

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Monday, July 8, 2019

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Admiral picked to lead Navy will retire

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The four-star admiral set to become the Navy's top officer on Aug. 1 will retire instead, an extraordinary downfall prompted by what Navy Secretary Richard Spencer called poor judgment regarding a professional relationship.

The sudden move by Adm. Bill Moran, announced Sunday, might add to the perception of turmoil in the Pentagon's senior ranks, as it comes less than a month after Pat Shanahan abruptly withdrew from consideration to be defense secretary after serving as the acting secretary for six months.

Leaders of the individual military services, both civilian and uniformed, play less critical roles in national security than the defense secretary, and they are not in the chain of mil-

itary command. But they are responsible for ensuring that the armed forces are trained, equipped and prepared for combat and other roles.

Moran had been vetted for promotion

to the top uniformed position in the Navy, nominated by President Donald Trump and confirmed by the Senate in May to succeed Adm. John Richardson as chief of naval operations and as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Instead, Moran said in a written statement Sunday evening that he told Spencer he decided to decline his appointment as the next chief of naval operations and requested to be allowed to retire.

"As painful as it is to submit my request to retire, I will not be an impediment whatsoever to the important service that

you and your families continue to render the nation every day," Moran wrote.

Spencer said his vision for the Navy includes "an urgent resolve by all" to live up to high standards.

"Adm. Bill Moran recently brought to my attention that over the past two years, he maintained a professional relationship with an individual who was held accountable and counseled for failing to meet the values and standards of the naval profession," Spencer said in a written statement Sunday evening. "While I admire his faithful service and commitment to the Navy, this decision on his part to maintain that relationship has caused me to call his judgment into question. Therefore, today I accepted Adm. Moran's request to retire."

Senior Navy officials said

Spencer learned of the relationship only after Moran's Senate confirmation in May. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive details.

Spencer provided no details about the unnamed individual, but other officials said Spencer was referring to Moran having recently taken public affairs counsel from Chris Servello, who was removed from his position as public affairs adviser to Richardson in 2017 and given a nonpunitive letter of reprimand for drinking and fraternizing with junior officers during and after a December 2016 Navy Christmas party.

Servello was accused of making unwanted sexual passes while dressed as Santa at the party. No charges were filed against him. He retired from the Navy last May at the rank of commander.

## US-Australia Talisman Sabre drills kick off Down Under

By SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

A monthlong, biennial military exercise involving more than 34,000 personnel from the United States and Australia opened Sunday aboard the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier at the Port of Brisbane.

Talisman Sabre 2019 is designed to enhance combat readiness and cooperation between the Australian and U.S. armed forces, Australian Defence Minister Linda Reynolds said in a statement announcing the drills.

"This premier military engagement reflects the strength of the Australia-U.S. alliance and the closeness of our mili-

tary-to-military relationship," she said.

Most drills will take place at Shoalwater Bay Training Area and surrounding state forests near the town of Rockhampton, Queensland. Events will also occur in other parts of the state, on Australia's east coast and at the Evans Head Air Weapons Range in the state of New South Wales, according to the statement.

Forces from Canada, Japan, New Zealand and the United Kingdom will be embedded alongside Australian personnel, and delegations from India and South Korea will observe the exercise, Reynolds said.

Eighteen nations from across the Indo-Pacific region have also been invited to an

international visitor program, she added.

The Japan-based Ronald Reagan arrived in Brisbane on Friday along with the guided-missile cruiser USS Chancellorsville. The destroyer USS McCampbell pulled into Townsville, Australia, on Thursday, the Navy said in a statement.

"USS Ronald Reagan sailors are excited to engage in Talisman Sabre 2019 with their Australian counterparts," Capt. Pat Hannifin, the aircraft carrier's commander, said in the statement.

"Having served alongside Aussies in every conflict for 100 years, we are truly honored to visit your beautiful country again. We look forward to the

sights of Brisbane and the hospitality that Australians are known for."

The Marine Corps has brought the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System, or HIMARS, for the first time Down Under and were scheduled to conduct live-fire drills with it at Shoalwater Bay on Monday.

The training comes amid heightened concern about Chinese influence in the South Pacific.

On Sunday, Australia's ABC television network reported that a Chinese Auxiliary General Intelligence vessel was headed toward Australia and expected to closely monitor the exercise.

# Ukraine asks to purchase weapons via DOD program

BY JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

Ukraine has asked for the first time to buy U.S. military equipment through the Pentagon's weapons sales program, a request under consideration as Kiev continues its battle against Russia-backed separatists, America's top diplomat in the country said.

"We are beginning the review process for that request," William Taylor, the U.S. chief of mission in Ukraine, said in a statement Sunday. "The United States stands firmly with Ukraine in support of its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and defense sector reforms."

On Monday, Taylor and Ukrainian military officials traveled to the administrative boundary line of Crimea, a territory that Russia annexed in 2014 and is a major source of political tension between Moscow and the West.

"Crimea is Ukraine," the U.S. Embassy in Kiev said in a tweet announcing Taylor's visit to the boundary line.

For five years, the U.S. has called upon Russia to pull out of Ukraine and stop supporting separatists. However, fighting continues in Ukraine's eastern provinces, where about 4,000 Ukrainian troops have been killed since 2014, according to the United Nations.

While the West has offered various forms of support to Ukraine's military since 2014, the U.S. only recently began providing lethal military gear, which the Obama administration resisted over concerns it would escalate tensions.

U.S. lawmakers and military officials, however, have advocated stepping up support. Last year, the Trump administration began providing anti-tank Javelin missiles and other weaponry.

Last month, the Defense Department also said it will provide \$250 million in military aid to Ukraine, including more sniper rifles, grenade launchers and counterartillery radars. In September, the U.S. Coast Guard transferred two Island-class cutters, armed with .50-caliber machine guns and 25 mm deck guns, to Ukraine to bolster the country's small navy.

While Ukraine now says it wants to make more purchases, it's not clear what types of systems Kiev is seeking.

# Lecturer at US-funded Afghan college accused of aiding ISIS

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN  
*Stars and Stripes*

KABUL, Afghanistan — A lecturer at a partially U.S.-funded university in Afghanistan's capital was arrested on suspicion of recruiting students to join Islamic State, the country's top intelligence agency said Monday.

Three of his suspected recruits, who were accused by authorities of organizing several deadly ISIS attacks in Kabul, also were arrested, the National Directorate of Security said in a statement.

Two of the suspected recruits were students at the university. The third was related to one of the students.

U.S. and Afghan forces have been unable to eliminate ISIS' local affiliate, known as Islamic State-Khorasan Province, which first emerged in 2014 and says it aspires to carry out attacks on U.S. soil.

Known as ISIS-K, the militant group has recruited fighters actively from among Afghan university students, for whom obtain-

ing visas to travel abroad is thought to be easier.

ISIS-K has recruited "many students" from Kabul University and has sent them to its stronghold in eastern Nangarhar province for training, said one of the students who was arrested, Ahmad Farouq, in a recorded confession released by the NDS.

Farouq named the professor who was arrested as Mubasher Muslimyar, an Islamic studies lecturer. He said Muslimyar attempted to convert students to Salafism, a fundamentalist branch of Sunni Islam, before encouraging them to join ISIS-K.

The U.S. government and public universities have aided multiple projects at Kabul University over the years. In 2011, a renewable energy laboratory paid for by the U.S. Agency for International Development opened on campus.

The head of U.S. Central Command, Marine Gen. Frank McKenzie, has described ISIS-K as a "very worrisome" threat to the United States and said counterterrorism efforts against the group must continue.

# DHS chief defends conditions at border

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Acting Homeland Security Secretary Kevin McAleenan on Sunday defended conditions at U.S. Border Patrol stations following reports of crowded and unsanitary conditions that have heightened debate about President Donald Trump's immigration policy, a trademark issue for his reelection campaign.

"It's an extraordinarily challenging situation," McAleenan told ABC's "This Week."

The Homeland Security Department's internal watchdog provided new details July 2 about the overcrowding in Texas' Rio Grande Valley, the busiest corridor for illegal crossings. The report said children at three facilities had no access to showers and that some children under age 7 had been held in jammed centers for more than two weeks. Some cells were so cramped that adults were forced to stand for days on end.

Government inspectors described an increasingly dangerous situation, both for migrants and agents — a "ticking time bomb," in the words of one facility manager.

The report echoed findings in May by the department's inspector general about

holding centers in El Paso, Texas: 900 people crammed into a cell with a maximum capacity of 125; detainees standing on toilets to have room to breathe; others wearing soiled clothing for days or weeks.

In tweets Sunday afternoon, Trump went farther than McAleenan in defending his administration's response, accusing the news media of "phony and exaggerated accounts" but without providing evidence.

"Border Patrol and others in Law Enforcement have been doing a great job. We said there was a Crisis — the Fake News & the Dems said it was 'manufactured,'" Trump wrote. Federal detention centers "are crowded (which we ... brought up, not them) because the Dems won't change the Loopholes and Asylum. Big Media Con Job!"

Democrats faulted Trump for not offering an immigration overhaul that could pass a divided Congress.

"The president is acting like we are some weak, pathetic country," said Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet, a Democratic presidential candidate. "We have the ability to treat human beings humanely. We have the ability to lead our hemisphere in a discussion about how to deal with this refugee crisis," he said on "Fox News Sunday."



# Financier charged with sex trafficking

*The Washington Post*

Federal prosecutors Monday unsealed new sex trafficking charges against Jeffrey Epstein, alleging the politically connected multimillionaire abused dozens of female minors at his Manhattan and Palm Beach, Fla., homes and enlisted his victims to expand a network of possible targets.

Epstein, who was arrested over the weekend and was appearing in federal court in Manhattan on Monday, had previously pleaded guilty to Florida state charges of soliciting prostitution to resolve allegations he molested dozens of girls. That arrangement has been widely criticized as lenient. As part of the deal, he had to spend just more than a year in jail and was allowed to leave daily for work, and he never faced any federal exposure.

The new charges, described in a 14-page indictment brought by the U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan, could lead to a much harsher penalty. Epstein is charged in a

two-count indictment with sex trafficking and sex trafficking conspiracy for crimes alleged to have occurred between 2002 and 2005. Each charge carries a penalty of no less than 10 years in prison, with the possibility of a life sentence.

U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Berman said prosecutors will seek to have Epstein detained pending trial, though they will likely encounter resistance from Epstein's legal team. The Justice Department is also seeking to seize Epstein's mansion on the Upper East Side of Manhattan where some of the alleged crimes occurred.

The U.S. attorney's office said in a news release that Epstein created "a network and operation enabling him to sexually exploit and abuse dozens of underage girls" and that he paid victims to recruit other underage girls. The indictment alleges his victims were as young as 14 years old.

Epstein, according to the indictment, recruited the girls to perform "massages,"

which would become "increasingly sexual in nature." He then paid hundreds of dollars for each encounter, according to the indictment.

The indictment also alleges that Epstein "actively encouraged certain of his victims to recruit additional girls to be similarly sexually abused," and that he "incentivized his victims to become recruiters by paying these victim-recruiters hundreds of dollars for each girl they brought to Epstein." Prosecutors alleged Epstein was trying to ensure he had a "steady stream of minor victims."

Epstein, now 66, is a financier who once counted among his friends President Donald Trump and former President Bill Clinton. His alleged victims have long claimed the criminal justice system treated him differently because of his wealth and political connections, and his treatment has come under significant media and legal scrutiny.

## Poll: A quarter of Americans never plan to retire

*Associated Press*

CHICAGO — Nearly one-quarter of Americans say they never plan to retire, according to a poll that suggests a disconnection between individuals' retirement plans and the realities of aging in the workforce.

Experts say illness, injury, layoffs and caregiving responsibilities often force older workers to leave their jobs sooner than they'd like.

According to the poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, 23% of workers, including nearly 2 in 10 of those over 50, don't expect to stop working. Roughly another quarter of Americans say they will continue working beyond their 65th birthday.

According to government data, about 1 in 5 people 65 and older was working or actively looking for a job in June.

For many, money has a lot to do with the decision to keep working.

"The average retirement age that we see in the data has gone up a little bit, but it hasn't gone up that much," said Anqi

Chen, assistant director of savings research at the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. "So people have to live in retirement much longer, and they may not have enough assets to support themselves in retirement."

When asked how financially comfortable they feel about retirement, 14% of Americans under the age of 50 and 29% over 50 say they feel extremely or very prepared, according to the poll.

About another 4 in 10 older adults say they do feel somewhat prepared, while just about one-third feel unprepared. By comparison, 56% of younger adults say they don't feel prepared for retirement.

Among those who are fully retired, 38% said they felt very or extremely prepared when they retired, while 25% said they felt not very or not at all prepared.

"One of the things about thinking about never retiring is that you didn't save a whole lot of money," said Ronni Bennett, 78, who was pushed out of her job as a New York City-based website editor at 63.

Finding Manhattan too expensive without a steady stream of income, she eventually moved to Portland, Maine. A few years later, she moved again, to Lake Oswego, Ore.

"Sometimes I fantasize that if I win the lottery, I'd go back to New York," said Bennett, who has a blog called Time Goes By that chronicles her experiences aging, relocating and, during the past two years, living with a pancreatic cancer diagnosis.

Meanwhile, Americans have mixed assessments of how the aging workforce affects workers: 39% think people staying in the workforce longer is mostly a good thing for American workers, while 29% think it's more a bad thing and 30% say it makes no difference.

A somewhat higher share, 45%, thinks it has a positive effect on the U.S. economy.

Working Americans who are 50 and older think the trend is more positive than negative for their own careers — 42% to 15%. Those younger than 50 are about as likely to say it's good for their careers as to say it's bad.

Just 6% of fully retired AP-NORC poll respondents said

they left the labor market before turning 50.

But remaining in the workforce may be unrealistic for people dealing with unexpected illness or injuries. For them, high medical bills and a lack of savings loom large over day-to-day expenditures.

"People like me, who are average, everyday working people, can have something catastrophic happen, and we lose everything because of medical bills," said Larry Zarzecki, a former Maryland police officer who stopped working in his 40s after developing a resting tremor in his right hand and a series of cognitive and physical symptoms he at times found difficult to articulate.

At 47, he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. Now 57 and living in Baltimore, Zarzecki said he has learned "to take from Peter and give to Paul, per se, to help make ends meet."

The AP-NORC Center survey of 1,423 adults was conducted with funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.7 percentage points.

# Congress has ambitious agenda tackling costs of US health care

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers are trying to set aside their irreconcilable differences over the Obama administration's Affordable Care Act and work to reach bipartisan agreement on a more immediate health care issue — lowering costs for people who already have coverage.

Returning from their Fourth of July recess, the Senate and House are pushing to end surprise medical bills, curb high prices for medicines and limit prescription copays for people with Medicare.

Partisan disagreements could derail the effort, but lawmakers fear the voters' verdict in 2020 if politicians have nothing to show for all their hand-wringing about drug prices.

President Donald Trump has political exposure himself because the big price cuts he promised haven't materialized. On Friday, he promised an executive order that he said would be intended to enable the U.S. government to pay lower

prices for prescription drugs. The U.S. would pay no more than the lowest amount paid by other nations or companies, he said.

"Frankly, the issue is so urgent for Americans who are facing increasing drug costs that to us, it's really not about who gets the credit," said Rep. Diana DeGette, D-Colo. "It's about what kind of relief we can give to consumers." She serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has a role in shaping the legislation.

In the Senate, Republican Lamar Alexander has shepherded bipartisan legislation on surprise medical bills through the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee that he leads. That bill also would raise the legal age for buying tobacco products to 21.

"Obviously, we will continue to have significant disagreements on ... Obamacare," said Alexander. "What we've done is shift our focus to the larger topic — or the different topic —

of reducing health care costs." He would like his bill to be on the Senate floor by the end of this month.

Different pieces of legislation are at various stages in a half-dozen committees in the Senate and the House. The Senate seems to hold the keys to what can pass because Republicans and Democrats have to work together to avoid gridlock on the Senate floor that could sidetrack legislation. In the House, Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., is keeping an open line to the Trump administration on drug costs.

"The public demand for action is high on both sides of the aisle, and I'm sure these guys are feeling it," said John Rother, of the National Coalition on Health Care, an umbrella group that represents a cross-section of business and consumer organizations. "They have to do something, and the question is, is that something going to be meaningful or is it going to be window dressing?"

## UK hunts for leaker of official's Trump blast

Associated Press

LONDON — The British government was hunting Monday for the source of a leak of diplomatic cables from Britain's ambassador in Washington that branded President Donald Trump's administration "dysfunctional" and "inept."

British officials are embarrassed by the publication of Kim Darroch's unflattering assessment — but more alarmed that sensitive confidential information has been leaked, possibly for political ends.

The leaked cables were intended for senior U.K. ministers and civil servants, and officials believe the mole will be found among British politicians or officials, rather than overseas.

"I've seen nothing to suggest hostile state actors were involved," said Prime Minister Theresa May's spokesman, James Slack.

The inquiry is being led by civil servants in the Cabinet Office, and Slack said police would be called in only "if evidence of criminality is found."

It's possible the leaker could be charged with breaching the Official Secrets Act, which bars public servants from making "damaging" disclosures of classified material. Breaching the act carries a maximum sentence of two years in prison, though prosecutions are rare.

In the leaked cables — published in the Mail on Sunday newspaper — Darroch called the Trump administration's policy toward Iran "incoherent," said Trump might be indebted to "dodgy Russians" and raised doubts about whether the White House "will ever look competent."

"We don't really believe this administration is going to become substantially more normal; less dysfunctional; less unpredictable; less faction riven; less diplomatically clumsy and inept," one missive said.

## Archdiocese removes top Detroit priest

Associated Press

DETROIT — A conservative Detroit priest renowned for his orchestral Masses and traditional Latin services has been removed from public ministry after the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit reviewed what it described as a "credible allegation" that he had abused a child decades ago.

The announcement, made during services Sunday at the Rev. Eduard Perrone's church, shocked parishioners and came a month after The Associated Press began asking the pastor, the archdiocese and law enforcement authorities about a former altar boy's allegations that Perrone groped him.

Archdiocese officials told Perrone's congregation at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin

Mary Parish during services Sunday that members of the local archdiocese review board found a "semblance of truth" to the accusations, but that they are maintaining a presumption of innocence.

After Mass, a number of people stopped at the back of the church to ask questions of two archdiocesan officials and pick up a written statement about Perrone.

The pastor is prohibited from representing himself as a priest or wearing clerical attire while the Vatican reviews the allegations, the archdiocese said in the written statement.

The statement also said the archdiocese had reported the allegation to local law enforcement and the Michigan attorney general's office. The

attorney general's office declined to comment last month, but it has an open investigation into clergy abuse in the Catholic Church in Michigan and charged five men who were priests with 21 counts of sexual misconduct in May.

Last month, Perrone denied any wrongdoing when the AP asked him about the allegations that, years ago, he would invite altar boys to his mother's lake house where he would wrestle with them in the water for hours. At times, the wrestling turned to inappropriate grabbing and groping, said a former altar boy who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity to protect his privacy.

Perrone said it was the first he heard of any allegations against him.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Yo-yo maker marks 90 years with contest

**OH** CLEVELAND — An Ohio toy company known for its yo-yos is marking 90 years in operation and plans to celebrate with a yo-yoing contest and other events in Cleveland next month.

Cleveland.com reported that Middlefield-based Duncan Toys also wants to try to break a Guinness world record for most players simultaneously yo-yoing.

The company is inviting the public to join in the attempt on Aug. 9 at Cleveland's downtown Public Square, where attendees also will have a chance to meet impressive yo-yoers and Duncan employees.

The four-day yo-yoing contest occurs that weekend too. Expert yo-yo enthusiasts from around the world are expected to participate in the competition, which begins Aug. 7 at a Cleveland hotel.

## Group works to pay students' lunch debts

**SC** FORT MILL — An alumni group in one South Carolina school district is helping pay students' lunch debt.

Fort Mill School District spokesman Joe Burke said that as of June 18, students had about \$12,000 in combined student lunch debt.

The Herald reported that the Fort Mill Ol' School Crowd is gathering donations to cover that balance.

Each school has an Angel Fund, to which community members can donate to ease students' negative lunch balances. Jean Deese, an alumni who helped start the debt relief effort, said students with balances are given an alterna-

tive lunch that makes the kids feel different and can lead to bullying.

Deese said they've raised more than \$5,000 since starting the effort about two years ago.

## Toddler found safe inside stolen car

**NC** SOUTHERN PINES — Police in North Carolina said a toddler was found safe after a thief stole a car containing the child from a food delivery driver.

Southern Pines police said a DoorDash driver was making deliveries Friday night with her 1-year-old son in tow.

About 9 p.m., she made a delivery and left her car running and unlocked.

Police said the car was then stolen with the child inside.

The car was recovered about an hour later a mile or two away. The boy was alone and unharmed.

## Starbucks apologizes to police for incident

**AZ** TEMPE — Starbucks has apologized after an employee reportedly asked six police officers to leave or change their location in one of the company's shops in a Phoenix suburb because another customer reported feeling unsafe.

Starbucks said it has "deep respect for the Tempe Police Department" and was apologizing "for any misunderstanding or inappropriate behavior that may have taken place" during the July 4 encounter.

The Tempe Officers Association said the officers had just bought their drinks and were standing together before their shift started when a barista made the request for a customer.

The association called the request offensive and disheartening.

## Centenarian couple proves love is ageless

**OH** SYLVANIA — John and Phyllis Cook are living proof love is ageless.

WNWO-TV reported that the couple living at a retirement facility in Sylvania went to get their marriage license at the county courthouse in Toledo late last month and decided to tie the knot there and then. John just turned 100. Phyllis will be 103 in August.

The couple's relationship after dating a year had grown to the point where Phyllis thought it best they get married. She said it might seem "far-fetched" at their age, "but we fell in love with each other."

Both were married twice previously to spouses who died. They spend lots of time together, but have decided to maintain their own apartments.

Asked what their favorite activity is, John replied, "Well, I probably shouldn't talk about that."

## Police probe reports of zebra biting 4

**TN** SEYMOUR — The Blount County Sheriff's Office is investigating reports that a zebra at a privately owned farm in Seymour bit four people.

The Knoxville News Sentinel reported that three women went to local hospitals last week after they were bitten.

Two women received bites to their arms and a third was bitten on the back. A fourth bite was from June 21, when a hospital treated a man for a bite to his hand.

Blount County Sheriff's Of-

fice spokeswoman Marian O'Briant said the investigation is ongoing.

Farm owner Bobby Ed White told the Maryville newspaper The Daily Times that the zebra and other animals he owns are kept behind a fence on private property.

## Inspection finds store infested with roaches

**GA** DOUGLAS — A state agency has ordered a Dollar General store in rural south Georgia to stop selling food after inspectors found the store infested with roaches.

WALB-TV reported that the Georgia Department of Agriculture discovered the roach infestation at the Dollar General in Douglas after responding to a customer's complaint.

Agriculture department spokeswoman Julie McPeak said investigators confirmed the roach problem, and store managers were ordered to throw out any food or drinks that might have been affected.

The store is prohibited from selling food until it passes a follow-up inspection.

## Unpaid parking tickets to result in 'barnacles'

**NE** OMAHA — The city of Omaha will begin using a new device called a "barnacle" to immobilize vehicles with unpaid parking tickets.

The Omaha World-Herald reported that the city on Monday began using the device, which is a panel that attaches to a vehicle's windshield, blocking a driver's view.

Motorists can release the device themselves with a code they'll get by calling a number on the barnacle to pay the fines.

From wire reports

STARS AND STRIPES®

On a mission to provide credible reporting and daily news to America's military, wherever they serve.

Mobile apps available: [www.stripes.com/apps](http://www.stripes.com/apps).

# 15-year-old Gauff's Wimbledon run ends

Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Coco Gauff's unexpected but remarkable run at Wimbledon is over.

The 15-year-old American, who became the youngest player to qualify for Wimbledon's main draw in the professional era, lost to former No. 1 Simona Halep 6-3, 6-3 in the fourth round on Monday.

"I learned a lot," said Gauff, who is younger than many of the players in the junior competition at Wimbledon. "I learned how to play in front of a big crowd. I learned what it was like to be under pressure. I learned a lot and I'm really thankful for this experience."

Gauff knocked out five-time champion Venus Williams in the first round, and then saved two match points in the third round to reach the second week of a Grand Slam tournament in her debut.

Playing on No. 1 Court, the second biggest stadium at the All England Club, Gauff had plenty of support from the crowd. But Halep, the 2018 French Open champion and a Wimbledon semifinalist in 2014, had the better shots. She broke Gauff five times and took advantage of 29 unforced errors.

Gauff did manage to save two more match points when

serving at 5-2, but Halep won the next game to reach the quarterfinals.

Earlier, Serena Williams advanced to the Wimbledon quarterfinals for the 14th time, beating Carla Suarez Navarro 6-2, 6-2.

In the men's draw, four-time champion Novak Djokovic advanced along with two-time winner Rafael Nadal. Djokovic beat Ugo Humbert 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 while Nadal defeated Joao Sousa 6-2, 6-2, 6-2.

Roger Federer, the record eight-time champion at the All England Club, was playing Matteo Berrettini later Monday.

Williams, a seven-time Wimbledon champion who missed about a year of play while she had a baby in 2017 but returned to the tennis tour in 2018, entered the tournament without having played since the third round of the French Open — skipping the grass-court warm-up tournaments.

"I definitely haven't had enough (matches)," said Williams, who had been dealing with an injured left knee. "I have more matches this week than literally the past five months. So, yikes."

Williams reached the quarterfinals at the Australian Open, then retired from a match at Indian Wells, withdrew from matches in Miami and Rome, and then played at

the French Open.

"I know that I can play, and now that I'm feeling better physically I almost feel a relief more than anything," Williams said. "Like, OK, finally I can play tennis."

Against Suarez Navarro, Williams won six straight games from 3-2 in the first set and broke for a 5-2 lead in the second. She easily closed it out from there.

Williams, who lost to Angelique Kerber in last year's Wimbledon final, will next face Alison Riske, an unseeded American who upset top-ranked Ash Barty.

Williams' last loss was also against American opposition, Sofia Kenin in the third round at Roland Garros.

"Well the last time I faced a fellow American I lost, so I definitely want to do well this time," Williams said. "And yeah, she's great on the grass. She took out the No. 1 player in the world who just won a grass-court tournament. I watched that match, so I'll be ready for her."

Riske ended Barty's 15-match winning streak, and her chances of winning a second straight Glam Slam title.

Riske beat this year's French Open champion 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 and will play in the quarterfinals of a major tournament for the first time.

"I haven't been starting out fantastic in all my matches, but I knew I had the confidence that if I could manage my service games I was going to get looks on her serve," said Riske, whose best previous showing was reaching the third round at Wimbledon and the fourth round at the 2013 U.S. Open. "I had to play aggressive. I had to take it to Ash."

Barty was playing her first tournament as the No. 1-ranked player, and she started off by winning points with her serve against Riske.

In the opening service game, the top-seeded Barty won all four points with aces. She won two more points in her next game with aces, as well. She finished the match with 12 of them.

But Riske took her chances when she got them, breaking Barty four times on four attempts, including to take a 5-3 lead in the deciding set before serving it out.

"I was sticking to how I wanted to play," Barty said. "Then in the second set, I think my serve let me down. I let Alison get back into the match too many times, having looks at second serves."

Also, No. 19 Johanna Konta eliminated two-time champion Petra Kvitova 4-6, 6-2, 6-4, and No. 8 Elina Svitolina beat No. 24 Petra Martic 6-4, 6-2.

## US men come up short to Mexico in Gold Cup final

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Hours after the U.S. women won their fourth World Cup, the American men were outplayed by Mexico in the CONCACAF Gold Cup final.

Jonathan Dos Santos scored in the 73rd minute to give the El Tri a 1-0 victory Sunday night.

Star Christian Pulisic and captain Weston McKennie both left Soldier Field without speaking to reporters about the latest setback to a program still trying to rebound from its failure to qualify for last year's World Cup.

"Over the course of 90 minutes, Mexico was the better team," Gregg Berhalter said

after his first tournament as U.S. coach.

Despite missing their top three forwards, El Tri had 58% possession, outshot the U.S. 20-10 and won their eighth Gold Cup title to six for the U.S., which dropped to 1-5 in Gold Cup finals against its biggest rival.

Days before he reports to Chelsea, Pulisic was by far the best U.S. player, using bursts of speed and cutting ability to create chances, but he rarely touched the ball in the second half. The 20-year-old midfielder was given the tournament's best young player award after scoring three goals with three assists.

"His contribution to the team this tournament was fantastic," Berhalter said. "Both sides of the ball. Off the field."

McKennie, coming off an excellent season with Schalke in the Bundesliga, was given the captain's arm band for the first time but was largely ineffective.

"I'm not going to comment on his individual performance," said Berhalter, who also praised McKennie for his play earlier in the tournament.

"We just couldn't put our chances away tonight," forward Jozy Altidore said. "If you look at that 10-, 15-minute period, we kind of lost the game a bit. We were trying to play out of the back and stick to our guns, but maybe it was a time to kind of get up the field and try to get in their half and kind of change that momentum a bit."



# Astros head into break on high note

BY KRISTIE RIEKEN

Associated Press

HOUSTON — After missing a couple of chances to put the game away Sunday, the Houston Astros felt fortunate to finally close it out in the 10th inning.

George Springer hit a game-ending, RBI single in the 10th and the Astros beat the Angels 11-10 Sunday after a violent collision at home plate knocked Los Angeles catcher Jonathan Lucroy out of the game.

The Astros' Yuli Gurriel hit a grand slam to homer in his fifth straight game, and All-Star Ryan Pressly (2-1) allowed one hit in a scoreless 10th for the win.

Josh Reddick led off Houston's 10th with a double off Taylor Cole (0-1) before Springer hit a ball to the right-center gap

with one out to give Houston the victory.

"We left a lot of guys on base, but at the end of the day, we found a way to win it," Springer said.

Mike Trout homered twice for the Angels, who watched Lucroy get carted off in the eighth inning after being bowled over by Jake Marisnick. Lucroy was taken to a hospital, and the team said he would get a CT scan and be evaluated for a concussion and nose fracture.

"It certainly didn't look like a clean play," Los Angeles manager Brad Ausmus said. "I don't know what actually happened, but it looked like Marisnick took a step to the left and bowled into him with his arm up. The call was right. Really, I think Major League Baseball should probably take a look at

it. Consider some type of suspension, quite frankly."

The Astros loaded the bases with two outs in the ninth, but Hansel Robles struck out Tyler White to send it to the 10th.

There were runners at second and third with no outs in the eighth when rookie Yordan Alvarez sent them both home with a single to center to tie it at 10. The bases were loaded with one out when Marisnick attempted to score on a flyout by Springer.

Marisnick crashed into Lucroy as he attempted to field the throw, and the catcher immediately fell on his back. He didn't move for a few seconds before struggling to sit up. Marisnick tagged home and then leaned over Lucroy to see if he was OK. He lifted his head off the ground a few seconds later as

blood dripped from his nose.

Angels players rushed to the plate as trainers checked on him. He was lifted to a sitting position after a couple of minutes and held a towel to his nose. He was then helped to a cart and taken off the field while clutching a bloodstained towel.

Marisnick was called out for colliding with Lucroy and the call was upheld after a crew chief review to end the inning.

"I watched the play again and it looks — he just drops right in front of me and once I kind of made a decision it was too late," Marisnick said. "It was a bad play and I hope he's OK."

Trout has an American League-leading 28 home runs and set a franchise record for home runs before the All-Star break.

## MLB roundup

# D-backs' Young no-hits Rockies for 6 innings

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Alex Young tossed six no-hit innings in his second career start, Eduardo Escobar had three RBIs and the Diamondbacks completed a three-game sweep with a 5-3 win over the Rockies.

Young (2-0) was stellar in his Chase Field debut, allowing one batter over the minimum after walking Tony Wolters in the third inning.

The 23-year-old left-hander was replaced by Yoshihisa Hirano to open the seventh inning after 71 pitches. Trevor Story hit Hirano's first pitch down the third base line and beat Jake Lamb's throw for Colorado's first hit.

Nick Ahmed hit a two-run homer and Escobar finished a homer shy of the cycle for Arizona, which enters the All-Star break above .500 at 46-45. Christian Walker added a two-run single off German Marquez (8-4).

**Indians 11, Reds 1:** Greg Allen homered and tripled

among his career-high four hits, Trevor Bauer stayed hot with seven solid innings and visiting Cleveland beat Cincinnati.

Bauer (8-6) improved to 4-0 with a 2.90 earned-run average over his last six starts.

**Phillies 8, Mets 3:** Aaron Nola held the Mets hitless into the sixth inning, Jay Bruce homered twice and Philadelphia quieted host New York.

The Phils headed into the All-Star break at 47-43 — they were 53-42 at this point last year, before adding Bryce Harper, J.T. Realmuto, Andrew McCutchen and more in an offseason push.

**Braves 4, Marlins 3:** Josh Donaldson capped his strong first-half finish by hitting a two-run homer and Charlie Culberson's defensive play helped Atlanta escape a bases-loaded jam in the ninth to beat visiting Miami.

**Rays 2, Yankees 1:** Charlie Morton struck out 10 to help host Tampa Bay split a four-games series with AL East-leading New York. Morton

(10-2) allowed one run, five hits and one walk in lowering his AL-best ERA to 2.32.

**Nationals 5, Royals 2:** Anthony Rendon doubled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning, Brian Dozier and Victor Robles homered, and Washington beat visiting Kansas City.

Washington has won 10 of 12 to climb past Philadelphia into second place in the NL East.

**Athletics 7, Mariners 4:** Matt Olson hit a home run for the second straight game to lead a five-run first inning and Oakland powered past host Seattle for its seventh win in nine games.

**Pirates 6, Brewers 5:** Red-hot rookie Bryan Reynolds hit a three-run home run in the seventh inning to lift Pittsburgh over visiting Milwaukee in its final game before the All-Star break.

**White Sox 3, Cubs 1:** At Chicago, Ivan Nova pitched shutout ball into the sixth inning for his first home win in eight tries, Eloy Jimenez and Jose Abreu

homered, and the host White Sox beat the crosstown Cubs.

**Giants 1, Cardinals 0:** Evan Longoria homered with one out in the seventh inning to break up Jack Flaherty's bid for a no-hitter, and San Francisco held on to beat visiting St. Louis.

**Rangers 4, Twins 1:** Rougned Odor's three-run homer in the 11th inning gave Texas a win against host Minnesota.

**Red Sox 6, Tigers 3:** David Price pitched one-run ball over five innings and visiting Boston beat Detroit to complete a three-game sweep.

**Blue Jays 6, Orioles 1:** Trent Thornton pitched six shutout innings to win for the first time in four starts, Lourdes Gurriel Jr. hit a two-run home run and host Toronto beat Baltimore to avoid a three-game sweep.

**Padres 5, Dodgers 3:** Fernando Tatis Jr. homered twice and had four RBIs as visiting San Diego heads into the All-Star break on a three-game winning streak after beating Los Angeles.

# Big rain, big wreck lead to Haley's win

Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Teeth chattering, hands shaking, stomach churning, Justin Haley anxiously waited for NASCAR to pull the plug on a rain-wrecked weekend at Daytona International Speedway.

A 500-1 longshot making just his third career Cup start, Haley won the rain-postponed, rain-shortened race at Daytona on Sunday. He inherited the lead after a 17-car accident decimated the field, and a lightning strike forced NASCAR to stop the race.

Haley waited out the delay in a conference room inside the historic speedway, admittedly too nervous to do more than pray for the skies to open and the race to be called once and for all.

The wait of 2 hours, 12 minutes was well worth it for the 20-year-old Indiana native driving for first-year team Spire Motorsports. They celebrated in a makeshift indoor victory lane and were warmly greeted by manufacturer Chevrolet, which has now won two straight races after a miserable start to the season.

"I had no expectation to win this race,"

said Haley, admitting he'd have quickly been passed for the lead if the race resumed.

"We were just trying to keep the fenders on it. That was the whole goal of the race, to finish with no scratches. Yes, I really did pray for rain."

The race — the last surrounding the July Fourth holiday at Daytona since the event began in 1959 — was scheduled for Saturday night but forced into Sunday afternoon because of persistent rain and lightning. The race is being moved next year to August as the regular-season finale.

As the clouds darkened over the track at the start of the third and final stage, drivers picked up the intensity and started racing as if the event would end at the first drop of rain.

Clint Bowyer pulled out of line and tried to pass Austin Dillon for the lead, but Dillon would not relinquish the spot. His Chevrolet wiggled, Bowyer hit him from behind in his Ford, and because they were at the front of the field, it caused a huge wreck.

"I guess he didn't want me to pass him," Bowyer said. "I got under him and

he blocked and he just finally wrecked us all."

Dillon, a former Daytona 500 winner, defended his racing.

"I really thought it was kind of urgent because of the lightning and rain coming," he said. "It's part of this kind of racing. I was being aggressive and trying to keep the lead."

As he spoke, lightning crackled above his head.

With that, NASCAR had to stop the race and bring the remaining cars to pit road. The move came just minutes after Kurt Busch, who had slid through the massive accident to take the lead, made a quick pit stop.

Busch relinquished the lead because he thought the race was one lap away from resuming, and Xfinity Series regular Haley cycled into the lead. He was making his third Cup start for Spire, which started in NASCAR as an agency representing drivers and sponsors but last year purchased one of the charters Furniture Row Racing left behind when the team folded at the end of last season.

## Who's on 2nd? All-Star Game set to trot out free runners

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Picture this, baseball fans.

All-Star Game tied 4-all Tuesday night at Progressive Field, flamethrower Aroldis Chapman set to face rookie sensation Pete Alonso to start the top of the 10th inning.

But, wait! Before the first pitch, Kris Bryant casually trots from the National League dugout to take a lead off second base.

"Kind of weird," offered Jeff McNeil, the majors' top hitter this year.

Already employed in the minors, the World Baseball Classic and Olympic softball, a new rule takes effect this week in front of a major league audience: Every extra inning in All-Star play — top half and bottom — begins with an automatic runner at second.

"Oh, they are doing it?" asked Atlanta manager Brian Snitker, an NL coach.

Yes, they are.

The crowd in Cleveland got

a glimpse of the future, maybe, on Sunday night when the Futures Game used the rule for an inning. No one scored, and the showcase for young talent wound up in a tie.

Could be timely in the bigs, too. The last two All-Star Games both went extras — Robinson Cano hit a leadoff homer in the 10th at Miami in 2017, Alex Bregman did the same last year in Washington.

Plus, there was the 15-inning affair at Yankee Stadium in 2008 and the dreaded 2002 game in Milwaukee that was declared a very unpopular tie after the 11th.

Naturally, in a sport where change comes slowly, not everyone is thrilled with this experiment. To many, instant intentional walks, constant shifts and talk about robot umpires has skewed the game enough.

If it's any consolation, commissioner Rob Manfred says there are no foreseeable plans to put free runners on base in

the regular season.

"I know how people are against it, especially players in the game. Yeah, the tradition is big in this sport, just like a lot of top-tier sports," Baltimore pitcher John Means said.

An All-Star this year, Means saw the test firsthand last year at Triple-A. So did Tampa Bay All-Star outfielder Austin Meadows.

"I might have been a runner on second, but I've definitely seen it happen a lot," Meadows said.

"I don't think it's a bad idea at all. We're going to play nine innings and get on with the second half," he said.

Some teams actually tried this out during spring training, starting with ties in the ninth. San Francisco manager Bruce Bochy was the first to give it a go — mass confusion ensued, mostly because he forgot to tell his players what was happening.

The automatic runner will be the player who made the last

out of the previous inning. But in a caveat, players who have left the All-Star Game can re-enter to run.

For official scoring purposes, if a freebie scores, it will count as an unearned run. Meaning, in theory, a team could pitch a perfect game and still lose.

As for strategy, what to do with that runner? Definitely depends on which team is up first.

"There's a lot of different ways you can play it, too. I mean, you can either bunt him over or swing to get him over, or you can try to hit. You've got to play for more than one run there," McNeil said.

That's fine with Alonso, his New York Mets teammate. Alonso has hit 30 home runs this season — he's never put down a sacrifice in college, the minors or the majors, and isn't about to start now, even if he leads off the 10th with a runner on second.

"I'm not going to bunt, that's for sure," he said.