

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Trump sworn in as 45th president

### New leader vows to stir national pride, bring jobs back

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Pledging to empower America's "forgotten men and women," Donald Trump was sworn in as the 45th president of the United States on Friday, taking command of a deeply divided nation and ushering in an unpredictable era in Washington. His victory gives Republicans control of the White House for the first time in eight years.

Looking out over the crowd sprawled across the National Mall, Trump painted a bleak picture of the nation he now leads, lamenting "American carnage," shuttered factories and depleted U.S. leadership. President Barack Obama, the man he replaced, sat behind him stoically.

Trump's first words as commander in chief were an unapologetic reprisal of the economic populism and nationalism that fueled his improbable campaign. He vowed to stir "new national pride," to bring jobs back to the United States, and to "eradicate completely" Islamic terrorism.

"From this day forward, a new vision will govern our land. From this day forward, it's going to be only, 'America first,'" Trump said in a 16-minute address.

In a remarkable scene, Trump ripped into Washington's longtime leaders as he stood among them at the U.S. Capitol. For too long, he said, "a small group in our nation's Capital has reaped the rewards of government while the people have borne the cost."

For Republicans eager to be back in the White House, there was little mention of the party's bedrock principles: small government, social conservatism and robust American leadership around the world. Trump, who is taking office as one of the most unpopular incoming presidents in modern history, made only oblique references to those who may be infuriated and fearful of his presidency.

"To all Americans in every city near and far, small and large from mountain to mountain, from ocean to ocean, hear these words: You will never be ignored again," he said.

Trump was sworn in by Chief Justice John Roberts, reciting the 35-word oath with his hand placed upon two Bibles, one

used by his family and another during President Abraham Lincoln's inauguration.

Trump and his wife, Melania, bid Obama and outgoing first lady Michelle Obama farewell as they departed the Capitol grounds in a government helicopter. Trump and Obama's political paths have been linked in remarkable ways. Before running for the White House, the billionaire businessman led efforts to promote falsehoods about the 44th president's citizenship and claim on the office.

**'From this day forward, a new vision will govern our land. From this day forward, it's going to be "America first."'**

**President Donald Trump**

Obama addressed a staff gathering at Joint Base Andrews before departing for a vacation in California. "You proved the power of hope," he said.

Trump's journey to the inauguration was as unlikely as any in recent American history. He defied his party's establishment, befuddled the media and toppled two political dynasties on his way to victory. His message, calling for a resurgence of white, working-class corners of America, was packaged in defiant stump speeches railing against political correctness. He used social media to dominate the national conversation and to challenge conventions about political discourse. After years of Democratic control of the White House and deadlock in Washington, his was a blast of fresh air for millions.

But Trump's call for restrictive immigration measures and his caustic campaign rhetoric about women and minorities angered millions. And Trump's swearing-in was shadowed by questions about his ties to Russia, which U.S. intelligence agencies have determined worked to tip the 2016 election in his favor.

Trump's inauguration drew crowds to the nation's capital to witness the history,

though the crowds appeared smaller than at past ceremonies. Demonstrations unfolded at various security checkpoints near the Capitol as police in riot gear helped ticket-holders get through to the ceremony.

More than 60 House Democrats refused to attend his swearing-in ceremony in the shadow of the Capitol dome. One Democrat who did sit among the dignitaries was Hillary Clinton, Trump's vanquished campaign rival, who was widely expected by both parties to be the one taking the oath of office.

At 70, Trump is the oldest person to be sworn in as president, marking a generational step backward after two terms for Obama, one of the youngest presidents to serve as commander in chief.

Trump takes charge of an economy that has recovered from the Great Recession but nonetheless has left millions of Americans feeling left behind. The nation's longest war is still being waged in Afghanistan and U.S. troops are battling the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. The American health care system was expanded to reach millions more Americans during Obama's tenure, but at considerable financial cost. Trump has vowed to dismantle and rebuild it.

Trump faces challenges as the first president to take office without ever having held a political position nor having served in the military. He has stacked his Cabinet with established Washington figures and wealthy business leaders. Though his team's conservative bent has been cheered by many Republicans, the overwhelmingly white and male Cabinet has been criticized for a lack of diversity.

Before attending an inaugural luncheon, Trump signed his first series of orders, including the official nominations for his Cabinet. He joked with lawmakers, including House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, and handed out presidential pens.

In a show of solidarity, all of the living American presidents attended Trump's inaugural, except for George H.W. Bush, 92, who was hospitalized this week with pneumonia. His wife, Barbara, also was admitted to the hospital after falling ill.

# Windows broken, chaos erupts near ceremony

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Police deployed pepper spray in a chaotic confrontation blocks from Donald Trump's inauguration Friday as protesters registered their rage against the incoming president.

Spirited demonstrations unfolded peacefully at various security checkpoints near the Capitol as police helped ticket-holders get through to the inaugural ceremony. Signs read, "Resist Trump Climate Justice Now," "Let Freedom Ring," "Free Palestine."

But at one point, police gave chase to a group of about 100 protesters who smashed the windows of downtown businesses as they denounced capitalism and Trump. Police in riot gear used pepper spray from large canisters and eventually cordoned off the protesters, who shouted, "Hands up, don't shoot," as a helicopter hovered overhead.

The confrontation happened about an hour before Trump's swearing-in at the Capitol.

Closer to that scene, lines for ticket holders entering two gates stretched for blocks at one point as protesters clogged entrances.

Earlier, the DisruptJ20 coalition, named after the date of the inauguration, had promised that people participating in its actions in Washington would attempt to

shut down the celebrations, risking arrest when necessary.

Trump supporter Brett Ecker, 36, said the protesters were frustrating but weren't going to put a damper on his day.

"They're just here to stir up trouble," said the public school teacher. "It upsets me a little bit that people choose to do this, but yet again, it's one of the things I love about this country."

At one checkpoint, protesters wore orange jumpsuits with black hoods over their faces to represent prisoners in U.S. detention at Guantanamo Bay. Eleanor Goldfield, who helped organize the Disrupt J20 protest, said protesters wanted to show Trump and his "misguided, misinformed or just plain dangerous" supporters that they won't be silent.

Black Lives Matter and feminist groups also made their voices heard.

Most Trump supporters walking to the inauguration past Union Station ignored protesters outside the train station, but not Doug Rahm, who engaged in a lengthy and sometimes profane yelling match with them.

"Get a job," said Rahm, a Bikers for Trump member from Philadelphia. "Stop crying snowflakes, Trump won."

Outside the International Spy Museum, protesters in Russian hats ridiculed Trump's praise of President Vladimir Putin, marching with signs calling Trump

"Putin's Puppet" and "Kremlin employee of the month."

More demonstrations were planned for later in the day. For one DisruptJ20 event, a march beginning at Columbus Circle outside Union Station, participants were asked to gather at noon, the same time as Trump's swearing-in as the 45th president.

The route for the march, which organizers called a "Festival of Resistance," ran about 1.5 miles to McPherson Square, a park about three blocks from the White House, where a rally featuring the filmmaker and liberal activist Michael Moore was planned.

"We're going to throw a party in the streets for our side," organizer David Thurston told reporters last week, adding that drummers, musicians and a float of dancers were planned for the march.

Along the parade route, the ANSWER Coalition anti-war group planned demonstrations at two locations.

Protesters and supporters of Trump clashed Thursday evening outside a pro-Trump event in Washington. Police used chemical spray on some protesters in an effort to control the unruly crowd. Hundreds gathered outside the National Press Club in downtown Washington, where the "DeplorableBall" was being held. The name is a play on a campaign remark by Hillary Clinton, who once referred to many of Trump's supporters as a "basket of deplorables."

## Trump nominees Mattis, Kelly have Senate support

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's two least controversial Cabinet nominees were expected to be confirmed by the Senate on Friday afternoon, but the rest may have to wait before they can officially join the Trump administration.

Senate Democrats agreed to hold confirmation votes late Friday afternoon, following Trump's inauguration, for Gen. James Mattis, Trump's pick to head the Department of Defense, and Gen. John Kelly, his choice to lead the Department of Homeland Security.

Mattis previously was in charge of U.S. Central Command, with responsibility for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, while Kelly led U.S. Southern Command. Both also

showed a willingness to break with the president's more controversial positions during their confirmation hearings last week, on matters including the likelihood of building a wall on the border with Mexico and the importance of countering the Kremlin to preserve NATO.

Both Mattis and Kelly were expected to earn bipartisan support on the Senate floor.

While Democrats were ready to endorse Trump's generals, they are withholding support from almost all of Trump's other Cabinet nominees, threatening to slow-walk proceedings on the floor if the president doesn't force his picks to go back to the committees and answer more questions.

"If there was ever a group of Cabinet nominees that cry out for rigorous scrutiny, it's this

one," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said Thursday, calling Trump's Cabinet "a swamp full of billionaires" beset with "conflicts and ethical issues as far as the eye can see."

Schumer accused Republicans of "trying to jam through" Trump's Cabinet picks — in some cases, before traditionally requisite paperwork had been fully filed.

Of all of Trump's pending Cabinet picks, Democrats have promised only to start debating the nomination of Rep. Mike Pompeo, R-Kan., selected to serve as CIA director, after the two generals were cleared. Pompeo could receive a confirmation vote either Friday or Monday.

But there are at least eight other nominees they are pre-

pared to delay proceedings over until Democrats are able to register their complaints.

Those nominees include Attorney General-designate Jeff Sessions, who faces deep skepticism over his civil rights views and record; Education Secretary-designate Betsy DeVos, who underwent aggressive questioning from Democrats Tuesday and showed a tenuous grasp of some key issues; Health and Human Services Secretary-designate Tom Price, a Georgia congressman who is accused of using his legislative post to help companies he had invested in; and Mick Mulvaney, Trump's pick for the Office of Management and Budget, who admitted failing to pay taxes for a domestic employee for four years.

# Official: US strike on al-Qaida kills over 100

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. warplanes bombed an al-Qaida training camp in Syria, killing more than 100 militants, marking the second major U.S. counterterrorism strike in the final hours of Barack Obama's presidency, a defense official said Friday.

The Syria strike was carried out by one B-52 bomber and an undisclosed number of U.S. aerial drones, the official said. The official, who was not authorized to publicly

announce the operation and so spoke on condition of anonymity, said it happened at about noon Washington time on Thursday, less than 24 hours after a combination of B-2 stealth bombers and drones struck two military camps in a remote part of Libya, killing 80 to 90 Islamic State militants.

Obama specifically authorized the Libya strike. It was not immediately clear if the Syria strike required his direct approval.

The militants killed in the Syria attack were described by the official as "core" al-Qaida members, among a number who

had moved to Syria last year to establish a foothold. The U.S. defense official distinguished these militants from members of the group formerly known as the Nusra Front, which is an al-Qaida affiliate in Syria.

The al-Qaida training camp struck on Thursday is situated in Idlib province west of Aleppo, not far from the Turkish border, the official said, adding that the Pentagon believes no civilians were killed in the attack.

## Airstrikes killed up to 117 civilians under Obama

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As many as 117 civilians have been killed in drone and other counterterror attacks in Pakistan, Yemen and elsewhere during President Barack Obama's presidency, according to a report released late Thursday by U.S. intelligence officials.

It was the second public assessment the Obama administration has issued in response to mounting pressure for more information about lethal U.S. operations overseas.

Human rights and other groups have criticized the administration, saying it has undercounted civilian casualties. They also are worried a President Donald Trump will more aggressively conduct drone strikes, which are subject to little oversight from Congress or the judiciary.

The reports by National Intelligence Director James Clapper said the U.S. conducted 526 counterterror strikes, including those by unmanned drones, between January 2009 and December 2016. The reports do not mention where the strikes occurred, but the Pentagon and the CIA have pursued targets in Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia and Libya. The data didn't include strikes in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan, which the U.S. considers areas of active hostilities.

Between 2,803 and 3,022 combatants were killed in strikes during Obama's eight-year presidency, according to the reports. Between 64 and 117 noncombatants were killed.

Nongovernmental organizations have estimated that hundreds more have been killed. Senior U.S. officials have cited several reasons for the discrepancy, including the government's access to sensitive intelligence that helps it more accurately identify the deceased.

## Fanning: Trump's plan to grow Army could cost \$12B

Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's pledge to increase the Army's active-duty troops to 540,000 from 465,000 today could cost at least an extra \$12 billion once the goal is met, based on a formula provided by departing Army Secretary Eric Fanning.

"What do you want the Army to do?" is the strategic question that must be answered, Fanning said in an interview as he prepared to leave office. "The incoming team will define that. But based on current requirements," such as renewed deployments in Europe, "I definitely think the Army will benefit from added force structure."

While Fanning declined to say how many more soldiers he would recommend, he said, "If you grow the Army, you just need to make sure you have the necessary resources to support it."

Fanning's math underscores the budget challenge that will confront Trump and retired Marine Gen. James Mattis, his choice for defense secretary, in making good on promises that also include increasing the Navy's fleet to 350 vessels from the 308 now planned. That goal would cost an estimated \$25 billion annually, 60 percent more than the Navy's annual budget has averaged for building new ships, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Fanning's formula for expanding the Army: Assume \$1.6 billion extra for every additional 10,000 troops. That's a combination of initial costs such as recruitment, military construction and equipment; recurring annual expenditures; and modernization requirements.

The new administration shouldn't be fixated solely on the number of soldiers, Fanning said, because if troops are added

without the resources they need, "you can actually grow into a less effective, less capable force."

The Army hit a high of 566,000 active-duty troops in 2011 to sustain the American troop surge in Iraq along with the continuing war in Afghanistan. The number has dropped steadily since the U.S. pullout from Iraq in December 2011. The debate since then has been about the pace of a planned drawdown to 450,000 by the end of fiscal 2018. This year's defense policy bill mandated that the Army not be reduced to fewer than 476,000.

The estimate of \$1.6 billion per 10,000 active-duty soldiers "is a really rough," round number, Fanning emphasized, adding that "the Army has traditionally underestimated what it has cost to grow." Fanning said his number takes in the range of expenses associated with a buildup, described in military budgeting jargon as "fully burdened costs."

"If we have an Army that is clearly underinvesting in infrastructure and pushing bills into the future, an Army that's clearly underinvesting in" new equipment, "you've got to factor that all in," Fanning said.

That's why Gen. Mark Milley, the Army's chief of staff, "would prefer to cap the regular Army at about 490,000 and put the rest of the money into modernization, readiness, and new capabilities," Mark Cancian, a defense analyst with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said in an email commenting on Milley's announced position.

Growing too quickly also runs the risk of enlisting lower-qualified recruits — a problem the Army encountered during the height of the Iraq War, when it lowered some standards to attract personnel, Fanning said. "This is my fear."

# Final Obama transfer leaves 41 prisoners at Guantanamo

*Miami Herald*

MIAMI — On the last full day of Barack Obama's presidency, the Pentagon Thursday delivered four cleared Guantanamo prisoners to the Persian Gulf — leaving 41 war-on-terror captives for Donald Trump and his vastly different vision of U.S. detention operations in Cuba.

Three men were sent to the United Arab Emirates — Russian Ravil Mingazov, 49, Afghan Haji Wali Muhammed, 50, and Yemeni Yassin Ismail Qasim, 37, the Pentagon said. Saudi Arabian Jabran al-Qahtani, 39, was repatriated to the Saudi Kingdom in the same mission.

All four arrived at the remote prison in 2002. And all were approved for release last year by the interagency Periodic Review Board that Obama set up in a final push, if not to close the prison, to thin its population.

Obama blamed congressional politics for restrictions that forbade trials and detention of the suspected terrorists inside the United States,

thwarting his closure ambition. "History will cast a harsh judgment on this aspect of our fight against terrorism and those of us who fail to bring it to a responsible end," he wrote in a two-page letter to Congress on Thursday.

The 41 remaining prisoners include 10 men charged at the war court, 26 indefinite detainees known as "forever prisoners" and five cleared men, including two whose repatriation deals stalled at the Department of Defense.

Lawyers for Moroccan Abdul Latif Nasser, 51, and Algerian Sufiyan Barhoumi, 43, went to federal court in failed attempts for judicial orders to airlift them off the base, too.

Obama, who took office with 242 captives, left Trump 41 detainees from 13 countries, not one of them captured by U.S. troops, a Miami Herald study has found.

Obama argued until his very last day in the Oval Office that the prison was a costly recruiting tool for al-Qaida and its offspring.

# Obama commutes 330 drug sentences

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama cut short the sentences of 330 federal inmates convicted of drug crimes on Thursday, bringing his bid to correct what he's called a systematic injustice to a climactic close.

With his final offer of clemency, Obama brought his total number of commutations granted to 1,715, more than any other president in U.S. history, the White House said. During his presidency, Obama ordered free 568 inmates who had been sentenced to life in prison.

As Obama issued the commutations, the White House had been mostly cleared out to make way for President Donald Trump. In between carrying out their last duties, the few remaining staffers packed up belongings as photos of Obama were taken down from the walls of the West Wing corridors.

The final batch of commutations — more in a single day than on any other day in U.S. history — was the culmination of Obama's second-term effort to try to remedy the consequences of decades of onerous sentencing requirements that he said had imprisoned thousands of drug offenders for too long.

For Bernard Smith, it's a long-awaited chance to start over after 13 years away from his wife and children. Smith was working at a restaurant in Maryland in 2002 when his brother asked him to obtain marijuana for a drug deal. Though it was his brother who obtained the crack cocaine that the brothers then sold along with the marijuana to undercover officers, Smith was charged with the cocaine offense, too.

His 22-year sentence was far longer than his brother's, owing to what the court called Smith's "extensive criminal history." Smith still had 10 years on his sentence when he was notified Thursday that Obama was giving him another chance.

# Survivors found in rubble after avalanche

*Associated Press*

FARINDOLA, Italy — With cheers of joy, rescue crews pulled survivors Friday from the debris of an avalanche-crushed hotel in central Italy, a discovery that boosted spirits two days after the snow slide buried about 30 people at the resort. Two children were among the 10 found alive.

The news was met with exhilaration since at least four people had already been found dead after the avalanche hit Wednesday afternoon and dumped up to 16½ feet of snow on the luxury Hotel Rigopiano, 112 miles northeast of Rome.

First word of the discovery came at about 11 a.m. Video released by rescuers showed a boy, wearing blue snow pants and a matching ski shirt, emerging from the structure through a snow hole. Emergency crews mussed his hair in celebration.

"Bravo! Bravo!" they cheered.

Next came a woman with a long ponytail wearing red snow pants, appearing fully alert. Both were helped to a stretcher for the helicopter ride out.

"This first news has obviously repaid all the rescuers' efforts," said Italy's Deputy Interior Minister Filippo Bubbico.

About 30 people were trapped inside the hotel in the Gran Sasso mountain range when the avalanche hit Wednesday after days of winter storms that dumped nearly 10 feet of snow in some places. The region also was rocked by four earthquakes on Wednesday, but it was not clear if any of those set off the avalanche.

Two people initially survived the devastation

and called out for help. One of them, Giampiero Parete, had called his boss and begged him to call in rescue crews because his wife and two children were inside.

The wife, Adriana Vranceanu, 43, and son, Gianfilippo, 8, were reunited later Friday with Parete at the hospital in the nearby city of Pescara, ANSA news agency and state-run RAI radio said.

Rescue workers at the avalanche site were still hunting for Ludovica, 6, after her mother indicated she was still alive under the debris.

The number of survivors extracted from the rubble evolved over the course of the day.

"We found five people alive. We're pulling them out. Send us a helicopter!" a rescuer said Friday over firefighters' radio, overheard by Associated Press journalists making their way on foot toward the disaster site.

Later, the number rose to eight people, including two children. Late in the day, firefighter spokesman Luca Cari said the number of survivors located was 10, but only a few had been extracted.

Rescue crews said one group of survivors had been found in the hotel's kitchen area and had survived thanks to an air pocket that formed when reinforced cement walls partially resisted the avalanche's violent power.

Those being rescued were in remarkably good condition and were being flown to area hospitals, rescue workers said.

Two bodies were recovered the first day of searching, and RAI state TV reported two other bodies had been located but not yet removed.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Papers: Kidnap victim knew truth for months

**FL** JACKSONVILLE — Court documents show that an 18-year-old who was kidnapped as an infant had discovered months ago the truth that she was living with her abductor under an assumed name.

An arrest warrant affidavit filed in the case Wednesday says the girl, living under the name Alexis Manigo, knew a year and a half ago that she'd been kidnapped as a baby and was listed as a missing person.

The girl's real name was Kamiyah Mobley, and after her admission to a friend last summer, court documents say an anonymous tip was received by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, who contacted authorities.

## Yellow-topped moth named for Trump

**CA** SACRAMENTO — Scientists in California have named a newly discovered moth species after President-elect Donald Trump, saying the white-and-yellow scales on the insect's head are reminiscent of Trump's blond hairdo.

The Sacramento Bee reports that a report by researchers at the University of California, Davis, on the new species became available Tuesday. The California moth is named *Neopalpa donaldtrumpi*.

Evolutionary biologist Dr. Vazrick Nazari discovered the species while dissecting moths when he noticed that three specimens had a distinct wing pattern and unique DNA profile. He chose the name in part to bring awareness to fragile habitats that may contain undiscovered species.

Naming newly-discovered species after famous people is nothing new. Nine species have

been named in honor of President Barack Obama, including an ancient lizard and a coral reef fish.

## Ear-biter sentenced to 4 years in jail

**MA** SALEM — A Massachusetts woman who bit off a portion of a rookie police officer's ear during her arrest outside a bar has been sentenced to four years in jail.

The Boston Herald reported that Emma Wiley, 19, was sentenced Wednesday after pleading guilty to assault and battery on a police officer and mayhem.

Prosecutors say Patrolwoman Jessica Rondinelli responded to reports of a fight outside a Salem bar in August. While Rondinelli was putting Wiley in a cruiser, Wiley bit off a piece of the officer's ear. Doctors were unable to reattach it.

Rondinelli had been on the force for just a few weeks.

Wiley's lawyer said his client has mental health issues and feels "sincere remorse."

## Bulldozer, backhoe used to damage school

**DC** WASHINGTON — A group of vandals bulldozed part of a historic school, causing about \$250,000 in damage.

WRC-TV reported that the vandalism occurred earlier this month at Bancroft Elementary School in northwest Washington. The school, built in 1923, is undergoing construction.

A police report shows that on the weekend of Jan. 7, someone broke into the construction equipment shed and stole the keys to a bulldozer and a backhoe. The next weekend, the suspects returned and used the equipment to vandalize the school's soccer field, playground and security cameras. The vandals also defaced the

school's brick walls with black spray-paint.

Police estimate the damage to be between \$200,000 and \$250,000.

## Man charged over machine-gun kits

**UT** OGDEN — An Orem man is facing federal charges accusing him of making machine-gun converter devices for AR-15-style rifles.

The Standard-Examiner reported that the felony indictment against Scott Ray Bishop, 47, was unsealed Wednesday.

He's charged with two counts of illegally possessing and dealing the converters from 2013 through 2016. Bishop has pleaded not guilty.

## City police reduce use of stun guns by half

**MD** BALTIMORE — Baltimore police officials say the department cut its use of stun guns nearly in half in 2016.

The Baltimore Sun reported that the department reported 181 stun gun incidents in 2016, a 46 percent decline from the record high of 347 the agency recorded in 2015.

Commissioner Kevin Davis enacted a new policy in July that required officers to use stun guns only when suspects display "active aggression" and not simply failing to follow orders.

Justice Department investigators had criticized the department for using stun guns on noncompliant people who did not display any force against officers.

## Classes on piloting drones to be offered

**ID** HAYDEN — Two community colleges in Idaho

will offer classes on piloting unmanned aerial vehicles to train people for jobs in the growing commercial drone industry.

The Capital Press reported that Brad Ward, president of Hayden-based drone company Empire Unmanned, will teach the first two-day class at North Idaho College in February. Company co-founder Steve Edgar will teach another course at Treasure Valley Community College.

Ward anticipates offering courses every other month, depending on demand.

The Federal Aviation Administration last summer removed a requirement that drone operators also be licensed to pilot manned aircraft. The new rules allow people to become certified through a 16-hour course and a test.

Western businesses are using drones for several tasks, such as imaging for precision agriculture, and say they are poised for significant expansion.

## State given more time to address ID problem

**PA** HARRISBURG — Federal authorities are giving Pennsylvania a few more months to comply with a 2005 federal law that requires people to prove they are legal U.S. residents in order for their driver's licenses to be valid for federal purposes.

Gov. Tom Wolf's administration made the announcement Thursday. The extension for compliance with the Real ID law means that, for now, Pennsylvania licenses will be sufficient proof of identification to get into federal facilities.

A state legislative fix could be needed to avoid more widespread problems for travelers next year, when Real ID standards will be required for people boarding commercial airlines.

From wire reports

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# NFL title hopefuls get unexpected help

Associated Press

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga. — Midway through the season, there would have been no way to predict Taylor Gabriel would be the top scorer among Atlanta Falcons wide receivers.

Especially considering that group includes All-Pro Julio Jones.

Gabriel's surprise unveiling began when he scored his first touchdown of the season in the Falcons' 33-32 win over Green Bay on Oct. 30. He flashed his speed on the 47-yard scoring pass from Matt Ryan, showing why the Falcons moved quickly to sign the receiver after he was cut by Cleveland late in the preseason.

Jones had another big year, finishing second in the NFL in yards receiving. But Gabriel's seven touchdowns, including one on a run, led Atlanta's receivers. Jones had six.

Similarly, Green Bay running back Ty Montgomery, New England running back Dion Lewis and Pittsburgh linebacker Ryan Shazier have emerged

with surprise key roles to help their teams reach the conference championship games.

Gabriel is a big part of Atlanta's offense entering Sunday's NFC championship game rematch against the Packers.

"A lot has changed," Gabriel said Wednesday as he remembered the regular-season game against the Packers.

"That was the first time I scored," he

said. "I've gotten introduced to the offense a little more since then."

Gabriel's teammates saw his potential in his first practice with the team in September.

"The first day when we saw him get off the ball we were like 'whoa,'" said fullback Patrick DiMarco. "You could tell from his skill set that the kid is super-explosive and super-fast."

Gabriel (5-8, 167) has 35 catches for 579 yards.

Here's a look at the major contributions from the other trio of expected surprises:

**Montgomery catching on at running back:** The second-year player moved from receiver to running back for the Packers following the season-ending injury to Eddie Lacy in October. Montgomery ran for two touchdowns in last week's win over Dallas. He also had six catches for 34 yards.

"He's an extremely skilled player," said Green Bay quarterback Aaron Rodgers. "He's obviously a running back with the ball, but he can run around like a receiver because he's played receiver for a number of years, too. I'm really proud of his effort."

Montgomery set season highs with 16 carries for 162 yards against Chicago on Dec. 18.

**Lewis' versatility helps Pats:** Lewis missed the first half of the season in New England while recovering from surgery on his left knee. He played in only seven

games last season before hurting his knee.

In last week's 34-16 win over Houston, Lewis became the first player in the Super Bowl era to score on a run, a catch and a kick return in a postseason game. He scored on a 13-yard catch, a 98-yard kick-off return and a 1-yard run. They were his first touchdowns of the season.

"The past is the past," Lewis said. "Right now, moving forward I'm just focused on having great practices with my teammates and continuing to prepare because it's a big week for us and we gotta stay focused on this week. That's all that matters."

**Shazier's interception spree:** Shazier spent the first meeting against the Patriots trying to shake off the rust after missing a month with a sprained knee. He is healthy this time around and thriving.

Shazier has an interception in four straight games. He also has taken on a large portion of the Steelers' defensive play-calling responsibilities, allowing veteran Lawrence Timmons to focus more on making an impact in opposing backfields.

Shazier has the speed to cover wide receivers and the intelligence to diagnose plays quickly. In Pittsburgh's wild-card win over Miami, Shazier disguised a blitz then dropped back into coverage to make a leaping interception.

Coach Mike Tomlin said Shazier "steadies a lot of waters."

## Bay Area investors working to keep Raiders

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Oakland civic leaders and deep-pocketed investors fighting to keep the Raiders from moving insist they are still in the game despite team owner Mark Davis formally applying to the NFL to relocate to Las Vegas.

A local investment group that includes Hall of Famer Ronnie Lott said Thursday they continue to negotiate with government officials, the team and the NFL to build a \$1.25 billion, 55,000-seat stadium in Oakland.

"We are in this game and we are playing to win," Lott's group said in a statement. The statement said the Raiders' filing Thursday was expected and done to "keep its options open in Las Vegas."

The Raiders have been seeking to replace their dilapidated home for years. The Coliseum has suffered from sewage backups and other infrastructure problems. It's also the only remaining NFL stadium to also be home to a baseball team — the Athletics — and lacks many of the modern, money-

making features of new stadiums.

Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf has been negotiating with Davis and investors to find a new home for the team in the city but has said public financing is not an option. She and other local boosters support the bid by Lott's group to keep the team in Oakland.

"Only Oakland brings the Raiders and the NFL a competitive stadium proposal, along with legacy and loyalty," Schaaf said in a prepared statement.

The city and Alameda County still owe a combined \$100 million for upgrades made to the stadium in 1995 to lure the Raiders back to Oakland after the team spent the 14 previous years playing in Los Angeles. The city and county were left holding the bag after personal seat licenses failed to cover the cost of the \$220 million renovation that added more than 10,000 seats and luxury boxes.

The city is willing to give the team 60 acres of land on the Coliseum site to build a new stadium.

The local investors are competing with a

Las Vegas plan that calls for \$750 million in hotel room tax revenue, \$650 million from billionaire casino owner Sheldon Adelson's company and \$500 million from the Raiders and the NFL.

League owners are expected to vote on the proposed move in March.

Local boosters argue that Oakland offers a better football venue than Las Vegas, a transient tourist town with no professional football history. They say the San Francisco Bay Area's television market dwarves the Las Vegas region's and that it will cost the team \$500 million to relocate.

"I think we continue to offer a far superior deal," said Scott Haggerty, president of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. Haggerty is also on the board that manages the Coliseum.

"I think that Mark Davis has been very patient in trying to come up with a stadium plan and I don't blame him for keeping his options open," Haggerty said. "But the Raiders belong in Oakland."

# Federer easily moves into fourth round

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Roger Federer relaxed into the chair, his arms folded across his chest in a casual, confident way, and just savored a vintage Australian Open performance.

The 17-time Grand Slam champion, seeded a lowly-by-his-standards 17th after spending six months on the sidelines to let his left knee heal, only needed 90 minutes to beat Tomas Berdych 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 in the third round on Friday.

This was against a highly credentialed pro, seeded No. 10, who beat Federer in the Wimbledon quarterfinals in 2010 on the way to the final. Berdych reached the quarterfinals or better in Australia the previous six years, and had beaten Federer in six of their previous 22 matches.

Federer said he felt like he struggled against the qualifiers in his first two rounds, and knew the degree of difficulty would rise sharply. Having beaten Berdych, he next faces No. 5 Kei Nishikori. And there's a potential quarterfinals match against top-ranked Andy Murray.

"It's just crazy how quick I got out of the blocks," Federer said of his almost flawless match against Berdych. "What a difference it was in the feeling afterward. I did surprise myself."

"From the baseline, honestly, I felt worlds better than in the first couple of rounds."

Federer hit some classic one-handed backhand winners, including one that earned a hearty applause from the great Rod Laver — sitting in the crowd at the stadium named in his honor — in the second set.

He had 40 winners and won 95 percent of points when he got his first serve into play. He didn't face a break point.

During his on-court interview, Federer acknowledged Laver, the last man to complete the calendar year Grand Slam.

Laver waved back.

"It's always nice when he shows up to watch," the 35-year-old Federer said. "It's always nice when he's in the building."

Nishikori, the 2014 U.S. Open finalist who beat Lukas Lacko 6-4, 6-4, 6-4, has lost four of his six matches against Federer,

including the last three.

"Guess I'm ready. There's no turning back," Federer said. "He's ... maybe the best backhand in the business right now. Really got my work cut out for me."

Five-time Australian Open runner-up Murray said he had no trouble with his sore right ankle as he advanced to the fourth round for the ninth straight year with a 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 win over No. 31 Sam Querrey.

Murray, who replaced Djokovic at No. 1 in November, said he was surprised at the six-time Australian Open champion's second-round loss to Denis Istomin. But Murray didn't think it changed anything for him.

"I wasn't scheduled to play Novak today, so my job's to concentrate on Sam and to go into that match with a clear head and a good game plan and try to play well," said Murray, who next plays Mischa Zverev. "I did that."

"If you're to get to the final, then it has an effect."

Seven-time major winner Venus Williams routed Duan Yingying 6-1, 6-0 in 59 minutes

to reach the fourth round in Australia for the 10th time.

"It's good (but) it's never enough," she said, looking ahead to her fourth-round match against Mona Barthel. "I've tasted it before and it's always a great feeling because it means, hey, I have an opportunity for the quarterfinals. That's what I'm going to go for."

There's no Americans or Australians remaining in the men's draw. No. 23-seeded Jack Sock followed Querrey out, losing 7-6 (4), 7-5, 6-7 (8), 6-3 to No. 12 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga. Daniel Evans beat Bernard Tomic 7-5, 7-6 (2), 7-6 (3).

U.S. Open champion Stan Wawrinka had a 3-6, 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (7) win over Viktor Troicki to move into a fourth-round match against Andreas Seppi.

Women's champion Angelique Kerber beat Kristyna Pliskova 6-0, 6-4 and will next play CoCo Vandeweghe, who had a 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 win over 2014 Wimbledon finalist Eugenie Bouchard. French Open champion Garbine Muguruza closed out Day 5 with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Anastasia Sevastova.

## Hamilton leads No. 3 UCLA in rout of Arizona State

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Like any shooter in a slump, Isaac Hamilton just kept putting the ball up, figuring it would eventually go in.

Did it ever.

The senior guard scored 33 points — three off his career best — and hit a career-high nine three-pointers to help No. 3 UCLA rout Arizona State 102-80 on Thursday night.

The Bruins improved to 11-0 at home.

The performance left Hamilton speechless. He cut his tongue in the game and needed stitches afterward, leaving him unavailable to talk to media.

"He's back," guard Lonzo Ball said. "I like playing with him like that."

The Bruins (19-1, 6-1 Pac-12) made 16 three-pointers and shot 60 percent from the field.

Last year if Hamilton wasn't hitting, the Bruins found it hard to recover on their way to a losing season.

Now, the team is loaded with offensive threats who can pick up the slack for him.

"He gained a lot of confidence in that and he got it rolling," UCLA coach Steve Alford said. "The guys did a good job of finding him. That's what makes us hard to guard. We can make shots a variety of different ways."

The Bruins led by 25 points in the first half and were up by 16 early in the second before the Sun Devils (9-10, 2-4) got within single digits in the

matchup of the league's top two scoring and three-point shooting teams.

TJ Leaf added 19 points and nine rebounds, and Ball had 10 points and 12 assists for the Bruins.

**No. 4 Gonzaga 88, Santa Clara 57:** Przemek Karnowski scored 19 points on just seven shots from the field and the visiting Bulldogs remained the only undefeated team in Division I.

**No. 11 Oregon 86, California 63:** Jordan Bell scored a career-high 26 points, Casey Benson had 15 on five three-pointers and the host Ducks rolled.

**No. 12 Louisville 92, Clemson 60:** Deng Adel scored 18 points to match a career high and Donovan Mitchell scored

18 in the first half as the host Cardinals closed on a 10-0 run.

**No. 14 Arizona 73, Southern Cal 66:** Lauri Markkanen scored 23 points, including a rainbow three-pointer with 33 seconds left, and the visiting Wildcats held on late.

**No. 23 Saint Mary's 62, Pacific 50:** Calvin Hermanson scored seven of his 17 points as part of a big run in the second half for the host Gaels.

**No. 25 Maryland 84, Iowa 76:** Melo Trimble scored 20 points and the visiting Terrapins rallied after blowing a 15-point lead for their fourth straight victory.

Trimble hit consecutive three-pointers in the final 3 minutes to key Maryland (17-2, 5-1 Big Ten), which has also won three in a row on the road.

# Surging Wizards top Knicks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — John Wall had 29 points and 13 assists, scoring Washington's final four points in the last 32 seconds as the surging Wizards held on for a 113-110 victory over the New York Knicks.

Otto Porter Jr. made six three-pointers for the second straight night and added 23 points, but the Wizards needed big plays from Wall down the stretch to win their fourth in a row.

He made two free throws to put Washington back on top after New York had rallied to take a 110-109 lead, then rebounded Carmelo Anthony's miss and left all the Knicks in his dust as he raced down the floor for a dunk with 13.7 seconds to play.

Anthony finished with 34

points but Wall stole the ball from Brandon Jennings to prevent the Knicks from attempting a three-pointer that could have tied it.

**Cavaliers 118, Suns 103:** Kyrie Irving scored 26 points, All-Star teammate LeBron James had 21 points and 15 assists, and Cleveland looked more like itself at home in a win over Phoenix.

The Cavs were back in Quicken Loans Arena following a six-game road trip (their longest of the season) that concluded with an embarrassing 35-point loss at Golden State.

**Heat 99, Mavericks 95:** Goran Dragic had 32 points, Tyler Johnson scored 10 of his 23 in the fourth quarter and Miami topped visiting Dallas.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 19 points for Dallas, which had its season-best three-game win-

ning streak snapped.

**Spurs 118, Nuggets 104:** Kawhi Leonard scored 34 points, rookie DeJuan Murray added a season-high 24 and short-handed host San Antonio overcame a pregame injury to Pau Gasol.

Denver's three-game winning streak was snapped despite a career-high 35 points from Nikola Jokic.

**Timberwolves 104, Clippers 101:** Karl-Anthony Towns scored 37 points, including the go-ahead jumper with 45 seconds left, and Minnesota beat injury-depleted host Los Angeles to stop its seven-game winning streak.

Andrew Wiggins added 27 points, including two free throws with five seconds left that helped Minnesota snap its six-game road losing streak.

# All-Star starters named

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stephen Curry won a tiebreaker to join Golden State teammate Kevin Durant in the lineup for the NBA All-Star Game, while LeBron James and Kyrie Irving also gave Cleveland two starters.

Curry and Houston's James Harden beat out Russell Westbrook for the two Western Conference backcourt spots Thursday in the new voting system that included players and media for the first time. They will join frontcourt choices Durant, Anthony Davis of New Orleans and Kawhi Leonard of San Antonio.

The rest of the East lineup for the Feb. 19 game in New Orleans is Giannis Antetokounmpo of Milwaukee and Jimmy Butler of Chicago in the frontcourt and DeMar DeRozan of Toronto in the backcourt. He beat out Boston's Isaiah Thomas in another tiebreaker.

Fan voting accounted for 50 percent in the new system, while current players and a media panel each made up 25 percent.

James is the leading scorer in All-Star Game history and is set to become just the fifth player to start at least 13 games. He said it meant something extra being the leading vote-getter among fans with nearly 1.9 million votes.

"From the standpoint of people enjoy the way I play the game, they respect the way I play the game and at this point in my career I'm still doing something right," he said earlier Thursday. "Makes me proud, makes my family proud, and my support system, so it's cool in that sense."

He and Durant had the highest possible scores across all three voting groups, but the new process eliminated Chicago's Dwyane Wade, Philadelphia's Joel Embiid and Golden State's Zaza Pachulia, who would have been elected by fans under the old format.

# Greiss, Islanders shut out Stars

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Getting a new coach this week didn't change things much for the Islanders — and oddly enough, that's a good thing for New York.

John Tavares narrowly missed out on his second hat trick in a week, Thomas Greiss got his second straight shutout and the Islanders beat the Dallas Stars 3-0 on Thursday night in their first game since firing longtime coach Jack Capuano.

New York canned Capuano in the middle of his seventh season Tuesday, replacing him on an interim basis with Doug Weight.

"We had guys battle," Weight said. "Top-to-bottom effort led by our captain and goalie."

The new boss made a few adjustments, namely on the power play — though after going 0-for-7, that's still a work in progress.

In the end, New York got this victory in a familiar fashion.

Tavares scored three times in a 5-2 win over Florida last Friday, then appeared to have

a hat trick until a video review took away his apparent goal against Carolina on Saturday.

He again scored twice against Dallas, getting a flashy even-strength goal in the first period, and then converting on a short-handed breakaway with 3:06 left in the third. It was the first short-handed goal of Tavares' career.

Moments after the latter goal, he had an empty-net shot just deflected wide.

The Isles captain has seven goals in four games despite the big personnel change in the middle of that run.

And then there's Greiss, who stopped 23 shots against Dallas after making 32 saves in a 4-0 win over Boston on Monday. The consecutive shutouts come after Greiss allowed seven goals against Carolina last Saturday.

**Senators 2, Blue Jackets 0:** Kyle Turris and Ryan Dzingel scored goals and Mike Condon made 42 saves to lead visiting Ottawa past Columbus.

**Capitals 7, Blues 3:** Andre Burakovsky, T.J. Oshie and

Evgeny Kuznetsov each had a goal and an assist to lead visiting Washington over St. Louis.

**Rangers 5, Maple Leafs 2:** Michael Grabner scored two goals against his former team, helping visiting New York snap a three-game losing streak with a victory over Toronto.

**Wild 4, Coyotes 3:** Nino Niederreiter had two power-play goals and an assist, including the go-ahead score for host Minnesota with 7:06 remaining after Arizona came back from a two-goal deficit.

**Predators 4, Flames 3:** Ryan Ellis had his first career two-goal game and visiting Nashville held off a late rally to beat Calgary.

**Ducks 2, Avalanche 1:** Nick Ritchie scored the tiebreaking goal with 2:02 to play, and host Anaheim beat Colorado in a game featuring a 45-minute delay and an early second intermission due to broken glass.

**Sharks 2, Lightning 1:** Logan Couture scored 22 seconds into the third period and host San Jose beat Tampa Bay.