

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Former airman said to have killed 26 at a Texas church

Associated Press

SUTHERLAND SPRINGS, Texas — The gunman who opened fire in a small Texas church, killing 26 people during Sunday services, had sent threatening text messages to his mother-in-law before the attack, which appeared to stem from a domestic situation, authorities said Monday.

Investigators have concluded that the massacre was not racially or religiously motivated, Texas Department of Public Safety Regional Director Freeman Martin said.

Based on evidence at the scene, they believe that Devin Patrick Kelley, 26, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound after he crashed his car. He had been chased by armed bystanders.

The shooter also used his cellphone to tell his father that he had been shot and did not think he would survive, authorities said.

Once the shooting started at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, there was probably “no way” for congregants to escape, Wilson County Sheriff Joe D. Tackitt Jr. said.

The gunman, dressed in black tactical gear, fired an assault rifle as he walked down the center aisle during worship services. He turned around and continued shooting on his way out of the building, Tackitt said.

The gunman also carried a handgun, but authorities said they did not know if it was fired. The attack claimed multiple members of some families and tore apart a close-knit town of 400 people.

“It’s unbelievable to see children, men and women laying there. Defenseless people,” Tackitt said.

The dead ranged in age from

18 months to 77 years old. About 20 other people were wounded. Authorities said Kelley lived in New Braunfels, about 35 miles north of the Sutherland Springs church.

A U.S. official told The Associated Press that Kelley did not appear to be linked to organized terrorist groups. The official wanted to remain anonymous.

Investigators were looking at social media posts Kelley made in the days before the attack, including one that appeared to show an AR-15 semi-automatic weapon.

Kelley received a bad conduct discharge from the Air Force for assaulting his spouse and child and was sentenced to 12 months of confinement after a 2012 court-martial. Kelley served in Logistics Readiness at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico from 2010 until his 2014 discharge, Air Force spokeswoman Ann Stefanek said.

The attacker pulled into a gas station across from the church at about 11:20 a.m. Sunday. He crossed the street and started firing the rifle at the church, then continued firing after entering the white, wood-frame building, said Martin.

As he left, the shooter was confronted by an armed resident who “grabbed his rifle and engaged that suspect,” Martin said. A short time later, Kelley was found dead in his vehicle at the county line.

Twenty-three of the dead were found in the church, two were found outside and one died after being taken to a hospital, Martin said.

Among those killed was the church pastor’s daughter, Annabelle Pomeroy, 14. Pastor Frank Pomeroy and his wife, Sherri,

were both out of town when the attack occurred, Sherri Pomeroy wrote in a text message.

“We lost our 14-year-old daughter today and many friends,” she wrote. “Neither of us has made it back into town yet to personally see the devastation.”

Church member Nick Uhlig, 34, who was not at Sunday’s service, told the AP that his cousin, who was eight months’ pregnant, and her in-laws were among those killed. He later told the Houston Chronicle that three of his cousin’s children also were slain.

President Donald Trump, who was in Japan, called the shooting an “act of evil” and later called the gunman “a very deranged individual.”

On Sunday evening, two sheriff’s vans were parked outside the gate of a cattle fence surrounding the address listed for Kelley on the rural outskirts of New Braunfels, north of San Antonio.

Ryan Albers, 16, who lives across the road, said he heard intensifying gunfire coming from that direction in recent days. “It was definitely not just a shotgun or someone hunting,” Albers said.

The church has posted videos of its services on a YouTube channel, raising the possibility that the shooting was captured on video. In a video of its Oct. 8 service, a congregant who spoke and read Scripture pointed to the Oct. 1 Las Vegas shooting as evidence of the “wicked nature” of man.

Sunday’s attack came on the eighth anniversary of a shooting at Fort Hood, where 13 people were killed and 31 others wounded by a former Army major.

## Pursuer describes battle, chase with suspect

The Washington Post

Johnnie Langendorff stumbled into the crossfire — a total accident.

Sunday morning was all routine until then. Langendorff had breakfast. Then he was driving his truck on the dusty back streets to his girlfriend’s house nearby. When he approached the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, he noticed something odd.

As he passed the churchgoers’ cars parked around the white wood front of the building, he saw that one vehicle’s engine was running. The driver’s door was open. A man clad all in black was walking toward the vehicle with a pistol. He was trading shots with another man holding a rifle.

The man in black hauled off in his SUV. The second man with the rifle came to Langendorff. The two men were strangers. “He briefed me quickly on what had just happened and said he had to get him,” Langendorff said later. “So that’s what I did.”

Blasted with adrenaline, Langendorff wove his truck at high speed through traffic while trying to catch the fleeing car and narrating everything to law enforcement. Kelley’s vehicle, however, broke from the roadway and crashed into a ditch 11 miles north of the church. Langendorff pulled his truck within 25 yards.

“The gentleman that was with me got out, rested his rifle on my hood and kept it aimed at him, telling him to get out, get out. There was no movement,” he said.

Police were on the scene within five to seven minutes, Langendorff said Sunday.

# Fat Leonard case widens to 60 admirals

*The Washington Post*

The “Fat Leonard” corruption investigation has expanded to include more than 60 admirals and hundreds of other U.S. Navy officers under scrutiny for their contacts with a defense contractor in Asia who systematically bribed sailors with sex, liquor and other temptations, according to the Navy.

Most of the admirals are suspected of attending extravagant feasts at Asia’s best restaurants paid for by Leonard Glenn Francis, a Singapore-based maritime tycoon who made an illicit fortune supplying Navy vessels in ports from Vladivostok, Russia, to Brisbane, Australia. Francis also was renowned for hosting alcohol-soaked, after-dinner parties, which often featured imported prostitutes and sometimes lasted for days, according to federal court records.

The 350-pound Francis, also known in Navy circles as “Leonard the Legend” for his wild-side lifestyle, spent decades cultivating relationships with officers, many of whom developed a blind spot to his fraudulent ways. Even while he and his firm were being targeted by Navy criminal investigators, he received VIP invitations to ceremonies in Annapolis and Pearl Harbor, where he hobnobbed with four-star admirals, according to photographs.

The Justice Department has filed criminal charges against 28 people, including two admirals, since Francis was arrested in an international sting operation four years ago. Those cases comprise the worst corruption scandal in Navy history, but they represent a fraction of a much larger list of Navy officials under investigation but whose names have been mostly kept secret.

In response to queries from *The Washington Post*, the Navy recently confirmed that it has been reviewing the conduct of 440 other active-duty and retired personnel — including 60

current and former admirals — for possible violations of military law or federal ethics rules in their dealings with Francis and his company, Glenn Defense Marine Asia.

That is double the number of admirals whom Navy officials said were under investigation last year (The Navy has about 210 admirals on active duty).

The caseload has grown as the Justice Department has given the Navy additional dossiers of individuals who did not meet the threshold for prosecution in civilian courts, but may have committed offenses under the military justice system, officials said.

## Opaque probe

The Navy’s handling of the cases has been largely opaque to the public. The Navy has identified only 10 of the 440 individuals who have come under military investigation and has divulged few details about their ties to Francis, even in cases that have been closed.

The vast majority of those under scrutiny are officers, according to the Navy. Officials said Francis targeted only a few enlisted sailors with his bribes.

Navy officials said revealing additional names or more information about their involvement could violate their privacy rights and compromise ongoing cases. The Navy has charged five people with crimes — none of them admirals — under military law, charging documents show.

In addition, the Navy said it has determined that 40 people committed misconduct by violating ethics rules or other regulations. Their cases have been handled administratively, meaning they did not involve criminal charges.

In many instances, the Navy was prevented from taking tougher action because the statute of limitations under military law — five years for most felonies — had expired. The oldest matter reviewed so far dated to 1992, while most occurred between 2004 and 2010,

according to a Navy official.

Francis, 53, is in jail in San Diego as he awaits sentencing in federal court. He pleaded guilty in 2015 to bribing “scores” of Navy officials and defrauding the service of more than \$35 million. One of his attorneys, Ethan Posner, declined to comment for this article.

Francis’s widespread overbilling of the Navy had been an open secret for years. In response to a flood of fraud complaints dating to 2006, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service opened more than two-dozen separate investigations into Glenn Defense, according to law-enforcement records.

Most of the cases went nowhere, NCIS files show. Starting in 2009, however, NCIS escalated its efforts by assigning more agents to investigate Francis. They later opened a full-blown corruption inquiry on suspicion that some Navy officials were feeding him military secrets and inside information about defense contracts.

Despite being under the microscope, Francis was still able to rub shoulders with many of the Navy’s top leaders.

## Grip-and-grin photos

In September 2011, for example, he was invited to the Naval Academy in Annapolis to attend a change-of-command ceremony for the Navy’s highest-ranking officer.

During his visit, Francis posed for grip-and-grin photos with Adm. Jonathan Greenert, the new chief of naval operations, and the man he was replacing, Adm. Gary Roughead.

Roughead and Greenert both had encountered Francis during prior assignments in Asia and the Pacific. A Navy spokesman would not say whether they are among the 60 admirals under investigation; the names of most officers on the list have not been made public.

Roughead, who retired soon after the 2011 ceremony, said in an email that he couldn’t “recall particulars” about who was invited to the event. He declined further comment.

In an email, Greenert said he had not been contacted by investigators and did not know how Francis came to be invited to the ceremony. He said he, Roughead and their spouses spent hours in a receiving line and posed for several pictures.

Of the two admirals, Greenert’s previous contacts with Francis were more extensive, according to several individuals familiar with their relationship.

Greenert met the defense contractor in the late 1990s while serving as chief of staff for the Navy’s 7th Fleet, which covers most of Asia. Their interactions continued after Greenert was promoted to vice admiral and took command of the fleet in 2003.

Four months after visiting Annapolis, Francis was a VIP guest at another Navy change-of-command ceremony: at the headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

On that occasion, Francis posed for photographs with Adm. Cecil Haney, the new Pacific Fleet commander, and his predecessor, Adm. Patrick Walsh, according to copies of those images.

Two former Navy officials who were present told *The Post* they were shocked to see Francis at the ceremony because the Pacific Fleet had been engaged in a yearslong effort to tighten contract loopholes and sloppy billing practices that had enabled Glenn Defense to overcharge the Navy for millions of dollars.

They said they were even more surprised to see Francis afterward at a smaller, private party at Nimitz House, the official quarters for the Pacific Fleet commander.

In a statement, Haney said he didn’t invite Francis and didn’t know who he was before the ceremony.

In an interview, Walsh recalled Francis’ presence at Pearl Harbor that day but said he didn’t know who invited him. “Leonard Francis had a way of showing up at all kinds of ceremonies,” said Walsh, who retired from the Navy in 2012.



# Kadena Special Olympics marks 18th year

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE

*Stars and Stripes*

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — Air Force Staff Sgt. Lionel Rhone dressed up like Superman over the weekend to greet a group of special athletes who are far more courageous than the Man of Steel.

Rhone was among more than 2,000 U.S. military and dependent volunteers who helped 832 Okinawans with intellectual and physical disabilities compete in Saturday's 18th annual Kadena Special Olympics on Okinawa. Participants came from every corner of Japan's southern island prefecture for a chance to win a medal in events ranging from the 30-meter dash to basketball.

Rhone, who works with the 18th Security Forces Squadron, said he was warmed by the spirit and smiles of Okinawa's special-needs community.

"It's awesome to be out here and to see all of these competitors and their family members and all the community — Air

Force, Marines, Army and the Navy," he said just before a young athlete wearing large-framed glasses approached.

"Hey buddy," Rhone said with an enthusiastic smile. He gave a high-five to the young boy, who walked away beaming.

"It brings smiles to our faces," he said. "We can't ask for anything better."

The event kicked off — as it always does — with the athletes arriving by bus to the cheers of hundreds of spectators. The buses passed under a water tribute from the fire department as sirens announced their presence.

As the competitors entered the athlete's village, volunteers dressed as famous fictional characters like Rhone's Superman, Darth Vader, Waldo and Pikachu greeted them with high-fives.

They were then paired with a servicemember "buddy" to escort them from event to event.

The opening ceremony included a parade and the lighting of the torch.

"[Kadena Special Olympics] is about fellowship. KSO is about the triumph of the human spirit," 18th Wing commander Brig. Gen. Case Cunningham told the crowd before the games began. "KSO is about strengthening feelings of inclusiveness in our communities. But most of all, it is about the athletes."

The athletes then dispersed around the complex to events like wheelchair softball throw, tennis, badminton, golf, soccer and the standing long jump.

One athlete scorched the competition in the 200-meter dash, leaving everyone, including his U.S. military buddy, in his dust. The young servicemember rushed to catch up from half a track length behind.

"He's so fast," she said.

The Okinawa games were started by KSO co-founder Chip Steitz, a former Army public affairs officer, and a small group of cohorts who hosted about 100 athletes at a park in their first year. He has since grown the event into a behemoth that boasts corporate and commu-

nity sponsorship.

"[The size of the event today] absolutely amazes me," Steitz said. "But it's not only the number of athletes ... it's the success we've made in the local communities for people to understand more about people with intellectual and physical disabilities."

"We really have made a difference. That's what warms my heart the most."

Kadena's Special Olympics athletes train a full year for a chance to earn coveted gold, silver or bronze medals. The event also serves as a feeder program for Japan's national Special Olympics team.

The games have become a unifying force on an island sometimes known for its divisions. Okinawan political leaders were in attendance Saturday, in addition to the U.S. military leadership. No politics was discussed; it was all about the athletes.

"It really breaks down barriers," Steitz said. "It brings so much joy and happiness. I'm really happy the way it all turned out."

## USS Coronado heads home after deployment

BY TYLER HLAVAC

*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy's only overseas littoral combat ship is heading home after a 14-month rotational deployment to Southeast Asia.

The San Diego-based USS Coronado departed Singapore on Saturday after participating in 11 exercises and conducting 10 port visits in the region, a Navy statement said.

The Coronado — the third LCS to conduct a rotational deployment to Southeast Asia — used Singapore's Changi Naval Base as a maintenance and logistics hub.

An unnamed LCS has been chosen to replace the Coronado in mid-2018 and will play a similar role in the region, said Task Force 73 spokesman Arlo Abrahamson.

The warship is a relatively new platform for the Navy, which commissioned its first LCS in 2010. The service has four "Freedom variant" and five "Independence variant" LCS's in the fleet, although more than a dozen others are being developed. The USS Little Rock is scheduled for commissioning next month.

The LCS, which trades in some armor and armament for speed, is designed to operate in shallow waters and access areas Navy cruisers and destroyers cannot. The Navy said the LCS is uniquely suited to operate in Southeast Asia.

"The rotational deployment of USS Coronado demonstrated the relevance of LCS as a platform tailor made for the dynamic and congested sea lanes, straits and archipelagos of South and Southeast Asia, providing flexible options and tactical advantages," said Task Force 73 commander Rear Adm. Don Gabrielson.

A highlight of the Coronado's deployment was a springtime anti-piracy patrol with the Philippine Navy frigate BRP Ramon Alcaraz, Gabrielson told Stars and Stripes in August.

"The ship is ideally suited [for anti-piracy missions] because of its ability to launch and recover not just unmanned and manned helicopters, but also rigid hulled inflatable boats that can go pretty far to conduct either boardings or monitoring," he said.

Some analysts have expressed concerns over the warship's light armament; the LCS Fort Worth was shadowed by a more heav-

ily armed Chinese frigate during a May 2015 patrol in the South China Sea.

The Coronado worked out some wrinkles in the LCS program during its deployment. It missed its target during an anti-ship harpoon block 1C missile test at the Rim of the Pacific exercise in July 2016. In August, the Coronado successfully tested a harpoon missile, striking a target beyond its visual range.

The ships have also struggled with repair and maintenance issues. The USS Freedom and Fort Worth — previously deployed to Southeast Asia — were often sidelined because they needed repairs. After departing for Singapore last year, the Coronado suffered maintenance issues that forced it to return to its launching point in Hawaii.

The Navy statement notes that during the 14-month deployment, the ship's crew reduced the average repair time from 15 days to four.

Gabrielson said he expects the ships to become a mainstay in the Pacific.

"We look forward next year to having two LCS's here and in future years getting four," he said. "It won't be long, and it'll be a regular fixture out here in large numbers."

## Report: GIs killed in Niger had just targeted militants on Mali border with allies

*The Washington Post*

NIAMEY, Niger — The four U.S. soldiers killed last month in an ambush were helping track and fight Islamist militants along the Mali-Niger border in the hours before their death, according to the nation's defense minister and a wounded Nigerien soldier who survived the attack.

The accounts raise questions about the Pentagon's assertions that the American and Nigerien troops were on a low-risk reconnaissance mission and that chances of contact with militants were unlikely. They were, instead, operating in a dangerous and complex battle zone, where attacks happen frequently. U.S. troops are in Niger to train and advise, military officials have said, not to engage in combat missions.

The Pentagon has said it is investigating whether the soldiers' stated mission had changed.

Questions still unanswered: Was the team operating on faulty intelligence? Or was the mission changed at the last minute?

The details suggest revenge may have been a motive for the militants — who were part of a relatively new Islamic State affiliate, the Pentagon suspects — in their attack on 11 U.S. soldiers and 30 Nigerien troops.

In a 90-minute phone interview, the wounded Nigerien soldier described the surprise assault on Oct. 4 after they left the border village of Tongo Tongo. Five Nigerien soldiers also died.

The U.S. troops, who included Green Berets, wound up taking the lead in the intense firefight. Some Nigerien soldiers fled, even as the Americans ordered them to stay on and fight.

"The Americans had more sophisticated weapons and so we let them confront the enemy while we took cover," said Sgt. Abdou Kan, 28, who was shot in the leg and who spoke from the town of Agadez in central Niger. "The Americans were telling us not to flee but to go back and fight the enemy. But the enemy was following us and shooting at us."

The insurgents, he said, far outnumbered the U.S.-Nigerien team and had greater firepower, including heavy machine guns mounted on pickup trucks.

The ambush by masked and turban-wearing fighters was so well-planned that they had sent a large herd of cows toward the team, then attacked under cover of the dust raised by the cattle.

In the chaos, he added, several of the Americans were separated from the main group as the team split up to avoid the militants. Air support to help the besieged team and evacuate the wounded took an hour or more to arrive.

A person at the military hospital in the capital, where Kan was treated for his injury, provided his number to *The Washington Post*.

The accounts suggest U.S. troops may have gone beyond the scope of their mission in Niger, and they raise a question as to whether they had the required authorization to capture or kill militants. At the very least, the accounts underscore the perils faced by U.S. Special Forces and other American troops even in their capacities as trainers and advisers.

Niger Defense Minister Kalla Moutari blamed a failure in intelligence, which resulted in a miscalculation of the risk of engaging with militants in the area around Tongo Tongo. But he also said the team had managed to kill some militants in a counterterrorism operation before they arrived in the village.

"It was a mission to collect information and to neutralize the enemy or the threat," Moutari said in an interview. "The intelligence wasn't as complete as we thought, but at the same time, some terrorists were neutralized on the way back from the mission."

The American soldiers, Kan said, did not fight in the operation before arriving in Tongo Tongo but rather were advising the Nigerien forces.

Several Defense Department officials contacted for comment Sunday either did not respond or declined to do so.

## Mattis in Finland; expanded Nordic war games in works

BY JOHN VANDIVER

*Stars and Stripes*

The demand for U.S. troops to participate in missions in northern Europe could be on the rise as Finland and other Nordic countries plan larger war games due to concerns about a more assertive Russia.

Finland is assembling what is expected to be its largest military exercise in years, modeled on Sweden's recent "Aurora" drills that concluded in September. About 20,000 troops, including roughly 1,400 U.S. servicemembers, took part in Sweden's biggest military exercise in two decades.

Helsinki is following suit.

"The exercise (in Finland) is planned to broadly gather conscripts, reservists and soldiers to practice ... together with our main partners like Sweden, the United States and other countries," Finland Defense Minister Jussi Niinisto told reporters ahead of a visit by U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis.

"If there's a crisis, it will be good for us to practice receiving help," Niinisto said.

Mattis, who arrived in Finland on Monday for two days of talks, said the partnership between Finland, the U.S. and NATO is deepening.

"The relationship between Finland and the United States has never been stronger," he said after talks Monday with Finnish President Sauli Niinisto. Mattis didn't directly address what the U.S. role could be in a more robust war game schedule in Finland, but the subject was expected to be on the agenda when regional defense ministers convene Tuesday. Last year, the U.S. signed a defense cooperation deal with Finland that called for closer military ties.

Mattis' stop in Finland will involve talks Tuesday with the so-called Northern Group,

which includes Nordic and Baltic states as well as Germany, the Netherlands and Poland. Discussions will focus on boosting defense cooperation and joint military exercises.

On Monday, Mattis praised Finland for standing up a new "center of excellence" that will serve as a hub for brainstorming strategies to counter Russia misinformation campaigns and other hybrid threats.

Overall, the U.S. presence in the broader Nordic region has increased during the past year. In January, the Marine Corps began year-round troop rotations in Norway. About 300 Marines are currently deployed there in a campaign to bolster cold-weather combat skills.

In Norway, the Marines also have large stockpiles of tanks, artillery and other weaponry, which fill a network of caves. The equipment can accommodate roughly 14,000 troops.

In Finland and Sweden, which are non-NATO countries, the U.S. military also has a long history of partnership. Citing concerns about a more assertive Russia, the two countries have boosted defense spending and sought closer alignment with the U.S.-led NATO alliance during the past couple years. Discussions about whether to join NATO have increasingly been debated by both nations. In Sweden, support for alliance membership has gained momentum, with a recent Pew Foundation poll finding 47 percent favor joining, compared with 39 percent opposed.

NATO membership is somewhat more controversial in Finland, which borders Russia and has close economic ties to its neighbor. A poll released Monday found that 59 percent of Finns oppose joining NATO.

Both nations have long been active in U.N. peacekeeping missions around the world.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Prankster dyes famed fountain's water yellow

**NY** NEW YORK — Authorities are looking for the prankster who threw yellow dye into the famous fountain at New York's Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts.

Photos posted on social media Saturday show lemon-yellow water gushing from the fountain in front of the Metropolitan Opera. The Daily News reported that the fountain was turned off after suddenly changing color about 1 p.m.

A spokeswoman for the performing arts center said Lincoln Center security notified the police. She said the fountain is being cleaned.

## Student, 7, finds meth on school grounds

**CO** CLIFTON — Sheriff's deputies say a western Colorado student found a vial of methamphetamine on the grounds of an elementary school.

KKCO-TV reported Friday a 7-year-old boy wound up taking the drug to his home in Clifton without knowing what it was. His mother took it back to Clifton Elementary School, where a Mesa County sheriff's officer assigned to the school tested it and discovered it was methamphetamine.

Sheriff's spokeswoman Megan Terlecky said deputies are investigating how the drug wound up in the schoolyard.

## Police are 7 of city's 10 highest-paid workers

**MD** BALTIMORE — New data show seven of Baltimore's top 10 highest-paid city employees in the last fiscal year were police

officers.

The Baltimore Sun reported Police Commissioner Kevin Davis was the only police employee whose salary alone ranked in the top 10. Other employees more than doubled their compensation through overtime to crack the list.

The highest-paid city worker was Police Sgt. William Harris Jr., whose salary is about \$97,000 but who earned nearly \$245,000. Harris is a 28-year veteran who works in the Special Operations Division, which includes the SWAT team.

State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby was the second-highest-paid. Her salary is nearly \$239,000.

## Manatee makes rare appearance in bay

**VA** GLOUCESTER POINT — Marine science researchers in Virginia recently spotted a manatee that had made a rare Chesapeake Bay appearance.

The Daily Press reported the animal showed up last week at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science's boat basin along the York River. The animals are built for warm waters, and their normal northernmost range is the Georgia coast.

The researchers were even more surprised when the manatee left the basin and began swimming farther up the York River instead of heading toward the mouth of the bay and warmer waters.

## Police: Students find teacher drunk at desk

**VA** FAIRFAX — A substitute teacher at a northern Virginia school was charged with being drunk in public after police say students found him passed out at a desk.

Local media reported Friday that Konbeh Koroma, 24, of Springfield, was filling in for an art teacher who taught grades 10 through 12 at a Fairfax County public school.

Fairfax County police said students noticed Koroma unresponsive and tried to wake him. Police said a school resource officer responded and determined Koroma was under the influence of alcohol. He was arrested and taken to an adult detention center.

A Fairfax County schools spokesman said Koroma has been dismissed from his position.

## Couple get prison in fake Botox scheme

**HI** HONOLULU — A New York City couple were sentenced to prison on charges of illegally injecting women in Honolulu with wrinkle-reducing drugs similar to Botox.

Hawaii News Now reported that Bu Young Kim was sentenced to three months in prison and her husband, Chan Hui Cho, was sentenced to two months after federal authorities said they imported drugs from South Korea to administer in Hawaii. The couple were arrested in March 2016, and entered guilty pleas in February.

Authorities said the couple would fly to Hawaii, where Kim would inject women in places like Honolulu hotel rooms. The couple charged up to \$500 for the treatments that are allowable only by licensed practitioners.

## Police: 3 used device on ATM to steal \$25K

**IL** NAPERVILLE — Three men were arrested on charges that they used a skimming device in suburban Chi-

cago to record ATM card and personal identification numbers to steal more than \$25,000.

The Naperville Sun reported that the men were arrested on criminal enterprise charges after Naperville police conducted a four-month investigation.

Police said the investigation began when they discovered a skimmer device that allows the person to obtain ATM card and PINs had been placed at a Naperville ATM machine. Police alleged that the suspects used that information to make "multiple cash transactions."

Arrested were Alin Doina, 48, of Elk Grove Village; Dorin Marchidan, 47, of Glenview; and Adrian Popa, 43 of Glenview.

## Woman accused in theft of nuns' cheesecakes

**NY** WHITE CREEK — New York State Police said they charged a 48-year-old woman with stealing \$250 worth of baked goods from an order of nuns known for their cheesecake.

Troopers said the theft occurred last month at the Nuns of New Skete monastery in the rural town of White Creek, on the Vermont border, 35 miles northeast of Albany.

The nuns sell their cheesecakes and pastries on the honor system at the monastery's unstaffed gift shop. Police said surveillance cameras caught two women taking merchandise without leaving money in the drop box.

Troopers said surveillance photos released last week and social media postings of the images led to the arrest of a woman from North Arlington, Vt. The other woman was identified as her 21-year-old daughter, who wasn't charged. The cheesecakes sell for \$49 and up.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

# QBs Goff and Wentz offer big 1-2 punch

Associated Press

Go ahead and mark down Dec. 10 on the calendar. That's when Jared Goff, the No. 1 overall pick in last year's draft, and Carson Wentz, who went one spot later, are scheduled to face each other for the first time in the NFL.

By the looks of things, it should be quite a quarterback matchup between a pair of guys playing at an elite level. On Sunday, they became the first QBs drafted Nos. 1 and 2 in the same year to each throw four TD passes on the same day.

What's more, neither was intercepted. And each led his team to precisely 51 points. Goff's Los Angeles Rams beat the New York Giants 51-17, and Wentz's Philadelphia Eagles defeated the Denver Broncos 51-23.

"The No. 1 thing you can judge a quarterback on is wins and losses," Goff said, "and right now we're 6-2, so I feel good."

Whether or not that truly is

the best statistical measure of the position, he and Wentz — they share an agent and are pals who trade texts — have their clubs at the top of the NFC. While the Rams lead the West division, the Eagles not only are atop the East, they are pacing the entire league at 8-1 heading into their bye week.

"We feel like we have some momentum," said Wentz, who leads the NFL with 23 TD passes and is probably the front-runner for MVP.

He likes to talk about being able to "spread the love" in his offense to various receivers and runners, and that's what Philadelphia did against Von Miller and a top-ranked Denver defense that was made to look downright ordinary. On one noteworthy play, Wentz ran a zone-read option, kept the ball instead of handing it off, then saw that cornerback Aqib Talib was fooled, so tossed a short pass to Alshon Jeffery that turned into a 32-yard TD.

As Eagles coach Doug Pederson said about his quarterback:

"He improves every single week."

Two highlights stood out for Goff: Leading by only three points and facing third-and-33 in the second quarter, he threw a receiver screen to Robert Woods that turned into a 52-yard score; less than 2½ minutes later, there was a 67-yard TD pass to Sammy Watkins.

"Jared was the one running the show today," Rams rookie coach Sean McVay said, "and he showed great command and great poise in a road atmosphere."

Given what we've seen this season, the Week 14 matchup between Goff and Wentz in LA could be just the start of a long rivalry.

In case you missed it, here are the other top topics after the NFL season's ninth Sunday:

**Call Kaepernick?:** At the other end of the NFL's QB spectrum are teams such as the Houston Texans, whose season is going down the drain if they need to stick with Tom Savage as the starter in place of injured

rookie Deshaun Watson. Savage completed only 43 percent of his passes in a 20-14 loss to the downtrodden Indianapolis Colts, didn't appear to be game-ready on a final goal-to-go series and fumbled the ball on his last play. The Texans are just one of a handful of clubs that should — but most likely won't — try to sign Colin Kaepernick, who has started a Super Bowl but is currently unemployed. Kaepernick has filed a grievance against the NFL, saying owners colluded to keep him out of the league because he initiated the practice of kneeling during the pregame national anthem to protest racial inequality and police brutality. The Broncos, similarly, are going nowhere with Brock Osweiler or Trevor Siemian. And the Giants might even want to think about moving on from Eli Manning.

**Play of the day:** Tyreek Hill was in all of his open-field glory at the end of the first half of Kansas City's 28-17 loss at Dallas.

## Harvick locks up spot in Cup Series finale

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — The timing was perfect for Kevin Harvick's first NASCAR Cup Series victory at Texas. So was his winning pass.

Harvick went around the outside of Martin Truex Jr. for the lead with 10 laps to go, then stayed in front the rest of the way Sunday to earn his championship shot in NASCAR's season finale.

"It's been a long time coming," said Harvick, who had won five Xfinity races and a NASCAR Truck race at Texas in the past. "Great to check that one off."

Truex led 107 of 334 laps and was still up front until his bobble on the backstretch that allowed Harvick to take the lead. But Truex, with a significant points lead and wins in three of the eight playoff races, also locked into one of the four spots to race for the championship at Homestead in two weeks.

"A little disappointed to come up short, but to clinch a spot in Miami is unbelievable," Truex said. "Definitely got the job done today, and came here and did what

we needed to."

Kyle Busch had already clinched a championship spot with his win at Martinsville a week ago to start the third round of the playoffs. That leaves only one spot up for grabs among the five remaining playoff contenders next week at Phoenix.

After doing a long burnout along the frontstretch in the No. 4 Ford for Stewart-Haas Racing, Harvick went to Victory Lane, where the Texas celebration was missing the traditional firing of six-shooters by the winner.

TMS officials bypassed the use of the pistols after a man armed with an assault rifle opened fire earlier Sunday inside a church in the small community of Sutherland Springs, about 300 miles south of the track near San Antonio. The man killed 26 people and wounded about 20 in what Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said was the deadliest mass shooting in the state's history.

Denny Hamlin, another of the playoff contenders, finished third, while Brad Keselowski was fifth and Ryan Blaney sixth. Chase Elliott finished eighth, and his team-

mate Jimmie Johnson dealt with a loose car all day and finished 27th.

Keselowski dropped from third to fourth in points, 57 behind Truex. Hamlin is fifth in the standings, followed by Ryan Blaney, Elliott and seventh-time Cup champion Johnson.

"I'd feel confident if we were locked in. These races you don't know what's gonna happen," Keselowski said.

**Jimmie's tough day:** Johnson got to Texas only three points out of the top four, and had won there for the seventh time last spring. But he had to make an early stop because of a vibration issue. "It was just a bad day that kept getting worse," he said after finishing 27th place, his second-worst finish in his 29 Texas races.

**Finale where he got first:** Dale Earnhardt Jr. got his first Cup Series victory at Texas in 2000, when he was a 25-year-old rookie driver. That is still the only of his 26 career victories that came in Texas. In his 30th start at Texas on Sunday, Earnhardt briefly led near the midpoint of the race. But he finished 35th, 30 laps off the pace.



# Elliott helps Cowboys get past Chiefs

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Ezekiel Elliott said he didn't even know if he was playing for the Dallas Cowboys against Kansas City after a late legal reprieve stopped the star running back's six-game suspension for the third time.

Now it's time for another week of legal limbo after Elliott rushed for 93 yards and the go-ahead touchdown in a 28-17 victory against the Chiefs on Sunday.

Elliott said he threw on a sweatshirt and headed for the team's practice facility Friday morning when he got the word that a New York appeals court had issued an emergency stay of the NFL's suspension over

domestic violence allegations.

Last year's NFL rushing leader as a rookie didn't have a run longer than 11 yards. But he outgained the Chiefs' Kareem Hunt, this year's dynamic rookie and the league rushing leader going into the game.

"There was a little rust, I'm not going to lie," said Elliott, who was suspended for the first two practice days last week. "So I came in Friday, practiced and studied all day Friday, watched a lot of film. On Saturday, just tried to catch up on this team and catch up for what I lost."

Elliott's legal team believes he was treated unfairly by the NFL, while league attorneys say a labor deal backed by federal law was followed when Commissioner Roger Goodell

suspended Elliott after a year-long investigation.

A New York federal judge ruled for the NFL early last week before the appeals court stepped in to allow time for more arguments. The NFL eventually won in the same jurisdiction when New England quarterback Tom Brady was suspended four games in the Deflategate case.

"Leaning on the people that care about me the most," said Elliott, who has 783 yards and seven touchdowns at the halfway point. "Trusting that they are going to do a good job and do everything they can to see me on the field. This team and ownership have supported me to the fullest."

Things to consider after the

Cowboys (5-3) stopped a nine-game road winning streak by the Chiefs (6-3), tied for the longest in franchise history:

**Coming around:** The Cowboys played perhaps their best defensive game of the season considering they were facing the NFL's third-ranked offense. They got over the shock of Tyreek Hill's 56-yard catch-and-run with the clock expired in the first half, shutting down Kansas City after giving up the Chiefs' other TD to start the second half.

Defending NFC champion Atlanta is next, with the Falcons trying to answer a 1-4 slide since a 3-0 start. "I think we're starting to get close to the type of defense we want to be," linebacker Sean Lee said.

## NFL roundup

# Wentz, Eagles dismantle Broncos in rout

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Carson Wentz tossed four touchdown passes, Corey Clement had three scores, and the Philadelphia Eagles routed the Denver Broncos 51-23 on Sunday.

The Eagles (8-1) dismantled the league's top-ranked defense, racking up 419 yards, to win their seventh straight game and head into a bye week with the best record in the NFL.

Brock Osweiler couldn't get the Broncos (3-5) on track in his first start since rejoining the team in September. He threw two interceptions. Denver has lost four in a row and five of six.

Wentz was 15-for-27 for 199 yards before giving way to Nick Foles. He has three four-TD performances in the last five weeks.

**Redskins 17, Seahawks 14:** Kirk Cousins drove Washington 70 yards in 35 seconds, capped by Rob Kelley's 1-yard touchdown run with less than a minute remaining, to stun host Seattle.

Seattle (5-3) took a 14-10 lead

with 1:34 remaining after Russell Wilson found Doug Baldwin for a 30-yard touchdown pass after the Seahawks had scuffled on offense all day. But Cousins had an unexpected answer.

Taking over at his 30-yard line, Cousins hit Brian Quick for 31 yards and Josh Doctson for 38 on consecutive throws to get to the Seattle 1 with 1:02 left. Doctson beat rookie Shaquill Griffin down the sideline and made an impressive diving catch. Kelley bulled his way in from the 1 on the next play.

**Cardinals 20, 49ers 10:** Adrian Peterson carried a career-high 37 times for 159 yards and Drew Stanton threw two touchdown passes to lead visiting Arizona past winless San Francisco.

Peterson, 32, was a workhorse in his third game with the Cardinals (4-4). He posted the most carries ever for a player in his 30s and topped the 100-yard mark for the second time since being acquired in a trade from New Orleans last month.

**Jaguars 23, Bengals 7:** With

A.J. Green and Jalen Ramsey ejected for fighting, Jaydon Mickens delivered the knockout blow by returning a punt 63 yards for a touchdown.

The host Jaguars (5-3) won consecutive games for the first time in 13 months and were victorious at EverBank Field for the first time since last December.

**Saints 30, Buccaneers 10:** The Saints extended their winning streak to six when Drew Brees completed 81.2 percent of his passes for 263 yards and two touchdowns for host New Orleans.

**Panthers 20, Falcons 17:** Cam Newton ran for 86 yards and a touchdown and the host Panthers stormed back from an early 10-point deficit, then held on.

The Panthers spotted the Falcons 10 points before Newton and the ground game got rolling. Carolina ran for 201 yards, including a career-high 66 and a touchdown from rookie Christian McCaffrey.

**Rams 51, Giants 17:** Jared Goff set career highs with four

touchdown throws and 311 yards passing and Todd Gurley ran for two more scores for the surprising Rams.

The win was the fifth in six games for the visiting Rams, whose 6-2 start is the franchise's best since 2001, when the club, then in St. Louis, went 14-2 in the regular season and eventually lost to the Patriots in the Super Bowl.

**Raiders 27, Dolphins 24:** Derek Carr threw for 300 yards and Oakland overcame two fluky plays that cost them possession to beat host Miami.

Carr went 21-for-30 with one touchdown and one interception. He helped the Raiders convert 8 of 15 third downs.

**Titans 23, Ravens 20:** Marcus Mariota threw for 218 yards and two touchdowns, and the host Titans got their third straight victory.

**Colts 20, Texans 14:** T.Y. Hilton had 175 yards receiving with two touchdowns to help the visiting Colts halt a three-game skid by beating a Texans team that struggled without Deshaun Watson.

## NBA roundup

## Harden's career-high 56 lift Rockets

Associated Press

HOUSTON — James Harden scored a career-high 56 points and added 13 assists in just 35 minutes to lead the Houston Rockets to a 137-110 victory over the Utah Jazz on Sunday night.

Harden finished 19-for-25 from the field after missing his last three attempts. The MVP runner-up was 7-for-7 from beyond the arc until he missed a step-back three-pointer midway through the fourth quarter as the shot clock was about to expire.

Even when the Jazz could deny Harden his shot, he passed it off for someone else to score. Eric Gordon scored 20 points, Trevor Ariza had 14 and Nene scored 13 off the bench.

"That was one of the best performances I've ever seen," Gordon said. "He was picking them apart and not just with scoring. What else can you do?"

Harden received a standing ovation from the Toyota Center crowd, which rained down "MVP! MVP!" chants at multiple points during the game. He had 22 points in both the first

and third quarters, 30 at half-time and sat for the final 7:32 of the blowout.

Donovan Mitchell led Utah with 17 points.

**Hawks 117, Cavaliers 115:** Dennis Schroeder scored 28 points and injury-riddled Atlanta beat host Cleveland to end an eight-game losing streak.

Missing five players, Atlanta won for the first time since topping Dallas in the season opener.

Cleveland's Kevin Love was taken to a hospital with an illness, Cavaliers coach Tyronn Lue said without disclosing the problem. Love left in the third quarter.

Coming off his 57-point performance Friday night at Washington, LeBron James had 26 points and 13 assists for Cleveland. The Cavaliers have lost five of seven.

**Wizards 107, Raptors 96:** Bradley Beal scored 38 points, Otto Porter Jr. had 19 and visiting Washington overcame the absence of All-Star point guard John Wall to beat Toronto, winning for the second time in 11 meetings with the Raptors.

Toronto lost its starting point guard when Kyle Lowry was ejected with 8:08 remaining in the second quarter after picking up two technical fouls in quick succession for arguing.

**Trail Blazers 103, Thunder 99:** Damian Lillard had 36 points and 13 assists, Jusuf Nurkic added 25 points and host Portland held off Oklahoma City.

**Knicks 108, Pacers 101:** Kristaps Porzingis scored a career-high 40 points, carrying host New York back from a 19-point deficit.

Porzingis added eight rebounds and six blocked shots in his seventh 30-point performance in nine games this season.

**Lakers 107, Grizzlies 102:** Brook Lopez scored 21 points, Brandon Ingram added 20 and host Los Angeles blew most of a 22-point lead before hanging on for its third win in four games.

**Timberwolves 112, Hornets 94:** Jeff Teague had 18 points and 12 assists and host Minnesota won its fifth straight.

**Celtics 104, Magic 88:** Jaylen Brown scored 18 points

and Al Horford added 14 points and 10 rebounds to spark visiting Boston to a victory over Orlando.

The Eastern Conference-leading Celtics (8-2) have won eight straight after beginning the season with back-to-back losses.

**Heat 104, Clippers 101:** James Johnson made two free throws with 8.7 seconds left and visiting Miami recovered after blowing a 25-point lead to beat Los Angeles.

The Clippers began the fourth quarter with a 16-0 run and surged to take a 101-100 edge with 16.3 seconds left. Johnson put Miami ahead and, after Blake Griffin missed a three-pointer, Josh Richardson added two more foul shots.

**Spurs 112, Suns 95:** LaMarcus Aldridge scored 21 points and host San Antonio rolled past Phoenix.

The Suns were held to 13 points in the third quarter, the lowest production by a Spurs opponent in any quarter this season.

## NHL roundup

## Canadiens' Lindgren earns first shutout

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Charlie Lindgren made 38 saves in his first career shutout, helping the Montreal Canadiens beat Corey Crawford and the Chicago Blackhawks 2-0 on Sunday night.

Lindgren and Crawford were locked up in a scoreless duel before Jonathan Drouin skated through the slot and shot the puck into the left side of the net at 1:54 of the third. Drouin's third goal of the season stopped Crawford's scoreless streak at 173 minutes, 9 seconds.

Defenseman Joe Morrow added his third career goal at 7:45, helping Montreal to its fourth win in five games. Morrow blasted a slap shot by a screened Crawford for his

first goal since Oct. 27, 2015, for Boston against Arizona.

Coming off consecutive shutouts against Philadelphia and Minnesota, Crawford finished with 33 stops in his first career regulation loss against his hometown team. He was 8-0-2 with a 1.49 goals-against average in 10 career games against Montreal.

With Carey Price sidelined by a minor lower-body injury and Al Montoya coming off a 19-save performance in Saturday night's 5-4 overtime win at Winnipeg, Lindgren made his first appearance of the season for the Canadiens. The Lakeville, Minnesota, native responded with Montreal's first shutout of the season while improving to 4-0 in four career NHL starts.

**Islanders 6, Avalanche 4:** Mathew Barzal had a franchise-rookie record five assists and Nick Leddy and Jordan Eberle each scored twice to help host New York beat Colorado.

New York won for the sixth time in eight games and ended Colorado's winning streak at three games.

**Red Wings 4, Oilers 0:** Petr Mrazek made 36 saves and Martin Frk and Anthony Mantha each had a goal and an assist in Detroit's victory at Edmonton.

**Flames 5, Devils 4 (SO):** Micheal Ferland had a goal and an assist and Matthew Tkachuk scored the shootout winner in host Calgary's win over New Jersey.