

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Military misconduct complaints rise

By TOM VANDEN BROOK  
USA Today

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon on Tuesday reported a rise in complaints of misconduct against military brass and senior civilian officials over the last two years and a steady trend in proven allegations of sexual misbehavior and improper relationships among its most senior officials.

The increase in complaints and steady stream of disgraced generals, admirals and senior officials comes despite the Pentagon's repeated stance that it has a "zero tolerance" policy for such ethical and legal misbehavior.

On Tuesday, the Pentagon Inspector General reported a 13 percent increase from fiscal year 2015 to 2017 in the number of complaints alleging misconduct among senior officials, from 710 to 803. Moreover, the inspector general found that investigators continued to substantiate allegations against senior officials, including sexual misconduct, at a steady rate.

"In the category of personal misconduct, there has been a steady trend in substantiated allegations of improper relationships and sexual misconduct,"

according to the report, which highlighted 10 management and performance challenges facing the Pentagon.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., a member of the Armed Services Committee, blistered the Pentagon on Tuesday for not taking the issue more seriously. She has championed legislation to remove the authority of uniformed troops to decide which cases go to court-martial.

"This data confirms that there is no accountability for those at the top," she said in a statement to USA Today. "How can [the Pentagon] uphold good order and discipline when the very people charged with doing so are either committing misconduct themselves or letting it go unpunished?"

"It is another thread in the unfortunately all-too-common theme of powerful men getting away with 'doing whatever they want with little consequence.' It's time to take away their power to decide what to do with serious crimes."

In October, USA Today reported that military investigators had documented at least 500 cases of serious misconduct among generals, admirals and senior civilian officials for the fiscal years 2013 through 2016.

In 2014, then-Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel directed Pentagon officials to determine the scope and cause of the problem, but the paper found that little had been done to track trends in such misbehavior.

"It's not good enough to say we have a zero tolerance policy," Hagel said in May 2014. "How does that translate into changing anything? ... I want to know how it's being done, and I want to know everything about it."

The problem of sexual misbehavior afflicting the military mirrors that among prominent members of the media, politics and entertainment. On Tuesday, for example, PBS and CBS announced that Charlie Rose, the journalist and television personality, had been fired after a report in The Washington Post that he had sexually harassed young women who had worked for him.

In October, a Pentagon spokeswoman issued a statement saying Defense Secretary Jim Mattis expects "exemplary" conduct from senior officials. The statement echoes others made since at least the early 1990s that the Pentagon has a "zero tolerance" policy for sexual misconduct.

Yet there hasn't been a slow-

ing of the military's sexual scandals.

Among the latest involves Maj. Gen. Joseph Harrington, whose suggestive social media posts to the wife of a subordinate, enlisted soldier cost Harrington his job as head of U.S. Army Africa, USA Today reported in August. Harrington has been recalled to Washington, and a board will decide his discipline, which could include the loss of rank and the pension pay associated with it.

The paper also reported in September sexual misconduct by the then-spokesman for the Navy's top officer. That Navy commander, dressed as Santa Claus at a liquor-fueled Christmas Party in December 2016 inside the Pentagon, made unwanted sexual passes and slapped a woman's buttocks. The officer, the spokesman for Adm. John Richardson, the chief of naval operations, was not reassigned until mid-August, just weeks after USA Today requested documents regarding the investigation.

The inspector general also said there was a 51 percent increase in complaints from whistleblowers who had reported misconduct.

## 8 rescued, 3 missing in Navy plane crash

By TYLER HLAVAC  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Three people were missing Wednesday after a Navy aircraft went down in the Philippine Sea while en route to the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan.

A C-2A Greyhound carrying 11 crewmembers and

passengers crashed in waters southeast of Okinawa at approximately 2:45 p.m., a Navy statement said.

Search-and-rescue operations involving U.S. and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Forces ships and aircraft are underway.

Eight people have been rescued so far and are in good condition aboard the Ronald

Reagan, the Navy said.

The Greyhound was carrying passengers and cargo from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni to the carrier at the time of the crash.

It is assigned to Carrier Air Wing 5, the aviation component of the Ronald Reagan strike group.

The carrier was conducting a training exercise with the

JMSDF at the time of the accident, the Navy said. The crash's cause is unknown.

A family assistance center has been set up at Yokosuka Naval Base. Families who live off base in Japan can call 0468-16-1728. Those in the United States can call +81-468-16-1728, while on-base families can dial 315-243-1728 (DSN).

# Navy changes policy on pepper spraying

*The Virginian-Pilot*

NORFOLK, Va. — The Navy wants its sailors to feel the burn — just not more than once.

The Navy will no longer require sailors to be pepper-sprayed every three years after the chief of naval operations received complaints that it wasn't necessary to repeatedly undergo the painful experience after the first time it's done as part of force protection training.

Adm. John Richardson announced the policy change Tuesday in a video posted on Facebook. Richardson said he was responding to conversations he had with the crew aboard the destroyer USS Gridley in Everett, Wash., a few days earlier.

Sailors who carry pepper spray as part of their duties are required to experience what being sprayed with it feels like.

Pepper spray can cause breathing difficulty, tears, temporary blindness and eyes to close. The effects of the spray typically last for about 30 to 45 minutes after initial contact, according to the Navy. A Navy video about the pepper spray training shows one sailor saying that being sprayed with it felt like there was a blow torch next to her face and that she couldn't breathe.

Navy photographs show sailors aboard ships being sprayed directly in the eyes and then having to perform self-defense moves against an attacker.

# Mississippi is first US sub to visit S. Korea's Jeju Island

BY MARCUS FICHTL

*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — The USS Mississippi became the first American submarine to visit South Korea's touristy Jeju Island with a port visit this week.

Wednesday's visit was a regularly scheduled stop for the Virginia-class attack submarine as it patrols the Indo-Asia-Pacific region, a Navy statement said.

"We are honored to be the first submarine to visit Jeju," the vessel's commander, Cmdr. Eric J. Rozek, said in the statement.

Known more as a tourism hot spot than a strategic military location, Jeju will offer the sailors a chance to enjoy island recreation while working side by side with their South Korean counterparts. They'll also spend Thanksgiving on the island.

Crewed with about 150 sailors, the 360-foot-long Hawaii-based Mississippi is armed with

a complement of Tomahawk cruise missiles and torpedoes. Powered with a nuclear reactor, its only constraint during undersea patrols is food and general maintenance.

The submersible arrives at the volcanic island about 60 miles from South Korea southwestern coast during a period of heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula. President Donald Trump announced Monday that the United States is redesignating North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism as part of his campaign to further isolate the regime and deprive it of funds.

On Wednesday, United Nations Command released footage showing that the communist state had violated the armistice agreement last week when one of its soldiers briefly crossed the Military Demarcation Line at the Joint Security Area while pursuing a defecting comrade.

# All troops limited by curfew in Japan

BY SETH ROBSON

*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — All troops in Japan must abide by a new curfew over the holiday weekend, part of the fallout after a 21-year-old Marine was involved in a fatal vehicle crash on Okinawa.

An alcohol restriction, which applies on and off base for all servicemembers in Japan, took effect Sunday evening and remains in place until further notice.

"Effective immediately, curfew in Japan applies to all service members regardless of rank and will be in effect from midnight until [5 a.m.], U.S. Forces Japan spokesman Capt. Tyler Hopkins said in an email Wednesday. "Service members on official duty or with waivers by authorized commanders may travel off base for approved reasons."

Under normal circumstances, USFJ's Japan-wide curfew applies only to lower enlisted servicemembers and runs from 1 to 5 a.m.

Servicemembers on Okinawa are no longer under "Tier 3 Liberty Status," a restriction that required them to return to their quarters after work and prevented them from taking authorized leave on the southern island prefecture. Sunday's crash happened in Naha, Okinawa's capital.

"Effective immediately, off-base liberty has been restored to U.S. service members on Okinawa," Hopkins said. "Alcohol purchase and consumption remains prohibited for all service members in Japan."

Okinawa is home to about half of the approximately 100,000 U.S. servicemembers, civilian base workers and their families stationed in Japan. Commanders across Japan have also been directed to "immediately lead mandatory training to address responsible alcohol use, risk management and acceptable behavior," a USFJ statement said. All military members and U.S. government civilians in Japan are required to attend.

Lance Cpl. Nicholas James-

McLean, 21, was arrested early Sunday on suspicion of negligent driving resulting in death and driving under the influence of alcohol.

The Marine, who was off duty at the time, was driving a government-owned vehicle about 5:30 a.m. when it collided with a minitruck driven by a Japanese national, officials said.

A breath test indicated that James-McLean had a blood-alcohol level that was three times Japan's legal limit of 0.03 percent, a Naha police spokesman said. All 50 U.S. states have set 0.08 as the legal limit for driving under the influence or driving while impaired.

On the evening before Thanksgiving, effects of the alcohol ban were on display at an entertainment district known as "Bar Row" near Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo. The area was mostly quiet on a night known by some in the U.S. as "Black-out Wednesday," a reference to heavy drinking since many don't have to work the next day.

Few non-Japanese were spotted patronizing the area's many bars and nightclubs. Only two customers — both non-American — sat at the bar at Milene's, a second-floor nightclub in the heart of the district.

Owner Angelane Misawa said her establishment has continued to serve mostly Japanese and Filipino customers since the alcohol ban; however, she expects Americans to stay away for a while.

Bar staff have been asking non-Asian patrons if they are military personnel and if so, reminding them about the USFJ-mandated restriction before serving them.

Misawa said she heard about the alcohol ban from friends on Okinawa.

"I understand there's a problem," she said, before adding that it's important for servicemembers to relax after work. "Americans come here to dance and sing and talk about fun things — not work — and get rid of stress," she said.



# 3 NCOs reassigned after Trump Asia trip

Officials say White House communications personnel had improper contact with foreign women

*The Washington Post*

Three military personnel have been reassigned from their White House jobs amid allegations that they had improper contact with foreign women while traveling with President Donald Trump on his recent trip to Asia, according to officials familiar with the situation.

The servicemembers all worked for the White House Communications Agency, a specialized military unit that helps provide the president, vice president, Secret Service and other officials with secure

communications.

The military is scrutinizing three Army noncommissioned officers who allegedly broke curfew during Trump's trip to Vietnam this month, officials said.

Mark Wright, a spokesman for the Defense Department, confirmed that the Pentagon is examining the behavior of personnel during the visit to Vietnam.

"We are aware of the incident and it is currently under investigation," Wright said.

Trump visited Vietnam as part of a 12-day swing through

Asia.

The episode comes after four military personnel on the same White House team faced allegations related to their behavior during a trip to Panama in August with Vice President Mike Pence. Those men — two from the Army and two from the Air Force — stood accused of taking foreign women after hours into a secure area as they were preparing for Pence's arrival, officials said.

They were all flown home before Pence arrived and stripped of their White House assign-

ments pending the findings of the investigation, officials said.

Army Col. Amanda Azubuike, a military spokeswoman, said an investigation into the Panama case has been closed and the findings forwarded to senior military officials for review. She said she was not aware of the final conclusions or any disciplinary action.

Servicemembers with high-level security clearances are expected to report contacts with foreign individuals to ensure that their interactions do not compromise national security.

## US helping search for missing Argentine sub

BY STEPHEN CARLSON

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — U.S. military ships and aircraft on Wednesday continued to assist the search for an Argentine submarine that has been lost in the South Atlantic for seven days as experts say the crew might be reaching a critical period of low oxygen.

The ARA San Juan, a TRA 1700 German-built diesel-electric submarine with a crew of 44, went missing Nov. 15 when it was sailing from the extreme southern port of Ushuaia to the city of Mar del Plata, about 250 miles southeast of Buenos Aires.

The Argentine navy and outside experts worry that oxygen for the crew would last only seven to 10 days if the sub is intact but submerged. Authorities still do not know if the sub rose to the surface to replenish oxygen and charge batteries. The Argentine navy has said the submarine reported a battery failure before it went missing and authorities have no specific details of the problem.

U.S. Navy and Air Force equipment and personnel have joined more than a dozen in-

ternational airplanes and ships in the maritime search despite stormy weather that has caused powerful waves of more than 20 feet.

Cmdr. Erik Reynolds, a spokesman for U.S. Navy's 4th Fleet, said underwater drones are en route to the search area after being deployed on a ship Tuesday.

The last known location of the submarine was the waters off the coast of the Patagonia region of southern Argentina.

The U.S. Navy has deployed several unmanned underwater vehicles, or UUVs, to assist in the search, including one Bluefin 12D type, capable of searching in deep water for long periods, and three Iver 580 UUVs. They are equipped with advanced sonar to map the ocean floor and capable of detecting downed submarines or wreckage.

Two Navy P-8A maritime surveillance aircraft, designed to hunt and destroy submarines, are also continuing in the search, Reynolds said. A P-3 Orion, an older model of sub hunter that is used by NASA for oceanographic research, is also involved in the search.

## US, Chinese troops find common ground in drills

*Associated Press*

CAMP RILEA ARMED FORCES TRAINING CENTER, Ore — A man lay on the grass, shivering beneath his bloodstained T-shirt as Chinese military doctors and U.S. Army medics hovered over him, applying a splint and an IV. Troops nearby prepared to evacuate the injured.

On a pine-studded base along the Oregon coast, military units from two seemingly unlikely partners were carrying out a joint response to a natural disaster. It was only a drill, but the roughly 100 soldiers from China and the U.S. and their top commanders are ready to use what they learned in a real disaster no matter the state of relations between the nations.

"The tensions that happen really don't impact this because we've found an area of common interest: that's saving lives and disaster response and humanitarian assistance," Gen. Robert Brown, commander of Hawaii-based U.S. Army Pacific, told reporters Sunday, the closing day of the exercise.

Washington and Beijing are striving to foster military ties

to avoid a confrontation and potentially work together where their interests don't collide. That's despite a growing strategic rivalry between the two world powers and frictions over North Korea and China's island building in the disputed South China Sea.

Maj. Gen. Zhang Jian, a senior commander who visited Oregon, said President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping expressed hope during Trump's visit to China this month that military relations can be a stabilizing factor. Zhang said the disaster exercises, which the U.S. and China host in alternate years, evolved from academic discussions to boots on the ground in the last few years.

"I think it is very positive in the fact that it can enhance mutual understanding, it can reduce the risk of miscalculation and misperception, and will definitely help to build a more secure and stable regional situation," Zhang said through an interpreter as Brown nodded.

U.S. and Chinese forces have not collaborated yet on disaster response, but Brown said he expects them to.

# Relief effort nears end for most troops

*The Washington Post*

The majority of active-duty U.S. troops involved in hurricane relief in Puerto Rico will return home this week, but power restoration and a few other missions are ongoing, said a U.S. general overseeing the effort.

Army Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan said in an interview Tuesday that charter flights were scheduled to take troops home to Fort Bragg in North Carolina, Fort Benning in Georgia, Joint Base San Antonio in Texas and Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington state on Wednesday. As of Monday, there were about 2,200 active-duty and reserve troops, but many are Puerto Ricans who are part of reserve units based on the island, he said.

An additional 4,000 members of the National Guard also are on duty, including

about 3,000 from the Puerto Rico National Guard, Buchanan said. They continue to distribute supplies, clear roads and transport people by helicopter as needed.

The mission will shrink again two months after Hurricane Maria leveled much of the U.S. island territory after making landfall Sept. 20 as a Category 4 storm. A U.S. Navy task force responded afterward and began performing search-and-rescue missions, but the federal government's overall response was widely panned initially for not being fast enough.

Buchanan said Tuesday that he had "personal regrets" that the military response was not faster, but said it was difficult to understand the scope of the disaster because communications on the island were destroyed.

The Pentagon rapidly scaled up its in-

volvement Sept. 26 after the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined more help was needed. Air Force Gen. Lori Robinson, the chief of U.S. Northern Command, tapped Buchanan to take over the military response in Puerto Rico, and the Pentagon began deploying thousands of troops to the island.

Aside from members of the National Guard, the remaining U.S. troops on the island will concentrate on power restoration, running Doppler weather radar sites and manning headquarters in San Juan, Buchanan said. A unit of several dozen Army reservists who work as linemen — Delta Company, 249th Engineer Battalion — are involved in efforts to run new power lines on the island. The storm destroyed nearly all of Puerto Rico's power grid, and about half of it is still down.

## President speaks up for Moore, warns against rival

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Silent for more than a week, President Donald Trump all but endorsed embattled Alabama Republican Senate nominee Roy Moore, discounting the sexual assault allegations against him and insisting repeatedly that voters must not support Moore's "liberal" rival.

The president said he would announce next week whether he will campaign for Moore, who faces Democrat Doug Jones in a Dec. 12 special election to fill the seat once held by Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

Trump, who won election despite facing more than a dozen accusations of sexual misconduct himself, dismissed questions from reporters about backing a Republican accused of sexual assault over a man who is a Democrat. Trump pointed to Moore's assertions that he did nothing wrong.

"Roy Moore denies it; that's all I can say," Trump said Tuesday. In fact, he repeated 10 times in a five-minute session outside the White House that the GOP candidate has denied any wrongdoing.

Two Alabama women have

accused Moore of assault or molestation — including one who says she was 14 at the time — and seven others have said he pursued romantic relationships when they were teenagers and he was a deputy district attorney in his 30s.

Trump didn't explicitly say he was endorsing Moore, but he said with emphasis: "We don't need a liberal person in there. ... We don't need somebody who's soft on crime like Jones."

He also noted that the allegations came from behavior alleged to have happened decades ago.

"Forty years is a long time," Trump said, questioning why it took so long for Moore's accusers to come forward.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Speaker Paul Ryan, both Republicans, have called on Moore to leave the race in light of the accusations. The Republican National Committee and the National Republican Senatorial Committee have pulled their support for his campaign.

Trump backed incumbent Sen. Luther Strange in a September Republican primary, but moved quickly to embrace Moore after he won.

## Trump continues to lash out at father of freed UCLA player

*Associated Press*

PALM BEACH, Fla. — President Donald Trump started off his first day of Thanksgiving vacation Wednesday by resuming his taunts of the father of a UCLA basketball player detained for shoplifting in China, calling him an "ungrateful fool."

In a series of tweets fired off before dawn, the president complained yet again that LaVar Ball, father of LiAngelo Ball, hasn't given him credit for the release of his son and two other UCLA basketball players after they were accused of shoplifting while in China for a basketball game.

Tweeting from his Florida vacation home, Trump said: "It wasn't the White House, it wasn't the State Department, it wasn't father LaVar's so-called people on the ground in China that got his son out of a long term prison sentence - IT WAS ME."

"Too bad! LaVar is just a poor man's version of Don King, but without the hair," he said, referencing the flamboyant boxing promoter whom Trump once saluted as "a phenomenal person" despite a conviction for

manslaughter.

Trump also warned that Ball "could have spent the next 5 to 10 years during Thanksgiving with your son in China, but no NBA contract to support you" had it not been for his intervention.

"But remember LaVar, shoplifting is NOT a little thing. It's a really big deal, especially in China," he wrote.

LiAngelo Ball and two UCLA teammates were released after a brief detention in China while Trump was visiting the country. Trump has taken credit for the release, saying he discussed the situation with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.

Trump had previously said he should have left all three players in jail because LaVar Ball hadn't thanked him publicly for his intervention.

LaVar Ball, whose eldest son, Lonzo, plays for the Los Angeles Lakers, has repeatedly minimized Trump's involvement in winning the players' release, telling CNN earlier this week, "If I feel nobody did anything, I don't have to go around saying thank you to everybody." All three players have been suspended from the team.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Girl, 6, bags deer under new state law

**WI** MILWAUKEE — A kindergartner from north central Wisconsin is among the first youngsters to bag a buck under the state's new law that eliminates the minimum hunting age.

Lexie Harris, 6, is no stranger to the woods. Her dad, Tyler Harris, has taken her hunting since she was 3. But, it wasn't until Gov. Scott Walker signed the law on Nov. 12 that Lexie could legally shoot a deer. Harris has taught his daughter how to shoot with a youth rifle.

Harris carried his daughter's gun to their hunting stand Sunday in Taylor County. He helped her set up the shot. But Harris said Lexie is the one who pulled the trigger and shot the six-point buck.

## Couple that won free food facing charges

**UT** LAYTON — Authorities say a Layton couple that won \$10,400 worth of groceries at a store opening in Utah face felony charges alleging the theft of more than \$5,000 worth of merchandise from another store.

The Deseret News reported the WinCo Foods store in South Salt Lake surprised Nicholas and Stephanie Mannino on Friday with the award of a year's worth of groceries through Operation HomeFront. The program partners with stores to honor military families, and Nicholas Mannino retired as a corporal in 2007 after six years in the U.S. Army.

The newspaper said that the two pleaded not guilty in a Farmington courtroom to felony theft charges alleging they systematically stole items from a department store where Stephanie Mannino worked as a cashier.

## Unclaimed \$1M lottery ticket to expire

**NJ** TRENTON — An unclaimed New Jersey Cash4Life lottery ticket worth \$1 million that was purchased on the New Jersey Turnpike is about to expire.

The New Jersey Lottery said the second-tier prize of \$1,000 a week for life was bought at the Joyce Kilmer service area on Dec. 8, 2016.

The winning numbers were 8, 28, 29, 49 and 57. The cash ball was 3.

The winner has until Dec. 8 to sign the back of the ticket and contact the lottery at 609-599-5800.

## Reported crash turns out to be movie scene

**NY** LONG BEACH — A report of a car crashing into a pizza and ice cream shop on Long Island turned out to be a scene for a film starring local native Billy Crystal.

Police in Long Beach told Newsday that officers and firefighters were dispatched Monday morning after someone reported a vehicle had crashed into Slices & Ices. Police department officials said they were aware that a movie was being filmed there but had to be sure a real accident hadn't occurred.

Crystal grew up in a Long Beach neighborhood near where the scene was being shot for a comedy titled "We Are Unsatisfied."

## Store delays sneaker release due to crowd

**VA** RICHMOND — The first exclusive release of a rare sneaker was postponed in Virginia after police were called to help control the crowd.

News outlets reported the line outside Need Supply Co. in Richmond began Monday, ahead of the launch of the Nike Air Max 97/1 that was scheduled for Tuesday at 10 a.m.

The store delayed the release just before 5 a.m. Tuesday, citing a rowdy crowd that Richmond police said had grown to nearly 500 by 2:30 a.m.

WBBT reported that the store allowed customers in to buy the shoes at 10 a.m.

## Buck gets stuck under sheriff's patrol vehicle

**OR** KLAMATH FALLS — A deer attacking parked cars in Klamath Falls was finally stopped when it charged a sheriff's office patrol vehicle.

The Herald and News reported the buck got its head and antlers stuck in the driver's side front wheel well.

The deer was sedated and authorities removed him from the awkward spot.

Donna Ross witnessed Saturday's incident. She said the buck was "assumed to be rabid, or at least really, really mad."

## McDonald's to raze museum in Chicago

**IL** OAK BROOK — McDonald's Corp. has announced it will demolish a suburban Chicago museum that's a replica of Ray Kroc's first restaurant.

Kroc is considered by the corporation to be the hamburger chain's founder. He built his first restaurant in 1955 in Des Plaines after franchising the brand from the original owners, Richard and Maurice McDonald.

The Chicago Tribune reported the store was torn down in 1984. McDonald's Store No. 1 Museum opened the next year,

with the original restaurant's sign out front.

The site was popular with tourists, but repeated flooding forced the museum to bar access in 2008. In a statement, McDonald's said that caused a tourism decline and flooding issues made reopening unfeasible.

## Man bites officer at warrant hearing

**FL** MIAMI — Authorities said a man bit a police officer who was taking him into custody during a hearing in a Miami courtroom.

Miami-Dade police spokesman Argemis Colome told news outlets the officer suffered a "severe injury" when Godel Leveille bit him Monday afternoon.

Court spokeswoman Eunice Sigler said Leveille was in court for a hearing on a warrant and a judge ordered him taken into custody.

## Coast Guard Academy begins energy upgrade

**CT** NEW LONDON — The U.S. Coast Guard Academy began its first major upgrade to save on energy and replace aging utilities at the 85-year-old Connecticut campus.

The New London-based academy launched the \$72.6 million project Monday.

It says that's the largest single energy savings contract signed by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Department of Homeland Security.

A high-efficiency combined heat and power natural gas plant will replace half-century-old boilers.

The academy will have the ability to generate up to 60 percent of its own power during an outage.

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STARS AND STRIPES®

# Barrett shrugs off talk of OSU legacy

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — J.T. Barrett helped bring Ohio State a national championship but has heard hysterical fans demanding he be benched. He has broken nearly every school passing and scoring record but isn't considered a top NFL prospect.

The quarterback who plays his final regular season game on Saturday against Michigan is more driven than naturally talented, more analytical than emotional, more pragmatic than go-for-broke. He has struggled with accuracy and his arm strength is mediocre.

But he's undeniably a winner.

He's 35-6 as a starter at Ohio State and holds 35 school and Big Ten records. If he beats the Wolverines again, which has to happen for the No. 8 Buckeyes to have any shot at getting back to the playoffs, he will tie Art Schlichter for most quarterback wins in school history.

Barrett passed four-year starter Schlichter this season in career passing yards, and also holds school records for passing yards per game, completions, completion percentage, touchdown passes, touchdowns responsible for, and total offense. He's second only to Heisman winner Troy Smith in career passing efficiency (157.1 to 153.7).

But it's not all about the numbers.

"He's one of the best leaders I've ever been around," Ohio State senior tackle Jamarco Jones said. "He's also one of the most competitive people I've ever been around. He just wants to win, and he's going to do whatever it takes to win, and that's something that everybody feeds off of."

His coach, Urban Meyer, says part of what makes Barrett exceptional is a desire to win that exceeds physical limitations or ego.

I love J.T.," Meyer said. "J.T. is a member of the Meyer family and the Buckeye family for the rest of his life."

Yet Ohio State fans haven't appreciated him as much at times.

Maybe because he was sitting out with a broken ankle when the Buckeyes won the national championship in 2014. Or maybe because he hasn't managed to be quite as good as that first year. Or maybe because he's been there so long. Barrett is a four-year starter in a sport where the brightest stars rarely stick around.

He acknowledged as much during spring practice this year, saying he understood the fascination over newcomer Tate Martell, a flashy freshman quarterback popular on social media.

"We live in an era," Barrett said, "when everybody wants something new and something fresh."

Barrett, from Wichita Falls, Texas, was barely on Meyer's radar coming out of high school. Nobody from Ohio State had even seen him play in person before he committed.

After redshirting a year, Barrett began 2014 camp as the backup to Braxton Miller, who had been the Big Ten Player of the Year. But a shoulder injury to Miller thrust Barrett into the starting role and stardom. He went 11-1 as the starting quarterback, compiling a school-record 3,772 total yards before getting hurt.

Barrett broke his right ankle in the

fourth quarter of the final regular season game against Michigan. He was on the sideline in a cast as his rifle-armed backup, Cardale Jones, stepped in for three games and led Ohio State to a title.

Jones won the starting job before the 2015 season but Barrett eventually was reinstated, missing a game on suspension after being arrested for drunken driving. Barrett was better in 2016, but passing problems swallowed the Buckeyes in the playoffs against Clemson. Fans started chattering about giving one of the backups a chance to QB in 2017.

That talk continued when the Buckeyes lost to Oklahoma, then were surprisingly blown out at Iowa Nov. 4. Barrett was terrible in both games.

Now the door to the playoffs has been cracked open a bit again, and Meyer will count on Barrett to beat Michigan and then take down No. 5 Wisconsin next week in the Big Ten Championship. If those things happen, there is a slight chance the Buckeyes could end up back in the playoffs.

"Everybody's path is a little different," Barrett said. "There are things along the way I didn't expect, (but) God knew what was happening. And I think those things positive or negative, I was able to grow from them. And I think at the end of the day, I'm a better person for things I went through."

Barrett hesitates to talk about his legacy. Maybe there will be time to think about that when it's all over. But the story is still being written.

"I think I've done some good things here," he said. "Who knows?"

## Miami moves up to No. 2 in CFP rankings

Associated Press

Miami made a small but potentially significant move up to No. 2 behind Alabama in the College Football Playoff rankings Tuesday night, with Clemson slipping one spot to three and Oklahoma holding at four.

Wisconsin and Auburn remained next behind the top four in a week when the top half of the selection committee's rankings were mostly unchanged.

Georgia, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Penn State and Southern California followed in the same order as they did last week. Over the next two weeks, every team in the top nine will play another team ranked in the

committee's top 25, including four games matching top playoff contenders.

The Crimson Tide will play at Auburn on Saturday to decide a spot in the Southeastern Conference championship on Dec. 2. The winner plays Georgia.

The Atlantic Coast Conference championship will match Clemson and Miami on Dec. 2, and Wisconsin and Ohio State play in the Big Ten championship.

Miami's move comes after rallying to beat Virginia last Saturday. Committee chairman Kirby Hocutt said Miami is showing characteristics of a championship team.

"When you get down the

way Miami did to Virginia two times, once in each half, and you have the poise and the ability to come back and win in a convincing manner, that is special," said Hocutt, the Texas Tech athletic director.

The Hurricanes (10-0) play at Pitt Friday and now seem better positioned to get into the playoff even with a loss to Clemson, depending on how things play out in other conferences.

Central Florida came in at No. 15 and Memphis is 20th, the highest ranked teams from outside the Power Five.

**How does this play out?** The Crimson Tide could essentially eliminate two other playoff contenders in Auburn and Georgia.

The Tigers have no shot if they don't win the Iron Bowl and the SEC title. Georgia at 11-2 with a loss in the conference title game could still have a flicker of hope to be the second SEC team in the playoff, but would need a lot of help.

The next team that can help clear things up for the committee is Wisconsin.

Wisconsin can get a marquee victory in the Big Ten title game — as long as Ohio State takes care of Michigan on Saturday. At 13-0 and with a conference championship, the committee can replace the ACC championship loser with Wisconsin in the top four.



# Jets coach military flag football game

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Josh McCown has some big-time red, white and blue bragging rights on Demario Davis.

The New York Jets teammates put their pads aside and served as opposing coaches for an eight-on-eight flag football game featuring military servicemembers — who were appropriately decked out in green and white jerseys — at Fort Hamilton Army Base in Brooklyn on Tuesday.

Final score: Team McCown 18, Team Davis 14.

“There’s no doubt that we won and we had every intention of winning, and I’ll keep this in the books as 1-0 for my coaching career against Demario,” McCown said with a laugh. “And I won’t let him live this down anytime soon in that locker room, I know that.”

The victory in the “Fort Hamilton Turkey Bowl” was sealed when a defender on McCown’s team knocked away a pass.

“It was a lot of fun, but, oh, man, I don’t like to lose,” Davis said by phone. “I’ve got to find a way to get him back.”

Staff Sgt. Michael Edwards earned MVP honors for the winning team by throwing

for about 220 yards and three touchdowns, while also running for 30 yards. Sgt. 1st Class Danny Centeno was selected the MVP of Davis’ squad.

“We came out ready to dominate, full force,” Edwards said with a laugh. “Josh spoke with me before the game and he was like, ‘Hey, man, the key is to complete passes, be poised and be sure you’re scanning the field.’ To get that advice from a quarterback, I was like, ‘All right. Got it.’”

The 34-year-old Edwards played in high school in Miami, and appreciated the guidance of McCown, who gathered his squad between plays throughout the game. It’s nothing new for McCown. Between NFL jobs in 2011, McCown coached the quarterbacks at Marvin Ridge High School in Waxhaw, N.C.

“They obviously have been playing together for a while, so it was fun to get out there and kind of give them little tips,” McCown said of Tuesday’s game. “To actually be able to talk football with them and strategy, that makes it even more fun for them and more real.”

The game was the latest collaboration between the Jets and the U.S. military, with service

members from the Joint Task Force Empire Shield; the 1st Medical Detachment, Surgical; the NYC Recruiting Battalion, the 642nd Aviation Support Battalion and the 98th Regiment, among others who are stationed at the base playing in the game two days before Thanksgiving.

“It was fun and we had a blast hanging with the guys, but also, it’s inspiring to be out there with people who serve our country at the highest level and just afford us to have the freedom to go out there and play a game,” McCown said.

Davis said he jumped at the opportunity to participate because his father Steven is a 28-year Army veteran — and because of the tension swirling throughout the season regarding some NFL players not standing during the playing of the national anthem before games.

“It really meant a lot to me, personally,” Davis said. “Also with all that’s going on in the NFL with the controversy surrounding the ‘The Star Spangled Banner’ and stuff like that, I wanted to make it clear how much the military means to me.”

Last year, the Jets set up two football games on the Bagram

Air Base in Afghanistan, and another is planned between members of the 3rd Infantry Division and U.S. Air Force in Afghanistan later this week. The team also hosted a game on Veteran’s Day between USS Blue Ridge members and Forward Deployed Naval Forces on the U.S. Naval Base in Yokosuka, Japan.

“The Jets have been huge supporters and not just of my battalion, but to the military at large,” said Lt. Col. Judd Floris, commander of the New York City Recruiting Battalion.

After the game, McCown and Davis signed autographs and posed for photos, and also took part in a postgame cookout.

“It’s a pretty amazing thing to see,” Davis said. “I think celebrities and athletes get looked up to all the time, but these are the real heroes. These are the people who should be celebrated and the heroes in our country, who lay their lives on the line for us to have our freedom. We wouldn’t be able to live if it wasn’t for what they do.”

“They may look up to us and celebrate us, but even more so, we look up to and celebrate them.”

## No. 3 Kansas rolls over Texas Southern

Associated Press

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Svi Mykhailiuk scored 21 points, Udoka Azubuike added 20 and No. 3 Kansas cruised to a resounding 114-71 victory over Texas Southern on Tuesday night in the Jayhawks’ first game of the Hoophall Miami Invitational.

Lagerald Vick, Devonte’ Graham and Marcus Garrett all finished with a double-double for Kansas, as Vick posted 19 points and 10 rebounds, Graham had 17 points and 11 assists, and Garrett logged 13 points and 11 boards.

Graham gave Kansas its 17th three of the game — a program record.

**No. 6 Wichita St. 80, Marquette 66:** Landry Shamet scored 19 points and Connor Frankamp added 13 as Wichita State (4-0) rode its second-half defense into the Maui Invitational title game.

**No. 12 Cincinnati 75, Richmond 48:** Cane Broome led a balanced attack with 13 points, Jacob Evans added 12 and Cincinnati used a dominant first half to roll into the championship game of the Cayman Islands Classic.

**No. 13 Notre Dame 92, LSU 53:** T.J. Gibbs scored 26 points, Matt Farrell added 17 and Notre Dame reached the Maui Invitational championship game.

**No. 14 Minnesota 100, Alabama A&M 57:** Jordan Murphy had his fifth straight double-double with 20 points and 10 rebounds for host Minnesota.

**No. 16 Texas A&M 98, Penn St. 87:** Robert Williams had 21 points and nine rebounds to lead Texas A&M in the championship game of the Progressive Legends Classic at Barclays Center.

**No. 19 Louisville 84, Southern Illinois**

**42:** Jordan Nwora came off the bench to score a career-high 18 points and Deng Adel had 16 for host Louisville.

**No. 22 Baylor 65, Creighton 59:** King McClure had 19 points, Terry Maston made a series of big baskets down the stretch and Baylor rallied to win the Hall of Fame Classic title game.

**No. 23 UCLA 72, Wisconsin 70:** Aaron Holiday got a scooping layup to drop just before the final buzzer giving UCLA a victory in the third-place game of the Hall of Fame Classic.

**No. 25 Alabama 77, Texas-Arlington 76:** Collin Sexton scored 29 points for host Alabama in a come-from-behind victory.

The Crimson Tide (4-0) trailed the entire first half and took their first lead with 12 minutes remaining.

## NHL roundup

## Tarasenko leads Blues in rout of Oilers

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Vladimir Tarasenko dropped his gloves and inspired his teammates.

On a night when he had two goals and two assists, Tarasenko got in a rare fight Tuesday during the St. Louis Blues' 8-3 victory over the Edmonton Oilers.

Brayden Schenn also had two goals and two assists, and Jake Allen stopped 26 shots for the NHL-leading Blues (16-5-1).

Tarasenko's fight came in the second period. In just the third scrap of his six-year career, the skilled forward tangled with Matt Benning and landed a solid right hand much to the crowd's delight.

Tarasenko looked good out there, too.

"Yeah, a couple of boxing lessons," he quipped. "It's part of the game and I don't see anything wrong with it."

Tarasenko was reacting to Benning's near-collision with Schenn that was almost a knee-on-knee hit.

"I don't fight really often but

I think that was on purpose, knee on knee," Tarasenko said. "I don't like that kind of stuff in hockey. I don't want to look like a good fighter but, you know, it happens sometimes."

Schenn took the blame for the play.

"That was my fault coming through the middle with my head down," he said. "I picked it up at the last second. Maybe I'm lucky it wasn't a bigger defenseman trying to hit me."

"Hats off to him. We don't need that guy fighting. I guess he decided to drop the mitts. He looked at it from a team perspective and he's willing to stand up for his teammates. That goes a long way. When you see our best playing doing that, it makes everyone want to do that."

Blues coach Mike Yeo held his breath during the fight.

"We don't want Vladdy getting into fights, but he sent a message there," Yeo said. "If you saw the way the bench got up ... I could hear what they were saying."

"It is what it is but, again, you

don't want a guy like him fighting and he breaks his hand. He did pretty well. He's so strong. But again, that's not what we want him doing."

It was Tarasenko's second career Gordie Howe hat trick — a goal, an assist and a fight in the same game. The other one came on Nov. 13, 2014, against Nashville.

**Canucks 5, Flyers 2:** Brock Boeser scored twice and Daniel Sedin inched closer to a major NHL milestone, leading visiting Vancouver past slumping Philadelphia.

Sedin had a goal and an assist to leave him four points shy of 1,000 for his career. Sven Baertschi scored a power-play goal, Henrik Sedin had two assists and Loui Eriksson added an empty-net goal and an assist for the Canucks.

Jacob Markstrom made 35 saves to earn his sixth win of the season as Vancouver improved to 10-8-3 with its second victory in six games. Ivan Provorov and Jakub Voracek scored for the Flyers, who lost their fifth straight and fell

below .500 (8-9-4) for the first time this season.

Michal Neuvirth took the loss, allowing four goals on 22 shots. He was replaced by Brian Elliott with 5:20 remaining in the second period.

**Stars 3, Canadiens 1:** Devin Shore and Jason Spezza scored 59 seconds apart late in the second period to lift host Dallas over Montreal.

Shore had no goals in the first 19 games this season, but scored for the second straight game to tie it 1-all at 18:22 of the second. Spezza, who also has scored in consecutive games after netting only one goal in the first 19, put in a rebound just less than a minute later.

Shore had an assist on Spezza's goal. So did Tyler Seguin, who scored into an empty net with 27 seconds to play.

Ben Bishop made 29 saves for Dallas on his 31st birthday. He allowed only a power-play goal by Brendan Gallagher at 12:04 of the second. After that, the Stars killed off all three Montreal power plays in the third period.

## Lakers rally from 19 points down to overtake Bulls

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Lakers' first half resembled many miserable stretches of the past four seasons. Although the Chicago Bulls have plenty of their own problems, they outworked, out-shot and outsmarted the Lakers while taking a 14-point lead.

Coach Luke Walton reminded his young team that 14 points aren't much in the NBA, and the Lakers proceeded to stage a rally that suggested the future might not be so miserable after all.

Kyle Kuzma had 22 points, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored 11 of his 21 in the fourth quarter and the Lakers roared back from a 19-point deficit in the second half for a 103-94 vic-

tory over the Bulls on Tuesday night.

Brandon Ingram had 17 points, five rebounds and five assists as the Lakers won consecutive games for the second time this season, doing so in a thrilling fashion that had their still-faithful fans standing, cheering and recalling the 16-time champion franchise's better years.

"Anytime you go out there and compete, and you look to your right and your left and everybody is competing as hard as you are, that's a great feeling," said rookie Lonzo Ball, who had eight points, 13 rebounds and four assists.

Los Angeles is off to an 8-10 start and sitting in eighth place in the Western Conference

— small achievements, but important steps for a young team just starting to believe it can compete.

The Lakers weren't competitive in the first half while committing 13 turnovers, and they trailed 61-42 early in the second half. But they put together a 38-19 run spurred by an energetic third quarter from reserves Jordan Clarkson, Josh Hart and Julius Randle, who finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

Caldwell-Pope's layup with 3:08 to play gave the Lakers their first lead since the first quarter, and the veteran added back-to-back three-pointers. The Lakers finished strong for their first win over the Bulls at Staples Center in three tries.

"I was shocked we were only

down 14 at the half, to be honest," Walton said. "It was a learning opportunity for the guys to be down 20 and realize you don't need hero shots. You just need to tighten down on what we are doing, and you can get back in the game."

Denzel Valentine scored 17 points and Antonio Blakeney added 15 — all in the first half — for the Bulls, who dropped to 3-12 with their seventh loss in eight games.

"They grabbed the momentum and ran with it," said Kris Dunn, who had 12 points and six assists in his second start of the season for Chicago. "Caldwell-Pope, he hit some big shots. They were more aggressive than we were and started getting to the free throw line."