

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Trump warns N. Korea in national address

By KIM GAMEL

*Stars and Stripes*

In his first State of the Union address, President Donald Trump avoided the bellicose rhetoric he has wielded in recent months against North Korea but hit the communist state in a sensitive spot by targeting its human rights abuses.

He paid an emotional tribute to a North Korean defector who fled to the South, and the parents of an American university student who died of injuries suffered while detained in the isolated nation.

Analysts said the president was likely trying to avoid stoking tensions with the North ahead of its planned participation in the Winter Olympics while maintaining a tough stance that has raised fears of a new conflict.

“North Korea’s reckless pursuit of nuclear missiles could very soon threaten our homeland. We are waging a campaign of maximum pressure to prevent that from ever happening,” Trump said Tuesday evening.

“Past experience has taught us that complacency and concessions only invite ag-

gression and provocation,” he added. “I will not repeat the mistakes of past administrations that got us into this very dangerous position.”

Trump then hailed the parents of Otto Warmbier, a university student who died of injuries suffered while in North Korean custody, and a North Korean defector he said had been tortured by the regime — all of whom were seated near the first lady in the visitor’s gallery of the House of Representatives.

“We need only look at the depraved character of the North Korean regime to understand the nuclear threat it could pose,” Trump said.

That followed a focus on the need to bolster America’s defense as Trump called for lawmakers to “end the dangerous defense sequester and fully fund our great military.” Trump campaigned on a promise to lift spending caps on the Defense Department. He also vowed to rebuild the country’s nuclear arsenal.

The speech, which marked the end of Trump’s first year in office, came as North and South Korea are engaging in a diplomatic thaw after months of crisis over the

North’s nuclear weapons program. Pyongyang has demonstrated strong progress toward its goal of developing a nuclear weapon that could reach the U.S. mainland despite strengthened economic sanctions and diplomatic pressure against it.

The North agreed to participate in the Feb. 9-25 Olympics in the South Korean resort town of Pyeongchang after the first talks between the longtime enemies in more than two years.

Washington welcomed the moves but vowed to maintain its policy of isolating the regime.

Kim Hyun-wook, an associate professor at the Korea National Diplomatic Academy, said Trump was probably trying to avoid upsetting the fragile détente between the two Koreas as all sides have pledged to make sure the Winter Games are peaceful.

“Still, he made it clear the North Korean threat is very urgent and also the U.S. policy is continuing,” Kim said. “The fact that he was very much toned down in the State of the Union doesn’t mean that he is against military action in North Korea. The issue is what’s going to happen after the Olympics are done.”

## President urges optimism in first State of the Union

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Addressing a deeply divided nation, President Donald Trump summoned the country to a “new American moment” of unity in his first State of the Union, challenging Congress to make good on long-standing promises to fix a fractured immigration system and warning darkly of evil forces seeking to undermine America’s way of life.

Trump’s address Tuesday night blended self-congratulation and calls for optimism amid a growing economy with ominous warnings about deadly gangs, the scourge of drugs and violent immigrants living in the United States illegally.

He cast the debate over immi-

gration — an issue that has long animated his most ardent supporters — as a battle between heroes and villains, leaning heavily on the personal stories of White House guests in the crowd. He praised a law enforcement agent who arrested more than 100 gang members, and he recognized the families of two alleged gang victims.

He also spoke forebodingly of catastrophic dangers from abroad, warning that North Korea would “very soon” threaten the United States with nuclear-tipped missiles.

Trump addressed the nation with tensions running high on Capitol Hill.

An impasse over immigration prompted a three-day government shutdown earlier this

year, and lawmakers appear no closer to resolving the status of the “Dreamers” — young people living in the U.S. illegally — ahead of a new Feb. 8 deadline for funding operations. The parties have also clashed this week over the plans of Republicans on the House intelligence committee to release a classified memo on the Russia investigation involving Trump’s presidential campaign — a decision the White House backs but the Justice Department is fighting.

The controversies that have dogged Trump — and the ones he has created — have overshadowed strong economic gains during his first year in office. His approval ratings have hovered in the 30s for much of his presidency, and just 3 in

10 Americans said the United States was heading in the right direction, according to a poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

In a post-speech rebuttal, Massachusetts Rep. Joe Kennedy, the grandson of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was seeking to undercut Trump’s optimistic tone and remind voters of the personal insults and attacks often leveled by the president.

“Bullies may land a punch,” Kennedy said. “They might leave a mark. But they have never, not once, in the history of our United States, managed to match the strength and spirit of a people united in defense of their future.”

# Another guilty plea in 'Fat Leonard' case

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE  
*Stars and Stripes*

Another Navy officer has fallen under the specter of the ever-growing "Fat Leonard" fraud and corruption scandal.

Former Cmdr. Troy Amundson, 50, of Ramsey, Minn., pleaded guilty Tuesday in District Court in San Diego to one federal charge of conspiracy to commit bribery for trading "confidential, proprietary U.S. Navy information" for entertainment expenses and prostitutes, according to a statement from the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California.

Amundson is the 20th of 29 defendants to plead guilty in the scandal and faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The charges stem from a decadelong conspiracy in which foreign defense contractor Leonard Glenn "Fat Leonard" Francis, of the Singapore-based Glenn Defense Marine Asia, traded bribes and gifts — from cash to Spanish suckling pigs and luxury travel — to a slew of top Navy officers across the Pacific in exchange for information on ship movements and contracts, resulting in tens of millions of dollars in fraudulent overbilling.

Francis pleaded guilty in 2015 to bribery and fraud charges.

"Amundson deliberately, methodically, and repeatedly traded his public office for entertainment expenses and the services of prostitutes, and in

so doing, aligned himself with a foreign defense contractor over his Navy, his colleagues and his country," U.S. Attorney Adam Braverman said in the statement. "We are pressing forward in this investigation until we are certain that all involved have been held accountable."

Amundson was in a unique position to aid Francis and GDMA as the officer in charge of the Navy's joint military exercises in the region from May 2005 to May 2013, the statement said. He was responsible for maintaining relationships with foreign navies.

As part of his plea, Amundson admitted that from September 2012 through October 2013 Francis paid for meals, drinks, transportation, other entertain-

ment expenses and prostitutes for Amundson and other Navy officers.

Amundson was interviewed by investigators in October 2013, the statement said. He later admitted to deleting all of his private email account correspondence with Francis after his interview with law enforcement officials.

Prosecutors accused Amundson of "taking official acts for the benefit of GDMA and violating his official duties to the [Navy]," the statement said.

The investigation was led by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service and the Defense Contract Audit Agency. Sentencing is scheduled for April 27 in San Diego.

## Trump signs order to keep Gitmo military prison open

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has signed an executive order to keep open the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, marking a formal reversal of his predecessor's eight-year effort to shut it down.

Trump made it clear during his campaign that he wanted Guantanamo to remain open and to "load it up with some bad dudes," but he has not yet sent a new detainee to the facility.

The order, which Trump signed Tuesday night just before delivering his first State of the Union address, says the U.S. maintains the option to detain additional enemy combatants at the detention center in Cuba when lawful and necessary to protect U.S. national security. It requires the defense secretary to recommend criteria for determining the fate of individuals captured by the U.S. in armed conflict, including sending them to Guantanamo.

"Terrorists who do things like place bombs in civilian hospitals

are evil," Trump said. "When possible, we have no choice but to annihilate them. When necessary, we must be able to detain and question them. But we must be clear: Terrorists are not merely criminals. They are unlawful enemy combatants."

The office of the Director of National Intelligence said in its most recent report on the subject that about 17 percent of the 728 detainees who have been released from Guantanamo are "confirmed" and 12 percent are "suspected" of re-engaging in militant activities.

But the vast majority of those re-engagements occurred with former prisoners who did not go through the security review that was set up under President Barack Obama. Trump's order says that review process would continue to be used to determine whether detainees should be held.

Practically, not much is expected to change with Trump's new order, said Lee Wolosky, who was Obama's special envoy at the State Department for closing Guantanamo.

## Air Force NCO removed for racially charged post

BY DIANNA CAHN  
*Stars and Stripes*

The Air Force has suspended a technical sergeant at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada whose online expletive-filled and racially tinged diatribe about subordinates went viral, getting more than 2.5 million views and sparking a frank and unusually public discussion about race and leadership in the service.

On Sunday, Tech. Sgt. Geraldine Lovely posted a video of herself in uniform on a private Facebook forum ranting about the disrespect that she said she suffered from black female subordinates. A portion of the video was then re-posted on a public Facebook community page dedicated to Air Force airmen, noncommissioned and senior noncommissioned officers.

In the video, Lovely, who is a member of the 99th Force Support Squadron, not only uses excessive profanity, she insinuates that she is doing the best she can

to remain professional and not "start a fight club."

"Why is it that every time I encounter my subordinates that are black females they have a giant (expletive) attitude?" Lovely said. "And it's not like I am coming to them with a (expletive) attitude. I don't."

The post was quickly followed by a response from the 99th Air Base Wing public affairs chief, Maj. Christina Sukach, who wrote the video was "inappropriate and unacceptable behavior in today's society and especially for anyone in uniform. Leadership is aware and is taking appropriate action."

On Monday evening, Nellis Air Force Base issued a statement on its official Facebook page announcing Lovely was "removed from her supervisory role while leadership continues to gather facts regarding this incident" and saying that it was an opportunity to "see if this is a broader issue on base" and to talk with airmen about good order and discipline and the Air Force core values.

# Navy releases videos of Russian jet incident

*The Washington Post*

The U.S. Navy on Monday decried an incident in which a Russian Su-27 Flanker jet buzzed a much slower EP-3 Aries surveillance aircraft, calling the incident unsafe and unprovoked. The Navy is not done drawing attention to the hair-raising encounter just yet.

On Wednesday, the service released several new videos it said show the behavior of the Russian pilot. The incident took place in international airspace over the Black Sea, where both aircraft are permitted.

“While not shown in the released imagery, during the intercept, the Russian Su-27 executed a hard right-to-left turn from the U.S. EP-3’s right side

with an excessive closure rate and came within five feet of the EP-3’s right wingtip,” the Navy said in a news release. “The Russian Su-27 then proceeded to enter the flight path of the U.S. Navy EP-3, crossing within 10 feet and executing a sharp dive below, which resulted in violent turbulence for the U.S. EP-3 and its crewmembers.”

Navy Capt. Bill Ellis, who oversees the U.S. aircraft involved, raised concerns in the same statement about the potential consequences of such a maneuver.

“For the Russian fighter aircraft to fly this close to the U.S. Navy aircraft, especially for extended periods of time, is unsafe,” Ellis said. “The small-

est lapse of focus or error in airmanship by the intercepting aircrew can have disastrous consequences. There is no margin for error and insufficient time or space for our aircrews to take corrective action.”

The Navy released one clip of the encounter Tuesday, showing the Flanker cut across the EP-3’s flight path. The new videos show the Russian jet just off the EP-3’s wingtip as the propeller of the Navy plane twirls in front of the camera.

The U.S. military has occasionally released videos like those of the intercept Monday, but also sometimes declines to do so. The Pentagon has said most interactions between Russian and American warplanes

go smoothly, including in a case last year in which a Russian jet came within 20 feet of a Navy P-8 surveillance plane.

“Every event is unique and any single variable does not define an event,” said Navy Capt. Pamela Kunze, a service spokesperson, at the time. “It is up to the commander of the vessel — whether ship or aircraft — to evaluate all of the variables and assess each interaction individually.”

The latest incident has some parallels to a 2016 case in which two unarmed Russian Su-24 Fencer attack jets buzzed a Navy destroyer, the USS Donald Cook, while it operated in international waters in the Baltic Sea.

## Japan to inspect US aircraft on Okinawa

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO

*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The Japanese government will send inspectors to Marine Corps bases on Okinawa to verify the safety of U.S. aircraft after several recent incidents drew pointed criticism from lawmakers across the country.

The idea was floated Tuesday by Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera and confirmed Wednesday evening by U.S. Forces Japan.

Called an “information exchange” by U.S. Forces Japan officials, the plan involves dispatching Japan Ground Self-Defense Force aircraft maintenance specialists to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma on Thursday to be briefed about recent aircraft malfunctions in AH-1Z Viper and UH-1Y Venom helicopters. After verifying that any issues have been rectified, they will report back to Onodera’s office, which will then decide if the Marines’ explanations make sense from a technical standpoint.

Both aircraft experienced emergency landings on Okinawa in January.

“The U.S. suspended, checked

and maintained AH-1Zs, then resumed operation, so we will receive reports from the U.S. to see whether it was appropriate or not,” Onodera told reporters on Tuesday. “Self-Defense Forces operate the same type of helicopters, so we would like to send specialists who have knowledge on maintenance and such.”

USFJ officials said in a statement issued Wednesday evening that they believed their Japanese counterparts would walk away with confidence in the safety and maintenance of the aircraft.

“USFJ is confident in the safety and reliability of all US aircraft operating in Japan and the efforts of our aircrews and maintenance personnel to conduct safe flying operations,” the statement said. “We believe that the information exchange on Thursday will provide our alliance partners with the necessary technical information, confirm the thoroughness of the U.S. military’s maintenance procedures, and reassure the Japanese people of our robust commitment to flight safety.”

The inspections come on the heels of the latest emergency landing involving a Viper on Jan. 23. A Viper also made an emergency landing on Jan. 8,

two days after a Venom’s emergency landing on Jan. 6.

On Dec. 13, a CH-53E Super Stallion’s window inexplicably became separated from the aircraft and landed on an elementary school sports field, slightly injuring a child. There were also mishaps involving Okinawa-based U.S. military aircraft in October and August.

The Viper emergency landings were caused by malfunctioning sensors in the tail rotor’s gear box, Onodera said, citing his conversations with Marine officials. When the oil in the gear box is low, a sensor alerts the crew. In those cases, the sensor malfunctioned, Onodera said. The sensors have since been changed and safety checks conducted.

The Marine Corps’ fleet of Vipers went through additional checkups and refrained from flying until the process was completed. Helicopter maintenance units also received “surprise” safety inspections.

“The Ministry of Defense will promptly confirm and verify the state of inspections and maintenance conducted by the U.S. side utilizing the Self-Defense Forces’ professional and technical knowledge,” Onodera said.

## Hawaii worker fired over false alarm

HONOLULU — Hawaii’s emergency management leader has resigned, and a state employee who sent an alert falsely warning of an incoming ballistic missile has been fired, officials said Tuesday, weeks after the mistake caused widespread panic.

Hawaii Emergency Management Agency Administrator Vern Miyagi stepped down Tuesday, state Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Joe Logan said. A second agency worker quit before disciplinary action was taken, and another was being suspended without pay, Logan said in announcing results of an internal investigation.

The worker, who was fired Friday and whose name has not been revealed, has confused real-life events and drills in the past, according to the state’s report on its internal investigation. Retired Brig. Gen. Bruce Oliveira, who wrote the report, said the employee mistakenly believed drills for tsunami and fire warnings were actual events.

His poor performance had been documented for years, and colleagues say they were not comfortable working with him in any role.

From The Associated Press

# Trump favors release of memo

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump was overheard Tuesday night telling a Republican lawmaker he is “100 percent” in favor of releasing a classified memo on the Russia investigation that has sparked a political fight pitting Republicans against the FBI and the Justice Department.

“Oh yeah, don’t worry,” the president told South Carolina Rep. Jeff Duncan on the House floor after his first State of the Union address. “100 percent.”

Duncan had implored Trump to “release the memo.”

Television cameras captured the exchange as Trump was leaving the chamber.

The White House had said before the speech that it was still conducting a legal and national security review of the document, and press secretary Sarah Sanders told reporters earlier Tuesday that Trump still had not been briefed on its contents.

The memo arrived at the White House on Monday eve-

ning after Republicans on the House intelligence committee brushed aside opposition from the Justice Department and voted to release it. Under committee rules, the president has five days to object to its release.

The four-page memo was written by Republicans on the committee, led by chairman Rep. Devin Nunes, of California, a close Trump ally who has become a fierce critic of the FBI and the Justice Department.

Republicans have said the memo reveals improper use of surveillance by the FBI and the Justice Department in the Russia investigation. Democrats have called it a selectively edited group of GOP talking points that attempt to distract from the committee’s own investigation into Russian meddling.

On Tuesday, House Speaker Paul Ryan said he supports the memo’s release but doesn’t want Republicans to use it to attack special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Russian meddling in the 2016 election and whether Trump’s campaign

was involved.

“This is a completely separate matter from Bob Mueller’s investigation, and his investigation should be allowed to take its course,” Ryan said, noting that he also supports Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who oversees Mueller.

Ryan said the memo shows “there may have been malfeasance at the FBI by certain individuals.” He did not provide additional details, only saying that “there are legitimate questions about whether an American’s civil liberties were violated by the FISA process,” a reference to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

It’s unclear how FBI malfeasance could have solely resulted in a judge signing off on a FISA warrant. Applications for such warrants are submitted by Justice Department lawyers before a judge of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. Those lawyers would have to authorize and ultimately prepare any filing that is made.

# Porn star now denies Trump fling

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Adult film star Stormy Daniels, in the midst of a publicity tour fueled by past allegations of a 2006 sexual relationship with a then-married Donald Trump, said in a statement on Tuesday the alleged affair never occurred.

Keith Davidson, a lawyer for Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, confirmed the statement was authentic but didn’t offer any further details.

The statement came at a curious time for Clifford, who appeared after the president’s State of the Union address on ABC’s “Jimmy Kimmel Live!” In recent weeks she has changed production companies, given a television interview and promoted strip club appearances with a risqué play on Trump’s “Make America Great Again,” campaign slogan.

Michael Cohen, Trump’s personal lawyer, has denied there was any affair.

On Kimmel’s show, Clifford ducked most of his questions about the alleged affair by either remaining silent or cracking jokes. She addressed, vaguely, the legitimacy of the new statement.

Kimmel began by displaying a copy and comparing her signature on it to other examples. They didn’t match, he said, asking if she had signed it. “I don’t know, did I?” she said. “That doesn’t look like my signature, does it?”

The ABC host asked if that was an admission that the statement was written and released without her approval, which drew a smile, coy look and a giggle from Clifford.

The rest of the interview went on in the same vein.

Clifford’s allegation, first made in 2011 and then again a month before the election, went mostly unnoticed until the Wall Street Journal reported earlier this month that Cohen brokered a \$130,000 payment to Clifford to keep her from publicly discussing it.

# Immigration, deficit slow budget talks

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A week after a standoff forced a three-day government shutdown, congressional budget talks remain bogged down by Democrats’ demands to protect “Dreamer” immigrants and GOP conservatives’ concerns about a booming federal deficit.

The deadlock is deflating hopes that lawmakers will reach a breakthrough before another shutdown deadline next week.

At risk are up to \$80 billion in increases for the Pentagon this year alone, and nearly as much money for domestic programs. Almost \$100 billion worth of overdue assistance for hurricane-slammed Puerto Rico, Texas and Florida is being held up.

The knot involves about \$1.2 billion in agency operating budgets for the fiscal year that began in October, along with

hurricane relief, President Donald Trump’s \$18 billion-plus border wall and other items.

The measure has been hung up for months as lawmakers in both parties struggle first with a deal to increase tight limits on spending that are left over from a failed 2011 budget agreement. It takes both Republicans and Democrats to lift the limits, called spending “caps” in Capitol-speak. But talks have proceeded slowly and are now awaiting agreement on legislation to address younger immigrants currently protected from deportation under the soon-to-expire Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA.

But there are other problems afoot. Conservatives say Republican and Democratic proposals on the table would balloon the deficit, sending it over \$1 trillion by next year.

“That’s a nonstarter for conservatives,” said Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., chairman of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus.

The House on Tuesday instead passed — for the third time — a \$659 billion Pentagon funding measure. The move was aimed at turning up the heat on Senate Democrats, several of whom face difficult re-election bids in states won by Trump.

Republicans are trying to cast Democrats as holding money for U.S. troops hostage to obtain sympathetic treatment for immigrants facing deportation, as well as a variety of other Democratic priorities.

The delays guarantee that lawmakers will need to pass yet another stopgap spending bill — the fifth since September — next week to prevent another government shutdown Feb. 9.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Lab-bred mosquitoes to help combat Zika

**FL** MIAMI — Thousands of bacteria-infected mosquitoes will be flying near Miami to test a new way to suppress insect populations that carry Zika and other viruses.

According to a statement from the Kentucky-based company MosquitoMate, the first mosquitoes will be released in the city of South Miami. The test is in collaboration with the Miami-Dade County Mosquito Control and Habitat Management Division.

MosquitoMate infects male *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes with the naturally occurring *Wolbachia* bacteria. Any offspring produced when the lab-bred mosquitoes mate with wild female mosquitoes won't survive to adulthood. Male mosquitoes don't bite, and *Wolbachia* isn't harmful to humans.

## Would-be victim thwarts robbery

**NJ** LODI — New Jersey police said a would-be victim foiled an attempted theft by tackling the suspect.

Lodi police responded to the El Machetico Columbian eatery early Monday after receiving a call that someone attempted to rob the register. The Record reported that the unidentified suspect approached the register and demanded money, placing his hand under his shirt to make it look like he was armed. Deputy Police Chief Donald Scorzetti said the victim tackled the would-be robber, who then fled.

## Police: 12-year-old pulls knife on bus

**MD** BALTIMORE — Police said a 12-year-old middle-schooler threatened

a classmate with a folding knife during a fight on a school bus.

Baltimore police spokesman Cpl. Shawn Vinson told The Baltimore Sun that the Dumbar-ton Middle School student was charged as a juvenile with assault with a deadly weapon. The student was also found to have a can of pepper spray during the Monday incident.

The other student involved in the fight, a 13-year-old, has been charged with assault. Vinson said no one was injured.

## Suit: Stripper punched man following insult

**NY** NEW YORK — A self-employed chef is suing a New York City strip club, alleging that a stripper knocked out one of his teeth after he called her a bad mother.

David Kupferstein's lawyer said he visited Larry Flynt's Hustler Club in 2015 and was having a conversation with an exotic dancer there who mentioned her family had trouble with police. Kupferstein said he told her, "It sounds like you are a bad mother," and she punched him in the face — knocking out his left front tooth.

The lawsuit says management promised to pay for Kupferstein's dental work but alleges they reneged. Kupferstein is seeking nearly \$1 million.

## Gambler punches casino machine

**IA** NORTHWOOD — Authorities said a man arrested at a casino told a deputy that he'd punched a gambling machine out of frustration.

Court records say Dion King is charged with criminal mischief.

The Worth County deputy says in a criminal complaint that he was sent Saturday to the Diamond Jo Casino in Northwood and reviewed security

video. It showed King punching the machine's touch screen several times, causing an estimated \$2,000 in damage.

## Remains ID'd as man who vanished in 1980

**IN** MUNCIE — Skeletal remains found nearly 20 years ago have been identified as those of a Muncie man who vanished in 1980.

Muncie police Chief Joe Winkle said Monday that DNA tests determined the remains found in 1999 in southern Indiana's Owen County are those of Freddie "Tommy" Faussett Jr.

Faussett was 25 when he vanished on March 8, 1980. His 1977 Chevy Suburban was found in southern Indiana not long afterward. He was declared legally dead seven years after his disappearance.

Winkle said Faussett's death isn't being investigated as a homicide, and there's no sign of foul play. The Star Press reported that relatives told the newspaper in 2005 that Faussett had experienced emotional problems in the weeks before his disappearance.

## Teacher says he tried to restrain unruly boy

**OH** CANTON — An Ohio high school teacher who tackled a student in a classroom conflict recorded on cellphone video said he felt threatened, was trying only to restrain the boy and regrets what happened.

The Canton Repository reported that the Canton teacher, Kenneth Weatherbee, 48, resigned in January after being suspended pending a district investigation.

The Dec. 4 video shows Weatherbee touching the arm of a male student, who pulls away. The teacher then wraps his arm around the student's neck and

takes him to the floor.

A district investigation file includes the teacher's comments to school officials. He told them he intervened because one student threatened another and ignored attempts to de-escalate.

## Man crashes into cop's patrol car

**FL** SANFORD — Authorities said a Florida man purposely crashed his car into a state trooper's patrol vehicle.

A Florida Highway Patrol news release says the crash occurred Monday afternoon on Interstate 4 near Sanford.

Highway patrol said the trooper was parked on the shoulder and finishing paperwork when Ryan John Hithersay, 38, left the roadway and rammed the left side of the trooper's car. Authorities said Hithersay got out of his vehicle, walked back toward the patrol car and told the trooper that he struck him on purpose.

Hithersay was charged with aggravated battery on a law enforcement officer.

## Longer liquor hours, tougher DUI rules set

**KS** TOPEKA — The Kansas House approved a bill that would toughen penalties in some drunken driving cases on the same day it approved allowing restaurants to serve alcohol earlier in the morning.

One bill would allow restaurants to begin serving alcohol at 6 a.m., rather than 9 a.m. Restaurants and bars would still stop serving at 2 a.m. The other bill would toughen penalties in some fatal drunken driving cases, with the minimum for aggravated battery increasing from 38 months to 47 months and the minimum for involuntary manslaughter rising from 62 to 89 months.

From wire reports

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Reporting  
World, National  
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# Patriots' experience outweighs Eagles'

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — The Eagles are playing some of their best football heading into Sunday's Super Bowl matchup with the Patriots.

One thing Philadelphia can't contend with is New England's huge experience advantage in the big game.

On the 53-man active roster the Patriots brought to Minnesota, 32 players have a combined 60 games of Super Bowl experience.

Tom Brady alone has been to the Super Bowl seven times during his 18-year career, winning five.

By comparison, the Eagles have seven players on their active roster who've won a Super Bowl. Two of those players, LeGarrette Blount and Chris Long, won their rings last season with the Patriots. The others are Torrey Smith, Malcolm Jenkins, Corey Graham, Dannel Ellerbe and Will Beatty. An eighth player, Chris Mara-

gos, is on injured reserve with a knee injury.

It's a huge gulf. By comparison, the 2015 Panthers that lost to the Broncos in the Super Bowl that season had three players who had won a ring: Ed Dickson (Baltimore), Roman Harper (New Orleans) and Michael Oher (Baltimore).

But the Patriots say it's nothing they will spend time talking about this week.

"I think it's overrated," said special teams captain Matt Slater, who will be appearing in his fourth Super Bowl.

Defensive end Trey Flowers said the coaching staff hasn't mentioned last year's Super Bowl win since it came up in film study prior to their regular-season meeting with Atlanta back in October.

"It's a brand new team, so I wouldn't say last year's experience will have anything to do with the outcome of this game," Flowers said. "This team has a lot of different guys from a year

ago, so it's something you've got to do all over again as far as experience goes."

Yes and no.

New England actually returns 31 players who were on last year's Super Bowl roster against the Falcons. That doesn't include injured linebacker Dont'a Hightower or receiver Julian Edelman.

Two of the Patriots' additions since then both played in the Super Bowl with other teams. Linebacker James Harrison won two rings with the Pittsburgh Steelers and defensive lineman Ricky Jean Francois played on the San Francisco 49ers team that came up short against Baltimore in the Super Bowl at the end of the 2012 season.

"We know what to expect, but at the end of the day, you've got to perform," linebacker Kyle Van Noy said. "So there's really no upper hand. You've got to just play the game and get ready for it and play at a high

level."

He said that is because there is respect across the board for what backup quarterback Nick Foles has accomplished since Carson Wentz tore his ACL in Week 14.

"Everyone wants to hate on Nick Foles, but he's done a great job," Van Noy said. "He's still a high-caliber quarterback, like Carson Wentz. Nick Foles is a great quarterback who's done a great job. They distribute the ball really well and their run game is at a high level."

More than experience on either side, linebacker Elandon Roberts said the biggest challenge is not getting caught up in the emotions that come with playing in a Super Bowl.

"Obviously it's all the marbles right here, but it's everything you work for," Roberts said. "So you've got to think back to what got you here: doing your job, not getting overwhelmed and what not. As long as we do that, that takes away most of it."

## Philadelphia rejects enjoying success in New England

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — One thing sticks out to Patriots running back Dion Lewis about his time with the Philadelphia Eagles.

"Not playing," Lewis said Tuesday with a smirk.

Lewis is one of three Patriots starters who will be facing their former team in Sunday's Super Bowl, along with receiver Danny Amendola and safety Patrick Chung.

All three players look back on their experiences in Philadelphia differently, but they have played their best football since being rejected by the Eagles early in their careers.

Lewis was drafted by Philadelphia in the fifth round in 2011 and played two seasons for them before he was traded to Cleveland. Amendola was among Philadelphia's final cuts in training camp in 2009.

Chung started his career in New England, spent a forgettable year with the Eagles in 2013, then returned to the Patriots in 2014.

Amendola has experienced people doubting his abilities since he entered the league as an undrafted free agent with Dallas in 2008. He signed with Philadelphia in 2009 after being cut by the Cowboys. But after eight months with the Eagles, he was released. He was signed by the then-St. Louis Rams and stayed there for four seasons before signing a five-year contract with the Patriots in 2013.

This past Christmas he tweeted a picture of his framed No. 11 Eagles jersey, a gift from a friend.

"It's in my pool room — hanging as daily motivation," Amendola said. "I've come a long way since getting the opportunity to play there. It obviously didn't work out, so I guess I take it as

a learning experience and just realize how far I've come."

Chung thought he was heading for a fresh start when he signed a three-year contract with Philadelphia in 2013, but it didn't work out under then-first-year coach Chip Kelly. Chung was back in New England the next season. The decision paid off with a Super Bowl ring last season.

As for that 2013 season, Chung was coy about what he remembers about the experience.

"That'll be between me and those people," Chung said.

Lewis said despite his success in New England, winning a ring last season and leading the team this season in rushing yards (896) and rushing touchdowns (six), he has learned to stay motivated.

"Never safe. You still gotta put the work in. You still gotta get an opportunity. That's what

most of the guys in the league need — just an opportunity to compete," Lewis said.

He said he's matured a lot since leaving Philly.

"People look at you and kind of characterize you," Lewis said. "They try to tell you what they think you can do without even really knowing you. That's kind of what I went through. I just kind of keep battling and showing people what I can do."

Lewis said he will have no regrets if this is in his final season in New England.

"Just being here and learning what it takes to be a champion," Lewis said. "I think that's something I'll always remember, regardless of what happens. I'll just cherish my moments here."

The Patriots gave him — and Amendola and Chung — what they've always wanted: an opportunity.

# Chiefs trade QB Smith to Washington

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Kansas City has agreed to trade quarterback Alex Smith to Washington, a move that spells the end of Kirk Cousins' time with the Redskins and hands the Chiefs' job to Patrick Mahomes.

Two people with direct knowledge of the deal confirmed the move to The Associated Press on Tuesday night on condition of anonymity because the transaction can't be completed until the start of the new league year in March. One person told the AP the Redskins had agreed to a four-year extension with Smith, who had one year left on his contract.

Smith, who turns 34 in May, spent the past five seasons with the Chiefs, leading them to the playoffs four times while throwing for 102 touchdowns and 33 interceptions. He carries a \$17

million salary-cap hit for 2018.

Kansas City saves cap space and can turn to Mahomes, the 10th pick in last year's draft out of Texas Tech, as its new starter.

Smith becomes Washington's new franchise quarterback after throwing for 31,888 yards and 183 touchdowns in 12 NFL seasons with the San Francisco 49ers and Chiefs.

Smith is "one of the best competitors and teammates I've ever been around," Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce posted on Twitter. "Someone who I owe a lot of my success to, and a guy that's been a class act through all the ups n downs."

The Redskins acquired Smith and signed him to the kind of long-term deal they balked at with Cousins, who became the first QB to play back-to-back seasons on the franchise tag.

Cousins can become a free agent next month at age 29.

"Nothing really surprises me anymore," Redskins tight end Niles Paul tweeted. Former Redskins QB Robert Griffin III tweeted: "Some how...Some way...they will blame this on me. No doubt."

Cousins, drafted by the Redskins in the fourth round out of Michigan State in 2012 — the same year they traded up to Griffin with the No 2 pick — likely leaves Washington with the fourth-most passing yards in franchise history, more than 16,000.

Under coach Jay Gruden, Cousins became the first Redskins QB to start all 16 games for three consecutive seasons. He threw for at least 4,000 yards in each, while totaling 81 touchdowns and 36 interceptions. But Washington only

played in one playoff game during that span, going 9-7, 8-7-1 and, most recently, 7-9 in Cousins' time as a starter.

Cousins has been the biggest question hovering over Washington's offseason — and, indeed, hovering over the whole organization for a couple of years as the team failed to sign him to a long-term deal.

According to ESPN, Washington is sending a third-round draft pick and cornerback Kendall Fuller to Kansas City in the trade, which cannot be finalized until March 14. The Kansas City (Mo.) Star first reported the deal.

This is the second time a team coached by Andy Reid has traded a 33-year-old QB to the Redskins. Reid's Philadelphia Eagles dealt Donovan McNabb to Washington in 2010 for second- and third-round picks.

## NHL roundup

# Anaheim ends Boston's points streak at 18 games

Associated Press

BOSTON — A quick start for the Anaheim Ducks finished Boston's run of 18 straight games with a point.

Adam Henrique and Jakob Silfverberg scored in the first period, when Anaheim held Boston to just five shots, and the Ducks held on for a 3-1 victory Tuesday night.

"We did a good job in the first period. We had some jump going," Ducks coach Randy Carlyle said.

The Ducks became the first team to beat the Bruins in regulation since Washington's 5-3 win Dec. 14 at Boston. Cam Fowler and Rickard Rakell had two assists apiece for Anaheim.

John Gibson stopped all 25 shots he faced before leaving in the third period after taking a puck off his chest earlier in the period. Ryan Miller played the final 7:25 and nearly completed a shutout for the Ducks before

Ryan Spooner scored for Boston with 41 seconds left.

"We're trying to get on a streak of our own. I think we've been trending in the right direction with our hockey," Miller said.

Henrique scored into an empty net with 6.1 seconds remaining to seal it for the Ducks, who halted Boston's five-game winning streak and a stretch of 18 games with at least one point (14-0-4), which tied for the second-longest in franchise history.

"At some point it's going to happen. Hopefully we realize we need to be good from when they drop the puck," Bruins center Patrice Bergeron said. "We weren't moving our feet at the beginning. We had no fore-check or sustained pressure."

Anton Khudobin stopped 24 shots for the Bruins, who never recovered after being outshot 15-5 in the first period and falling behind 2-0 on goals by Sil-

fverberg and Henrique.

**Penguins 5, Sharks 2:** Evgeni Malkin got his 12th career hat trick and Bryan Rust scored two goals as surging Pittsburgh rallied past visiting San Jose.

**Jets 3, Lightning 1:** Michael Hutchinson made 23 saves in his first NHL start of the season to help host Winnipeg beat league-leading Tampa Bay.

**Golden Knights 4, Flames 2:** Jonathan Marchessault got the go-ahead goal and added an assist as visiting Vegas scored three times in the final two minutes to stun Calgary.

**Wild 3, Blue Jackets 2 (SO):** Zach Parise and Chris Stewart scored in the shootout as visiting Minnesota topped Columbus.

**Panthers 4, Islanders 1:** Harri Sateri stopped 32 shots for his first career victory and visiting Florida beat New York.

**Hurricanes 2, Senators 1:** Sebastian Aho and Victor Rask scored in the third period as

host Carolina edged slumping Ottawa.

**Devils 3, Sabres 1:** Taylor Hall scored in his first game after missing three with an injury to his right hand, and visiting New Jersey snapped a four-game skid with a win over Buffalo.

**Blues 3, Canadiens 1:** Carter Hutton made 33 saves and Ivan Barbashev broke a scoreless tie in the second period to help host St. Louis defeat Montreal.

**Blackhawks 2, Predators 1:** Anton Forsberg made 42 saves, and Vinnie Hinostroza had a goal and an assist in visiting Chicago's victory over Nashville.

**Kings 3, Stars 0:** Darcy Kuemper made 28 saves in his ninth career shutout, leading visiting Los Angeles over Dallas.

**Canucks 4, Avalanche 3 (OT):** Sven Baertschi scored 1:07 into overtime and host Vancouver defeated Colorado.

## NBA roundup

## Harden's 60-point triple-double a first

Associated Press

HOUSTON — James Harden knew he'd have to do a little more on Tuesday night with the Houston Rockets missing key players.

Even he couldn't have imagined he'd do this much.

Harden became the first player in NBA history to score 60 points as part of a triple-double and the short-handed Rockets beat the Orlando Magic 114-107.

"I just gave it all I had tonight," Harden said. "We all did. We all fought for 48 minutes, we got key stops when we needed to and we made big shots."

Harden scored 18 points in the fourth quarter to eclipse the 57 points Calvin Murphy scored in 1978 to break Houston's single-game scoring record. After Harden broke the record, cameras in the arena showed a shot of Murphy, who works on the television broadcast team, smiling and clapping for the Beard, who also had 10 rebounds and 11 assists.

The game was tied at 107 after a basket by Marreese Speights with just under four

minutes to play. Neither team scored for more than two minutes after that before Harden took over, scoring the next six points to make it 113-107 with 45 seconds left.

He set the scoring mark when he stepped back and made a three-pointer before crashing to the court after being fouled by Mario Hezonja. He then made the free throw to give him 60 points and bring the crowd to its feet.

"Amazing [and] topped it off with a four-point play at the end," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "But we had to have every minute from him."

Harden, who also had four steals and a block, grabbed his 10th rebound a few seconds later to give him his third triple-double this season. He made 17 of 18 free throws and was 19-for-30 from the floor with five three pointers.

He said he didn't realize he was the first player with 60 points in a triple-double.

"It's a good feeling, I guess," he said. "Just try to go out there and make an impact every single night on the game, however I can. Whether it's scoring, rebounding, assists, steals, what-

ever it is. And tonight I guess I was doing everything."

**Pistons 125, Cavaliers 114:** Andre Drummond had 21 points and 22 rebounds, and short-handed host Detroit went on to win after Cleveland lost Kevin Love to a potentially season-altering hand injury.

Love exited in the first quarter with a broken left hand, and the Pistons took advantage of his absence, snapping an eight-game losing streak despite a roster that was depleted by their blockbuster trade for Blake Griffin.

**Wizards 102, Thunder 96:** Beginning what could be a significant stretch without All-Star point guard John Wall, host Washington got 25 points from Otto Porter Jr., limited Russell Westbrook to 13 and stopped Oklahoma City's eight-game winning streak.

Bradley Beal had 21 points and nine assists for Washington, which announced about 7½ hours before tipoff that Wall will have arthroscopic surgery on his left knee Wednesday.

**Jazz 129, Warriors 99:** Ricky Rubio scored 23 points and handed out 11 assists as host Utah stunned Golden

State.

The loss ended a three-game winning streak for the Warriors, who had won seven of eight before facing the Jazz. It was their largest loss of the season.

**Knicks 111, Nets 95:** Kristaps Porzingis scored 28 points, Enes Kanter had 20 points, 20 rebounds and five assists, and New York completed a crosstown sweep of Brooklyn with the victory.

**Raptors 109, Timberwolves 104:** DeMar DeRozan scored 23 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 18 points and 11 rebounds and Toronto rallied from a 13-point deficit to beat visiting Minnesota.

**Kings 114, Pelicans 103:** Zach Randolph scored 26 points and grabbed 12 rebounds, and Sacramento beat host New Orleans.

**Spurs 106, Nuggets 104:** LaMarcus Aldridge scored 30 points and host San Antonio escaped with a victory over Denver.

**Trail Blazers 104, Clippers 96:** Damian Lillard scored 28 points and Portland pulled away in the third quarter to beat host Los Angeles.

## Top 25 roundup

## Young helps No. 12 Oklahoma get past Baylor

Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Only one thing was going to slow Oklahoma point guard Trae Young's offensive onslaught Tuesday night.

"He got subbed out," Baylor coach Scott Drew quipped. "Put up the white flag, and they took him out for a second."

Young scored 31 of his 44 points in the second half to help No. 12 Oklahoma hold off Baylor 98-96. The freshman, who leads the nation in scoring and assists, scored at least 40 points for the fourth time this season and the third time in the past six games.

Young, just 6-foot-2 and 180 pounds, is best known for making deep three-point-

ers and highlight-reel passes. Against Baylor, he focused on attacking the basket and made 16 of 19 free throws.

"Trae Young is a special player," Drew said. "His three-point shot is obviously elite. What we tried to do was not get him on the free-throw line. As you can see, we weren't effective there."

**No. 20 Clemson 82, No. 19 North Carolina 78:** Marquise Reed had 20 points, including the go-ahead three-pointer after his team blew a 16-point lead, and the host Tigers ended a 10-game losing streak to the Tar Heels.

**No. 6 Xavier 73, St. John's 68:** Trevon Bluiett scored 14 points to lead the visiting Musketeers over the Red Storm.

**No. 11 Auburn 79, Mississippi 70:** Bryce Brown scored 19 of his 23 points in the second half to lead the visiting Tigers.

**No. 17 Ohio State 71, Indiana 56:** Jae'Sean Tate scored 16 points and the host Buckeyes took control early in cruising to a win over the Hoosiers.

**No. 22 Rhode Island 85, Massachusetts 83:** Jeff Downtin had 19 points and 10 assists, and the Rams escaped with a win after the host Minutemen botched an intentional missed free throw in the final seconds.

**Georgia 72, No. 23 Florida 60:** Yante Maten scored 20 points and the host Bulldogs recovered after blowing a halftime lead.