

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Trump visits Pearl Harbor before Asia trip

Associated Press

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — President Donald Trump paid a solemn visit to the memorial at Pearl Harbor, a sacred journey for a commander-in-chief about to depart on an Asia trip that will be shadowed by fears of another international conflict.

Trump saluted Friday after entering the USS Arizona memorial following a short boat ride with first lady Melania Trump. They approached a wreath of white flowers — a gift from the couple — and watched as two sailors placed the wreath near a wall of names of the fallen.

The Trumps then tossed white flower petals into the waters above the battleship's sunken hull, as the president

then peered down where the rusted wreckage is visible at the water's surface.

Nearly 1,200 crew members died on the USS Arizona during the December 7, 1941, surprise attack by Japan that plunged the U.S. into World War II.

Trump, who had spoken earlier in the day about being eager to see the site for the first time, appeared moved by the visit. As the wreath was quietly placed into position, Trump crossed his arms in front of him, closing his eyes as he bowed his head in remembrance.

As the sun began to set over the Pacific, Trump then listened intently to a National Park Service tour guide, stopping briefly at a display that explained how some survivors of the attack, when they die years later, have chosen

to be cremated and have their ashes placed in the sunken ship alongside the remains of their fallen colleagues.

Trump said not a word about North Korea or its nuclear ambitions on Friday, the eve of his first official visit to Asia. He will arrive in Japan on Sunday morning, the first of five countries he will visit over 11 days as he exhorts Asian allies to increase pressure on Pyongyang to abandon its deadly ambitions.

Hawaii acted as a sort of midway point on Trump's trip halfway around the world. He arrived at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam Friday after a day-long flight from Washington.

Trump was briefed by leaders of the U.S. Pacific Command. The growing threat from North Korea — a crisis that will shadow the entire trip — was

expected to be among the topics discussed. Trump was also meeting with the governors of Alaska, Hawaii and the Pacific U.S. territories, all potential targets of any successful attempt by North Korea to strike the U.S. with a nuclear-tipped missile.

The USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor marks the final resting place of more than 1,000 sailors and Marines who were killed on the battleship during the surprise attack on what President Franklin Roosevelt deemed "a date which will live in infamy." Accessible only by boat, the memorial straddles the ship's sunken hull.

More than 2,300 sailors, soldiers and Marines died as a result of the attack, as well as 68 civilians, according to the National Park Service.

## Deaths of 4 troops hint at shadow war in Africa

The Washington Post

NIAMEY, Niger — Less than a year ago, Islamic State's ambitions in Africa seemed all but shattered. In Libya, militias assisted by U.S. special operations soldiers and airstrikes drove the militants from their stronghold in the city of Sirte. Hundreds of ISIS fighters died. Others fled south toward desert hideouts.

But many highly trained ISIS fighters crossed into the vast, ungoverned areas of impoverished Niger, according to regional security officials and analysts. Some then flowed to zones where militants were active in Mali, Nigeria and other countries.

The fighters have helped inject new energy into a spreading Islamist militancy, creating new challenges for U.S. forces in the region. Few Americans knew their troops were engaged in one of the world's most complex battlegrounds until four U.S. soldiers were killed by militants last month in a remote corner of Niger.

Instead of celebrating the defeat of ISIS in Africa, the Pentagon and its allies are confronting an increasingly potent constel-

lation of militant groups and a deepening rivalry between al-Qaida and ISIS for influence and recruits.

Islamist militants have managed to exploit ethnic and communal tensions as well as resentment over poverty and unemployment to gain support. Complicating the efforts to defeat the militants are the weakness or repressive actions of the region's armies, poor governance and porous borders.

The killing of the four U.S. soldiers has set off questions in Washington about the U.S. military's role in the Sahel, a barren belt stretching from western Africa to its north-central region.

The Trump administration suspects a relatively new ISIS ally was responsible for the American soldiers' deaths. The U.S. government has doubled down on its military commitment in the region, the latest sign being a \$60 million pledge this week to build a new counterterrorism force there.

U.S. authorities are concerned that with ISIS losing territory in Iraq and Syria, it is shifting more of its focus to North Africa and West Africa. Thousands of ISIS mili-

itants who fought in Iraq, Syria and Libya are originally from this region, particularly Tunisia and Morocco.

In recent months, ISIS has sought to make a comeback in Libya, orchestrating suicide bombings and other violence. An ISIS affiliate based in Egypt's northern Sinai has killed several hundred policemen and soldiers this year. ISIS-linked groups and cells have emerged in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco.

Nigeria's Boko Haram has expanded its reach, staging attacks in Cameroon, southern Niger and Chad. Libyan militia commanders and officials have said many West Africans fought with ISIS in Libya before its defeat there.

U.S. military officials believe Islamic State in the Greater Sahara, or ISGS, targeted the U.S. soldiers and several of their Nigerian counterparts in last month's ambush, even though no group has claimed responsibility. The militia, led by former al-Qaida militants, was formed in 2015. It was recognized by Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi only in October 2016.

# Speed blamed for Thunderbird crash in Ohio

Dayton (Ohio) Daily News

Excessive air speed coupled with landing too far down a wet runway caused a Thunderbird F-16D fighter jet to leave the airstrip and flip over at Dayton International Airport on the day before the Vectren Dayton Air Show last June, an Air Force accident investigation concluded.

The mishap injured team narrator and F-16 pilot Capt. Erik Gonsalves, who was hospitalized for leg injuries, and destroyed the \$29.2 million fighter jet on June 23, according to the Air Force. A second crewman who was a backseat passenger in the F-16 was uninjured, the Air Force said.

An accident investigation board also concluded that rain on a canopy windscreen contributed to the accident, along with not following proper braking procedures during the landing, the report said.

Approach and landing speed, how far down a runway an aircraft lands, and the condition of the airstrip can be key factors in a mishap, said Michael Barr, a former Air Force fighter pilot and University of Southern California aviation safety expert. Barr has conducted past accident board investigations for the Air Force.

Fighter pilots "are trained to land in any kind of weather," he said. "If you're flying a fighter, then you're qualified to land."

Still, mishaps involving aerial precision jet teams like the Thunderbirds and the Navy's Blue Angels are not common, he said.

"They're very few and far between, considering how many flights they fly each

year," he said. "They are really safety conscious."

The Air Force Thunderbirds, which fly six jets in precision formation, scrubbed appearances at the Vectren Dayton Air Show after the incident, and had canceled a team practice the day of the accident because of weather conditions, the report said.

During the F-16's final approach on June 23, the Dayton air traffic control tower advised the pilot of "wind shear and extreme precipitation over the field," the report noted.

Still, investigators concluded that on the first of what had been planned to be three crew familiarization flights that day, the single F-16 could have landed within the conditions, the report said.

The jet landed nearly 4,800 feet down the 10,900-foot-long runway, and was traveling above recommended speeds given the wet conditions, the report said.

"They tell you on a wet runway to try to land firm and try to land as close as you can to the end of the runway to have enough distance" to stop, said Richard Lohnes, a former F-16 pilot and prior commander of the 178th Fighter Wing at Springfield Air National Guard Base, Ohio. "It was sure not the perfect situation to land the F-16, but that's quite a bit of runway."

"In that situation, you make a little bit of a judgment one way or the other and it can make a big difference in the outcome," Lohnes said.

Once the plane left the runway and rolled into a muddy, grassy area, the landing gear

collapsed and the jet flipped, trapping both the pilot and the passenger for more than an hour. Rescuers used a circular saw to cut through the broken canopy and hydraulic spreaders to free the trapped crew.

Dayton International Airport and Wright-Patterson Air Force Base rescue crews were cautious handling the damaged jet, working carefully to avoid triggering the ejection seats, said Gil Turner, airport deputy director.

"That was a huge challenge, with the aircraft being upside down and understanding the hazards of a military jet," he said Friday.

The front ejection seat had become dislodged from the jet and added to the difficulty of extracting the pilot, the report said.

Gonsalves has returned to the team as narrator, but has not been medically cleared to fly, Maj. Malinda Singleton, an Air Combat Command spokeswoman, said Friday.

The extent of the pilot's injuries have not been disclosed, but the report described them as "significant."

Gonsalves had nearly 1,700 hours of flying time, most in the A-10 Thunderbolt II, with nearly 150 hours in the F-16 Fighting Falcon at the time of the accident, the report said.

The investigation did not find mechanical failure as a cause in the accident and the jet had passed recent inspections, the board report said.

## Iran displays missile on embassy anniversary

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran on Saturday displayed a surface-to-surface missile as part of events marking the anniversary of the 1979 U.S. Embassy takeover and hostage crisis amid uncertainty about its nuclear deal with world powers.

Thousands gathered at the former U.S. embassy in downtown Tehran where a missile, believed to be a 1,243-mile-range solid-fuel Sejil, was on display. It was the first time Iran displayed a missile during the annual gathering.

Later in the day, the semi-official Tasnim news agency, which has ties to the elite Revolutionary Guard, said the missile was a Qadr-F that has the same range.

Hundreds of Iranian militant students

stormed the U.S. Embassy following the 1979 Islamic Revolution that toppled U.S.-backed Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. They took 52 Americans hostage for 444 days after Washington refused to hand over the shah, who was in the U.S.

A crowd chanted "Down with the U.S." and "Death to Israel" during the anniversary celebration. State TV said similar celebrations were being held in other Iranian cities and towns. They also burned flags of both the U.S. and Israel as well as an effigy of President Donald Trump.

Trump refused to recertify the 2015 landmark nuclear deal between Iran and world powers in October, and the U.S. has imposed more sanctions on Iran over its ballistic missile program.

The U.S. Congress must now make a de-

cision regarding the 2015 nuclear deal, in which Iran agreed to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

Ali Shamkhani, secretary of the country's Supreme National Security Council, addressed the crowd, saying Iran will make any sanctions imposed by the U.S. "ineffective" even as the U.S. targets Iran's economic, nuclear and defensive power.

Shamkhani, alluding to Trump's threats against North Korea, said even U.S. allies know that Trump "has no power to realize his bluffs, against Iran, too." He called the U.S. the "eternal enemy" of Iran.

The former embassy in Tehran is now a cultural center while standing as a symbol of a U.S. defeat for many Iranians. Many Iranians call it the "den of spies."

## ICC seeks probe into Afghanistan war crimes

*The Washington Post*

PARIS — The chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court requested judicial authorization Friday to begin a formal investigation into possible war crimes committed in Afghanistan, a probe that could potentially implicate American forces.

Fatou Bensouda, a Gambian lawyer who has served as the ICC's chief prosecutor since 2012 was pushing to open an investigation because "there is a reasonable basis to believe that war crimes and crimes against humanity have been committed" in Afghanistan, she said.

Following jurisdiction parameters, Bensouda clarified that any resulting investigation would consider only those alleged war crimes committed on Afghan soil after May 1, 2003. Alleged crimes committed since July 1, 2002 in other states but that were "closely linked to the situation in Afghanistan" would also be considered, she said.

At present, the court's jurisdiction is confined to investigating crimes in the territories of member states only, although the U.N. Security Council can bring it into others. Afghanistan has been an ICC member state since 2002.

In her statement, Bensouda did not expressly name U.S. or NATO forces as direct parties

to be investigated. As she wrote: "the ultimate focus will be upon those most responsible for the most serious crimes allegedly committed in connection with the situation in Afghanistan."

"Afghan government efforts at accountability, especially concerning its own forces, have achieved little," Human Rights Watch said. "Both President Hamid Karzai and President Ashraf Ghani, with the backing of the United States and other governments, suppressed the release of the sole major effort to follow the Action Plan, the human rights commission's 800-page report mapping serious abuses from 1978 to 2001."

The best-documented case of severe prisoner abuse by U.S. servicemembers in Afghanistan took place in 2002, when a 22-year-old Afghan taxi driver known as Dilawar was imprisoned and killed at Bagram Air Base, a U.S. military compound that was used as a detention and interrogation center.

According to those accounts, Dilawar was driving three passengers in a taxi in Khost Province when he was stopped by Afghan militiamen. The travelers were accused of staging a rocket attack on a U.S. rural base and turned over to American forces. Dilawar was sent to Bagram, where he died in custody five days later.

## Ex-NCO charged with \$1.6 million fraud

*The (Norfolk) Virginian-Pilot*

NORFOLK, Va. — A former sailor from Chesapeake, already in prison for stealing the identities of two subordinates, was charged this week in connection with a separate \$1.6 million fraud involving the manipulation of the Navy's procurement procedures.

Clayton Pressley III, a Bronze Star recipient, was charged with one count each of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and conducting unlawful monetary transactions. A guilty plea hearing is set for Nov. 14.

The charges stem from suspected contract steering and product substitution from May 2014 to November 2014, according to court documents. Investigators said Pressley, then a senior chief petty officer, and his co-conspirators were selling Navy "inert training aids" that were never shipped but were marked as delivered.

The fraud involved two Defense Logistics Agency prime vendors, identified in court documents as Firm D and Firm V, and a Tucson, Ariz.-based business, identified as Firm G, that provided "logistical support" to the government.

The documents reference four members of the conspiracy, including Pressley. The

others were not named, but the first was the CEO of Firm G, the second a sales representative at Firm D and the third a Navy officer who had authority to make purchases for his unit.

While in the Navy, Pressley was the owner or manager of Fifth Column Solutions Group LLC, Pressley Enterprise Inc. and Strategic Logistics Solutions Group, the documents said. Using an alias, he was the COO of Firm G.

The procurement process allows government officials to order supplies from one vendor, which is supposed to work with suppliers to arrange shipment directly to the customer.

Documents said the Navy officer would order inert training aids that were routinely damaged or destroyed from the two prime vendors. They, in turn, would contract with Firm G, thanks to three friendly sales representatives — one of whom was getting kickbacks.

The officer also sometimes would place orders for "consumable items," but Firm V instead would use the money to buy additional training aids from the Tucson firm.

Pressley and the officer each received 40 percent of the money. The CEO of Firm G received the final 20 percent.

## Terror by truck is the default choice for ISIS followers

*The Washington Post*

In Stockholm, the perpetrator was an Uzbek immigrant who careened down a busy shopping street in a hijacked beer truck, hitting 19 pedestrians before crashing his vehicle into a department store. Five of his victims died, including an 11-year-old girl.

In London, British national Khalid Masood plowed into a throng of tourists on Westminster Bridge in a rented SUV, then jumped out and stabbed a police officer before he was fatally shot. In Barcelona, the driver was a radicalized 22-year-old who left a quarter-mile trail of carnage along the city's famed La Rambla boulevard.

Over the past year, the same scene has played out at least seven times in Western cities. In the wake of Tuesday's truck rampage in Lower Manhattan, investigators were piecing together a basic narrative that has now become distressingly familiar — rented vehicle, soft target, homegrown perpetrator armed with a crude weapon and the simplest of plans.

With Islamic State all but finished as a military force in Iraq and Syria, terrorism by vehicle is now firmly entrenched as the preferred choice for the group's scattered followers and sympathizers outside the war zones of the Middle East. The results of the Halloween attack underscore the reasons for its popularity, terrorism experts say:

The tactic requires no special skill or instruction, or formal membership in a terrorist group. And it is nearly impossible to prevent or stop.

A day after the New York attack, investigators concluded that suspect Sayfullo Saipov spent weeks preparing for the assault, choosing a route sure to be crowded with bicyclists and joggers and arranging the rental of a small Home Depot truck. But like the suspects in other similar attacks, he appears to have little, if any, training or direct contact with foreign terrorists. Instead, he is believed to have followed a detailed template distributed broadly over multiple Islamic State social media accounts in recent months.

# Sheriff: Las Vegas shooter had lost money, was depressed

Associated Press

The man who killed 58 people at a country music festival in Las Vegas last month had been depressed after losing a significant amount of money in the past two years and that may have been a “determining factor” in the shooting, the city’s sheriff said.

Gunman Stephen Paddock, 64, a high-stakes gambler and real estate investor, had lost a “significant amount of wealth” since September 2015, which led to “bouts of depression,” Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said in an interview this week with Las Vegas news station KLAS-TV.

“This individual was status-driven, based on how he liked to be recognized in the casino environment and how he liked to be recognized by his friends and family,” Lombardo said. “So, obviously, that was starting to decline in the short period of time, and that may have had a determining effect on why he did what he did.”

Investigators still have not determined exactly what led Paddock to unleash a barrage of gunfire at concertgoers from his high-rise suite at the Mandalay Bay hotel and casino on Oct. 1.

Paddock killed himself after the massacre that also wounded more than 500 people. Las Vegas police and the FBI have examined his politics, any possible radicalization and his social behavior but turned up little.

Investigators found Paddock planned his attack meticulously and was “purposeful in concealing his actions,” the sheriff said.

The gunman requested an upper-floor room overlooking the Route 91 Harvest festival; stockpiled 23 guns, a dozen of them modified to fire like an automatic weapon; and set up cameras inside and outside his room to watch for approaching officers.

Investigators found no evidence that Paddock had help carrying out the attack but are continuing to question his girlfriend, who was visiting family members in the Philippines during the massacre.

Marilou Danley is still considered a “person of interest” in the investigation and was being questioned again this week, Lombardo said.

Danley has repeatedly denied knowing anything about the attack and said Paddock never said or did anything that would have led her to believe he was going to carry out a massacre.

The sheriff described Paddock’s younger brother, Eric, as “manic” in interviews with news reporters outside his Florida home following the shooting but didn’t elaborate. Eric Paddock has called his brother a multimillionaire.

A second brother, Bruce Paddock, was arrested in Los Angeles on Oct. 25 on suspicion of possessing child pornography.

## Congress calls for harassment training

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers are calling for mandatory training and other steps to prevent sexual harassment in Congress as the national spotlight on gender hostility in the workplace falls on Capitol Hill.

The calls from House Speaker Paul Ryan and others follow a series of news reports about women staffers and lawmakers experiencing harassment and sexual advances on the job. The Associated Press reported Friday on the experiences of one current and three former female lawmakers, who said they had fended off unwanted advances, sexual comments and, in one case, physical contact from a male colleague in Congress. The issue was already in the national spotlight because of the sex assault allegations against Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein.

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi called for passage of Democratic-sponsored legislation that would require anti-harassment training, enhance protections for staffers who report harassment, and streamline dispute resolution. The focus on the issue has made clear Congress’ tendency to self-police has resulted in lax rules, a patchwork of policies that vary from one office to another, and a complaints clearinghouse lodged in an Office of Compliance that requires a lengthy counseling and mediation period.

The House Administration Committee, which oversees the operations of the House, also announced plans to convene a hearing Nov. 14 focused on training, policies and mechanisms in place to guard against and report sexual harassment.

In the Senate, New York Democrat Kirsten Gillibrand announced a bill on the issue. It would streamline the reporting process within the Office of Compliance, remove the mediation requirement and give interns the same resources as full-time staff.

## NYPD builds rape case against Weinstein

Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York City police said Friday that an actress’ rape allegations against Harvey Weinstein are credible, and if the movie mogul were in the state and the accusation more recent, they would move to arrest him.

Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce said investigators have interviewed actress Paz de la Huerta. She has publicly accused Weinstein of raping her twice in her apartment in 2010 and called police about it on Oct. 26.

Boyce said detectives found the “Boardwalk Empire” actress’ story believable and that two people corroborated portions of her account. They have subpoenaed people in the case.

“If this person was still in New York, and it was recent,

we’d go right away and make the arrest. No doubt,” Boyce said. “But we’re talking about a 7-year-old case. And we have to move forward gathering evidence first.”

The factors that made her story credible included: “The ability to articulate each and every minute of the crime, where she was, where they met, where this happened and what he did,” he said.

De la Huerta told CBS News that the first rape occurred in October 2010 after Weinstein gave her a ride home from a party, insisted on having a drink in her apartment and forced himself on her. She said the second rape occurred in December 2010 after Weinstein showed up at her apartment. She had been drinking and was not in a condition to give consent, CBS reported the actress said.

Police said she didn’t come forward earlier because she was afraid of damaging her career and wasn’t sure anyone would believe the allegations against such a powerful Hollywood player.

Weinstein has an apartment and had an office for his production company in New York City, but his exact whereabouts Friday were unknown. Boyce said Weinstein knows police wish to speak with him.

New York City investigators could seek an arrest warrant, which requires a court order, or hand the evidence over to prosecutors to put the allegations to a grand jury to seek an indictment. Either way, they need collaboration from Manhattan prosecutors, who put the brakes on a 2015 investigation into Weinstein.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Police: Inmate caught while drinking Gatorade

**NC** ASHEVILLE — Police in North Carolina captured an escaped inmate after they found him drinking a Gatorade while sitting outside a doctor's office.

Buncombe County Sheriff Van Duncan told a news conference Michael Lee Calloway, 42, was captured Thursday after being spotted in Asheville's Biltmore Park.

Authorities said Calloway escaped custody Wednesday while he was at a doctor's office for a medical appointment. Officers had removed his shackles and restraints at the doctor's office.

According to investigators, Calloway grabbed an officer and tried to hit her head on the ground before fleeing.

Calloway was originally in custody on various charges, including breaking and entering.

## Couple find urine, food in walls of \$2M condo

**NJ** WEEHAWKEN — A New Jersey couple is suing their home construction company after they allegedly found rodents, rotten food and bottles of urine inside the walls of their newly purchased \$2 million luxury condominium.

NJ.com reported the couple's holding company, Shiloh Holding, filed the suit a week ago after they said they discovered the urine and food during renovations at the luxury unit in Weehawken.

A representative for the construction company said the company doesn't comment on pending litigation.

The couple's attorney said they are seeking up to \$6 million in damages.

## Water gun-wielding bank robber gets prison

**MA** NORTHAMPTON — A man convicted of robbing two western Massachusetts banks with a water gun painted to look real has been sentenced to up to 10 years in prison.

The Daily Hampshire Gazette reported that Edgardo Rivera, 34, was also sentenced Thursday to five years of probation after being convicted of multiple counts of armed and masked robbery.

Prosecutors said the Springfield man robbed a Chicopee Savings Bank in South Hadley on March 28, 2016, and a Monson Savings Bank in Ware just a few days later. About \$10,000 in total was stolen.

Rivera's lawyer asked for a shorter sentence, saying his client used a water gun to make sure no one got hurt.

## Iconic 'LOVE' sculpture to return to park in '18

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — City officials said the return of Philadelphia's iconic "LOVE" statue will take a few more months.

The city Parks & Recreation department announced Thursday the Robert Indiana sculpture is still being restored. The sculpture was on display at a plaza next to City Hall while its permanent home, Love Park, has been going through a multimillion-dollar renovation.

The sculpture will look different upon its return. City officials say workers are repainting it to the original colors of red, green and purple that the artist used instead of red, green and blue.

Officials say the sculpture will be displayed next year upon completion of Love Park.

## Porch pirate charged with stealing packages

**FL** DAVENPORT — Florida authorities have charged a woman they said was following Amazon drivers around and stealing packages from customer's front porches.

Polk County Sheriff's deputies said Thursday that five victims reported packages stolen from their front doors recently. Home surveillance video helped lead authorities to Elise Rosa, 18. Authorities said she admitted to the burglaries and thefts.

So-called porch pirates follow delivery trucks into residential neighborhoods looking to steal packages.

Rosa was charged with four counts of unoccupied residential burglary, occupied residential burglary, and five counts of petit theft.

## Scientists: Heat waves hurt coral, fisheries

**HI** HONOLULU — A group of Hawaii scientists say nearly half of the state's coral reefs were bleached during heat waves in 2014 and 2015 and nearshore fisheries are declining.

The scientists from the Nature Conservancy briefed lawmakers Thursday about unprecedented threats that Hawaii's sea life faces.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration officials said 56 percent of the Big Island's coral were bleached, along with 44 percent along West Maui and 32 percent around Oahu.

A research team from the University of Hawaii compiled data for 15 years and found a 90 percent decline in overall catch from the last 100 years, which includes fish such as ulua, moi and oio.

## Fired teacher charged in biting of student

**LA** COVINGTON — A preschool teacher accused of biting a 2-year-old student on the face has been arrested on a charge of felony cruelty to a juvenile in Louisiana.

News outlets reported Heather Marcotte, 28, was arrested Wednesday after being fired from Northlake Christian School in Covington.

She told police she bit the boy in frustration over his behavior.

The St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office said the boy's mother noticed the bite mark on his cheek when she picked him up from school.

## Men seeking medical pot bombard OB-GYN

**PA** ALTOONA — A Pennsylvania gynecologist said she has been inundated with calls from men trying to set up appointments after hearing she was permitted to prescribe medical marijuana.

Dr. Liang Bartkowiak told the Altoona Mirror she was mentioned in the media as being eligible to certify medical marijuana users, and then her office phone started ringing off the hook. It was primarily men on the line.

Bartkowiak told the newspaper she was shocked, since she's an OB-GYN who treats women exclusively.

A 2016 state law gives people under a doctor's care access to medical marijuana if they suffer from an illness on a list of 17 qualifying conditions.

Doctors must certify the illness and patients must obtain an identification card from the Health Department.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

# James' 57 points lift Cavs over Wizards

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Look out, NBA. Walking to the locker room after scoring 57 points Friday night, LeBron James expressed what amounted to a warning for upcoming opponents: "This is the best I'm feeling in my career."

Just in case there were any questions about Eastern Conference supremacy, James poured in the second-highest point total of his career and an NBA-best this season to help his Cleveland Cavaliers end a four-game losing skid by beating the Washington Wizards 130-122 on Friday night.

"Every shot that I took," the four-time league MVP said, "I felt like it was going in."

He hadn't scored this much since getting a career-high 61 for the Miami Heat on March 3, 2014, against the Charlotte Hornets.

And James did it efficiently against Washington, making

23 of 34 field-goal tries and all nine free throws, adding 11 rebounds and seven assists.

"He still has it, if you guys didn't know that," Wizards coach Scott Brooks said. "We knew that."

Perhaps. But neither Brooks nor his players could find a way to slow James. Several Wizards tried to — including All-Star point guard John Wall, even after he hurt his left shoulder so badly that he was wearing a black sling in the locker room.

"It's on fire right now," Wall said about his shoulder, which he hurt on a collision with Channing Frye. "It was like my arm went dead."

Wall stayed in the game and had X-rays afterward but won't get results until Saturday.

At 6-foot-4 and 195 pounds, Wall never really stood much of a chance against James, who is listed at 6-8, 250, especially in the low post.

"Whenever you're hitting tough, hand-in-your-face turn-

around fadeaways from off the left and the right shoulder, it's your night," Wizards forward Kelly Oubre Jr. said about James. "He was on a different level tonight."

Certainly was.

And did it with style at both ends of the floor, too.

James hurdled over a seated Bradley Beal while dribbling, swatted a shot by Wall off the backboard, and looked for a camera to wag both index fingers at in the midst of a three-point play.

Probably just a coincidence that Washington's two starting guards said in an interview shown on ESPN earlier Friday that they thought the Cavaliers wanted to avoid the Wizards in the playoffs last season.

And while Beal backed up that sort of talk, scoring 36 points, Wall was not at his peak. Yes, he handed out 15 assists, but he scored only 13 points, shooting 4-for-13 from the field and going 5-for-12 on

free throws.

James wouldn't take the bait when asked about what Beal and Wall had said, replying: "I don't have a comment about that. I have so much more on my plate right now."

Cavs coach Tyronn Lue skirted the topic also, saying in a voice dripping with sarcasm: "They're right: They are the best team in the East."

James didn't need much help, but teammates Derrick Rose (20 points) and Jae Crowder (17) each managed to top their season highs before the third quarter was done.

Cleveland finally looked like a team that has been to the NBA Finals three consecutive years, thanks in large part to James.

"It's like it's 'his' Finals. Seems like every year he's there," Brooks said before tipoff. "I can imagine there's no, like, panic in their locker room."

## NBA roundup

### Irving gets going in second half, leads Celtics past OKC

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Once Kyrie Irving got it going, not even Oklahoma City's star-studded roster could withstand the surge.

Irving scored 22 of his 25 points in the second half and the Boston Celtics rallied from 18 down to beat the Thunder 101-94 on Friday night for their seventh straight victory.

"We battled," Irving said. "We took away some things they were feeling comfortable with in the first half, picked up our pace and our defensive pressure and things started going our way, and then we just kept battling to the end."

Al Horford scored 17 of his 20 points after halftime and Jaylen Brown added 10 points and 12 rebounds for the Celtics. Boston has allowed 94 or fewer

points in every game during its winning streak.

Paul George had 25 points and 10 rebounds, and Russell Westbrook added 19 points and 11 assists for the Thunder. Carmelo Anthony had 10 points and 14 rebounds but shot just 3-for-17.

"The first half, we played extremely well defensively," Anthony said. "The Celtics kept fighting. They stuck with it."

**76ers 121, Pacers 110:** J.J. Redick scored 31 points, Ben Simmons had a triple-double and host Philadelphia moved above .500 for the first time in nearly four years.

**Spurs 108, Hornets 101:** Bryn Forbes had 22 points, helping host San Antonio stop a four-game skid.

**Knicks 120, Suns 107:** Kristaps Porzingis scored 37 points in front of the home crowd, and

New York coach Jeff Hornacek got his first victory over his former team.

**Rockets 119, Hawks 104:** James Harden scored 21 of his 29 points in his team's high-scoring first half, and visiting Houston handed Atlanta its eighth straight loss.

**Pelicans 99, Mavericks 94:** Anthony Davis had 30 points and 13 rebounds, DeMarcus Cousins added his second 20-20 game of the season and New Orleans started a four-game trip with a victory over last-place Dallas.

**Nuggets 95, Heat 94:** Paul Millsap had 27 points for host Denver, including three straight free throws with 11.9 seconds remaining.

**Lakers 124, Nets 112:** Brook Lopez hit six three-pointers and scored a season-high 34 points against his

former Brooklyn teammates, and rookie Kyle Kuzma had 21 points and 13 rebounds during his first career start in host Los Angeles' victory.

**Pistons 105, Bucks 96:** Andre Drummond scored 14 of his 24 points in the third quarter, powering host Detroit to the win.

**Raptors 109, Jazz 100:** DeMar DeRozan scored a season-high 37 points, and visiting Toronto finished its longest road trip of the season with a victory.

**Bulls 105, Magic 83:** Justin Holiday scored 19 points, Robin Lopez had 11 points and 10 rebounds, and Chicago earned its first road win of the season.

# Chiefs' Hunt gets to go against Elliott

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Kareem Hunt will get to compare himself to Ezekiel Elliott after all when Kansas City visits Dallas.

The dynamic rookie running back for the Chiefs is doing many of the things the Cowboys star did in his debut last season, headlined by leading the NFL in rushing.

Thanks to another temporary legal reprieve for Elliott, Hunt will get an up-close comparison Sunday against Dallas (4-3). Elliott will be able to play after a federal appeals court granted an emergency stay Friday. There have been two previous halts to Elliott's six-game suspension over alleged domestic violence.

Hunt didn't mind saying he was disappointed that he wouldn't face Elliott when the suspension was in place earlier in the week. The Chiefs (6-2) will try to set a franchise record with a 10th straight road win.

"I watched Zeke a ton," Hunt said of his senior year at Toledo, when Elliott and quarterback

Dak Prescott, his fellow rookie, were powering the Cowboys to the best record in the NFC. "Dak played pretty well and so did he. I was able to watch and see all the great runs he had. I kind of wanted to come in and have a year like he did his rookie season."

Consider it done so far. Hunt is the first NFL player with at least 100 scrimmage yards in each of his first seven games and leads the NFL with 763 yards rushing and 1,070 yards from scrimmage.

"He's the engine behind that offense," Dallas coach Jason Garrett said. "He's been one of those guys who's been steady for them, but also has made a lot of plays for them."

While he's not quite on the rushing pace of Elliott when the Dallas back led the league with 1,631 yards a year ago, Hunt is another option when quarterback Alex Smith already has plenty, including All-Pro tight end Travis Kelce.

Smith is four touchdowns from tying Peyton Manning's record of 20 TD tosses without an interception to start a season while guiding the NFL's third-

ranked offense.

Things to consider in Kansas City's first visit to the \$1.2 billion home of the Cowboys that opened in 2009:

**Elliott saga:** The 22-year-old is on the third legal ruling keeping him on the field, although this one has the chance to be the shortest if the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York rules on his request for an injunction next week. Elliott has now been away from the team four days because of the suspension — one day two weeks ago after a New Orleans appeals court lifted an injunction granted in Texas and three days this week after a New York judge rejected his request for another injunction.

"It's really at this point hard for me to get down or up about this whole situation because tomorrow it could be something different," Elliott said Friday after he was allowed to rejoin the team. "So I mean it's really not, like I said, worth my time to even worry about."

**The Buttkicker:** If the game comes down to field goals, give the edge to the Chiefs. Harri-

son Butker has connected on 18 straight attempts since missing the first of his career. The pick-up off the Carolina practice squad was 5-for-5 in Monday night's victory over Denver, including one from 51 yards. The Cowboys are without Dan Bailey, the most accurate in history among kickers with at least 100 attempts, because of a groin injury. Mike Nugent missed his first kick as the replacement last week against Washington, a 49-yarder, but made the next four in a 33-19 win.

**Up to the booth:** Tony Romo, the Dallas franchise leader in passing yards and touchdowns, will call his first Cowboys game as the lead analyst for CBS. A year ago, he was still recovering from a back injury that made Prescott the starter, a job Prescott never gave up thanks to a franchise-record 11-game winning streak. Romo was the backup when he was healthy again, then chose replacing Phil Simms alongside Jim Nantz over trying to chase an elusive Super Bowl somewhere else.

## Redskins ready to activate DB Hall from PUP list

Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — DeAngelo Hall was just waiting for the call, and the Washington Redskins really need him at the moment.

The Redskins activated the veteran defensive back off the physically unable to perform list late Friday night, and he could make his season debut Sunday at the Seattle Seahawks. Hall hasn't played since Week 3 of the 2016 season after tearing the ACL in his right knee, but Washington is glad he's healthy after having just three safeties on the roster.

"I'm ready," Hall said earlier this week. "I feel good."

The Redskins waived offensive tackle Orlando Franklin to make room on the 53-man

roster. The decision came so late because they were waiting to see which of their many injured offensive lineman would be able to play.

Hall felt "in limbo" like everyone else but said he was "running around, jumping, doing back flips." The 33-year-old was concerned about coming back from an Achilles tendon injury suffered two years ago but not this one.

"I don't think I ever felt like (I was worried) if I was going to play again," Hall said. "I was talking to (former Redskins GM) Bobby Beathard and he was telling me how he had an ACL (injury) in the '70s and I'm like, 'Yeah that's a lot different than now.' Now you actually probably come back even stronger than you did before."

Good thing for the Redskins, too. They put safety Stefan McClure on injured reserve with a hamstring injury, and rookie safety Montae Nicholson is questionable with a shoulder injury.

Hall considers his body fresh but said "mentally you're a little behind." Of course, he's not worried about it.

"It's part of being a 14-year vet," Hall said. "It's like riding a bike. Obviously some things are going to be a little rusty, but for the most part it's still football. ... I've played enough football to where I can kind of get back on the bike and get going. I might stumble a little bit here and there, but I can get up and go full-speed without a doubt."

Hall got the nod over undrafted rookie Fish Smithson,

who is on the practice squad. His ability to plug and play doesn't hurt.

While he was out, the converted quarterback served as something like an unofficial assistant secondary coach under Torrian Gray.

"He has a lot of knowledge," second-year cornerback Kendall Fuller said. "He knows a lot of us are young, so just kind of give us as much advice as possible."

That allowed Hall to stay involved, which he said has been evolving so much since training camp that he has to get back up to speed with the changes.

"It's just about getting on the same page," Hall said. "Hopefully when I get out there, there's no drop-off because we've been communicating."

## College football roundup

# Memphis has easy time with Tulsa

Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Riley Ferguson passed for 298 yards and four touchdowns as No. 22 Memphis shut down Tulsa's rushing attack on its way to a 41-14 victory on Friday.

"Very proud of our football team," said Tigers coach Mike Norvell. "We knew that was one of the keys to the game, stopping the run, and our guys did a great job in doing that. We put some pressure on our defensive backfield, they played a lot of man coverage and we were able to attack, trying to load the box and trying to make them one-dimensional."

The Golden Hurricane rushed for 97 yards in the first quarter and then just 48 the rest of the game. While Tulsa sputtered offensively, Darrell Henderson ran for 123 yards on 14 carries and contributed six receptions for 50 yards and a touchdown in Memphis' fifth straight victory.

"Tough game," said Tulsa

coach Philip Montgomery. "I thought we played a pretty good first half. Got to be more consistent. ... I've got to do a better job coaching, and we've got to come out and do a better job in the second half."

Luke Skipper completed 18 of 31 passes for 157 yards and ran for a score for Tulsa, which has dropped three in a row.

D'Angelo Brewer gained 119 yards on 21 carries but the Golden Hurricane's ground attack was held in check after beginning the day ranked 12th in the nation with 260.2 yards rushing per game.

Chad President's 7-yard touchdown run for Tulsa tied it at 14 just 2:20 into the second quarter, but the Tigers surrendered just 69 yards of total offense — 32 rushing — over the entire second half.

"I think our relentless effort played a role, we practice being a physical team," said linebacker Austin Hall, who led the Tigers with six tackles. "Tulsa,

they got a good running offense and we held them under 150 yards, so that's great. We talk about pursuing the ball and that's what we did tonight."

**Utah 48, UCLA 17:** Tyler Huntley had 327 total yards and four passing touchdowns as the host Utes defeated the short-handed Bruins.

Utah (5-4, 2-4 Pac-12) snapped a four-game losing streak and is one win away from becoming bowl eligible.

"Tonight we did, we'll see," Utah coach Kyle Whittingham said about getting their edge back. "We played with a lot of passion with a chip on our shoulder."

"Our program is in the Pac-12 because we played with a chip on our shoulder all those years. That was the point of emphasis this week, getting back to that mentality."

UCLA (4-5, 2-4) was without starting quarterback Josh Rosen due to a concussion sustained last week against No. 12

Washington. He did not travel to Salt Lake City and his absence was obvious as the Bruins were held to 249 total yards. Rosen's 339.1 passing yards per game ranks fourth in the nation. Red-shirt freshman Devon Modster made his first career start.

Neither team's offense look particularly coherent in the first half, but Utah exploded in the third quarter to put the game away. The Utes scored on their first three drives of the second half after leading 17-10 at halftime.

Utah running back Troy McCormick caught a 75-yard touchdown on a wheel route on the first play of the third when a UCLA defender ran into a receiver.

Moss, who finished with career-highs in rushing yards (153) and attempts (23) and scored two touchdowns, took a handoff 20 yards for a score after a straight arm to a linebacker to go up 31-10.

## NHL roundup

# Predators hold off Ducks in rematch of conference finals

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — In a rematch of last season's Western Conference finals, Roman Josi got the Nashville Predators off to a fast start.

The defenseman scored one goal and assisted on another as Nashville built a three-goal lead before holding off the Anaheim Ducks 5-3 Friday night.

Scott Hartnell, Matt Irwin and Viktor Arvidsson also scored for the Predators in the first meeting between the teams since Nashville won their 2016-17 playoff series in six games to reach the Stanley Cup Final. P.K. Subban added an empty-net goal with 18 seconds left to seal it.

"I thought we started pretty well and had a good first pe-

riod," Josi said. "Obviously, it was huge for us to have a 2-0 lead after the first and I'm just happy I had a part in it."

Josi's goal was his fourth of the season, a blistering wrist shot from inside the blue line.

"He's our leader. He's our rock back there," Irwin said. "He takes on heavy minutes against the other team's top lines and when he's rolling, he's contributing offensively like he is right now."

"He's making plays that very few guys in this league can do from the back end."

Pekka Rinne made 35 saves for the Predators, who had lost four straight in Anaheim since their previous victory on April 4, 2014.

Antoine Vermette, Hampus Lindholm and Jakob Silfver-

berg scored for the Ducks. John Gibson stopped 25 shots.

"It's like we were caught in a funk the first 20 minutes," Anaheim coach Randy Carlyle said. "We didn't demonstrate any emotion that was necessary. It all starts with execution."

Following a sloppy start, however, the Ducks made a charge and pulled to 4-3 in the third period after trailing by three late in the second.

"You don't want to be chasing all night and that's bigger when you're on the road," Irwin said. "We knew they were going to fight back, and they did."

Anaheim has been riddled with injuries all season and can hardly afford to fall into a 3-0 hole. But early on, the Ducks had trouble passing and controlling the puck.

"We need to push it for 60 minutes and that just didn't happen," Chris Wagner said. "We have to be ready at the puck drop. It's kind of embarrassing to start that way. It's probably been the majority of our games this year."

**Oilers 6, Devils 3:** Connor McDavid had three assists and Edmonton handed New Jersey its first road loss of the season.

Drake Caggiula, Ryan Strome, Oscar Klefbom, Milan Lucic, Leon Draisaitl and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins scored for the Oilers. They snapped a two-game skid to improve to 4-7-1.

Taylor Hall, Jesper Bratt and Brian Gibbons had goals for the Devils, who dropped to 9-3-0 overall.