911.

The Blade newspaper reported that the Northwest Ohio Bomb Squad put the grenade in a blast-resistant container to dispose of it.

## Tarzan the monkey thrills neighborhood

**FL** FORT LAUDERDALE — A monkey that moved into Fort Lauderdale just after Christmas is quickly becoming a neighborhood star.

The South Florida Sun Sentinel reported that residents of the Rio Vista neighborhood have named the animal Tarzan, and are riding in golf carts trying to get a glimpse of him.

Tarzan is likely from a colony of about 40 African vervet monkeys who are thought to have been released from a 1950s tourist attraction and now live in a dense patch of mangroves near Port Everglades.

Missy Williams, a doctoral student at Florida Atlantic University who is studying the colony, said Tarzan is likely out searching for a new social group. She expects him to return to the Port Everglades area after realizing there aren't any other monkeys around.

From wire reports

STARS AND STRIPES

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# USC captures Rose Bowl on final play

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — After 98 combined points and 1,040 yards of spectacular offensive play, the highest-scoring Rose Bowl in college football history rested on the left foot of a Southern California kicker who had already missed two field goals.

Matt Boermeester somehow blocked out the cacophonous tension in the chilly air. He focused only on securing a perfect ending to an epic evening.

“Game was on the line, but you’ve got to keep true to your technique and trust it,” Boermeester said.

His technique was sound and the Trojans got their storybook finish in Pasadena.

Boermeester hit a 46-yard field goal as time expired, and No. 9 USC rallied from a 14-

point deficit in the fourth quarter for a 52-49 victory over No. 5 Penn State on Monday night in the 103rd edition of the Granddaddy of Them All.

Freshman Sam Darnold passed for 453 yards and five touchdowns while leading a stirring comeback by the Trojans (10-3), who won their ninth consecutive game and triumphed in their first Rose Bowl since 2009. USC trailed 49-35 with nine minutes to play, but persevered to win one of the greatest Rose Bowls ever played.

“It was just two really good football teams playing at the highest level and competing until the absolute, very end,” USC coach Clay Helton said. “The greatest players shined brightest on the biggest stage. It’s what fairy tales are made of.”

Deontay Burnett, who had three TD receptions, caught a tying 27-yard scoring pass from Darnold with 1:20 left to cap an 80-yard drive in 38 seconds with no timeouts available.

Leon McQuay III then intercepted an ill-advised long pass by Trace McSorley and returned it 32 yards to the Penn State 33 with 27 seconds left. In an instant, the Trojans went from preparing for overtime to having a chance to win.

The Trojans set up Boermeester, and the junior confidently drilled the Rose Bowl winner, sprinting away as it went through the south up-rights and set off pandemonium on the hallowed field.

“It’s beautiful,” McQuay said. “This is a special group of guys. Oh man, this is the time to step up. This is the time to make plays.”

McSorley passed for 254 yards and threw two of his four touchdown passes to Chris Godwin for the Nittany Lions (11-3), whose nine-game winning streak ended in heartbreaking fashion.

Saquon Barkley rushed for 194 yards and two TDs for the Nittany Lions (12-2).

“That game doesn’t really define us,” Penn State coach James Franklin said. “I wouldn’t be any more proud tonight sitting here with a win ... after what might have been the most exciting Rose Bowl game ever.”

With one jaw-dropping play after another from two talent-laden offenses, the teams obliterated the combined Rose Bowl scoring record in the third quarter, surpassing Oregon’s 45-38 victory over Wisconsin in the 2012 game.

## OU: Plenty to celebrate in Sugar Bowl win over Auburn

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Heisman Trophy finalists Baker Mayfield and Dede Westbrook connected one last time for a touchdown. Joe Mixon emerged from his recent controversy with big plays that had teammates lifting him off his feet in celebration. Samaje Perine put his name in Oklahoma’s record books.

Seventh-ranked Oklahoma had plenty to celebrate after a 35-19 triumph over No. 17 Auburn in college football’s Sugar Bowl on Monday night, including a 10th-straight victory.

“We’re a prideful team,” Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops said. “And we’re confident, regardless of the people that try to rattle the cage and shake your confidence. ... We improved as we went through the end and we fought through the outside noise.”

Mayfield passed for 296 yards and two touchdowns. Mixon heard boos from Auburn fans, who also shouted derisive comments regarding a recently

publicized video of him punching a woman in the face in 2014. Mixon, who served a season-long suspension in 2014 and has apologized for the assault, also drew cheers from crimson-clad Oklahoma fans with his play. His two short touchdown runs were among the highlights of a performance in which he gained 180 yards from scrimmage — 91 rushing on 19 carries and 89 receiving on five catches.

“He has a second chance and making the most of it,” Stoops said. “He is a great teammate to these guys and one of the most popular guys in the locker room.”

Perine rushed for 86 yards, three more than he needed to set Oklahoma’s career rushing record.

Auburn (8-5), which wound up in the Sugar Bowl despite dropping its last two Southeastern Conference games to Georgia and Alabama, entered the game hopeful that it would be buoyed by the return of quarterback Sean White, who’d missed the Tigers’ final two

games with a throwing shoulder injury. White led Auburn to a touchdown on its first series — Chandler Cox’s 3-yard run on fourth down — but the quarterback left the game for good in the first half with a broken right forearm.

John Franklin III backed up White but also hurt his throwing arm, Auburn coach Gus Malzahn said, so Jeremy Johnson got into the game. The Tigers’ offense was inconsistent, increasing pressure on Auburn’s 20th-ranked defense to keep the Sooners’ fast-paced, high-powered attack in check.

“That’s tough. They’re [among the best] in the nation,” Auburn defensive back Josh Holsey said of Oklahoma’s offense, which came in averaging 557.3 yards and 44.7 points per game. “They came out and showed that tonight.”

### Rushing record

With back-to-back fourth-quarter runs of 16 and 15 yards, Perine reached the 83-yard mark, giving him the

Oklahoma record for career yards rushing. The previous record of 4,118 was set by Billy Sims back in 1979. Perine finished with 4,122, and when he set the mark, Mixon gave him a congratulatory embrace. Perine wasn’t inclined to discuss the record, but others spoke for him.

### The takeaway

**Auburn:** The Tigers had the talent to beat some good teams, but a lack of depth hurt them against elite competition. Oklahoma, winner of the Big 12, was the third conference champ Auburn faced this season, along with Clemson of the ACC and Alabama of the SEC. The Tigers lost all three.

**Oklahoma:** The Sooners continued to make a case that they’ve been playing well enough at the end of the season to be worthy of a College Football Playoff bid, which only makes their early season stumbles, including a lopsided loss to Ohio State, seem all the more costly.

# Florida routs Iowa in Outback

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — No. 20 Florida dominated the Outback with stingy defense and a persistent offense that did its job, too.

Chauncey Gardner, Jr., returned one of his two fourth-quarter interceptions 58 yards for a touchdown, and graduate transfer Austin Appleby threw for 222 yards and two TDs to pace Monday's 30-3 rout of No. 21 Iowa.

With Gardner grabbing game MVP honors, the Gators (9-4) held up their end of what many expected to be a day defense ruled, especially considering Florida entered ranked 115th in the nation in total offense — five spots ahead of the sputtering Hawkeyes.

Conversely, the teams were sixth and 24th, respectively, in total defense.

"The MVP, it goes to our guys up front, the linebackers and the coaching staff because they put me in good position to make plays. ... It should be a team MVP," Gardner said. "Our motto is just go out there

and have fun, and play our game."

Mark Thompson scored on an 85-yard pass play in the first half and Appleby, who spent the past four seasons at Purdue, tossed a 6-yard TD pass to DeAndre Goolsby to break the game open late in the third quarter.

"It was a tough day for our football team," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. "Our team really had a good month, they practiced and prepared well. I'm not sure there's a thing I'd go back and change. Ultimately, we didn't play well enough to come up with a victory."

## Cotton Bowl

**Wisconsin 24, Western Michigan 16:** At Arlington, Texas, tight end Troy Fumagalli made a leaping 8-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter and the Badgers won to deny the Broncos an undefeated season.

The TD catch by Fumagalli with 12:26 left, in the back of the end zone between two de-

fenders, came three plays after a rare interception thrown by Zach Terrell and made it 24-10.

With their "Row The Boat" mentality inspired by young head coach P.J. Fleck, the 12th-ranked Broncos (13-1) made it from one win during his first season in Kalamazoo three years ago to the last FBS team other than No. 1 Alabama this season with a chance to be undefeated.

Eighth-ranked Wisconsin (11-3), which finished with 11 wins for the fourth time in seven seasons, was clearly bigger and stronger — especially up front. The Big Ten runner-up Badgers set the tone early, with rushing touchdowns on their first two drives to take a 14-0 lead against the Group of Five team.

Fumagalli had several other highlight catches, including a one-handed 20-yard grab on the Badgers' opening drive, and a 26-yard catch to convert third-and-8 as they ran out the final 3:27 after Western Michigan scored.

# Holy Cross tops Navy at buzzer

Associated Press

WORCESTER, Mass. — Patrick Benzan drove the lane and threw up an off-balance layup that rolled in at the buzzer as Holy Cross rallied to defeat Navy 51-50 on Monday night.

Malachi Alexander led the Crusaders (7-8, 1-1 Patriot League) with 17 points and seven rebounds, while Champion scored 11 points.

George Kiernan scored a career-high 16 points for Navy (5-9, 0-2).

**Bucknell 84, Army 76:** At Lewisburg, Pa., Nana Foulland had 20 points and 12 rebounds, Zach Thomas added 19 points and the Bison held off the Black Knights.

Bucknell (10-5, 2-0 Patriot League), led by a dozen at half-time, 16 with 14:27 to play and 10 with 5:27 to go. But Army (6-8, 0-2) couldn't get closer than six.

# Krzyzewski to be sidelined 4 weeks after back surgery

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Hall of Fame Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski is stepping away from the team to have lower back surgery.

The school announced Monday that the procedure is scheduled for Friday, with an anticipated recovery time of four weeks.

Krzyzewski will coach Wednesday night's game against Georgia Tech before handing off to associate head coach Jeff Capel for Saturday's home game against Boston College.

Krzyzewski, 69, will have a fragment of a herniated disk removed at Duke University Hospital. The school says Krzyzewski tried several treatment options during the past month before deciding on surgery.

Krzyzewski said in a state-

ment that he consulted with the university's medical team and "together, we have determined that surgery is the best course of action at this time." He says the Blue Devils will "be in the capable hands" of Capel and assistants Nate James and Jon Scheyer.

"As soon as the doctors clear me to do so, I look forward to returning and giving our team 100 (percent) of my energy and attention, which is certainly something that they deserve," he said.

The winningest men's coach in Division I history had four surgeries during the offseason to replace his left knee, repair his left ankle and fix a hernia. He squeezed those procedures into a busy summer in which he also led the U.S. Olympic team to the gold medal in Rio de Janeiro.

"To be sure, the entire Duke community is supportive and

eager to get Mike back as soon as possible," Duke athletic director Kevin White said. "His health is paramount, and he will get the best possible care in the world by the Duke medical team. With the proper recovery time, we look forward to Mike doing what he does best — leading and teaching — very soon."

Capel — a former Duke guard who went 175-110 in nine years coaching at Virginia Commonwealth and Oklahoma — previously took over for Krzyzewski when he missed a trip to Georgia Tech last February because of dehydration and high blood pressure.

That victory in Atlanta marked the first time Krzyzewski did not travel with his team since the 1994-95 season, when he missed the final 19 games due to back surgery and exhaustion. Those Blue Devils went 4-15 during that span and

became the last Duke team to miss the NCAA Tournament.

Monday's announcement marks the latest twist in an already drama-filled season for a team voted No. 1 in the preseason on the strength of a lineup led by preseason AP All-American guard Grayson Allen and four immediate-impact freshmen.

On Saturday, the Blue Devils (12-2) were routed at Virginia Tech in the first game of Allen's indefinite suspension for tripping yet another opponent. And those freshmen — Harry Giles, Jayson Tatum, Marques Bolden and Frank Jackson — have played in the same game only three times because of various injuries.

The Blue Devils dropped three spots to No. 8 — their lowest ranking of the season — in the AP Top 25 released Monday.

# Butler lifts Bulls over Hornets with 52

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Following a year of inconsistency and disappointment, the Chicago Bulls entered 2017 with plenty of resolutions.

There's one thing, however, they are hoping remains the same — the production of Jimmy Butler.

Butler scored 52 points and outdueled Kemba Walker, carrying Chicago in a 118-111 victory over the Charlotte Hornets on Monday night.

Butler was a point shy of his career high, which he got Jan. 14, 2016 at Philadelphia. He scored 20 points in the first half and 17 in the game's final four minutes.

"It's an understatement to say he was phenomenal. He did it in any which way," Bulls coach Fred Hoiberg said. "He just took what the defense gave him and obviously made huge plays down the stretch."

Butler also had 12 rebounds and six assists while shooting 21 of 22 from the free-throw line. He has scored at least 25

points in four straight games, and his performance Monday surpassed his previous season high of 40 points.

"I was just playing basketball," Butler said. "I didn't even know how many points I had. I just had a groove. Coach kept drawing up the same play."

Walker went blow-for-blow with Butler for much of the game, boosting his All-Star candidacy with 34 points and a season-high 11 rebounds.

**Bucks 98, Thunder 94:** Greek forward Giannis Antetokounmpo had 26 points and 10 rebounds and rookie Malcolm Brogdon hit two free throws with 8.8 seconds left, lifting host Milwaukee.

**Clippers 109, Suns 98:** J.J. Redick scored 22 points to help host Los Angeles beat Phoenix, opening the new year by snapping a six-game skid.

**Cavaliers 90, Pelicans 82:** LeBron James scored 26 points as short-handed host Cleveland rallied for a win over New Orleans.

Cavaliers guard Kyrie Irving missed his

second straight game because of tightness in his right hamstring. Cleveland dressed only 10 players thanks to a rash of recent injuries.

**Warriors 127, Nuggets 119:** Draymond Green's putback with 28.9 seconds left gave him the final rebound for his second triple-double of the season, and he finished with 15 points, 13 assists and 10 boards to lead host Golden State.

**Jazz 101, Nets 89:** Gordon Hayward scored 30 points, Rudy Gobert had 15 points and 16 rebounds and visiting Utah pulled away in the final quarter.

**Rockets 101, Wizards 91:** Eric Gordon scored 31 points and James Harden had 23 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds to lead host Houston over Washington.

**Magic 115, Knicks 103:** Jodie Meeks scored a season-high 23 points while Serge Ibaka and Aaron Gordon each had 22 as Orlando rolled over host New York, which lost its fifth straight game.

## Blues top Chicago in Winter Classic

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The Blues and Blackhawks took to the outdoors Monday, with Vladimir Tarasenko scoring twice in a 1:53 span of the third period and Jake Allen stopping 22 shots to lead St. Louis to a 4-1 victory over Chicago in the Winter Classic at Busch Stadium.

It was 46 degrees when play began before a sellout crowd of 46,556, the sixth-largest for a Winter Classic. This was the 21st regular-season outdoor NHL game.

The Blues went ahead 2-1 when Tarasenko made a backhand pass that hit Niklas Hjalmarsson's skate and slipped by goalie Corey Crawford at 12:05 of the third period. Tarasenko then scored on a wrist shot over Crawford's shoulder at 13:58, giving him 18 goals this season. Robbi Fabbri assisted on both goals.

The Blues added an empty-net goal by Alexander Steen at 18:46.

**Devils 3, Bruins 0:** PA Parenteau scored his fifth goal in eight games and Cory Schneider made 22 saves, leading slumping New Jersey over visiting Boston.

**Canucks 3, Avalanche 2:** Sven Baertschi scored twice, including the tiebreaking goal on a power play with less than four minutes to go, and Ryan Miller made 24 saves for his 350th career victory to lead host Vancouver past Colorado.

## Ex-Marine gets game time

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Jorge Alves usually sharpens the Carolina Hurricanes' skates. Lately, the team's equipment manager has been lacing up his own.

It's been a wild few days for Alves. The 37-year-old former Marine, ex-minor leaguer and veteran of the team's equipment staff suddenly found himself in uniform for an NHL game — and even, for 7.6 unforgettable seconds, on the ice — as the Hurricanes' emergency goalie while regular backup Eddie Lack was too sick.

When the Hurricanes returned to practice Monday, he was back on the ice again — he regularly suits up during morning skates when one of the goalies on the roster is unavailable — and trying to get comfortable with the attention his unusual story has generated.

"This is the brightest stage in our sport, and it's just, to have the honor to do this, everybody dreams about it," Alves said. "Just working out and running and stuff, I'm always thinking about it — what if it ever happened? What would I do? How would I react? And then, when it actually did happen, I kind of went blank. You can't prepare for that. It was unexpected and it was just quite a memory."

It's not like Alves doesn't know his way around a rink. After serving four years in the Marines, he played club hockey at

North Carolina State from 2002 to 2004 and skated in the ECHL and the low-level Southern Professional Hockey League. He first worked with Carolina's equipment staff during the 2003-04 season and became a full-time equipment manager in 2012-13.

The Hurricanes found themselves in a pinch when Lack fell ill before Saturday night's game at the Tampa Bay Lightning. Roughly two hours before the puck drop, they announced the signing of Alves to a professional tryout contract and issued him jersey No. 40.

"I think we were literally watching that guy's dream come true right before our eyes," starter Cam Ward said. "Seeing how emotional he got before that game made everybody emotional. And I said to him right before the game, 'They don't ask how or why, but you made it to the NHL.'"

With 7.6 seconds left and the outcome all but decided — the Lightning led 3-1 — coach Bill Peters sent Alves onto the ice to replace Ward. He didn't have to face a shot but was handed the puck by teammate Jeff Skinner.

"Every time I see it, I kind of get choked up," Alves said. "Seven-point-six seconds is going to be near and dear to me."

A repeat wasn't likely Tuesday when New Jersey visited. Peters said if Lack was too sick to skate, the team would recall someone from its AHL Charlotte affiliate.