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Free to Deployed Areas



CRITICAL BALANCE

Elite Afghan police seen as essential but regular forces remain undermanned

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

HERAT, Afghanistan — Masked, armed and in full combat kit, the Afghan paramilitary policemen

raced to a line of idling Humvees at their outpost near Afghanistan's western border with Iran.

After scrambling into their gun turrets and checking their gear, the policemen rumbled off as part

of preparations to arrest a Taliban commander.

The men were part of Herat's new National Mission Unit, a police force intended for combat missions and advised by NATO instructors. Af-

ghanistan hopes to double the number of crack units such as this one in Herat, a city of about 400,000 and the country's third-largest.

SEE FORCES ON PAGE 3

Members of an elite police special forces unit in Herat, Afghanistan, gather for a drill prior to a raid to capture a Taliban leader on Oct. 28.

J.P. LAWRENCE/Stars and Stripes

Ariz. residents speak out against Trump's border deployment

By ASTRID GALVAN
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Amy Juan drove two hours north from her remote community on the U.S.-Mexico border in Arizona to rally against the deployment of troops there.

She's one of many residents of the Southwest who oppose and are speaking out against President Donald Trump's deployment of more than 5,000 military troops to the border to fend off a slow-moving caravan of Central American migrants headed to the U.S.

'I find the fact that the military is being deployed absolutely terrifying.'

Eva Lewis
Arivaca, Ariz., resident

In El Paso, Texas, a march is planned to protest the deployment this weekend. In Laredo, the city's mayor released a

statement referring to the deployment as "false efforts" that will "harm morale and damage the economy of our region."

"Even though our communities are all very different and diverse, we all experience the same thing, which are the effects of militarization at the border," said Juan, who was one of several speakers at a news conference in Phoenix on Thursday. "Having an increased presence of military is scary, you know. It's scary."

Juan is a member of the Tohono O'odham Nation, which sits on about 75 miles along the international border. Residents of the

reservation have long had a complicated relationship with the U.S. Border Patrol, and tribe leadership has been vocal about its opposition to Trump's plans for a border wall.

"I find the fact that the military is being deployed absolutely terrifying. The amount of militarization that we already experience on a daily basis and that we are currently living under is like living in a waking nightmare," said Eva Lewis, a resident of the small town of Arivaca just north of the U.S.-Mexico border.

SEE BORDER ON PAGE 4

MILITARY

Inside Samsung's plan to pitch tech to military

By Aaron Gregg
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A multibillion-dollar opportunity to outfit the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps with modern smartphone gadgetry has sparked a flourish of advertising activity in the nation's capitol, as beltway contractors and consumer telecom giants work to woo a massive new customer: the Pentagon.

Military officials heading to work recently may have noticed that phone service provider AT&T has bought nearly every advertisement in the Pentagon metro station in Washington. Korean electronics giant Samsung hosted a grand opening of its new federal solutions center in the District of Columbia's Eastern Market neighborhood, where it has set up a high-tech center to promote how its smartphones, tablets and cameras could be applied to the work of the military.

They are both chasing after the Next Generation Enterprise Networks contract, a multibillion-dollar contract to modernize military hardware.

Since 2013, that work has been handled by the federal arm of Hewlett-Packard, now part of a company called DXC Technologies. AT&T is teaming with DXC for a recompiled contract. A federal IT company known as CSRA, which is a part of General Dynamics, has also expressed interest. And a four-company

group consisting of Verizon, Reston, Va.-based Leidos, Unisys and IBM have announced they will team up on a bid.

An award is expected by year's end. Overlooking the Capitol is a life-size mannequin decked out in full camouflage, a Samsung tablet strapped to its right leg and a "ruggedized" smartphone display on its chest. Chris Balcik, vice president of federal government sales at Samsung, says the smartphone can be configured to integrate with sensor feeds and mapping data, or to select targets for air or artillery strikes — "putting metal on target," as Balcik puts it.

"People still see [a smartphone] as sort of a toy, but we actually have a lot of capability built into these devices," he said.

It's part of a broader federal push for Samsung, a Korean electronics giant that does business with the U.S. military through its U.S. subsidiary.

The company is teaming with an unnamed federal systems integrator to bid on the NGEN contract.

For the Navy, it's part of a broader effort to incorporate commercial technology into military operations. For more than a century, the technological preeminence of the U.S. armed forces has been driven by specialized government labs. The Defense Advanced Research Projects

Agency, for example, known as DARPA, is responsible for one of the earliest iterations of the internet, known as "Arpa-net" at the time.

In the past 20 years consumer tech companies like Apple, Samsung and Huawei have led a consumer tech revolution that has put smartphones and tablets in the hands of more than 2 billion consumers, including working adults and children.

But the military faces unique obstacles as it tries to adapt those devices for its own use.

Consumer gadgets that report back data to device manufacturers or others can be problematic for the military; the U.S. military has been reviewing its rules for FitBit use, for example, after the devices were found to be revealing troops' location online. And U.S. military leaders are concerned that devices with foreign components in them could introduce cyber vulnerabilities; the Pentagon recently banned the purchase of phones made by Chinese manufacturer Huawei.

Balcik said his company is adding unique sign-in solutions that step beyond the security provisions on Samsung's consumer phones, hoping to help military operators slip under their enemies' electronic surveillance efforts.

"We want to make sure that Samsung is part of the solution," he said, "not part of the problem."

Air Force scraps upgrade of surveillance plane's radar

By Tony Capaccio
Bloomberg

The Air Force terminated a Boeing contract to update the radar on its flagship AWACS surveillance aircraft after the company encountered major delays in developing hardware and software, according to budget documents.

Instead of continuing the \$76 million contract with Boeing, "the Air Force determined the best approach for providing this critical capability would be to replace the legacy radar processor and its related components," Capt. Hope Cronin, a service spokeswoman, said in an email. "Several companies responded to the Air Force's request for information, and a request for proposal is currently being developed."

Boeing was on contract to provide improved radar processing "in a specific flight environment to meet a classified requirement for its E-3 Sentry Airborne Warn-

ing and Control System surveillance aircraft, Cronin said. The modified 707-320 commercial planes are recognized by their saucer-shaped, rotating radar domes that can spot and classify aircraft as far as 250 miles away.

The Air Force's Life Cycle Management Center, which manages the development of weapons systems, issued a partial stop-work order in January and terminated the contract in May. The termination had not been previously disclosed.

"Boeing estimated several additional years and an additional \$60 million would be needed to complete the project," Cronin said.

Kelly Kaplan, a spokeswoman for Chicago-based Boeing, said in an email that the company and the Air Force "have been partnered since the first days of the AWACS program. We're committed to supporting a robust AWACS fleet capability for many years to come."

Army mechanic convicted of killing 3 in California

SANTA ANA, Calif. — An Army mechanic who killed three people at a Southern California home has been convicted of murder.

Joshua Acosta, 23, was convicted Thursday. He faces life in prison without chance of parole.

Acosta confessed that he went to a Fullerton home in 2016 where he used a shotgun to kill Christopher Yost, 34; his wife, Jennifer Yost, 39; and their friend, Arthur Boucher, 28.

The couple's young daughters

discovered the bodies. Acosta was later taken into custody at Fort Irwin.

Acosta told investigators he was trying to protect Christopher Yost's 17-year-old stepdaughter, who testified at his trial that Yost had molested her.

The defense argued that the teen had lied to authorities about being molested and had instigated the killings. She testified under immunity.

From The Associated Press

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WAR ON TERRORISM

US: Afghan anti-corruption effort lacking

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — An anti-corruption program once seen as a beacon of hope in Afghanistan is failing to accomplish much, according to U.S. officials who say the nation's top prosecutor is corrupt.

The Anti Corruption Justice Center's efforts have stagnated, while U.S. officials described Afghanistan's once-lauded attorney general as dishonest, corrupt and deficient, the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction said in a report released last week.

"The Center was portrayed and emphasized as one of the good things in Afghanistan," Vanda Felbab-Brown of the Brookings Institution, a Washington-based think tank, said in an interview. ("The report) is pretty devastating for the government, or anyone who wants to argue that there has been important progress and we shouldn't give up on Afghanistan."

The attorney general's office declined comment after multiple requests from Stars and Stripes.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani established the Justice Center with considerable help from Western military advisers and diplomatic organizations in 2016. The Afghan attorney general's office still tries most corruption cases, but it refers major cases involving senior officials or major sums of money to the Justice Center.

U.S. officials said the Justice Center seemed to be making progress when it completed its first money-laundering case this year.

But there was no significant progress made in major corruption cases this year, the report said. The Justice Center seems to be chasing low-level cases to placate its Western donors, instead of targeting corrupt Afghan high-ranking officials, it said.

"The attorney general's performance is deficient, his accomplishments are lacking, and he fails to cooperate with the U.S. Embassy on anticorruption matters," members of the U.S. Justice Department said in a SIGAR report.

U.S. officials told SIGAR that Afghan at-



United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani signs a decree in 2016 establishing an independent Anti-Corruption Justice Center in Kabul, responsible for tackling high-level corruption.

torney general Mohammad Farid Hamidi lied to them. After Hamidi announced he had arrested some lawyers for corruption, the U.S. asked for proof and Hamidi was unable to provide any.

Hamidi also said he would introduce modern case-tracking systems by mid-2018, as demanded by U.S. officials. But the attorney general bashed these systems as being imposed by foreigners while talking to Afghan officials, according to SIGAR. Resistance to using these case-tracking systems has led to delays and cases being dropped, according to another report by the Pentagon released in July.

U.S. officials in the report said Hamidi wouldn't update his methods because of "a concern that more transparency will shine a light on his unproductive, corrupt, and patronage-laden office."

State Department officials have told Justice Center officials that their productivity

is an obstacle to American support. But Justice Center officials convey a "perpetual sense of entitlement" and responded to criticism of their work with requests for more money, the report said.

Other organizations such as the United Nations and NATO's Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan expressed similar concerns about the Justice Center's declining performance, the report said. NATO military advisers noted the Justice Center has tried only four general officers in 2018.

NATO's Resolute Support mission has advisers in the Justice Center and has increased efforts to "re-energize it," according to the July Pentagon report. Resolute Support does not have advisers in the Afghan attorney general's office, although they have attempted to gain access to more cases.

A U.S. military officer who advised in

Forces: Experts disagree whether paramilitary or police make more sense

FROM FRONT PAGE

Some analysts warn, however, that emphasizing development of elite Afghan units to the detriment of common soldiers and police officers may repeat of mistakes made by Western forces throughout the war.

Afghanistan currently has three NMUs taking on high-risk missions, such as arresting terrorists and responding to attacks.

Paramilitary police organizations are characterized by military discipline and tasked with missions that conventional police aren't trained to handle — and as a result suffer higher casualties, according to a recent Pentagon report.

The unit in Kabul, for example, stormed a compound this August from which nine Islamic State fighters had fired mortar rounds that landed near Afghan President Ashraf Ghani as he was making a speech.

Herat, the largest city in western Afghanistan, was one of three

“The mission of the unit is antiterrorism, counternarcotics and critical response.”

Col. Habibullah Nazari
commander of the Herat unit

localities chosen to host the new National Mission Units, along with Balkh in the north and Jalalabad in the east.

"The mission of the unit is antiterrorism, counternarcotics and critical response," said Col. Habibullah Nazari, commander of the Herat unit.

The national units are part of an organization with about 3,500 police officers. A reorganization folded another, larger Afghan police commando unit, the Afghan National Civil Order Police, into the army last year.

Nazari said his men are trained to conduct air assault missions, where they disembark from helicopters and storm an enemy

position. They use night vision goggles, grenade launchers, sniper teams and logistical trucks, which conventional police normally lack. He added that a unit of Afghan Mi-17 helicopters will soon deploy in Herat to provide dedicated air support. They also have the benefit of a year of training, both in Herat and at newly furnished training sites in northern Afghanistan.

The Herat unit conducted its first mission last month, Nazari said. It involved an early morning raid to nab a militant, who managed to slip away.

The policemen have been trained by Italians at their base near Herat's airport. But Nazari

said no foreign advisers were involved in the planning of that mission, although a plane from Camp Arena provided surveillance.

Advisors from Italy and Croatia are heavily involved in the training, and U.S. defense contractors are advertising for trainers.

Throughout the 17-year war in Afghanistan, coalition forces have focused much of their training and resources on elite units. But some experts say more and better-trained regular policemen are what's needed to secure rural areas where the Taliban have been gaining ground.

"High-end forces are easier to train, they're more educated, they do the sexier offensive missions," said Seth Jones, a senior advisor at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based think tank. "But they're not that 'hold' force, which are in some ways more important. Because this is where the Afghan government is struggling, to hold territory."

the founding of the court said he was always worried the Justice Center would get "watered down."

U.S. advisers pushed for a daily presence at the Justice Center and lie-detector tests for Afghan prosecutors and police, said Craig Trebilcock, in 2016 a U.S. Army Reserve colonel and director of rule of law in Afghanistan.

The threat of Western money being pulled out of the country, and not justice, was what motivated the opening of the Justice Center, Trebilcock said.

"The Afghans were not enthusiastic about going after corruption, ever," Trebilcock said. "They were enthusiastic about NATO not pulling the money from them due to the high level of corruption."

The U.S. and international groups also share responsibility in enabling corruption, said Sarah Chayes, who lived in Kandahar for seven years and researched corruption as a senior fellow in Carnegie's Democracy and Rule of Law program.

The U.S. had a chance to fight corruption in Afghanistan but chose not to, Chayes said.

Specifically, when American-backed Afghan police arrested one of then-President Hamid Karzai's aides in 2009, the U.S. flinched, Chayes said. The aide, who had been caught on tape soliciting a bribe, escaped all charges, after Karzai's personal intervention and after revelations the aide had been on the CIA's payroll.

Ever since then, Afghan officials have understood that American anti-corruption efforts have no teeth, she said.

"Having utterly collapsed themselves in the face of concerted resistance by the kleptocratic network, having abandoned the few brave officials who took their anti-corruption rhetoric seriously, for interveners now to blame the attorney general for functioning the only way he really can within that intact kleptocratic system is a bit rich," Chayes said.

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High-end forces will often clear an area held by insurgents, but once they withdraw, the guerrillas will gradually infiltrate back, said Jones, who also served as a plans officer for U.S. Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan.

The conventional Afghan police force is supposed to hold these areas and ensure that insurgents don't return. But many policemen do not have the training, the equipment or the will to do so.

In Herat, they are also undermanned. Many of the city's 15 police districts are staffed by just 70 or 80 officers, said Jafar Fard, the governor's spokesman. Far had said these stations do not have enough manpower to police a city of almost 2 million, and bigger than Phoenix, Ariz., which has about 4,000 police officers and is not in a war zone.

Mohammad Aref Karimi and Ghulam Rasoul Murtazawie contributed to this report.
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NATION

Migrants head for Tijuana

By MARIA VERZA
AND CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Thousands of Central American migrants decided to depart Mexico City on Friday and head toward the northern city of Tijuana, opting for the longer but likely safer route to the U.S. border, caravan organizers said.

The decision was made late Thursday in a Mexico City stadium where roughly 5,000 migrants have spent the past few days resting, receiving medical attention and debating how to proceed with their arduous trek. It came shortly after caravan representatives met with officials from the local United Nations office and demanded buses to take them to the border.

Caravan coordinator Milton Benitez told the migrants that they were still waiting for a response. But he later said to The Associated Press the officials had offered them buses for women and children but organizers demanded that they be for everyone. U.N. representatives could not be immediately reached to confirm this. The migrants hoped that the buses would arrive but decided to leave Mexico City even if they didn't.

Roberto Valdivinos, who is working as a liaison between migrants and the press, said Friday morning that a 750 member contingent had left the stadium to continue their journey north.

About 200 migrants, impatient and tired of sleeping on the ground in tents at a Mexico City stadium, took the subway to the



REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

Scores of Central American migrants, representing the thousands participating in a caravan trying to reach the U.S. border, undertake an hours-long march to the office of the United Nations' human rights body in Mexico City on Thursday.

outskirts of the capital.

Eddy Rivera, a 37-year-old farm worker from Cortes, Honduras, said he couldn't take staying at the sports complex any longer.

"We're all sick from the cold, from the humidity. We want to leave already, we have to get to Tijuana," said Rivera, who left behind his four children and wife in Honduras and wanted to earn money to build a house.

Most migrants had their sights

on the central Mexican city of Queretaro, despite doubts over whether the buses would arrive.

Mexico City is more than 600 miles from the nearest U.S. border crossing at McAllen, Texas, and a previous caravan in the spring opted for the longer route to Tijuana in the far northwest, across from San Diego. That caravan steadily dwindled to only about 200 people by the time it reached the border.

Border: Arizona residents express concerns

FROM FRONT PAGE

Many residents of Arivaca have spent years battling the Border Patrol's checkpoints, which require everyone who cross them to stop and declare whether they are citizens. Trips to school or the grocery store require passing through checkpoints, and many residents say that agents discriminate against Latinos in the area, claim the agency denies.

In Nogales, Ariz., which shares a name with its neighbor to the south, residents said they were distressed, confused and shocked when the military showed up on election day to install barbed wire on a border fence, according to the Nogales International newspaper.

As of Thursday, there were over 5,600 troops deployed at the border. There are 2,800 in Texas, while 1,500 are in Arizona and another 1,300 are in California.

The military expects to have most of the over 7,000 troops planned for the mission deployed by Monday. A spokesperson for the Department of Defense could not be reached Thursday.

But not everyone opposes the military presence.

Jim Chilton, an Arizona border rancher and staunch Trump supporter, said in a news release to the AP this week that he looks forward to the arrival of more troops. Chilton said the 25 miles of international border in Arivaca is poorly secured and actively sees drug smuggling and human trafficking. "The lack of access and infrastructure, car-



JOHN GIBBINS, THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE/AP

Marine Corps engineers from Camp Pendleton put up razor wire east of the San Ysidro Port of Entry in San Diego, Calif., on Tuesday.

tel scout presence, and rough terrain and inefficient 'defense in depth' strategy creates a de facto 'no man's land' in which border ranchers live and work," Chilton said.

Despite rhetoric about the Central American migrant caravan, illegal immigration to the U.S. is at historic lows, with only a fraction of arrests made by the Border Patrol — and twice the number of agents — made this year compared with 2000, at the height of illegal activity.

Trump moves to limit asylum

By COLLEEN LONG
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Friday invoked extraordinary national security powers to deny asylum to migrants who enter the country illegally, tightening the border as caravans of Central Americans slowly approach the United States.

Trump is using the same powers he used to push through a version of the travel ban that was upheld by the Supreme Court. The proclamation puts into place regulations adopted Thursday that circumvent laws stating that anyone is eligible for asylum no matter how he or she enters the country.

"We need people in our country but they have to come in legally and they have to have merit," Trump said Friday as he prepared to depart for Paris.

Administration officials say the measures are in effect for at least three months, but could be extended. They go into effect Saturday and don't affect people who are already in the country.

The changes are meant to funnel asylum seekers through official border crossings for speedy rulings, officials said, instead of having them try to circumvent such crossings on the nearly 2,000-mile border.

But the busy ports of entry already have long lines and waits, forcing immigration officials to tell some migrants to turn around and come back to make their claims.

The move was spurred in part by caravans of Central American migrants slowly moving north on foot but will apply to anyone caught crossing illegally, officials said. It's unknown whether those in the caravan, many fleeing violence in their homeland, plan to cross illegally.

Administration officials said those denied asylum under the proclamation may be eligible for similar forms of protection if they fear returning to their countries, though they would be subject to a tougher threshold. Those forms of protection include "withholding of removal," which is similar to asylum, but doesn't allow for green cards or bringing families — or asylum under the United Nations Convention Against Torture.

Homeland Security officials said they were revising staffing at the border crossings manage the crush, but it's not clear how migrants, specifically families, would be held as their cases are adjudicated. Family detention centers are largely at capacity. Trump has said he wanted to erect "tent cities," but nothing has been funded or decided.

The U.S. is also working with Mexico to get migrants back across the border. Right

now, laws allow only Mexican nationals to be swiftly returned.

The announcement was the latest push to enforce Trump's hardline stance on immigration through regulatory changes and presidential orders, bypassing Congress which has not passed any immigration law reform. But those efforts have been largely thwarted by legal challenges and, in the case of family separations this year, stymied by a global outcry that prompted Trump to scrap them.

The new changes were likely to be met with legal challenges, too. James Leavelle, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Immigrants' Rights Project, said Thursday they were clearly illegal.

"U.S. law specifically allows individuals to apply for asylum whether or not they are at a port of entry. It is illegal to circumvent that by agency or presidential decree," he said.

Curbing immigration has been a signature issue for Trump, who pushed it hard in the days leading up to Tuesday's midterm elections, railing against the caravans that are still hundreds of miles from the border.

He has made little mention of the issue since the election but has sent troops to the border in response. As of Thursday, there are more than 5,600 U.S. troops deployed to the border mission, with about 550 actually working on the border in Texas. The military is expected to have the vast majority of the more than 7,000 troops planned for the mission deployed by Monday, and that number could grow.

Trump also suggested he'd revoke the right to citizenship for babies born to non-U.S. citizens on American soil and erect massive "tent cities" to detain migrants. Those issues were not addressed by the regulations. But Trump insisted the citizenship issue would be pushed through.

"We're signing it. We're doing it," he said.

The administration has long said immigration officials are drowning in asylum cases partly because people falsely claim asylum and then live in the U.S. with work permits.

The asylum section of the Immigration and Nationality Act says a migrant is allowed to make a claim up to a year after arriving in the U.S., and it doesn't matter how they arrive — illegally or through a border crossing.

Migrants who cross illegally are generally arrested and often seek asylum or some other form of protection. Claims have spiked in recent years, and there is a backlog of more than 800,000 cases pending in immigration court. Generally, only about 20 percent of applicants are approved.

NATION

Calif. city mourns in wake of bar massacre

By KRISTA FAURIA
AND JONATHAN F. COOPER
Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — The mourners gathered to hold hands, sing and wonder how one of the safest cities in America could become a killing zone.

Hundreds of people gathered Thursday evening to remember the dozen people shot and killed by a Marine veteran at the packed Borderline Bar & Grill the night before.

It was a scene of horror enacted in many places around the country in recent months, but never before in Thousand Oaks.

Terrified patrons who had gathered for the weekly line dancing and college night hurled barstools through windows to escape or threw their bodies protectively in front of friends as shots erupted. Twelve people were killed including Ventura County sheriff's Sgt. Ron Helus, a 29-year veteran nearing retirement who responded to reports of shots fired and was gunned down as he entered the bar.

He and other first responders "ran toward danger," Sheriff Geoff Dean said at the vigil.

"When I told her (his wife) that we had lost her hero, I said to her: 'Because of Ron, many lives were saved,'" Dean said.

The city of about 130,000 people about 40 miles from Los Angeles, just across the county line, is annually listed as one of the safest cities in America.

"Hope has sustained commu-

nities, very much like Thousand Oaks, through the exact same tragedies of mass shootings," said Andy Fox, the city's outgoing mayor. "Tonight, Thousand Oaks takes its place with those cities who in order to move forward will rely on hope."

The killer, Ian David Long, 28, was a former machine-gunner and Afghanistan War veteran who was interviewed by police at his home last spring after an episode of agitated behavior that authorities were told might be post-traumatic stress disorder.

Dressed all in black with his hood pulled up, Long opened fire with a handgun with an illegal, extra-capacity magazine. He shot a security guard outside the bar and then went in and took aim at employees and customers, authorities said. He apparently killed himself as scores of police converged on the nightspot.

Many of the estimated 150 patrons at the Borderline dived under tables, ran for exits, broke through windows or hid in the attic and bathrooms, authorities and witnesses said.

Matt Wennerstrom said he instinctively pulled people behind a pool table, and he and friends shielded women with their bodies

after hearing the shots. When the gunman paused to reload, Wennerstrom said, he and others shattered windows with barstools and helped about 30 people escape. He heard another volley of shots once he was safely outside.

"All I wanted to do was get as many people out of there as possible," he told KABC-TV. "I know where I'm going if I die, so I was not worried."

A video posted on Instagram after the shooting by one of the patrons shows an empty dance floor with the sound of windows shattering in the background. As a silhouette figure comes through a doorway, the camera turns erratically and 10 gunshots ring out. "I looked him in his eyes while he killed my friends," Dallas Knapp wrote on his post. "I hope he rots in hell for eternity."

It was the nation's deadliest such attack since 17 students and teachers were killed at a Parkland, Florida, high school nine months ago. It also came less than two weeks after a gunman massacred 11 people at a synagogue in Pittsburgh.

Democratic Gov.-elect Gavin Newsom, in his first public appearance since winning office on Tuesday, lamented the violence that has returned to California.

"It's a gun culture," he said. "You can't go to a bar or nightclub. You can't go to church or synagogue? It's insane is the only way to describe it. The normalization, that's the only way I can describe it. It's become normalized."

Thousand Oaks gunman was deemed volatile but passed mental assessment

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE
AND JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press



Long

She could often hear him yelling and cursing, but several months ago, unusually loud banging and shouting prompted her husband to call authorities.

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Neighbors of Ian David Long described the man who shot and killed 12 people at a country music bar as distant in public but combative with his mother inside the suburban Los Angeles home the two shared.

One ruckus in April was so extreme that they called law enforcement. Authorities brought in a mental health specialist who concluded that Long could not be involuntarily committed for psychiatric observation but worried the 28-year-old Marine veteran might have post-traumatic stress disorder.

"The mental health experts out there cleared him that day," Ventura County Sheriff Geoff Dean said Thursday, the morning after Long opened fire inside a bar that was hosting a night for local college students.

Julie Hanson, who lives next door to Long's ranch-style home, described him as "odd" and "disrespectful" well before he left home a decade ago, got married and enlisted in the Marines, becoming a machine-gunner.

"I was concerned because I knew he had been in the military," Tom Hanson said Thursday, as federal and local law enforcement officers searched Long's house, where an American flag flew over the garage.

Hanson described Long as an introvert and said he was "dumb-founded" by the massacre.

Other than the call in April, Long's only other contact with authorities came after he alleged he was the victim of a violent encounter in 2015, the sheriff said.

Long joined the Marines at 18 and was married at 19 in Honolulu in June 2009, according to military and court records. His military service lasted nearly five years, and he was honorably discharged with the rank of corporal in 2013, the Pentagon said.

Some country music fans face 2 mass shootings just a year apart

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE
AND AMANDA LEE MYERS
Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Barely a year after surviving a massacre at a country music festival in Las Vegas, Brendan Kelly found himself in a terrifyingly familiar scene.

Kelly, 22, said he was dancing with friends at a bar in suburban Los Angeles on Wednesday night when the bullets began flying. When the gunfire was over, 12 people were dead, including a Navy veteran who had lived through the deadly mass shooting just about a year ago.

"I already didn't wish it on anybody to begin with for the first time," Kelly said outside his home in Thousand Oaks. "The second time around doesn't get any easier."

Kelly, a Marine, said he heard "pop, pop" at Borderline Bar and Grill and instantly knew it was gunfire.

"The chills go up your spine. You don't think it's real — again," he said.

The mother of the man killed in the latest attack, Telemachus "Tel" Orfanos, 27, said her son survived Vegas only to die inside Borderline, less than 10 minutes from his home.

"Here are my words: I want gun



RYAN PEANSON/AP

Brendan Kelly shows his Route 91 tattoo on Thursday in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Kelly, a Marine who also survived the 2017 shooting at the Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival, helped people get out of the Borderline Bar & Grill after a gunman opened fire Wednesday.

control," said Susan Schmidt-Orfanos, her voice shaking with grief and rage. "I don't want prayers. I don't want thoughts."

She said she wanted Congress "to pass gun control so no one else has a child that doesn't come home."

At a vigil Thursday night, survivors of both shootings gathered

to honor those who didn't make it.

"It's hard to sleep after these kinds of livings," said Dani Merrill, who lived through the Vegas shooting and escaped the Borderline bloodshed at the bar by running out the loading dock. "You just don't know how to feel.

During Wednesday's shooting,

Kelly said he threw two of his friends to the floor and covered them with his body. Then he got a look at the shooter and the terror unfolding and decided they needed to escape.

Kelly said he dragged one woman out a back emergency exit and then, using his belt, T-shirt and Marine training, applied a tourniquet to his friend's bleeding arm.

After the shooting was over, Kelly said, he and another Marine friend helped victims alongside first responders. Two of his friends were among those killed.

In Las Vegas and Thousand Oaks, country music fans were the victims. Borderline features country music, and Wednesday was "college night" that drew many young people to the bar. The Las Vegas shooter targeted a crowd of country music fans gathered for the Route 91 Harvest Festival.

Kelly has a large tattoo on his left arm memorializing the Las Vegas shooting, which killed 58 people. On his other arm, Thursday, he still had his wristband from the California bar.

When the Las Vegas gunman opened fire from a 32nd-floor hotel room, Kelly said he threw a friend to the ground before helping get her out of the area and into a room. Armed with a knife

in case an attacker came in, he hunkered down and waited with 40 other people for four hours.

He said living through Vegas changed his life. He doesn't know how a second mass shooting will affect him down the road.

"Everywhere I go, everything I do is affected," he said. "I don't sit in a room with my back to the door. You're always picking up on social cues. You're always over-analyzing people, trying to figure out if something were to go down, 'What would I do?'"

Kelly said Borderline had become a safe haven for dozens of Vegas survivors: "It is our home."

A few weeks after the Vegas shooting, the bar held a benefit concert for five people from the area who were killed, and now-cerise social media posts show a number of survivors holding up a "Route 91" sign inside the bar at a six-month anniversary event.

Kelly said he'll be looking to God for comfort in the coming weeks and months.

"I know that, being a religious person, that God is never going to give me anything more than I can handle," he said. "I'm here for a reason."

ELECTION 2018

Dems plan to fight for Trump's tax returns

By MARCY GORDON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Getting President Donald Trump's tax returns is high on the list of Democratic priorities now that they have won the House.

By law, the leaders of tax-writing committees in the House and Senate can obtain tax returns and related information from the Internal Revenue Service. Democrats will control the House panel next year.

Yet there's no guarantee that the Trump administration will provide the president's returns. That sets up the possibility of a legal battle over the request that could take years to resolve.

Trump broke with political tradition in 2016 by refusing to release his income tax filings. He says he won't release them because he's under audit, and he claimed at a press conference this week that the filings are too complex for people to understand.

The Democrats tried and failed several times to obtain Trump's returns as the minority party in Congress. Now, having gained some control, they see them within their grasp.

Eyes are on Rep. Richard Neal, of Massachusetts, who is now the senior Democrat on the powerful Ways and Means Committee

and will become its chairman in January.

When asked Wednesday whether the committee under his control would ask for the documents, Neal said, "Yes, I think we will."

If the Trump administration refuses and mounts a legal challenge, Neal said, "Then I assume that there would be a court case that would go on for a period of time."

A legal fight could potentially even stretch beyond the 2020 presidential election, suggested Andy Grewal, a professor at the University of Iowa College of Law.

Grewal has maintained that a request for Trump's returns, if made for "purely political purposes," may exceed the limits of Congress' authority.

Starting with the 2016 campaign, Trump broke with political tradition by repeatedly refusing to release his income tax filings. Those filings are deemed sacredly secret for citizens, but traditionally not for presidents. Trump has said he hasn't released them because his taxes are under audit by the IRS — even though experts and IRS officials say such audits don't bar taxpayers from releasing their returns.

Among the sought-after details: Trump's charitable giving, the type of deductions he claimed,



EVAN VUCCA/AP

President Donald Trump listens to a question on Wednesday during a news conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

how much he earned from his assets and what strategies he deployed to reduce his tax bill.

The high interest — Democrats would say the urgency — in lifting the veil on Trump's taxes ramped up last month when The New York Times published an

extensive report suggesting that the Trump family cheated the IRS for decades, undervaluing reported assets and using dubious tax maneuvers and outright fraud in some cases.

A lawyer for Trump disputed the Times' findings of possible

tax fraud or evasion and said that parts of the report were "extremely inaccurate." The newspaper said its report was based on more than 100,000 pages of financial documents, including confidential tax returns from Trump's father and his companies.

Abrams contests Kemp's win in Georgia race

By BILL BARROW
AND KATE BRUMBACK
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Outgoing Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal stood before a bank of cameras and welcomed into his office a man he recognized as his successor.

"The governor-elect," Deal called Brian Kemp on Thursday, accepting his fellow Republican's resignation as secretary of state and promising the two would begin work immediately on transition business ahead of a January transfer of power.

All of it would be a routine scene two days after an election — except that Kemp's opponent, Democrat Stacey Abrams, maintains that enough ballots remain uncounted to force a runoff, and she's dispatched her legal team to explore every option to see if she's right.

"We won a clear and convincing victory," Kemp said of returns showing him with 50.3 percent of almost 4 million votes, about a 63,000-vote lead over Abrams. That's a narrow sum considering the near-presidential-election-year turnout, though sufficient for the majority required for outright victory.

With legal wrangles opening and Abrams showing no signs of conceding, the dispute is prolonging a bitter contest with historical significance and national repercussions. Abrams would become the first black



BOB ANDRES, THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AP

Republican Brian Kemp, right, and Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal hold a news conference in the governor's ceremonial office at the Capitol on Thursday in Atlanta.

woman elected governor of any American state. Kemp seeks to maintain Republican dominance in a growing, diversifying Deep South state positioned to become a presidential battleground.

The key question is how many uncounted ballots actually remain.

Kemp said on Thursday morning that it's less than 21,000 — almost certainly not enough to force a runoff. The elections chief from

the secretary of state's office — which Kemp ran until Nov. Thursday — said in an afternoon federal court hearing that the number is 21,190.

"Even if she got 100 percent of those votes, we still win," Kemp told reporters.

Abrams' campaign argues the total could be higher, and the secretary of state's office has been scant in sharing details as officials in Georgia's 159 counties keep counting.

Possible recounts loom in Florida gov., Senate races

By BRENDAN FARRINGTON
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Razor-thin margins in Florida's bitter races for the U.S. Senate and governor are raising the specter of possible recounts, potentially prolonging two of the most closely watched contests of the nation's midterm elections.

In the governor's race, Democrat Andrew Gillum's campaign said Thursday it's readying for a possible recount. He conceded to Republican Ron DeSantis on Tuesday night, though the race has since tightened. As of Thursday afternoon, DeSantis led Gillum by 0.47 of a percentage point.

Meanwhile, Democratic incumbent Sen. Bill Nelson has begun preparing for a potential recount. He conceded to Republican Ron DeSantis on Tuesday night, though the race has since tightened. As of Thursday afternoon, DeSantis led Gillum by 0.47 of a percentage point.

The tight races underscored Florida's status as a perennial swing state where elections are often decided by the thinnest of margins. Since 2000, when Florida decided the presidency by 537 votes in a contest that took more than five weeks to sort out, the state has seen many close elec-

tions but never so many dead heats in one year.

And like 2000, the counting process is becoming contentious. Scott, as outgoing governor, said at a news conference Thursday night that he was asking the Florida Department of Law Enforcement to investigate elections offices in the Democratic strongholds of Palm Beach and Broward counties, questioning whether they were trying to inflate the Democratic vote.

"I will not stand idly by as unethical liberals try to steal this election from the great people of Florida," Scott said.

Scott's campaign separately filed a lawsuit demanding that the Broward County supervisor of elections be ordered to turn over several records detailing the counting and collection of ballots cast.

Under Florida law, a recount is mandatory if the winning candidate's margin is less than 0.5 percentage points when the first unofficial count is verified Saturday by Florida's secretary of state.

Florida counties have until noon Saturday to submit unofficial election results to the Department of State. Secretary of State Ken Detzner, a Scott appointee, will review the results and decide whether to order recounts.

ELECTION 2018

Female veterans a small but growing caucus on Capitol Hill

By **CLAUDIA GRISALES**
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Female veterans posted groundbreaking wins and performances in this week's midterm elections, expanding membership to a small but emerging caucus on Capitol Hill.

Most of a dozen of the women, mostly Democrats, ran in general elections — an unprecedented number, experts said.

Of those veterans, at least four won their bids to Congress, including three who flipped seats in traditionally Republican districts. Two more remain locked in tight races days after the election.

"They ran an unprecedented number of women," Jeremy Teigen, a political science professor at Ramapo College in New Jersey, said of political parties supporting female candidates. "There were 12 women with military service experience who ran ... and that's huge. I don't think there's ever been 12."

The female veterans were also part of a historic wave of women, with 100 women elected to Congress. All 435 seats in the House and 35 of the Senate's 100 seats were up for grabs in Tuesday's midterm elections.

With at least four female military veterans claiming victory, it would bring their small caucus to six or more when the new Congress convenes in January. That's up from the four serving in the congressional session that ends this year.

"We've excited to see this number of veterans, especially female veterans, as members of Congress next year. We think they bring a different perspective,"

said Ellen Zeng, spokeswoman for With Honor, a new, "cross-party" group focused on electing candidates with military service to public office. "There's definitely a hunger in the electorate for outsiders and fresh faces."

Teigen and other experts said the candidates built upon the successful campaigns of Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., a veteran combat helicopter pilot who lost both legs during her military service, and Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, D-Hawaii, a member of her state's National Guard. Gabbard won her seat in 2012, while Duckworth, now in her first term, was elected in 2016.

At least nine of this year's female veteran candidates ran as Democrats, and two as Republicans.

"There certainly have been women who have run before, but Democrats tended to nominate them in relatively difficult places" to win, said Teigen, author of "Why Veterans Run: Military Service in American Presidential Elections, 1789-2016." "This year, we've seen some women with military service experience in that condition, but also in more competitive contests that gave them a shot at winning. In the past, it was a rarity to see your Tammy Duckworths and Tulsi Gabbards win."

It has been more than 30 years since the first female veteran served in Congress for an abbreviated term, he added.

Catherine Small Long, a Navy veteran from Louisiana, filled a House seat for the remainder of her husband's term in 1985.

After Long, Air Force Secretary Heather Wilson was elected to Congress for a full term, serving as a New Mexico congresswoman from 1998 until 2009.

Now, Congress has four female vets: Duckworth, Gabbard and Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa. Rep. Martha McSally, R-Ariz., an Air Force veteran, is still vying this week to win a Senate seat. She's locked in a battle against Democratic Rep. Kyrsten Sinema to replace outgoing Republican Sen. Jeff Flake.

But with Gabbard winning a fourth term Tuesday, the group of female vets is now poised to add at least three new members.

"They did really well," said Jon Soltz, chairman of progressive political organization VoteVets, which supported a slate of Democratic military veterans running for office. "They either won or outperformed in their districts."

Democrats Mikie Sherill, of New Jersey, Elaine Luria, of Virginia, and Chrissy Houlihan, of Pennsylvania all scored wins and took House seats in traditionally Republican districts in Tuesday's mid-terms.

In New Jersey's 11th District, Sherill, a veteran Navy helicopter pilot, beat her opponent, Jay Webber, a Republican state assemblyman. The two were vying to fill the seat for retiring Republican Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, who held the seat for 12 terms.

Sherill said one of her biggest concerns is seeing lawmakers working together and that the election of veterans could help overcome congressional gridlock. "I like to think so," Sherill said Wednesday during MSNBC's "Morning Joe" show about veterans on Capitol Hill. "There's a will- ingness to work with everyone."

In Virginia's 2nd District, Luria, a 20-year Navy veteran, pulled an upset when she ousted sitting Republican Rep. Scott Taylor.

And Houlihan, an Air Force



JOE GROMELSKI/Stars and Stripes

Rep. Tulsi Gabbard, D-Hawaii, speaks at a Capitol Hill news conference in July 2018. Gabbard, a member of the Hawaii National Guard, was recently elected to her fourth term in Congress.

veteran, beat Republican Greg McCauley for her first term for Pennsylvania's 6th District.

Two other Democratic female veterans who ran in high-profile races lost close votes in heavily Republican districts.

In Kentucky's 6th District, Democrat Amy McGrath, a veteran Marine fighter pilot, came within nearly 3 percentage points of unseating her opponent, Republican Congressman Andy Barr, who won a fourth term in office.

And Air Force veteran Mary Jennings "M.J." Hegar, a Democrat, also lost a tight race to incumbent Republican Rep. John Carter in Texas' 31st District, a conservative swath President Donald Trump won in 2016.

"I think a lot of candidates faced extremely high hurdles, even the ones who lost definitely overperformed their districts," Zeng said. "The caliber of their campaigns were very impressive, their message really resonated and showed up in those results, even for candidates who lost."

Next year, the new Congress will feature at least four female veterans in the House and two in

the Senate. They will be among the dozens of military veterans who won seats in the midterms. In all, 200 former servicemembers competed in the general elections.

In another race still awaiting final results, The Associated Press and others cancelled their call Wednesday that Republican Rep. Will Hurd would win Texas' 23rd District, reporting instead that Democrat Gina Ortiz Jones, an Air Force veteran, was leading.

One possible motivating factor for these Democratic veteran candidates was to take on Trump, who sought five deferments to military service and made degrading comments about women.

"It's possible that the Democrats looked at a president who has low approval ... who went out of his way to avoid military service and ... [has] some profoundly disturbing attitudes about women," Teigen said. "I wonder if Democrats looked at the female veteran as a political opposite to counter Trump."

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Court hearing set in Arizona Senate vote count dispute

By **BOB CHRISTIE**
AND **NICHOLAS RICCARDI**
Associated Press

PHOENIX — As the Arizona Senate vote count starts to tip into Democratic terrain, a judge Friday will hear a lawsuit by the GOP seeking to limit the tally — or expand it in the state's conservative-leaning rural areas.

Four local Republican parties filed a lawsuit Wednesday night challenging the state's two biggest counties for allowing voters to help resolve problems with their mail-in ballot signatures after Election Day. If the signature on the voter registration doesn't match that on the sealed envelope, both Maricopa and Pima County allow voters to help them fix, or "cure" it, up to five days after Election Day.

Many other counties allow voters to cure only until polls close on Election Day.

Only a few thousand votes would be affected by the suit, but every one counts in the razor-close U.S. Senate race between Democratic Rep. Kyrsten Sinema and Republican Rep. Martha McSally. On Thursday, Sinema jumped into a minuscule lead of about 9,000 out of 1.9 million votes



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Workers organize ballots at the Maricopa County Recorder's Office Thursday in Phoenix.

counted after trailing since Tuesday. Her lead came in the two counties singled out by Republicans in their lawsuit, Maricopa and Pima counties.

The race remained too close to call, with at least 10,000 ballots still uncounted. Maricopa County Recorder Adrian Fontes said counting may continue until Nov. 15.

"We know there's urgency out there, but we want to get it right, not quick," he said. Arizona is notoriously slow at tallying ballots even though about 75 percent of votes are cast by mail. Each of those ballots must go through a laborious verification process.

If the signature on the envelope does not match the signature on the voter file, elections officials can contact the voter to try to resolve the discrepancy. Such situations arise, for example, when voters have Parkinson's disease and can no longer sign as they did in the past or as their signature changes over the years.

The GOP lawsuit centers on that cure process. It asks that the judge either stop Maricopa and Pima from contacting voters to fix their ballots after Election Day or permit the rest of the state to do it. At least two other rural counties also allow post-Election Day cures, but several others do not.

Attorney Brett Johnson said in an interview the party would be happy if the end result is more votes counted. "At the end of the day, each vote should be treated the same way," Johnson said.

NATION

US expands its Russia sanctions

Human-rights abuses in Ukraine, annexation of Crimea cited for moves

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. imposed sanctions Thursday on three men and nine entities, including a luxury hotel on the Black Sea, as it seeks to increase pressure on Moscow over its annexation of Crimea and human rights abuses in Ukraine.

The Treasury Department sanctioned Andriy Sushko, a member of the Russian security agency known as the FSB, who is suspected in the abduction of a Crimean Tatar activist who has protested the annexation. Also on the sanctions list is Aleksandr Esov, a top separatist official in Luhansk, in eastern Ukraine, who is accused of harassing and abusing religious minorities. His employer, the Ministry of State Security in the self-proclaimed Luhansk government, was also sanctioned over the torture and abuse of detainees.

Treasury said the Miriya Resort and Spa, a five-star hotel on the southern coast of Crimea, was added because its ownership can be traced to Russia's state-owned Sberbank, which

had already faced sanctions. It is also a target as the venue for the annual Yalta International Economic Forum, which is used by Russia to promote investment in Crimea. Three other hotels that were seized and sold after the annexation were also added to the list, a designation that bars any U.S.-linked financial transactions and freezes any assets they have under American jurisdiction. Vladimir Zaritsky, a former commander of the Missile Forces and Artillery of Russia, who owns the three hotels, was also added to the list.

Russia dismissed the sanctions. "Any American attempts to score political points using events that have already become history are of course doomed to failure and will not be taken into consideration by us," Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told the Interfax news agency.

Russia annexed Crimea in 2014 after pushing through a separatist vote there. Moscow then went on to back separatists in eastern Ukraine in a conflict that has claimed more than 10,000 lives.

US, China hold security talks amid trade fights

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even as the United States and China butt heads over trade, their top diplomats and defense chiefs were meeting in Washington on Friday, looking to tamp down tensions on other issues that have put a chill on relations between the two world powers.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis were to meet with their counterparts Yang Jiechi and Wei Fenghe at the State Department. The talks were due to be held in Beijing last month but were postponed after Washington announced new arms sales to Taiwan, and U.S. and Chinese vessels came close to colliding in the South China Sea.

Although the rescheduling of the U.S.-China Diplomatic and Security Dialogue signals an effort by the two sides to contain the slide in the relationship, it's something of a placeholder ahead of a planned meeting at the end of the month between President Donald Trump and China's President Xi Jinping at a Group of 20 summit in Argentina.

That's where the two leaders are likely to address the burgeoning trade dispute that's already hurting constituencies in both nations and threatens to weigh on the wider global economy. Trump has slapped tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese products, in a push to narrow the U.S. trade deficit and push back against what the U.S. views as predatory Chinese tactics on the high technology industry. Beijing has retaliated with tariffs on \$110 million worth of U.S. goods.

"We want this to be a constructive, results-oriented relationship with China," U.S. Ambassador to China, Terry Branstad, told reporters on Thursday. "The United States is not trying to contain China, but we want fairness and reciprocity."

He described Friday's meeting as a chance for a "frank and open" exchange of views on issues like North Korea, human rights, and cooperation on Afghanistan and Iran, where the U.S. is pressing Beijing to cut oil imports. The U.S. also seeks action from China on the export of a synthetic form of opioids called fentanyl that is a scourge of drug addiction in America.



NOAH BERGER/AP

Flames consume a car dealership as the Camp Fire tears through Paradise, Calif., on Thursday. Tens of thousands of people fled a fast-moving wildfire Thursday in Northern California, some clutching babies and pets as they abandoned vehicles and struck out on foot ahead of the flames that forced the evacuation of an entire town and destroyed hundreds of structures.

Paradise lost: Wildfires force evacuations, ravage Calif. town

By DON THOMPSON
AND JOCELYN PEECKER

Associated Press

PARADISE, Calif. — A fast-moving wildfire that ravaged a Northern California town Thursday sent residents racing to escape on roads that turned into tunnels of fire as thick smoke darkened the daytime sky, wiping out what a Cal Fire official said was a couple of thousand structures.

"We were surrounded by fire, we were driving through fire on each side of the road," said police officer Mark Bass, who lives in the hard-hit town of Paradise and works in neighboring Chico. He evacuated his family and then returned to the fire to help rescue several disabled residents, including a man trying to carry his bedridden wife to safety. "It was just a wall of fire on each side of us, and we could hardly see the road in front of us."

Harrowing tales of escape and heroic rescues emerged from Paradise, where the entire community of 27,000 was ordered to evacuate. Witnesses reported seeing homes, supermarkets, businesses, restaurants, schools and a retirement home up in flames.

"Pretty much the community of Paradise is destroyed, it's that kind of devastation," said Cal Fire Capt. Scott McLean late Thursday. He estimated that a couple of thousand structures were destroyed in the town about 180 miles northeast of San Francisco.

Meanwhile, portions of Southern California remained under siege early Friday with reports that two large fires had scorched about 15,000 acres and were threatening numerous communities. ABC.com reported that some 75,000 homes are under

“Things started exploding. People started getting out of their vehicles and running.”

Gina Oviedo
Paradise, Calif., resident

said resident Gina Oviedo. "People started getting out of their vehicles and running."

Many abandoned their cars on the side of the road, fleeing on foot. Cars and trucks, some with trailers attached, were left on the roadside as evacuees ran for their lives, said Bass, the police officer. "They were abandoned because traffic was so bad, backed up for hours."

Thick gray smoke and ash filled the sky above Paradise and could be seen from miles away.

At the hospital in Paradise, more than 60 patients were evacuated to other facilities. Some buildings caught fire and were damaged but the main facility, Adventist Health Feather River Hospital, was not, spokeswoman Jill Kinney said.

Some of the patients were initially turned around during their evacuation because of gridlocked traffic and later airlifted to other hospitals, along with some staff, Kinney said.

Four hospital employees were briefly trapped in the basement and rescued by California Highway Patrol officers, Kinney said.

Concerned friends and family posted frantic messages on Twitter and other sites saying they were looking for loved ones, particularly seniors who lived at retirement homes or alone.

Chico police officer John Barker and his partner evacuated several seniors from an apartment complex.

"Most of them were immobile with walkers, or spouses that were bed-ridden, so we were trying to get additional units to come and try and help us, just taking as many as we could," he said.

evacuation orders along the border of Ventura and Los Angeles counties.

The National Weather Service issued red-flag warnings for fire dangers in many areas of the state, saying low humidity and strong winds were expected to continue through the evening.

The fire in Paradise was reported shortly after daybreak in a rural area. By nightfall, it had consumed more than 28 square miles and firefighters had no containment on the blaze, McLean said. In the midst of the chaos, officials said they could not provide figures on the number of wounded, but County Cal Fire Chief Darren Read said at a news conference that at least two firefighters and multiple residents were injured.

"It's a very dangerous and very serious situation," Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea said. "We're working very hard to get people out. The message I want to get out is: If you can evacuate, you need to evacuate." Several evacuation centers were set up in nearby towns.

Residents described fleeing their homes and then getting stuck on gridlocked roads as flames approached, sparking explosions and toppling utility poles.

"Things started exploding,"

NATION

Mueller's investigation may ramp up soon

BY ERIC TUCKER, JONATHAN LEMIRE
AND CHAD DAY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House is bracing for the probe of President Donald Trump's campaign to fire up again. Trump's advisers are privately expressing worries that the special counsel, who's been out of the news for the past month, has been stealthily compiling information and could soon issue new indictments or a damning final report.

Trump abruptly altered the chain of command above special counsel Robert Mueller on Wednesday, putting his work under the supervision of a Republican loyalist who has been openly skeptical of the special counsel's authority and has mused about ways to curtail his power: But Trump and his aides are concerned about Mueller's next move with the work that is complete, according to a White House offi-

It's very significant because Whitaker's position on indictments or future indictments may be different than Rosenstein's.

Jeffrey Jacobovitz
Washington defense attorney

cial and a Republican with close ties to the administration.

They insisted on anonymity to comment on conversations they were not authorized to describe.

Mueller laid low for the past month as voters were mulling their choices for this week's elections.

But a flurry of activity during his quiet period, including weeks of grand jury testimony about Trump confidant Roger Stone and negotiations over an interview with the president, hinted at public developments ahead as investigators move closer to addressing key questions underpinning the special counsel inquiry: Did Trump illegally obstruct the investigation? And did his campaign have advance knowledge of illegally hacked Democratic emails?

Trump has told confidants he remains deeply annoyed by the 18-month-old Mueller probe, believing it is not just a "witch hunt" but an expensive and lengthy negative distraction. The latest indication of the fury came Wednesday when he forced out his attorney general, Jeff Sessions, whose recusal opened the door to Mueller's appointment.

To this point, Trump has heeded advice not to directly interfere, though a new chapter in the relationship with the probe

may have begun with the appointment of Matthew Whitaker as new acting attorney general. Even if Whitaker, Sessions' former chief of staff, does not curtail the investigation, Trump could direct him to take a more aggressive stance in declassifying documents that could further undermine or muddle the probe, the White House aide and Republican official said.

The investigation until now has been overseen by Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who appointed Mueller last year and granted him fairly broad authority.

"It's very significant because Whitaker's position on indictments or future indictments may be different than Rosenstein's, and Rosenstein had given Mueller a broad mandate to pursue various crimes," said Washington criminal defense lawyer Jeffrey Jacobovitz.

The Mueller investigation has so far produced 32 criminal charges and four guilty pleas from Trump associates.



CARSTEN SNEIBERG/Bloomber

Jimmy Streit handles a DraughtMaster plastic keg in the cellar of his bar in Copenhagen.

FDA plans strict limits on flavored e-cigarettes

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The U.S. Food and Drug Administration plans to require strict limits on the sale of most flavored e-cigarettes, including age verification controls for online sales, in an effort to curtail their use among children and teenagers.

FDA officials told The Wall Street Journal on Thursday the actions are expected to be announced as early as next week. The move is an attempt to curb what many are saying is an epidemic of underage vaping.

"What I can't tolerate is another year of this level of growth," FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb said in an interview Wednesday.

The new policy will apply to flavored, cartridge-style vaping products like Juul that have become popular among youths, not the open tank-style systems sold in vape shops and mostly used by adults, officials said.

No retail outlets will be allowed to carry them unless it restricts minors from entering the store or creates an off-limits area.

Since 2017, FDA officials had discussed e-cigarettes as a potential tool to wean adult smokers off cigarettes, but in September, the FDA reversed course and warned the industry to address the problem of surging teenage e-cigarette use or risk having their flavored products pulled off the market.

Gottlieb said then that the agency did not predict an "epidemic addiction" among youth, mainly driven by flavored products.

The FDA's new restrictions were earlier reported by The Washington Post.

Also Thursday, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's administration announced plans to ban the sale of flavored e-cigarettes as soon as next year, possibly making his state the first to prohibit such vaping products often marketed as a safer alternative to traditional cigarettes.

Plastic kegs help bars tap into new profits

BY THOMAS BUCKLEY
Bloomberg

In the cellar underneath the Frederik VI bar in Copenhagen, owner Jimmy Streit showed off the innovation that's enabled him to boost his earnings by 5 percent in a declining business — a line of plastic kegs racked side by side like bowling balls against a concrete wall.

Streit switched from traditional steel storage more than a year ago at the behest of his supplier, Carlsberg. Because the new vats keep beer fresher longer, the change enabled him to increase the number of taps running at the bar to 22, adding more expensive brews like Jacobsen Yakima India pale ale and Somersby apple cider.

Bad news for steelmakers is good news for the alcohol industry, which is getting squeezed by the decline of traditional pubs and a shift in consumer tastes away from beer toward wine and mixed drinks. One way for brewers and bar owners to boost profits is to sell a greater variety of premium and craft beers such as those that Streit now offers alongside Carlsberg's namesake lager.

The company is marketing the plastic kegs as the most significant innovation in draft beer in 50 years — or since the switch from wooden barrels to steel cylinders. Other brewers, including Anheuser-Busch InBev and Heineken, have developed similar technology, but Carlsberg has rolled it out most aggressively, signing up 2,500

pubs in its domestic market. Other territories include Italy, Sweden, Norway, France and some of China's largest cities.

In some of those markets, all sales of beer on tap will be from the plastic DraughtMaster system by 2020, the company says. "Draft is a seriously tough environment, but this is a win-win for bars and for us," said Kaare Jessen, who leads Carlsberg's DraughtMaster team.

Plastic kegs might seem anachronistic at a time when consumer-goods companies' use of the material for packaging is under fire from environmental groups. Carlsberg's focus on sustainability includes initiatives such as doing away with the plastic ring holders that bind together six-packs of beer cans.

WORLD

Australian police: Attack linked to terrorism

By Trevor Marshallsea
Associated Press

SYDNEY — A knife-wielding man stabbed three people, one fatally, in Australia's second-largest city on Friday in an attack police linked to terrorism.

The attack during the afternoon rush hour brought central Melbourne to a standstill. Hundreds of people watched from behind barricades as police tried to apprehend the attacker.

Police said the man got out of a pickup truck, which then caught fire, and attacked three bystanders with a knife.

He also attempted to attack police who arrived on the scene before being shot in the chest by an officer.

The suspect died later at a hospital. One of the victims also died, while the two others were hospitalized.

Police said the attacker's vehicle contained several barbecue gas cylinders in the back. A bomb squad rendered them safe without any exploding.

Victoria state police Commissioner Graham Ashton said the suspect, who was originally from Somalia, was known to police and the incident was being treated as terrorism.

"From what we know of that individual, we are treating this as a terrorism incident," Ashton told reporters, adding that the police counterterrorism command was working on the case, as well as homicide detectives.

"He's known to police mainly in respect to relatives that he has which certainly are persons of interest to us, and he's someone that,



JAMES ROSS, AAP IMAGE/AP

A burned-out vehicle is seen on Bourke Street in Melbourne on Friday.

accordingly, is known to both Victorian police and the federal intelligence authorities," he said.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement released through its Amaq media arm. It said the man was "one of Islamic State fighters" and had responded to ISIS calls for attacks in countries that are part of the

international coalition fighting the militants in Syria and Iraq.

ISIS, which has suffered heavy battlefield setbacks in the past year, often claims attacks in an opportunistic vein.

The attack occurred on the eve of a busy weekend in Melbourne, with a major horse race scheduled for Saturday and a national

league soccer match the following day. Sunday is also Remembrance Day, when memorial ceremonies for World War I are held.

Ashton said police were "doing security reassessments of these events in light of what's occurred," but there was "no ongoing threat we're currently aware of in relation to people surround-

ing this individual."

Prime Minister Scott Morrison condemned the "evil and cowardly attack."

"Australians will never be intimidated by these appalling attacks, and we will continue to go about our lives and enjoy the freedoms that the terrorists detest," he said in a statement.

One witness said one of the stabbing victims, believed to be a man in his 60s who later died, was stabbed in the face and that desperate efforts were made to save him.

"Because he was on his stomach, they turned him over to see if he's all right, he was still alive," the witness, Markel Vilasin, told Australian Associated Press.

"He was breathing and he was bleeding out."

Video from the scene showed a man swinging a knife at two police officers near a burning car before he was shot.

In December 2014, a 17-hour siege in which a gunman took 18 people hostage in a Sydney cafe ended with two hostages dead and the gunman killed by police. Though the erratic gunman demanded that police deliver him an Islamic State flag at the outset of the crisis, there was no evidence he had established contact with the militant group.

However, at a later inquest, the coroner of New South Wales state said the gunman's actions fell "within the accepted definition of terrorism."

Melbourne was also the scene of two fatal car-ramming incidents last year, but neither was linked by police to terrorism.

Band's show canceled in Japan over A-bomb shirt

By Yuri Kageyama
Associated Press

TOKYO — A Japanese broadcaster canceled a live TV appearance of the Korean band BTS after a photo went viral of a band member wearing a T-shirt showing an atomic bombing juxtaposed with the celebration of Korea's liberation from Japan after World War II.

Japanese social media was filled with chatter over the photo of Jimin wearing the shirt with an image of a mushroom cloud with the English words "patriotism" and "Korea."

TV Asahi said it had talked with the band's recording company to try to learn why he wore the T-shirt. The broadcaster's statement also apologized to viewers who had looked forward to the band's appearance, which had been scheduled for Friday.

Company spokesman Shin-



CHRAIG RUTELLE/AP

Members of the Korean K-Pop group BTS attend a meeting at a youth-related U.N. event during the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in September.

ya Matsuki declined further comment.

Universal Music said it will continue to support BTS but confirmed their appearance on the live show "Music Station" was canceled.

South Korean K-pop and movie stars are extremely popular in Japan, sometimes in stark contrast to the controversy and hostility that can mark other aspects of the two nations' ties due to Ja-

pan's occupation of the Korean Peninsula in the early 20th century until the end of World War II.

Some Japanese fans of the band expressed disgust on Twitter that their show was canceled over a T-shirt.

The seven-member BTS has collaborated with Japanese-American DJ and musical artist Steve Aoki and has reached No. 1 on the Billboard chart.

Imelda Marcos guilty of graft, faces arrest, jail

By Andreo Calonzon
Bloomberg

Imelda Marcos, the widow of Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos, has been found guilty of graft and is facing arrest and a jail term of at least six years.

The incumbent lawmaker — known for her collection of more than 1,000 pairs of shoes — was found guilty of seven counts of graft for allegedly maintaining Swiss accounts as a Cabinet member during her husband's rule, the country's anti-corruption court decided on Friday. Marcos plans to appeal the ruling.

The court's decision came 27 years after the case was first filed. Marcos, 89, faces imprisonment of between six and 11 years for each count of graft — the second time she's been convicted out of dozens of cases filed against the family.

She was first convicted by the anti-graft court in 1993, seven years after the popular revolution that ousted her husband and sent the family to exile in Hawaii. In 1998, the Supreme Court acquit-

ted her from allegations that she entered into business contracts during her husband's term, reversing the anti-graft court's ruling. She can also elevate this latest case before the top court and post bail.

Her lawyer is studying the decision "and has advised us that he intends to file a motion for reconsideration," Marcos said in a statement.

The Marcos family is a known supporter of President Rodrigo Duterte. The Philippine leader had said that he wants to be succeeded by the late dictator's son, Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos who has a pending electoral protest after losing the vice-presidential vote in 2016.

Duterte also has the power to pardon Marcos after a final court ruling.

"While we note that there are still legal remedies available to Congresswoman Marcos, this latest development underscores that our country currently has a working and impartial justice system," Duterte's spokesman Salvador Panelo, said in a statement.

SCIENCE



Livestreaming marshland for fun and science

PHOTOS BY CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Joe Paradiso, of the MIT Media Lab, drives a support post for a sensor unit as Brian Mayton, right, prepares to map the device's global position at a marshland on Nov. 1 in Plymouth, Mass., which is equipped with wireless sensors, cameras and microphones to create a virtual reality world inspired by nature's rhythms.

By **MATT O'BRIEN**
Associated Press

PLYMOUTH, Mass. — If a tree falls in the Tidmarsh Wildlife Sanctuary, it doesn't matter if there's no one around. You can hear it anyway.

That's because researchers have hidden dozens of wireless sensor nodes, microphones and cameras among the cattails and cedars of this Plymouth, Massachusetts nature preserve. Sounds picked up from the marsh and nearby woodland feed into an artificial intelligence system that can identify frogs or crickets, ducks or a passing airplane.

One goal is to help scientists better understand changing climates and improve wildlife res-

toration techniques. Beyond that, though, researchers want to use the collected data to help power an online virtual reality world — a kind of alternate universe modeled on live conditions in the marsh but populated with fanciful creatures invented in a computer science lab.

As wireless sensors get cheaper, longer-lasting and more sophisticated, they're increasingly turning up everywhere. We're already seeing them in "smart" homes and cities, pulling in data that can be analyzed in real time to smooth traffic flows, save energy, monitor pollution or respond to crime. But what happens when you apply such an internet-connected network to nature?

A research team at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has been trying it out at Tidmarsh, a former cranberry bog converting back to natural wetlands just a few miles from where the Pilgrims landed in 1620.

Remotely spying on nature isn't new, but the project goes far beyond simple webcams fixed on a hawk's nest or sea lions' favorite pier — or even the more sophisticated acoustic sensors designed to detect animal poachers.

The team's goals for what they call the Living Observatory include supporting wildlife restoration efforts. The sensors measure temperature, moisture and other environmental conditions.

But a broader mission is to offer

people — including children — a deeper understanding of nature using their laptops, phones or headsets. They can do so remotely or in person, while walking a nature trail, said the project's visionary, Glorianna Davenport, a retired professor and co-founder of the MIT Media Lab.

"It's gorgeous to walk in the woods and not be fiddling with a cell phone," Davenport said. On the other hand, she added, what if you can learn more about the microbial environment, or the return of an endangered species, from a well-crafted smartphone app or a virtual reality game?

If it works here, Davenport said, researchers are already envisioning more ambitious projects deep

in the Amazon rainforest — or on the moon.

The idea has skeptics who are worried about the intrusion of technology and constant surveillance into the world's last places without it. The Massachusetts Audubon Society manages the 480-acre sanctuary and took some time before it agreed to outfit it with livestreaming cameras and microphones.

Educators have also asked Davenport why she would want to encourage kids to carry around their smartphones instead of just appreciating nature without them.

"And I went, 'Why not?' That's how they learn. That is their mechanism of interacting," she said.



Mayton holds up his mobile phone, on Nov. 1, receiving live stream video and audio data at a marshland in Plymouth, Mass.



Glorianna Davenport, right, holds a mobile phone as Paradiso listens to wildlife recorded months earlier at the location they are standing in Plymouth, Mass. on Nov. 1.



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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Pentagon bolsters cybersecurity demands

By TONY CAPACCO
Bloomberg

The Pentagon's top weapons buyer has issued new language applying to future contracts that's intended to put companies on notice that they must elevate cybersecurity protection.

"We are coming out with standard contract language that all the services will use," Ellen Lord, the under secretary of defense for

acquisition and sustainment, said Thursday. "We've just sent out our first formal communication" that said "we are going to do it and providing standard language that can be tailored as needed."

The beefed-up contracting language follows a move by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis last month to establish a task force that will recommend ways to protect critical technologies from theft by China, Russia and other adversaries. It

would place a company's cybersecurity practices alongside matters such as the quality and cost of proposals, as well as performance reviews, when considering contract proposals.

"Working with our partners in the defense industry and research enterprise, we must ensure the integrity of our classified information, controlled unclassified information and key data," Mattis said in an Oct. 24 memo.

The Pentagon failed to make cybersecurity for its multibillion-dollar weapons systems a major focus until recently, Congress' watchdog agency said last month.

For many years until about 2014, the Pentagon "focused cybersecurity efforts on protecting networks and traditional IT systems, such as accounting systems, rather than weapons," the Government Accountability Office said in a report entitled: "DOD Just Be-

ginning to Grapple with Scale of Vulnerabilities."

Lord's initiative was first flagged in September by Deputy Defense Secretary Pat Shanahan, who said top defense industry leaders have a "responsibility to manage the supply chain, and that's where we have real gaps" in security.

"We want to be consistent," Lord said of talks she's had with weapons buyers for the military services (L).

Fed leaves key rate alone but sees future hikes

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve has left its key policy rate unchanged but signaled it plans to keep responding to the strong U.S. economy with more interest rate hikes. The next rate increase is expected in December.

The Fed kept its benchmark rate in a range of 2 percent to 2.25 percent. A statement it issued Thursday after its latest policy meeting portrayed the economy as robust, with healthy job growth, low unemployment, solid consumer spending and inflation near the Fed's 2 percent target.

Despite a U.S. trade war with key nations, weaker corporate investment and a sluggish housing market, the Fed is showing confidence in the economy's resilience. To help control inflation, it has projected three rate increases in 2019 after an expected fourth hike of the year next month.

Analysts saw the central bank's decision to highlight the economy's strength and to make few changes in its policy statement as

"The Fed's economic assessment remains very upbeat, noting declining unemployment and continued strong growth."

Greg McBride
Bankrate.com's chief financial analyst

a sign that it remains on track to raise rates next month.

"The Fed's economic assessment remains very upbeat, noting declining unemployment and continued strong growth," said Greg McBride, Bankrate.com's chief financial analyst. "All signs point to a rate hike at the December meeting."

The Fed's decision Thursday was approved 9-0 by its voting policymakers. Its brief statement was nearly identical to the one the Fed issued in September. It said the job market has continued to strengthen and noted that economic activity has been rising "at a strong rate."

In one of its few changes, the Fed downgraded its assessment

of business investment spending, observing that it had slowed from its pace earlier in the year.

The Fed did not specify any risks to the economy it perceives. Analysts will be studying the minutes of this week's meeting, to be released in three weeks, for any insight into economic threats Fed policymakers may see, such as the trade war between the United States and China.

In deciding how fast or slowly to keep raising rates, the Fed will be monitoring the pace of growth, the job market's strength and gauges of inflation for clues to how the economy may evolve in the coming months. The brisk pace of economic growth — a 3.5 percent annual rate in the July-

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Nov. 12)	\$1.1646
Dollar buys (Nov. 12)	€0.8587
British pound (Nov. 12)	\$1.34
Japanese yen (Nov. 12)	¥111.66
South Korean won (Nov. 12)	₩1,090.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.3035
Canada (Dollar)	1.3188
China (Yuan)	6.9570
Denmark (Krone)	6.5776
Egypt (Pound)	17.8390
Euro	\$1.1341/0.8817
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8312
Hungary (Forint)	282.32
Israel (Shekel)	3.6731
Japan (Yen)	113.87
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3040
Norway (Krone)	8.4252
Philippines (Peso)	53.07
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.78
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3782
South Korea (Won)	1,123.40
Taiwan (New Franc)	1.0068
Thailand (Baht)	36.03
Turkey (Lira)	4.4670

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom or nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

September quarter, after a 4.2 percent rate in the previous quarter — has raised the risk that inflation could begin accelerating.

Some economists foresee only two Fed rate hikes next year. Others expect that economic growth will remain solid and the job market strong and that the Fed will decide that four rate increases will be justified next year to guard against high inflation. At 3.7 percent, the unemployment rate is already at its lowest level since 1969.

MARKET WATCH

Nov. 8, 2018	
Dow Jones industrials	10,92
Nasdaq composite	-39.87
Standard & Poor's 500	-7.06
Russell 2000	-3.95
	1,578.21

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	2.75
Fed funds market rate	2.00
3-month bill	2.32
30-year bond	3.43

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Dog electrocuted after jumping in water

NH LACONIA — Police in New Hampshire said a dog that jumped into Lake Winnepesaukee was electrocuted and its owner also suffered an electrical shock when she tried to rescue her pet.

The dog, 13, a black Labrador retriever, died, The woman was taken to a hospital for evaluation. Authorities said she was walking the dog when it got away from her and went into the water last Sunday.

The Laconia Fire Department said the water had an electrical current in it and asked the utility company, Eversource, to turn off power to the docks and a light pole.

2nd complaint filed about needles in candy

TN LEBANON — A sheriff's office in Tennessee says it has received two reports of needles being found in Halloween candy.

The Tennessee reported Wednesday that Wilson County Sheriff's Office Lt. Scott Moore said a child discovered a needle in a candy bar while he was at school and told a school resource officer. Moore said the same child told his father that night that he had found another needle in a different piece of candy gathered while trick-or-treating in the western part of the county.

Deputies also received a report on Halloween from a woman who said she found a needle in her child's candy. Deputies said the mother noticed a candy wrapper was altered and checked the sweet, discovering a thin needle poking through a green Lifesavers gummy.

University launches student-run vineyard

MA AMHERST — The University of Massachusetts Amherst has created a vineyard for students so they can obtain first-hand experience in winemaking.

The school said the vineyard will be a part of the UMass Stockbridge School program, which is devoted to agricultural education. Massive.com reported that funding for the project was provided by an initial grant of \$3,000 from the Amherst campus' Sustainability Innovation Engagement Fund.

The vineyard is partially a project of viticulture expert and professor Elsa Petit, who said it will let students learn in a unique environment. She said she hopes grape sales from the vineyard will help sustain its existence.

The Riverwalk wins 2018 planning award

FL TAMPA — A Tampa neighborhood has won what could be described as city planners' version of "The People's Choice Awards."

The American Planning Association said Wednesday that The Riverwalk in Tampa had won its "People's Choice" designation as

THE CENSUS

8 The approximate length in feet of a lizard caught by Florida authorities that has terrified residents of a suburban Miami neighborhood for months. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission said Thursday the Asian water monitor lizard is an escaped pet. It was first reported loose in August in a Davie neighborhood. Residents said it lurked in their backyards and scratched at their patio doors.



PATRICK OHLER, POUGHKEEPSIE JOURNAL/AP

Bound for Rockefeller Center

The Rockefeller Center Christmas tree is hoisted by crane Thursday in Walkkill, N.Y. It will be transported to Manhattan, where it will be erected this weekend. The 72-foot-tall Norway spruce will be lit in a televised ceremony on Nov. 28 and remain on display until Jan. 7.

one of the great spaces in America in 2018.

The planning association asked the public to nominate their favorite public space, neighborhood or street.

The Riverwalk edged out Katy Trail in Missouri.

The other finalists were Uncas Leap Heritage Area in Norwich, Conn.; the Detroit Riverfront; and the Navy Yard in Washington.

Video shows student punching teacher in face

MD BALTIMORE — A video showing a Baltimore high school student punching a teacher in the face has been viewed more than 60,000 times on Instagram.

News outlets reported that the video posted Wednesday afternoon shows the student hitting the teacher at Frederick Douglass High School.

The video appears to show two students bickering while standing close to the teacher, and one student backs away while the other hits the teacher. The teacher recoils, and the student who hit her leaves the classroom. She doesn't

retaliate but follows him out the door.

City Public Schools spokeswoman Edie House Foster said in a statement that the student struck the teacher following a verbal exchange. She said administrators are investigating and will apply disciplinary action in accordance with the school system's code of conduct.

Ex-manager pleads guilty to killing fry cook

CT MANCHESTER — The former manager of a Connecticut chicken restaurant has pleaded guilty to gunning down a fry cook during an argument apparently sparked by a negative online review of the eatery.

Prosecutors said James Goolsby, 28, shot Norris Jackson multiple times in the Bonchon Chicken restaurant in Manchester last December.

Jackson, 36, a father of seven, was pronounced dead at the hospital the next day.

Goolsby, who pleaded guilty to murder Wednesday, faces 35 years in prison at his sentencing scheduled for Jan. 23.

Goolsby's attorney said Jackson inserted himself into a discussion Goolsby was having with the kitchen help about a poor online review.

He argued that Goolsby had no intention of killing Jackson, who approached his client "looking for a fight."

Man says 'the devil' made him harm family

FL BOYNTON BEACH — Investigators said a Florida man told them that "the devil" made him act out during a dispute that began as an argument with his grandmother over a television remote control and ended with a 3-year-old child being cut on the lip with a knife.

A Boynton Beach police report says Ricardo Darren Dor, 24, is charged with aggravated child abuse, battery on a person over 65 and domestic battery on a pregnant person.

Investigators said Dor pushed his grandmother to the floor, chased his pregnant cousin and then used a kitchen knife to slash through a window screen, cutting the lip of a child standing on a

couch. Dor told police he snapped because people in the house were mean to him.

Donkey, emu bond may complicate an adoption

NC CHARLOTTE — A North Carolina animal shelter said the close bond between a donkey and an emu that can barely stand to be separated may complicate an adoption.

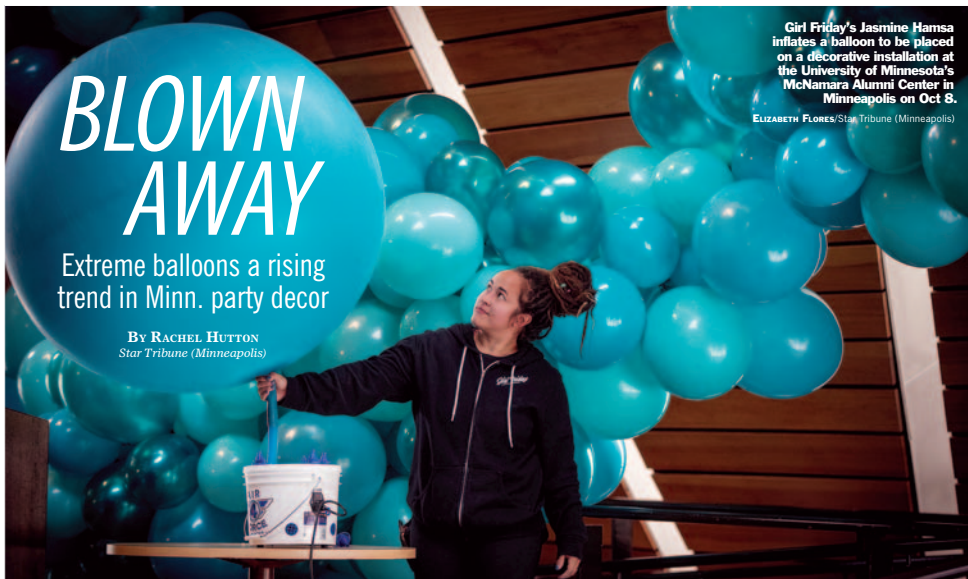
The Charlotte Observer reported the male donkey and female emu were rescued from Kershaw, S.C., when their owner suddenly vanished last week. Jennifer Gordon, of nonprofit Carolina Waterfowl Rescue near Charlotte, said the owner also left behind other animals.

She said the shelter, which has not yet named the animals, tried separating them. But the donkey cried and the emu became frantic.

She said the donkey doesn't even like the shelter's other donkeys. She said the two cuddle and sleep together and that they can't be separated, so someone needs to adopt both animals and "that may not be easy."

From wire reports

LIFESTYLE



BLOWN AWAY

Extreme balloons a rising trend in Minn. party decor

BY RACHEL HUTTON
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Girl Friday's Jasmine Hamsa inflates a balloon to be placed on a decorative installation at the University of Minnesota's McNamara Alumni Center in Minneapolis on Oct. 8.

ELIZABETH FLORES/Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Balloons will always be a signifier of single-digit birthday parties, a playful tool for sculpting hair with static. But thanks to social media, balloons now lend a posh, arty aesthetic to event decor, in addition to their classic, if slightly cheesy, cheerfulness.

Inflatable arrangements once simply arched over doorways at pep rallies and proms, or formed Santas and toy soldiers at holiday displays. Today they cluster into garlands or cover ceilings in "clouds" at galleries and stadiums, weddings and galas. Giant strands of clustered balloons, often in various colors and sizes, snake across walls or along entryways. These air-filled festoons — decor's version of the statement necklace — add visual pop and celebratory swagger. And compared with many large-scale decorating options, they offer a lot of bang for the buck.

Like the cupcake before it, the balloon is a once-mundane party staple reinvented for the Pinterest and Instagram crowd. With the aid of digital influencers, its popularity is soaring.

When it comes to complex balloon installations, Carly Van Veldhuizen, head of Minneapolis-based Girl Friday, is the go-to gal in the Twin Cities.

On a recent morning, Van Veldhuizen and her crew of four constructed a massive blue balloon garland at the University of Minnesota's McNamara Alumni Center.

Van Veldhuizen's company is known for designing and fabricating one-of-a-kind installations for events, using unconventional



Photos courtesy of Girl Friday

Girl Friday uses balloons, often numbering in the thousands, to create unique and complex displays, installations, props and decor.

materials such as coffee filters, recycled plastic straws or string. It created its first balloon installation about two years ago, at the behest of the Knot magazine. Its clients now include Target, Mall of America, Starkey Foundation and the Vikings. More than a third of their jobs involve balloons, Van Veldhuizen said.

For the opening of Studio 125, a Minneapolis event space co-owned by Bridget Borden and Kate Arends, of the lifestyle blog Wit & Delight, Girl Friday created a white balloon installation to showcase the space's natural light and airy feel. "It elevated the entire event," Borden said.

Growing up, blowing up

Balloons themselves have changed. No longer just primary-colored orbs, they're ombre-hued and hand-painted, shaped like unicorns and emoji. Shiny mylar balloons come formed as numbers, letters and whole words in script, in trendy rose gold shades. Personalized balloons can be printed with uploaded photos.

And while installations like the one at the McNamara Center can be complicated and expensive, more price-sensitive balloon enthusiasts can find DIY kits and online tutorials.

Christina Ries, a blogger for Minnesota

Parent, created her first balloon garland for her young son's birthday party this spring.

Inspired by writer/podcaster Nora McInerney, Ries spent about \$40 on balloons and an electric air pump and strung together a wall-size garland in less than an hour. She's since created three or four more.

"They're all the rage, so I just couldn't resist trying my hand at it," Ries said. "I was pleasantly surprised it was so easy to do."

It's complicated

Girl Friday installations, on the other hand, can take the crew hours, as they work around sprinkler systems, dodge electrified pigeon wire and operate scissor lifts.

Weather can also present a challenge. Balloons, they've discovered, can withstand temperatures from below zero to 100, but heat and heat combined with humidity can wreak havoc, as can static electricity and wind.

Custom installations requiring a couple thousand balloons (their largest used 50,000) start at \$1,500, and the average client spends between \$3,000 to \$7,000.

Girl Friday doesn't work with helium or do balloon releases, due to concerns about harming animals and the environment. At the end of a typical event, they pop the arrangements — it usually takes about 20 minutes — and funnel the pieces into one bag.

"There's less of a footprint than people think," Van Veldhuizen noted.

MOVIES

ON THE OSCARS RADAR

How 'Roma,' 'Vice,' other releases look to shake up the best picture race

By GLENN WHIPP
Los Angeles Times

“A Star Is Born” is in. “First Man” could be in. “BlacKkKlansman” and “Black Panther” should be in. It’s early November, and in the next few weeks, the final group of aspiring Oscar contenders will arrive in theaters. Judging by recent history, that’s prime contention time. Last year, seven of the nine best picture nominees launched their domestic theatrical runs in November or December.

Some of the following pictures have already earned plaudits and prizes at fall film festivals. Others haven’t been widely seen at all.

Who’s up? Who’s down? Here’s the rundown of what’s to come, with the movies ranked based on their likelihood of securing a best picture nomination.

1 ‘Green Book’ (Nov. 16)

The story: Gregarious, resourceful hustler (Viggo Mortensen) is hired to drive a black classical pianist (Mahershala Ali) for a concert tour of the Deep South in 1962. An unlikely friendship develops.

Working for it: “Green Book” unexpectedly eclipsed higher-profile movies to win the Toronto Film Festival’s People’s Choice Award, and early motion picture academy screenings have generated similar enthusiasm. It has all the makings of a commercial powerhouse when it arrives in theaters for Thanksgiving. No amount of tryptophan will keep your in-laws from crying when the credits roll.

Working against it: Some critics — and there will be outspoken ones — will find the film’s treatment of race simplistic. Being compared to “Driving Miss Daisy” isn’t as bad as likening your movie to “Crash,” but it’s close.

Photo courtesy of DreamWorks Pictures

2 ‘The Favourite’ (Nov. 23)

The story: A lady (Rachel Weisz) and a servant (Emma Stone) jockey for the favor of Queen Anne (Olivia Colman) in early 18th century England.

Working for it: Directed by Yorgos Lanthimos (“The Lobster,” “The Killing of a Sacred Deer,” “Dogtooth”), “The Favourite” subverts the historical costume drama at every step, brandishing a stinging wit and joyful decadence. Backstabbing has never been more fun to watch.

Working against it: It’s Lanthimos’ most accessible film, but that doesn’t mean everyone will be into his idiosyncratic flourishes. Anyone who found “Downton Abbey” to be occasionally a bit on the naughty side will be poleaxed by this.

3 ‘Roma’ (Dec. 14)

The story: A quiet young woman (Yalitza Aparicio) becomes pregnant while caring for a wealthy family in a changing Mexico City during the early 1970s.

Working for it: Alfonso Cuarón’s “Gravity,” “Children of Men” achingly beautiful tribute to the women who cared for him in his youth floored festival audiences in Venice, Telluride, Toronto and London. Once they begin handing out prizes, look for critics groups to coalesce around Cuarón’s movie. They might even create new awards just to find more ways to celebrate it.

Working against it: It’s a foreign language (Spanish and Mixtec) movie shot (by Cuarón) in (shimmering) black and white and released by Netflix. And because it’s Netflix, we have no idea how many people will be watching it in a theater (absolutely essential for this film) as opposed to viewing “Roma’s” opening four-minute shot of soapy mop water undulating across a stone driveway on their laptops and then switching over to “Queer Eye.”

5



4 ‘If Beale Street Could Talk’ (Dec. 7)

The story: The story: Unlikely friends Tish (Kiki Layne) and Fony (Stephan James) become lovers, but their bond is tested when Fony is falsely accused of rape.

Working for it: Barry Jenkins’ follow-up to the Oscar-winning best picture “Moonlight” earned raves at its Toronto premiere for its sensitive and potent adaptation of James Baldwin’s novel (and was the runner-up, along with “Roma,” to “Green Book” for Toronto’s People’s Choice prize). In its depiction of black love — between a man and a woman, between friends, between family, between community members — “Beale Street” feels as necessary as its predecessor.

Working against it: After “Moonlight,” expectations could burden this movie, which gorgeously unfolds in a nonlinear approach that could prove off-putting to older academy members averse to flashbacks of the nonacid variety.

Photo courtesy of AnnaPurna Pictures

5 ‘Widows’ (Nov. 16)

The story: Women, led by Viola Davis, carry out a robbery that their husbands planned but never completed. (The film’s title betrays the reason why.)

Working for it: Steve McQueen’s first film since “12 Years a Slave” is easily his most commercial effort. But it’s no mere heist movie. “Widows” takes on toxic men, a broken political system, the widening chasm between the privileged and the poor and a world in which anything — and anyone — can be bought and sold. All these elements are baked into a crowd-pleasing thriller that has been producing gasps and cheers at academy and guild screenings in recent weeks.

Working against it: Could disappoint those itching for a pure heist movie. And its genre trappings could dissuade some from voting for it.

Photo courtesy of 20th Century Fox

7 ‘Mary Queen of Scots’ (Dec. 7)

The story: Mary Stuart, queen of Scotland, and her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I, vie for the English throne.

Working for it: Two Oscar-nominated actresses — Saoirse Ronan in the title role and Margot Robbie playing Elizabeth — plus a nuanced exploration of what it means to be a woman in power.

Working against it: It’s more conventional than “The Favourite” and might suffer by comparison when critics’ groups gravitate toward Lanthimos’ film.

8 ‘On the Basis of Sex’ (Dec. 25)

The story: Biopic of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (played by Felicity Jones) centers on a landmark case focused on gender discrimination.

Working for it: The commercial success of the extraordinary Ginsburg documentary “RBG” shows there’s an appetite for this kind of film.

Working against it: “RBG” might have satisfied that appetite, making this movie redundant.

Photo courtesy of Focus Features

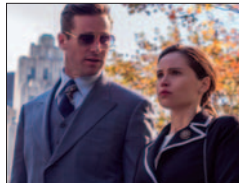


6 ‘Vice’ (Dec. 25)

The story: Dick Cheney becomes the most powerful vice president in U.S. history, promising to handle the “more mundane jobs” of George W. Bush’s presidency — i.e., “over-seeing bureaucracy, military, energy and foreign policy.”

Working for it: Writer-director Adam McKay won an Oscar two years ago for “The Big Short,” his scathing, free-wheeling indictment of Wall Street and regulatory irresponsibility. The idea of McKay training his moral outrage toward Cheney and Bush will have many in Hollywood sharpening their pitchforks with glee.

Working against it: For some, a tax audit notice would be preferable to a movie centered on politics, much less Cheney. Also: Its late arrival — the movie won’t begin screening until mid-November — will have it scrambling for traction with voters. In other words, it’d better deliver.



VIDEO GAMES



WILD FUN

Set in 1899, "Red Dead Redemption 2" follows the story of outlaw Arthur Morgan, a member of the Van der Linde gang, and also details the time of a young John Marston in the same gang. The Western-themed action-adventure title is available on Xbox One and PlayStation 4.

Photos courtesy of Rockstar Games

Things get dark and dirty in solid open-worlder 'Red Dead Redemption 2'

By EBENEZER SAMUEL
New York Daily News

This is what it's like to play "Red Dead Redemption 2": You're living the life of an outlaw in the Wild West. You're Arthur Morgan of the Van der Linde gang, and you and the crew are on the run.

That means a battle for survival throughout five fictional states in Rockstar Games' masterpiece, but it means more than that, too. It means maintaining guns, eating, and feeding your horse, and it means hours and hours on horseback, traversing one of the most detailed depictions of the

Wild West that you've ever seen. This is life in "Red Dead Redemption 2," and if you're not careful, you'll burn hours upon hours of your real life in New Hanover.

Rockstar's latest is its greatest and most realistic open-worlder yet, a game that packs more detailed systems into it than any similar title that's come

before. Here, open-world storytelling reaches new heights, crafting a smart narrative onto a game that lets you do whatever you want to do. And here, you'll manage more systems than you ever have, yet never feel as if you're playing something contrived. Slight missteps (a less-than-friendly checkpointing system and some backwards control decisions) exist, but you'll still have loads of fun.

As long as you can make peace with "Red Dead's" somewhat slow start, you'll be treated to a delightful Wild West sandbox. Rockstar's crafted a stunning game world, full of rolling hills and forestry and just enough pathways for horseback riding to be smooth. All of this sprawls across the game's fictional world, with western towns and railroads and other happenings spread out here and there. It's a splendid landscape to explore, and it's meant to be explored by horseback, the sound of your horse's gallop in the background.

You're free to explore this world after a few slow-moving hours. "Red Dead Redemption 2" is a massive

game but one with very deliberate pacing, which can be a little frustrating at first. Your early story missions involve scripted horseback rides with plenty of conversation, and those horseback rides can't be sped up. The game teaches you basic mechanics (hunting and collecting pelts, gunplay strategies, and that horseback riding) this way, so it all has a purpose. But it can be a little sluggish at the start.



But once the Van der Linde gang finds a semi-settled area, things perk up quickly, and new ideas come fast and furious. You control every part of Arthur's life, from the mundane to the interesting, from slaving and eating and showering to the more expected parts of the Wild West lifestyle, all that gunplay and outlaw stuff that you'd expect.

Rockstar demands much of the gamer, sometimes to your annoyance. You'll do little things that could have easily been cutscenes, like pick up a broken wagon wheel and roll it back into place, or set a line for an explosive.

But this all serves to invest you more in other parts of the game: You're living the little things of the outlaw lifestyle, not just shooting and killing. Rockstar builds in systems for everything: You bond with your horse, have to eat (but carefully, lest you gain too much weight), and have to purchase supplies. Walking into stores to buy food and wares is a special joy too, because it's here that you see how much detail Rockstar's

packed into the experience. You open a catalog (instead of looking at some basic menu) to see what a store has, or walk right up to a shelf with food and point your icon at something to buy it.

Window-dressing like this is critical, because while you make a great many little decisions (take a shower today or keep stinking up the joint? Sell that deer or take it back to camp for food?), you never make any truly big ones. "Fallout" this is not; "Red Dead's" main narrative leaves little room for player agency. The game has a story to tell, and you're a player in it, not the driving force behind it. Know that going in, so you can truly appreciate the "Red Dead" experience.

You're taking instructions from Dutch, the leader of the gang, too, in a narrative that's really terrific. The slow-moving early portions of the game invest you in the story, and that really holds your attention. This is an open-world game, and you can do plenty on your own, but you'll be so interested in the tale that you'll chase the story missions.

There's plenty of intrigue here, and slight bits of social commentary, enough to make you think without being heavy-handed. The story touches on the treatment of Native Americans and minorities and women, but it never gets preachy, and these ideas never overpower the core story, which bleeds right into the original "Red Dead Redemption."

"Red Dead Redemption 2's" missteps are few. The autosaving system is a little bit cruel, leading you to replay failed missions not from a pivotal point, but often from the very beginning of the mission or the section; the game should have taken cues from Ubisoft's "Far Cry" and implemented far more friendly checkpoint saves. And while horseback riding in this game is largely fantastic, it's odd to spend so much time tapping a button just to create your horse's pace. This is intuitive — but it feels unnecessary at times, too.

The entire "Red Dead" experience, though, feels fantastic overall. There are few truly exciting doses of the Wild West in entertainment these days — and still fewer in video games.

Good thing this visit to the Wild West can go on for hours upon hours upon hours.

Platforms: Xbox One, PlayStation 4

Online: rockstargames.com/reddeadredemption2

HEALTH & FITNESS



What is heart-rate training?

Why train by heart rate?

How to train by heart rate

Cautions and caveats

Listen to the beat

Training by heart rate can help you reach fitness goals

By SCOTT DOUGLAS
Special to *The Washington Post*

With wearable fitness trackers becoming the norm among recreational athletes, more of us know at any instant what our heart rate is during workouts. What we might not know is what that data means. That's a shame, because basing your workout intensity on your heart rate can be a great way to meet your exercise goals. "Heart-rate training gives you objective guidance on whether you're on the right track, pushing too hard or taking it too easy," says Janet Hamilton, an Atlanta-area running coach. Here's what you need to know about training by heart rate.

Heart-rate training entails keeping your heart rate — the number of times your heart beats in a minute — within a set range during workout. The range is expressed as a percentage of your maximum heart rate, which is the greatest number of times your heart can beat in a minute. For example, for a 30-minute elliptical workout, you might aim to keep your heart rate between 70 and 80 percent of your maximum heart rate.

The ideal heart-rate range depends on the cardiovascular goals of a workout. This form of training is useful for aerobic exercise such as cycling and running, in which you sustain your effort for 20 or more minutes.

On the other hand, heart-rate training isn't a good way to gauge your effort in high-intensity interval training, in which intervals are shorter than those in the chart, because you should be focusing on doing the exercise as hard as possible for that short time rather than looking at your monitor. (Plus, the readings can be misleading — your heart rate will peak soon after the end of your max effort, not during it.) Similarly, because of the stop-and-start nature of strength training, monitoring heart rate isn't an effective way to track workouts in which your main goal is to build muscle rather than improve cardiovascular fitness.

"Heart-rate training is a way to combine subjective and objective measures of training," says Debra Atkinson, a certified strength and conditioning coach in Boulder, Colo.

Here's the gist: Your effort level — how close to your max you're working — is what really determines gains you get from a workout, such as your heart being able to pump more blood with each beat and your muscles becoming more efficient at using the oxygen in that blood.

There's a range of heart rates that correspond to the key effort levels you hit in cardio workouts. Match effort level and heart rate, and you know you're working at the right intensity for that type of workout.

Atkinson says people who like objective data and tracking their progress are the best candidates for heart-rate training. Hamilton adds that heart-rate training can also help prevent dedicated exercisers from pushing too hard. "They think, 'If I don't beat myself like a rented mule, I'll never get fit,'" she says. "Heart-rate training can help them learn what 'easy effort' really means. The result is better recovery from longer, harder workouts and, ultimately, more fitness gains."

The first step in heart-rate training is gauging your maximal heart rate. The commonly recommended formula of 220 minus your age is based on averages of large numbers of people, but it's not particularly useful on an individual basis. For any one person, 220 minus age might be inaccurate by 10 to 12 beats per minute in either direction of the formulaic answer, Hamilton says. If you're one of the people for whom the formula is inaccurate, that could mean you're usually working out too hard or too easy.

If you're a runner, Hamilton recommends doing a 5K race while wearing a heart-rate monitor. "If you finish thinking you gave it your everything, the highest reading you reached will be close to your max," she says.

Atkinson has clients do a test on a treadmill or exercise bike while wearing a monitor. They progressively increase their intensity until their breathing and perceived exertion tells them they can't continue. The heart rate at that point is close to their max. "The more motivated you are to do this, the more accurate your max heart rate will be," Atkinson says.

Once you know your max heart rate, use the ranges in the chart to set heart-rate targets for different types of cardio workouts.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when training by heart rate.

If you don't have a heart-rate monitor: It's possible, albeit cumbersome, to train by heart rate without one. Find a place where your pulse can be strongly felt, such as on your neck. Count your pulse for 10 seconds, then multiply that number by six to get your current heart rate. On-the-go measurements are possible in some activities, such as stationary cycling, but if you're running, you might need to briefly interrupt your workout. Most modern gym equipment includes a grip or other way to get a snapshot of your heart rate.

Allow for heart-rate drift: Except during low-intensity and easy workouts, your heart rate will gradually increase over the course of a workout. That phenomenon, known as heart-rate drift or cardiac drift, occurs sooner and to a greater degree in hot, humid weather. (When it's hot, your heart pumps more blood to your skin in an effort to keep you cool, resulting in a higher heart rate at the same pace.) To account for heart-rate drift, start exercising at the lower end of the range for a given workout. On hot days, keep your heart rate in the right range and adjust your pace, incline or resistance as needed, Atkinson advises.

FAMILY

How to raise a voter

Lessons in good citizenship can start in grade school

By JENNIFER BREHENY WALLACE
Special to The Washington Post

On Nov. 6, American voters went to the polls again to elect a slate of leaders who will decide how best to address a variety of issues that will profoundly impact the country for decades to come.

Being politically engaged is not only good for society, but research suggests it's good for individuals, too. "Voting and feeling a commitment to a community gives young people a bigger sense of purpose and builds their social network," says Kei Kawashima-Ginsberg, director of the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at Tufts University. A study last year in the journal *Applied Developmental Science* found that community engagement likely provides mental health benefits for youth, while another recent study in the journal *Child Development* found that adolescents and young adults who voted, volunteered or engaged in activism had better life outcomes: They were more likely to stay in school longer and earned higher incomes than their peers.

So what can parents do to raise the next generation of voters to be informed and engaged? Experts say that civic education is a gradual process that starts early and builds through the years — and that parents play an important role in its development. Here are some practical tips for building civic skills and motivation in children of all ages:

Elementary school

Teach young children the behaviors of good citizenship, whether it's at school, on the playground or in the home. Talk about how our positive and negative actions affect others, and why it's important to treat classmates with care and respect. At home, assign chores and frame it as each person's contribution to making the home better, says Amber Coleman-Mortley, senior digital media manager at iCivics, a nonprofit group that promotes civic education. Show children how to invest in their communities by organizing a neighborhood cleanup or visiting elderly neighbors during extreme weather, Coleman-Mortley says. Be explicit about why these actions matter.

Bring your children to the polls every time you vote. Don't just show them how to vote; tell them whom you are voting for and why. "Then, talk about what happens if your candidate doesn't win," Coleman-Mortley says. "Part of being a good citizen is figuring out what you can do next," she says.

Middle school

Introduce children to the basics of how our government works through books such as "How the U.S. Government Works" and free educational video games such as those found on iCivics.org. For example, children and parents can play "Counties Work," a simulation game in which players take on the role of a county commissioner and learn firsthand how local governments impact citizens. The website Teaching for Democracy is a great source for building civic skills in older children, too. Without a strong foundation in civic literacy, kids might have difficulty understanding how to effect change, Kawashima-Ginsberg says.

Teach children how to stay informed and think critically about the news they consume. Introduce them to reliable, kid-friendly news outlets such as PBS NewsHour Extra, Scholastic News and Smithsonian Tween Tribune, and warn them about sources that spread misinformation. Watch political ads together on YouTube and talk about whether the claims are factual and how smear ads make candidates look, Coleman-Mortley says.

Help adolescents form their own opinions around social issues. Validate their perspectives and encourage them to challenge beliefs with civility. Research finds that families who discuss current events and allow

disagreements are more likely to raise young adults who vote and are civically engaged than those who don't. When young people believe their opinions matter, it creates a mind-set that they are capable of impacting people who have authority over them, says psychologist Richard Weissbourd, faculty director of the Making Caring Common project at Harvard University — one that will make them more likely to vote down the road.

High school

Give teens a glimpse of how government works by introducing them to local politics. Take them to council meetings where issues are hotly debated, and allow them to get to know politicians as people, Kawashima-Ginsberg says. When you know people, you are less likely to make hasty judgments about their intentions, she says, and those hasty assumptions about what our political leaders think or will do are often a source of disaffection and disengagement. Show them that politics is a messy, living process, she says, not the neat laws that students read about in their history textbooks.

Help teens become invested in their communities by providing well-structured and meaningful opportunities for them to engage in activities that make a difference, whether it's through volunteering or being part of a political action group. Introduce them to people who have made an impact in their communities, says Weissbourd, and be aware of whether you as a parent are modeling positive community involvement, too.

Make voting a "right of passage" in your family. Have "the talk" about the importance of being a voter, says Kawashima-Ginsberg, and help your children with the logistics of registering to vote.

"Voting should be a fundamental expectation that parents have for their children," adds Weissbourd.

"Make it clear that your family believes being an engaged citizen is a moral responsibility because other people's lives — and the well-being of our community and country — depend on it."

THE MEAT AND POTATOES OF LIFE

Lisa Smith Molinari



Help homeless vets with smart giving, not spare change

In 2010, when President Barack Obama pledged to end veteran homelessness in ten years, I cynically thought it was an empty political promise during a time when it was popular to support military issues. But not you, he nearly did it.

By the time Obama left office, veteran homelessness had dropped from 74,087 in 2010 to 39,471 in 2016. Many feared that Trump's pledge to end Veterans' Administration corruption and wrongdoing might disrupt the progress. However, despite an uptick in veteran homelessness figures in 2017 attributed to rising housing prices in key states, Housing and Urban Development announced last week that veteran homelessness decreased in 2018 to 37,878, a 5.4 percent drop from the previous year.

Is it really possible to solve this tragic issue? Week after week, rain or shine, I see homeless people, some claiming to be veterans, in the streets begging for money.

The weathered woman in the median with a faraway stare, holding a dirty Dunkin' Donuts cup. The deeply creased man at the end of the off-ramp who uses a rusty can for collections. The thirty-ish man leaning against the sign at the traffic stop who peers with bloodshot eyes through my windshield, his callused hand outstretched.

As I've spent panhandlers' eyes, I know that I could easily quell my guilt by simply handing them a few dollars. But would that merely perpetuate their desperate situations? Isn't there a more effective way to help?

UK journalist and activist Matt Broomfield argues that we should "give cash directly and unconditionally" to people who beg in the streets because it's none of our business what they do with the money. "Those who do this begging is a shortcut to easy money should try humiliating themselves daily in front of thousands of total strangers who won't even look at them or acknowledge their existence. It is grueling, soul-destroying work. If people are desperate enough to beg, they need it."

Good point. But the most chronic homeless veterans are those who are drug-addicted or mentally ill. Over the years, HUD has learned that trying to get veterans to sober up or treat mental illnesses before giving them housing doesn't work. Now HUD partners with the VA to house homeless veterans first, then provides follow-up care for the underlying issues. This strategic order — housing first, followed by clinical services and case management — seems to be the key to ending chronic homelessness among veterans.

But this still begs the question — Should we give to the person in the street claiming to be a homeless veteran or not?

Bloomfield says give them the cash regardless: "Wouldn't you want to drink if you were in their position? ... Who are you to tell them what to do with their bodies?" But others opine that by putting change in a beggar's hand, "we're acting to relieve our guilt rather than [addressing the] underlying crisis."

Although it doesn't provide the instant altruistic rush we gravitate toward this time of year, donating money or time to organizations dedicated to getting homeless vets off the streets is the right answer. The VA advises that community-based, veteran-helping-veterans programs are most effective. Stand Down, a grassroots community intervention program, is one such organization for need of volunteers and money. The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans also suggests donating to local shelters; volunteering as mentors, counselors and legal aides; and helping to raise funds from veterans' service organizations, churches, schools and businesses.

Spare change provides a "quick fix" for both giver and receiver. But smart giving is what homeless veterans truly need.

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: themeatandpotatoesoflife.com
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OPINION

Wins in NM, Kan. Mother Earth is pleased.

By SARAH SUNSHINE MANNING
Special To The Washington Post

History was made, twice over, in Tuesday's midterm elections, when two Native American women defeated their opponents. Deb Haaland, a Laguna Pueblo from New Mexico, and Sharice Davids, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation from Kansas, are heading to Congress, the first Native American women to do so.

Throughout Indian Country, as the interconnected community of Native Americans is affectionately known, indigenous people were overjoyed. On a night of many firsts (the first Muslim women were elected to Congress, and Davids is also the first openly gay woman elected to represent Kansas), the victories by Davids and Haaland were partly about representation.

"I never imagined a world where I would be represented by someone who looks like me," Haaland said in her victory speech, to thundering cheers. These wins are profoundly personal for Native Americans, who were made citizens of this country only in 1924 and weren't afforded the right in some states to vote until 1948.

The election of two Native American women is about more than a marginalized group seeing two of their own in Congress, as momentous as that is. For Native American women, this was also about asserting their ancestral right to leadership in a society that has overlooked and undermined the power of indigenous women.

Native American women held tremendous power in pre-Colonial, egalitarian societies across the Americas. As yet a result of generations of settler colonialism, indigenous women have been made invisible, virtually written out of history and out of leadership by Colonial officials.

In pre-Colonial nations such as the Haudenosaunee Confederacy of the northeast woodlands, clan mothers played central roles in ensuring balance in governance and were responsible for appointing tribal leaders and chiefs. The clan mothers often had the first and the last say, sometimes being the deciding factor in determining whether the men went to war, and served as respected counselors for their clans and the communities.

In fact, it was the Haudenosaunee Confederacy that largely inspired the formation of the nation's representative democracy. American democracy began tragically out of the high, steep slopes of the fatal fall wherein women were written out of governance.

Among the Dine of the southwest, a matrilineal nation, it was always the Dine women who owned property, and clans were and still are passed down through the women's lineage. As was with the Haudenosaunee, the Dine women were the ones during the point of contact with early settlers. Dine women were simply not given the same deference as men when it came to recognition from the settler officials.

The delicate balance achieved in many tribal nations, where women and men each held valued roles in the community, was fractured by colonization. The spiritual lifeways of indigenous people, which deeply valued feminine life sources — Mother Earth above all — were also undermined by the forced assimilation of indigenous people by way of federal government policies.

Men were designated heads of household by Indian agents in the early reservation era, and the patriarchal preference of last names through the father functioned to replace any semblance of traditional gender balance in the home. Settlers also saw indigenous women virtually in the same manner that they perceived the land: there for the taking. Thus, indigenous women have suffered generations of physical and



JUAN LABRECHE/AP

Deb Haaland speaks to constituents at Barlees Coffee House restaurant in Albuquerque, N.M., on Election Day. Haaland, a Laguna Pueblo, is congresswoman-elect for New Mexico's 1st Congressional District.



COLIN E. BRALEY/AP

Sharice Davids gives a victory speech to supporters at an election party in Olathe, Kan., on Election Day. Davids, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, is congresswoman-elect for Kansas' 3rd Congressional District.

sexual assaults at the hands of white men and Colonial forces. Today, Native American women remain the most likely demographic to experience sexual and physical assault.

This bitter history of colonialism, brutality and forced assimilation brought once-thriving tribal nations to their knees. The United States is built on that legacy, however absent that legacy is from school textbooks and public conversation.

The historic wins of Davids and Haaland, and the many other victories for Native American women in elections nationwide, are indicative of an ongoing movement among indigenous people today to decolonize and reconnect to the strength of who we once were: nations with strong women, with gender equity and with women as valued leaders in the community.

Beyond gender, the wins of Davids and Haaland are significant for Native Americans. In addition to a long and sordid history of disenfranchisement, voter suppression continues to be a concern in tribal communities, most recently with legislation passed in North Dakota that created obstacles for Native American voters in the state.

Anecdotally, there is a lingering apprehension among many Native Americans who struggle to fully trust in the American political system, as the federal government has eroded tribal sovereignty, stifled indigenous agency, and created federal policy that has disenfranchised tribal communities to the point of generational poverty

and despair.

In Albuquerque, Haaland spoke to some of those disparities. "Seventy years ago, Native Americans right here in New Mexico couldn't vote," she said. "I want to tell everyone in this room: People who have been under attack who deserve never to be erased. I see you, I'm listening."

The Haaland and Davids victories, along with the dignified campaigns of other indigenous female candidates such as Paulette Jordan, who lost her bid to be governor of Idaho, have galvanized Indian Country. "Going to bed (tonight) a queer, Indigenous woman who watched a woman from her tribe, and a fellow queer Indigenous friend be elected as the first Native woman to Congress," wrote Eryn Wise, a Jicarilla Apache and Laguna Pueblo who is an activist and organizer. "I'm so proud to be Indigenous, and I'm so proud of these relatives! I hope all the grandmas in the spirit world are screaming, because I sure as hell am."

It's not just about political power; it's about reconnecting to the power of indigenous women, and to the respect of all feminine life sources, including a foundational reverence to our Mother Earth. Imagine the world that sort of reverence and balance will create. With thoughtful and intelligent indigenous women at the helm of leadership once again, it's not out of reach.

Sarah Sunshine Manning (Shoshone-Palutle) is a writer, producer and host of the "While Indigenous" podcast, and communications director for the NDN Collective.

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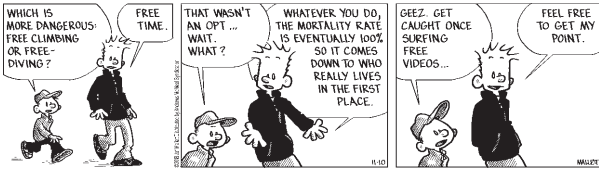
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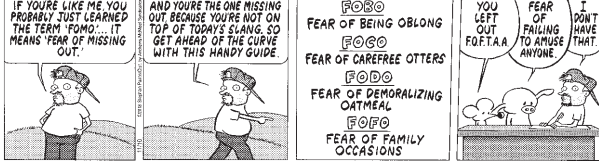
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



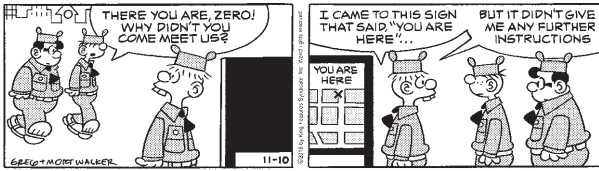
Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
12						13				14			
15						16				17			
18						19				20			
			21	22			23	24					
25	26	27					28			29	30	31	
32										33			
34						35				36			
						37				38			
39	40	41				42	43			44	45	46	47
48						49				50			
51						52				53			
54						55				56			

ACROSS

- 1 Teen fave
- 5 Plotting
- 9 Bread spread
- 12 Island near Java
- 13 Quick look
- 14 "Caught ya!"
- 15 Tend texts
- 16 Light touches
- 17 Charged bit
- 18 Bivouac shelter
- 19 Sale rack abbr.
- 20 Diner orders
- 21 Long, crosser
- 23 Sushi fish
- 25 Stephen King novel
- 28 Academic goal
- 32 Steeple
- 33 Stage comment
- 34 Type of mutual fund
- 36 Go against
- 37 Hit CBS series
- 38 Exploit
- 39 Snitch
- 42 Little louse
- 44 Christen
- 48 Historic period
- 49 Cat call
- 50 Bummer
- 51 Poetic contraction
- 52 Intro studio class

DOWN

- 53 New Age singer
- 54 Bat wood
- 55 Capricorn
- 56 Peruse
- 24 Piles
- 25 AOL rival
- 26 Wall St. debut
- 27 Part of RSVP
- 29 2016 Olympics city
- 30 Mag. staff
- 31 Shoe width
- 32 Moolah
- 35 Be smarter than
- 36 Bartlett, for one
- 37 Foursome
- 38 Agrees to
- 39 Hoosegow
- 40 Rainbow
- 41 "Candy is dandy" poet
- 43 Speck
- 45 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
- 46 Poet Angelou
- 47 "Zounds!"
- 49 Periodical, for short

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	A	P	E	L	A	N	N	O	A	H
U	M	A	T	O	G	A	I	G	G	Y
P	A	M	P	H	L	E	T	T	E	E
			P	O	O	L	T	W	E	E
T	O	L	L	S	C	C	I			
E	R	O	S		G	A	U	N	T	L
M	A	N		B	A	R	R	Y	A	S
P	L	A	T	E	L	E	T	B	N	A
				H	E	L	D	F	O	C
S	A	T	U	P		A	L	O	E	
A	L	U	M		C	O	V	E	R	L
S	E	R	B		E	R	I	E	O	R
H	E	N	S		L	A	S	T		T

11-10

CRYPTOQUIP

QK SBLQKD CSBPP GHQNQCF

GBLZO RHTOWANC, SBLZ CWHZ

ITW OTK'N RWN BPP ITWH

ZDDC QK TKZ GQCAWQN.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN ONE ROMANTIC PET PARROT WAS PROPOSING MARRIAGE TO ANOTHER, IT OFFERED AN ENGAGEMENT RING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals B



VIETNAM

AT

50



Explore **STARS AND STRIPES** new feature section: Vietnam at 50.

With contributions from the men and women who were there, as well as voices from experts and our readers, we take a look back at the Vietnam War and the cultural changes that surrounded it. How the war was prosecuted, how it changed our military and foreign policy thinking, and how America viewed itself then and now. It's a radically new design for Stars and Stripes, and one you can help shape by sharing your thoughts and voices.

Visit online for more content and video—or to share your memories: stripes.com/vietnam50

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in the European Theater of Operations

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1 Fr.

Sunday, March 25, 1945

For the troops

Stars and Stripes was a primary source of news for the troops at the Front and behind the lines in World War II. Although it printed only in the European theater during the war, it covered news from all theaters.



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MLB/SPORTS BRIEFS

Rule changes unlikely until eve of spring training

BY RONALD BLUM
Associated Press

CARLSBAD, Calif. — Major League Baseball and its players' union likely will not decide until the eve of spring training whether to change rules in an effort to increase action on the field next year.

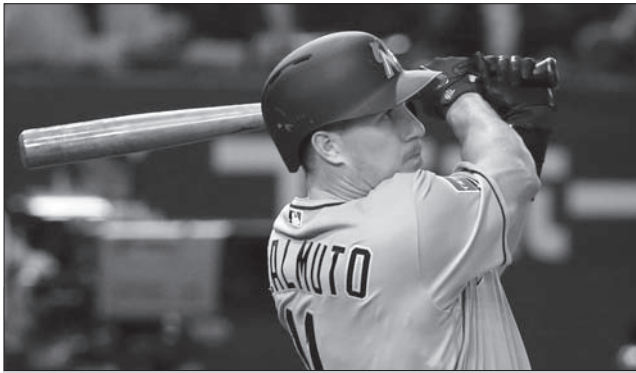
Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem said Thursday as the annual general managers' meetings ended that there was no consensus for change yet. More discussions will take place when owners gather next week in Atlanta, when the union's executive board convenes in late November and when major league executives go to Las Vegas for the winter meetings in mid-December.

Topics being discussed include the increased use of defensive shifts, the decrease in innings thrown by starting pitchers and technology that aids sign stealing. A possible 20-second pitch clock and alterations to rules for waivers, trade deadlines and disabled lists also are being talked about by a tradition-bound sport resistant to change.

"We're an entertainment product. Certainly, we want to play the game in a way that's compelling for our audience, including the younger audience," Halem said. "We can certainly do things like the game is changing organically and trying to balance the competitive issues with our clubs and our GMs doing everything possible to win versus what those decisions result in in terms of the product on the field. And it's not an easy balance, but we work very hard at it."

Agreement with the union is necessary for playing rules changes, but management has the right to unilaterally implement a new playing rule with one week's advance notice. Commissioner Rob Manfred had the right to mandate pitch clocks for 2018 but backed off when the union refused to agree, and he retains the ability to order clocks for 2019.

MLB did initiate limits on mound trips without pitching changes in 2018, and the average time of a nine-inning game dropped to 3 hours, 44 seconds during the regular season from 3:05:11 in 2017 — although it rose to 3:34:50 this postseason from



J.T. Realmuto of the Miami Marlins hits a solo home-run off Yomiuri Giants pitcher Ryusei Oe in the fifth inning of their exhibition game at Tokyo Dome on Thursday.

Realmuto not letting trade rumors become distraction

Associated Press

TOKYO — Miami Marlins catcher J.T. Realmuto isn't letting trade rumors become a distraction either at home or in Japan, where he is currently part of an MLB All-Star tour.

Marlins president of baseball operations Michael Hill has dismissed talk about trading Realmuto, but the catcher's agent, Jeff Berry, predicted his client will be with a different team by spring training.

"It's not a discussion for me to have, honestly," Realmuto said Friday. "It's not my decision whether I get traded or not. It's up to the Marlins. Whatever they want to do with me, that's up to them. So for me, there is really no discussion to be had. My job is to show up and play baseball."

Hill declined to say whether Realmuto informed the Marlins he won't sign a long-term contract with them.

The Astros, Angels, Athletics, Braves, Mets and Nationals are among the teams seeking an

upgrade behind the plate.

"To be honest, I am trying not to think about that too much right now," Realmuto said. "I'm just out here trying to have a good time with my teammates here, kind of put all that stuff behind me until next week and just kind of enjoy my experience here."

Realmuto, 27, was a first-time All-Star this year. He hit .277 and set career highs with 21 homers and 74 RBIs. He had a \$2.9 million salary after losing in arbitration, and is eligible for arbitration this winter and again following the 2019 season.

Miami finished last in the NL East this year with a 63-98 record.

Meanwhile, Realmuto is having a blast in Japan. He homered in Thursday's warmup against the Yomiuri Giants, which the MLB squad won 9-6. He is scheduled to be behind the plate in Game 2 of the six-game series against Japan's national team at Tokyo Dome.

3:29:28 in 2017.

"It's going in the right direction," Halem said.

Non-playing rules changes require agreement with players. Halem called the situation fluid, and he isn't certain when management and the union will

meet and set spring training as the deadline to determine any actions.

Manfred has said the sport is examining whether it should attempt to manage the evolution of on-field play in an era when strikeouts topped hits for the

first time in 2018 and the big league batting average dropped to its lowest level since 1972, the last season before the American League adopted the designated hitter. Strikeouts have set records for 11 consecutive years and

teams more frequently bring in relievers.

"I think the commissioner has said we'd probably like to see more balls in play," Halem said.

There was only one trade announced during the four-day session: Seattle acquired speedy outfielder Matt Smith from Tampa Bay as part of a five-player trade that sent catcher Mike Zunino and outfielder Guillermo Heredia to the Rays.

Most general managers said their focus is winning under the current rules.

"I just react to whatever's happening and do everything I can to try to put our team in position to score more runs than the other team," Los Angeles Dodgers president of baseball operations Andrew Friedman said. "I can understand from a fan perspective the increase in strikeouts obviously then decreases the action in a game and how that can be something that's not landing well right now — and I totally appreciate that."

Agent Scott Boras on Wednesday attributed the 4 percent attendance drop this year to the decisions by several teams to jettison veterans in favor of rebuilding — which cuts the money spent on contracts for players, including his clients.

"I certainly don't agree with that characterization," Halem said. "I don't and our owners don't believe that there's any connection between the rebuilding process and overall attendance. There are a variety of reasons for our attendance numbers. We had poor weather."

There were 54 postponements, the most since 1989, and 26 were higher-drawing weekend games. Manfred said 35 games in April had a temperature of 40 degrees or less.

"A lot of people like the way the game is being played right now. Other people would like to see more balls in play," Halem said. "So on any of these issues I don't think there's a right answer. And some of these trends may be cyclical and will reverse themselves, because our clubs are very competitive, and as soon as one club starts doing something that's successful, reducing their strikeout rate as a team, for example, then other clubs follow."

Bills rule out QB Anderson from playing against Jets

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Buffalo Bills coach Sean McDermott has ruled out quarterback Derek Anderson from playing against the New York Jets this weekend, and continued leaving open the possibility of Josh Allen's return after missing three games with an injured throwing arm.

Anderson will miss his second game since sustaining a concussion in a 25-6 loss to New England on Oct. 29.

If Allen isn't deemed ready, turnover-prone backup Nathan Peterman would likely start for a second straight week. Buffalo's only other option would be Matt Barkley, signed last week. McDermott also ruled out starting tight end Charles Clay, who hurt his hamstring last weekend.

Timbers oust rival Sounders on PKs in MLS West semis

SEATTLE — Dairon Asprilla scored the deciding penalty as the Portland Timbers survived a wild second half and extra time to defeat the Seattle Sounders 4-2 in a shootout Thursday night and advance to the MLS Western Conference finals.

Seattle won the wild second leg of the conference semifinal matchup between the Cascadia rivals 3-2, scoring late in regulation to force extra time before both teams scored early in the extra session. Eventually, the sides decided the winner via penalties, although Portland initially believed it had won at the end of extra time because of scoring a second road goal in the match.

Portland will face Sporting Kansas City or Real Salt Lake in the West finals.

Funding flip keeps money from sex abuse cases

DENVER — A growing sex-abuse problem in Olympic sports has led to a steady stream of Congressional hearings and a three-year grant worth \$2.2 million.

Yet not a penny of those federal funds can be used to fight the actual problem: investigating or resolving more than 800 open cases, many brought by victims themselves.

That leaves an ever-growing backlog for the U.S. Center for SafeSport, the organization that opened 20 months ago to investigate sex-abuse complaints in Olympic sports. Shelli Pfloff, the head of the center, says nobody made her aware of the flaw in the funding program until after directions had been delivered about how to apply for the money.

Trailblazing running back Triplett dies at 92

DETROIT — Wally Triplett, the trailblazing running back who was one of the first African-Americans drafted by an NFL team, has died. He was 92.

The Detroit Lions and Penn State announced Triplett's death Thursday. Triplett was the third African-American selected in the 1949 draft, but he was the first of those draftees to play in a regular-season game. Triplett played with the Lions for two seasons before being drafted and serving with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After returning from Korea, Mr. Triplett played his final two NFL seasons with the Chicago Cardinals, then returned to the Detroit area and became a teacher.

From wire reports

NBA

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference			
Atlantic Division			
Team	W	Pct	GB
Toronto	1	.217	—
Boston	7	.536	3½
Philadelphia	5	.582	7
Brooklyn	5	.455	5½
New York	5	.333	7
Southeast Division			
Charlotte	6	.545	—
Orlando	5	.500	½
Atlanta	4	.273	3
Washington	2	.200	3½
Central Division			
Milwaukee	7	.818	—
Indiana	7	.583	2½
Detroit	5	.500	3½
Chicago	3	.250	6½
Cleveland	1	.091	8

Western Conference			
Southwest Division			
Team	W	Pct	GB
San Antonio	6	.600	—
New Orleans	5	.455	1½
Houston	5	.400	4
Dallas	3	.273	3½
Northwest Division			
Denver	9	.818	—
Portland	9	.750	½
Oklahoma City	6	.636	2
Utah	6	.455	4
Minnesota	3	.333	5½
Pacific Division			
Golden State	10	.833	—
L.A. Clippers	8	.643	3
Sacramento	5	.545	3½
L.A. Lakers	5	.455	3½
Phoenix	2	.182	7½

Wednesday's games
 Detroit 103, Orlando 95
 Oklahoma City 95, Cleveland 86
 Miami 85, San Antonio 88
 New York 112, Atlanta 107
 Phoenix 109, Denver 97
 New Orleans 107, Chicago 98
 Philadelphia 100, Indiana 94
 Utah 117, Dallas 102
 Toronto 114, Sacramento 105
 L.A. Lakers 114, Minnesota 110

Thursday's games
 Oklahoma City 98, Houston 80
 Boston 116, Phoenix 109, OT
 Portland 111, L.A. Clippers 105
 Milwaukee 134, Golden State 111

Friday's games
 Charlotte at Philadelphia
 Washington at Orlando
 Atlanta at Atlanta
 Indiana at Miami
 Brooklyn at Denver
 Boston at Utah
 Minnesota at Sacramento

Saturday's games
 New York at Toronto
 Milwaukee at L.A. Clippers
 Phoenix at New Orleans
 Cleveland at Atlanta
 Philadelphia at Memphis
 Washington at Miami
 Brooklyn at Golden State
 Houston at San Antonio
 Oklahoma City at Dallas
 L.A. Lakers at Sacramento

Sunday's games
 Charlotte at Detroit
 Indiana at Houston
 Orlando at New York
 Milwaukee at Denver
 Boston at Portland
 Atlanta at L.A. Lakers

Thursday

Bucks 134, Warriors 111
MILWAUKEE — Middleton 6-16 3-4 17, Antetokounmpo 7-16 11-24, Lopez 1-5 0-0 2, Bledsoe 10-12 4-6 26, Brogdon 9-14 0-0 2, Iyavosa 1-1 2-2, Walker 4-6 0-0 8, Henson 2-4 0-0 4, Dellavedova 0-0 0-0 0, Thompson 7-11 0-1 15, Small 2-8 1-1 6, Brown 1-2 1-2 3, Divincenzo 2-6 0-0 4, Totals 52-101 21-24.

GOLDEN STATE — Durant 6-15 4-5 17, Bell 2-3 0-0 4, Jones 6-9 0-1 12, Curry 5-14 0-0 10, Thompson 3-15 4-6 24, McKinnie 10-22 7-7, Jerebko 0-4 0-0 0, Looney 2-3 4-4 8, Cook 6-8 1-5, Lee 2-3 4-5, Igouada 2-3 0-0 6, Totals 42-87 17-22 111.

INDIANAPOLIS — Turner 17 41 29-134
GOLDEN STATE — 29 22 28 32-111
 Three-Point Goals—Milwaukee 9-35 (Bell 2-3, Brogdon 2-6, Thompson 2-6, Iyavosa 1-1, Connaughton 1-3, Small 1-3, Maker 1-1, Brown 1-1, Antetokounmpo 1-2), Houston 10-27, Lopez 2-6, Divincenzo 0-4, Golden State 10-28 (Cook 3-5, Thompson 2-2, Igouada 2-3, Lee 2-3), McKinnie 17, Jerebko 0-4, Curry 0-4, Assists—Milwaukee 23 (Middleton 9-5, Cook 4-6 (Antetokounmpo 9), Golden State 38 (McKinnie, Bell, Durant, Looney 5), Assists—Milwaukee 23 (Middleton 9-5, Cook 4-6, Golden State 31 (Durant 9)), Total Fouls—Milwaukee 23 (Middleton 5-2, Technicals—Golden State coach Warren (offensive three second), A—19,996 (19,596).

Trail Blazers 116, Clippers 105

PORTLAND — Layman 0-1 0-0 0, Aminu 3-4 3-3 11, Nurkic 4-12 8-16, Lillard 11-25 0-0 25, McCollum 8-20 5-5 23, Collins 3-6 4-12 13, Scott 0-0 0-0 2, Leonard 8-9 5-19, Robinson 1-2 0-0 2, Teodosic 0-1 0-0 10, Totals 42-92 4-4 0, Totals 49-97 26-28 116.

L.A. Clippers 28 29 24 24-105
Portland 17 24 23 32-116
 Three-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 8-23 (Gallinari 5-8, Igouada-Alexander 2-2, Aminu 1-2, Teodosic 0-1), Blazers 8-23 (Scott 0-3, Williams 0-4), Portland 10-26 (Lillard 7-7, Aminu 2-2, McCollum 2-6, Curry 1-1, Leonard 1-2, Stauskas 1-5, Nurkic 0-1, Collins 0-1, Turner 0-1), Fouled Out—Nurkic, Rebounds—L.A. Clippers 41 (Harris 11), Portland 53 (Nurkic, Collins 9), Assists—L.A. Clippers 19 (Williams 7), Portland 18 (Turner 7), Total Fouls—L.A. Clippers 22, Portland 20, Technicals—Lillard A—19,170 (19,993).

Celtics 116, Suns 109 (OT)
BOSTON — Tatum 3-7 2-2 4, Hayward 3-8 0-0 8, Horford 3-7 0-1 7, Irving 13-28 7-7 39, Brown 6-13 4-6 17, Ojeleye 1-2 1-1 3, Morris 7-13 1-2 17, Yabusele 0-1 0-0 0, Baynes 1-6 2-2 4, Rozier 3-8 3-4 10, Smart 1-4 4-7, Totals 39-97 24-31 116.

PHOENIX — Ariza 3-7 2-2 11, Warren 9-17 5-9 29, Ayton 6-10 2-4 14, Canaan 3-14 0-0 7, Booker 15-30 4-5 38, Jackson 1-1 0-0 2, Bridges 1-0 0-0 2, Holmes 1-3 0-0 2, Anderson 0-1 0-0 0, Okoto 2-5 0-0 4, Totals 41-93 16-19 109.

Boston 13 22 30 35 16-116
Phoenix 32 23 25 30 9-109
 Three-Point Goals—Boston 14-37 (Irving 6-13, Hayward 2-5, Morris 2-5, Horford 1-2, Rozier 1-3, Smart 1-3, Brown 1-3, Anderson 0-1, Baynes 0-1, Tatum 0-1), Phoenix 11-35 (Booker 4-13, Warren 3-4, Ariza 3-7, Canaan 1-5, Okoto 0-1, Bridges 0-1, Anderson 0-1), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Boston 56 (Morris, Tatum 8), Phoenix 42 (Ayton 10), Assists—Boston 21 (Irving 6), Phoenix 25 (Booker 9), Total Fouls—Boston 18, Phoenix 23, Technicals—Warren A—17,359 (18,422).

Thunder 98, Rockets 80

HOUSTON — Ennis 11 2-7 1-1 6, Tucker 4-6 2-2 13, Capela 8-12 1-2 17, Paul 4-11 2-10 10, Harden 7-19 1-3 19, Anthony 1-11 0-0 2, Chris 1-3 0-0 2, Hartenstein 0-1 0-0 0, Clark 1-6 0-0 3, Green 3-6 0-0 8, Totals 31-82 7-19 80.

OKLAHOMA CITY — George 7-21 3-5 20, Grant 3-9 4-4 11, Adams 7-12 5-9 19, Schroder 6-12 2-2 14, Ferguson 5-10 0-0 14, Nader 0-1 0-0 0, Patterson 1-3 0-0 3, Noel 0-1 2-2, Felton 5-9 0-0 10, Luwawu-Cabarrot 0-0 0-0 0, Abrines 0-3 0-0 0, Ojallo 2-4 1-2 5, Totals 36-81 17-24 98.

Houston 29 30 21 18-98
Oklahoma City 29 30 21 18-98
 Three-Point Goals—Houston 11-42 (Harden 4-12, Tucker 3-5, Green 2-5, Ennis 1-1, Clark 1-6, Chris 0-1, Paul 0-4, Anthony 0-6), Oklahoma City 9-37 (Schroder 4-9, George 3-11, Patterson 1-3, Grant 1-3, Diallo 0-1, Nader 0-1, Ferguson 0-3, Felton 0-3, Abrines 0-3), Fouled Out—None, Rebounds—Houston 39 (Harden 8), Oklahoma City 52 (George 13), Assists—Houston 16 (Paul, Harden 5), Oklahoma City 18 (George 6), Total Fouls—Houston 26, Oklahoma City 16, Technicals—Paul A—18,203 (18,203).



ALONZO ADAMS/AP

Thunder center Steven Adams shoots over Houston Rockets guard James Harden during the first quarter of Thursday's game in Oklahoma City.



BEA MARCO/AP

The Bucks' Eric Bledsoe, right, shoots over the Golden State Warriors' Jordan Bell during Thursday in Oakland, Calif. Milwaukee won 134-111.

Roundup

Bucks stop streaking Warriors

Two-time MVP Curry leaves game with leg strain in third

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Stephen Curry left with an injury and the Golden State Warriors were unable to recover in a 134-111 loss to the Milwaukee Bucks that snapped their eight-game winning streak Thursday night.

Eric Bledsoe scored 26 points and Giannis Antetokounmpo added 24 points, nine rebounds and four assists as the Bucks handed the Warriors their first defeat at home this season.

The two-time defending NBA champions were already missing All-Star Draymond Green and lost Klay Thompson midway through the third quarter. The two-time MVP strained the adductor muscle in his left leg and went to the locker room shortly thereafter. He did not return.

Curry grabbed at his inner thigh after trying to contest Bledsoe's shot in transition. He was expected to have an MRI on Friday.

Klay Thompson led the Warriors with 24 points and Kevin Durant had 17 points, nine assists and seven rebounds.

Malcolm Brogdon scored 20 points as Milwaukee (9-2) won for the second straight time at Oracle Arena, including a 116-107 victory on March 29.

Thunder 98, Rockets 80: Paul George scored 20 points and host Oklahoma City beat Houston without point guard Russell Westbrook for its seventh straight victory.

Westbrook missed his second consecutive game with a sprained left ankle. George also had 11 rebounds, six assists and six steals. The Thunder were 0-4 before the streak.

Steven Adams had 19 points and 10 rebounds, scored two points and Russell Schroder also added 14 points. James Harden scored 19 points, but made just 7 of 19 shots for the Rockets. Clint Capela added 17 points for Houston. The Rockets had won three in a row.

Houston's Carmelo Anthony, who played for the Thunder last season and was traded this summer, scored two points on 1-for-11 shooting. Chris Paul added 10 points.



MATT YORK/AP

Celtics guard Kyrie Irving celebrates during the second half of the team's game against the Suns on Thursday in Phoenix. Irving scored a season-high 39 points in Boston's 116-109 OT win.

Celtics 116, Suns 109 (OT): Kyrie Irving scored 18 of his season-high 39 points in the fourth quarter and overtime, and visiting Boston overcame a 22-point deficit to beat Phoenix.

Irving scored Boston's first six points in the extra period, and Marcus Morris finished with 17 against his former team — including the tying three-pointer with 11 seconds left in regulation.

Devin Booker led the Suns with a season-high 38 points, and T.J. Warren had 29.

Trail Blazers 116, Clippers 105: Damian Lillard had 25 points and host Portland topped Los Angeles to win its third straight game.

CJ McCollum added 23 points for the Trail Blazers, who have won six of seven.

Danilo Gallinari and Lou Williams each scored 20 for the Clippers. Shaq Igou-Alexander had a career-high 19.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Top 25 schedule

- Thursday**
Wake Forest 27, No. 22 NC State 23
- Friday**
No. 13 Syracuse vs. Louisville
No. 16 Fresno State at Boise State
- Saturday**
No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 17 Miss. State
No. 2 Clemson at No. 17 Boston College
No. 3 Notre Dame vs. Florida State
No. 4 Michigan at Rutgers
No. 5 Georgia vs. Auburn
No. 6 Oklahoma vs. Oklahoma State
No. 7 West Virginia vs. TCU
No. 8 Ohio State at No. 24 Michigan St.
No. 9 LSU at Arkansas
No. 10 Washington State at Colorado
No. 11 UCF vs. Navy
No. 12 Kentucky at Tennessee
No. 14 Utah State vs. San Jose State
No. 15 Texas at Texas Tech
No. 19 Florida vs. South Carolina
No. 21 Penn State vs. Wisconsin
No. 23 Iowa State vs. Baylor
No. 25 Cincinnati vs. South Florida

Service academies

- vs. New Mexico**
Last week: Lost to Army, 17-14
- vs. Lafayette**
Last week: Beat Air Force, 17-14
- at No. 11 UCF**
Last week: Lost to Cincinnati, 42-0

Power Five standings

Team	Conf.	Overall
ACC		
Clemson	0-1	1-1
Boston College	0-1	1-1
Syracuse	0-1	1-1
NC State	0-1	1-1
Florida State	0-1	1-1
Wake Forest	0-1	1-1
Louisville	0-1	1-1
Coastal		
Pittsburgh	4-1	1-1
Virginia	3-2	1-1
Virginia Tech	2-3	1-1
Georgia Tech	2-3	1-1
Duke	2-3	1-1
Miami	2-3	1-1
North Carolina	2-3	1-1
Big 12		
Oklahoma	4-0	1-1
West Virginia	4-0	1-1
Iowa State	4-0	1-1
Oklahoma State	4-0	1-1
TCU	4-0	1-1
Kansas	4-0	1-1
Kansas State	4-0	1-1
Big Ten		
East		
Michigan	0-0	0-0
Ohio State	0-0	0-0
Northwestern	0-0	0-0
Penn State	0-0	0-0
Indiana	0-0	0-0
Illinois	0-0	0-0
West		
Northwestern	1-1	1-1
Wisconsin	1-1	1-1
Iowa	1-1	1-1
Illinois	1-1	1-1
Nebraska	1-1	1-1
Minnesota	1-1	1-1
Pac-12		
North		
Washington State	1-1	1-1
Washington	1-1	1-1
Stanford	1-1	1-1
Oregon	1-1	1-1
California	1-1	1-1
Oregon State	1-1	1-1
South		
Utah	4-3	3-3
USC	4-3	3-3
Arizona	4-3	3-3
Arizona State	4-3	3-3
Colorado	4-3	3-3
UCLA	4-3	3-3
SEC		
East		
Georgia	1-4	1-4
Kentucky	1-4	1-4
Florida	1-4	1-4
South Carolina	1-4	1-4
Missouri	1-4	1-4
Vanderbilt	1-4	1-4
Tennessee	1-4	1-4
West		
Alabama	6-0	6-0
LSU	6-0	6-0
Auburn	6-0	6-0
Texas A&M	6-0	6-0
Mississippi State	6-0	6-0
Mississippi	6-0	6-0
Arkansas	6-0	6-0



BRYNN ANDERSON/AP

Alabama defensive lineman Quinnen Williams celebrates after sacking LSU quarterback Myles Brennan last week. Williams had his biggest game of the season against LSU with 10 tackles, seven solo stops, and 2½ sacks. The No. 1 Tide host No. 18 Mississippi State on Saturday (9:30 p.m. Saturday, CET; 5:30 a.m. Sunday, JKT, AFN-Sports).

Key Power Five matchups

No. 8 Ohio St. at No. 24 Michigan St.
9 a.m. Sunday, CET
5 p.m. Sunday, JKT
AFN-Sports2

Series record: Ohio State leads 31-15.
What's at stake?: Ohio State is still on course for a season-ending showdown with Michigan that could decide the division title, but the Buckeyes first have to deal with a Michigan State team that has given them problems in recent years. A win this weekend would improve the Spartans' chances at a berth in the Rose Bowl.

Key matchup: Ohio State QB Dwayne Haskins vs. Michigan State's secondary. The Spartans have the nation's No. 1 run defense, but they'll need to figure out how to contain Haskins, who has already surpassed 3,000 yards passing on the season and is completing 70 percent of his attempts.

Players to watch: Ohio State RBs J.K. Dobbins and Mike Weber. Dobbins and Weber have both run for over 600 yards on the season, so the Buckeyes have options when they want to test Michigan State's run defense.

Michigan State QBs Brian Lewerke and Rocky Lombardi. Lewerke has been the starter most of the season, including last weekend against Maryland, but he's dealt with an injured shoulder, and Lombardi has been capable in relief. Coach Mark Dantonio stood by Lewerke as the starter this week.

Facts & figures: Michigan State beat Ohio State en route to Big Ten titles in 2013 and 2015, but the Buckeyes breezed past the Spartans 48-3 last year. ... Ohio State DT Dre'Mont Jones has at least one tackle for loss in seven straight games. ... Ohio State has scored 20 or more points in 21 straight games. ... The Buckeyes are 24-3 in conference road games under coach Urban Meyer. Michigan State has lost five straight home games in this series. ... Michigan State is 10-6 in its last 16 games against teams in the AP top 10.

Auburn at No. 5 Georgia
1 a.m. Sunday, CET
9 a.m. Sunday, JKT
AFN-Sports2

Series record: Georgia leads 58-56-8.
What's at stake?: Georgia already has clinched a spot in the Southeastern Conference championship game but probably needs to win out during the regular season to ensure itself a chance to reach the College Football Playoff for the second year in a row. Auburn could put a new spin on a disappointing season by knocking off its foe in the Deep South's oldest rivalry.

Key matchup: Georgia's running back duo vs. Auburn's defense. D'Andre Swift and Elijah Holyfield both rushed for more than 100 yards in last week's SEC East-clinching victory over Kentucky, leading the Bulldogs to a season-high 331 yards on the ground. Georgia, which leads the SEC in rushing (233.8 yards per game), will be looking to control the clock with its ground game.

Players to watch: Auburn: RB Jarvious Whitlow (or whoever plays at running back). The Tigers have struggled mightily to run the ball behind a shaky offensive line, and they're coming off a dismal 19-yard performance against Texas A&M, the worst of the season.

Georgia: OLB D'Andre Walker. The team's most effective pass rusher (five sacks), one else has more than one) also leads the Bulldogs with three forced fumbles.

Facts & figures: This rivalry began in 1892, with the only breaks caused by world wars in 1917-18 and 1943. It is tied for the fourth-most meetings of any series in college football. ... Georgia QB Jake Fromm has completed 67.7 percent of his passes, giving him a shot at eclipsing the school record of 67.9 percent set by Hutson Mason in 2014. ... Auburn has totaled 11 sacks in its last two games, including five against Texas A&M. ... The Tigers have started four players in their search for a go-to running back. ... Sixteen players have caught at least one pass for Georgia, led by Riley Ridley with 30 receptions for 411 yards and five TDs.

Oklahoma State at No. 6 Oklahoma
9:30 p.m. Saturday, CET
5:30 a.m. Sunday, JKT
AFN-Sports2

Series record: Oklahoma leads 87-18-7.
What's at stake?: Oklahoma needs a win to stay within reach of a spot in the College Football Playoff. With no marquee wins on their résumé and an early loss to a fading Texas squad, the Sooners have no margin for error. They also are trying to keep their place atop the Big 12 standings. Oklahoma State becomes bowl eligible with a win in a rivalry it does not come out on top of often.

Key matchup: Oklahoma QB Kyler Murray vs. Oklahoma State's pass rush. Murray leads the nation in passer efficiency rating and has rushed for 574 yards this season. No one has been able to slow him down. Oklahoma State leads the nation with 3.67 sacks per game, and DE Jordan Bradford leads the Big 12 with nine sacks.

Players to watch: Oklahoma State: WR Tylan Wallace. The sophomore ranks third in the nation with 118 yards receiving per game and is averaging 18.3 yards per catch. Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley calls Wallace one of the nation's best.

Oklahoma: RB Trey Sermon. He ran for career highs of 26 carries, 206 yards and three touchdowns against Texas Tech last week. He leads the team with 722 yards rushing and eight touchdowns. Oklahoma has leaned heavily on power runners down the stretch in recent years.

Facts & figures: Oklahoma has won 14 straight games in November, dating back to 2014. ... Oklahoma defeated Oklahoma State 62-52 last season. ... Oklahoma State RB Justice Hill passed Tatum Bell and moved into seventh place on Oklahoma State's career rushing chart last week when he gained 119 yards against Baylor. He now has 3,504 yards. ... Oklahoma is 3-0 since making Ruffin McNeill interim defensive coordinator. ... Oklahoma WR Lee Morris and OSU QB Taylor Cornelius are semifinalists for the Burdworth Trophy, given to the nation's best player who started as a walk-on.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Running Back U.

Swift, Holyfield helping Georgia live up to its sterling reputation

By PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — When Elijah Holyfield was pondering where he wanted to go to college, he certainly took an interest in history.

Specifically, Georgia's long lineage of great running backs. "It was a very big deal to me. I've watched Georgia football for a long time and I've really loved all the Georgia backs," said Holyfield, son of former heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield. "It had a lot to do with my decision."

From Herschel Walker through the 1-2 punch of Nick Chubb and Sony Michel, the No. 5 Bulldogs might as well be known as Running Back U.

They're living up to reputation again with the current backfield duo of Holyfield and D'Andre Swift.

In last week's pulverizing 34-17 victory over Kentucky that locked up Georgia's spot in the Southeastern Conference championship game, Swift rushed for 156 yards and two touchdowns, Holyfield tacked on a career-best 115 yards and a score, and the Bulldogs finished with a season-high 331 yards on the ground against one of the nation's top-ranked defenses.

Georgia (8-1, 6-1, No. 5 CFP) leads the SEC in rushing (233.8 yards per game), carrying on a tradition that goes back as far as 1942 Heisman Trophy winner Frank Sinkwich but really picked up steam with the arrival of Herschel Walker.

Walker, who capped his brilliant career by capturing the Heisman in 1982, is still recognized as the greatest back in school history. But he's had plenty of challengers over past 3½ decades.

Since Walker left school a year early to play in the ill-fated United States Football League, seven Georgia running backs have been picked in the first round of the NFL Draft — an esteemed list that doesn't even include Terrell Davis, who was only a sixth-rounder but went on to a Hall of Fame career with the Denver Broncos.

More recently, Georgia's pipeline has grown to include Todd Gurley, Sony Michel and Nick Chubb — who actually were on the same team in 2014 and are all now thriving in the NFL. Gurley stars for the Los Angeles Rams, earning All-Pro honors in 2017 and leading the league in rushing this season. Michel is starting for the New England Patriots as a rookie, while Chubb is getting significant playing time with the Cleveland Browns.

Coach Kirby Smart certainly relies on that heritage when he's trying to persuade

Georgia's D'Andre Swift, left, and Elijah Holyfield, right, are the latest in a long line of dynamic Bulldogs running backs that includes Herschel Walker, Todd Gurley, Nick Chubb and Sony Michel.

AP photos



a recruit to sign with the Bulldogs.

"I think it helps tremendously to have the guys, the history of Robert Edwards, Garrison Hearst, Terrell Davis, I mean Herschel, just back after back after back after back," Smart said. "Now it's probably more prominent than it's ever been because of the stage that Todd is on and what he's been able to do, and Nick and Sony's exposure last year through the national championship game."

What does the coach tell prospective backs who are considering Georgia?

"If you're a premier back in the country and you say, 'I want to go somewhere that I can learn to play in a pro style, catch the ball in the backfield, and I also want to be able to protect so that I can increase my value, and I also want to have durability where I'm not going to be beat up when I come out of there,' there's nowhere better to go," Smart replied.

Indeed, Georgia has relied on an abundance of talented running backs the last few seasons.

Previous coach Mark Richt was able to land Gurley and Keith Marshall in the same recruiting class — they were dubbed "Gurshall" in a nod to Walker — though Marshall never realized his full potential because of injuries. Richt pulled off another double-coup when he landed Chubb and Michel.

Holyfield, a junior, signed with the Bulldogs even though he knew he'd spend at least one season playing behind Chubb and Michel (and it wound up being two when both stayed through their full eligibility). Swift came aboard last season, even with all those talented backs on the roster. Zamir White, touted as the nation's top prospects, signed with Georgia coming into this season but was sidelined by a knee injury.

Holyfield said the competition makes everyone better. He leads the Bulldogs with 674 yards rushing, but Swift, who has battled injuries, has gained 622 yards.

"When you have somebody who's just as good as you playing next to you, it pushes you every single day," Holyfield said. "I know I can't take a day off because he's not going to take a day off."

Georgia faces Auburn (6-3, 3-3) on Saturday in the 123rd renewal of the Deep South's oldest rivalry. The Tigers certainly know what they're up against.

"Swift and Holyfield kind of resemble the backs they've had in the past," defensive tackle Dontavious Russell said. "It's always a challenge."

In his first start, Newman helps Wake Forest upset No. 22 NC State

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Everything seemed aligned against Wake Forest: The Demon Deacons had a quarterback making his first start, an injury-depleted defense facing an offense peppered with future NFL players, and trailed by 10 points in the fourth quarter in a stadium where they almost never win.

Yet No. 22 North Carolina State couldn't seal the victory, so Wake snatched it away.

Jamie Newman threw a 32-yard touchdown pass to Jack Freudenthal with 30 seconds left to give Wake Forest a 27-23 upset victory Thursday night.

"It's just about staying poised, honestly," Newman said. "Staying poised and being smart, not letting the moment get too big for you."

Making his first career start, Newman was 22 of 33 for 297 yards with three touchdown passes in the second half to help the Demon Deacons (5-5, 2-4 Atlantic Coast

Conference) rally from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter. The 19½-point underdogs earned their first road victory over a Top 25 team in a decade.

"This was going to be a game that we just have to grind, and grind, and grind, and somehow find a way to win," coach Dave Clawson said. "And to our kids' credit, they did it. Every time that that thing was on the brink of getting away from us, we just did one thing to stay in it."

Newman threw a 38-yard scoring pass

to Alex Bachman before his 19-yard TD to Greg Dortch pulled Wake Forest to 23-20 with 6:07 left.

N.C. State bled nearly 4½ minutes off the clock before its drive stalled at the Wake Forest 20 with 1:39 left. Newman completed five of eight passes on the possession that followed, taking a hit as he connected with Freudenthal — who was wide-open after Bachman blocked two defenders — over the middle for the go-ahead score.

NFL

Scoreboard

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	7	2	0	.778	270	202
Miami	5	4	0	.556	186	226
N.Y. Jets	3	6	0	.333	186	213
Buffalo	2	0	0	.222	96	241
South						
Houston	6	3	0	.667	216	184
Tennessee	4	4	0	.500	134	141
Jacksonville	3	5	0	.375	134	170
Indianapolis	3	3	0	.375	231	213
North						
Pittsburgh	6	2	1	.722	279	209
Cincinnati	5	3	0	.625	221	237
Baltimore	4	5	0	.444	213	160
Cleveland	2	5	0	.278	150	247
West						
Kansas City	8	1	0	.889	327	226
L.A. Chargers	7	4	0	.750	220	180
Denver	3	6	0	.333	205	213
Oakland	2	6	0	.250	141	252

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	5	3	0	.625	160	172
Philadelphia	4	4	0	.500	178	156
Dallas	3	5	0	.375	154	151
N.Y. Giants	1	7	0	.125	150	205
South						
New Orleans	7	1	0	.875	279	218
Carolina	4	4	0	.500	241	232
Atlanta	4	4	0	.500	228	226
Tampa Bay	2	5	0	.278	221	275
North						
Chicago	5	3	0	.625	235	153
Minnesota	5	3	1	.611	221	204
Green Bay	3	4	1	.438	192	204
Indianapolis	2	5	0	.278	150	210
West						
L.A. Rams	8	0	0	.889	299	200
Seattle	4	4	0	.500	188	156
Arizona	2	6	0	.250	111	189
San Francisco	2	6	0	.222	207	239

Thursday's game

Pittsburgh, Carolina 21
Steelers' games
 Arizona at Kansas City
 Buffalo at N.Y. Jets
 Detroit at Cincinnati
 Washington at Tampa Bay
 New Orleans at Cincinnati
 New England at Tennessee
 Miami at Cleveland
 L.A. Chargers at Oakland
 Miami at Green Bay
 Seattle at L.A. Rams
 Dallas at Philadelphia
 Houston at Minnesota
 Detroit at Monday's game

N.Y. Giants at San Francisco
Thursday, Nov. 15
 Green Bay at Dallas
Sunday, Nov. 18
 Houston at Washington
 Pittsburgh at Jacksonville
 Tampa Bay at N.Y. Giants
 Dallas at Baltimore
 Cincinnati at Atlanta
 Carolina at Detroit
 Tennessee at Indianapolis
 Pittsburgh at L.A. Chargers
 Oakland at Arizona
 Philadelphia at New Orleans
 Minnesota at Chicago
Open: Buffalo, San Francisco, Miami, New England, Cleveland, N.Y. Jets
Monday, Nov. 19
 Kansas City vs. Houston at Mexico City

Nov. 19
Steelers 52, Panthers 21
Carolina 7 7 0 7-21
Pittsburgh 21 10 14 7-52

First quarter:
 Car—McCaffrey 20 pass from Newton (Gano kick), 10:29
 Pit—Smith-Schuster 75 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 10:18
 Pit—Williams 17 interception return (Boswell kick), 10:05
 Pit—Conner 2 run (Boswell kick), 4:35

Second quarter:
 Pit—FG Boswell 50, 5:36
 Car—McCaffrey 25 pass from Newton (Gano kick), 5:04
 Pit—Brown 53 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 3:38

Third quarter:
 Pit—McDonald 12 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 10:00
 Pit—James 8 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 10:18

Fourth quarter:
 Pit—Samuels 6 pass from Roethlisberger (Boswell kick), 10:28
 Car—McCaffrey 1 run (Gano kick), 5:35
 A-62,881

First downs Car 18 Pit 25
Total Net Yards Car 242 Pit 425
Plays Car 22-25-59 Pit 30-41-59
Passing Car 14-17-319 Pit 20-27-319
Run Returns Car 0-0-0 Pit 1-0-0
Kickoff Returns Car 5-107-1:10 Pit 5-107-1:10
Interceptions Ret. Car 0-0 Pit 23-27-0
Comp./Att./Int. Car 23-29-1 Pit 20-27-0
Sacked-Yards Lost Car 5-46-1 Pit 1-6-0
Fumbles-Lost Car 5-4-1 Pit 2-1-0
Time of Possession Car 28:12 Pit 30:35

MOVING TO THE SIDELINES
RUSHING—Carolina, McCaffrey 14-77, Newton 2-10, Moore 1-5, Armah 2-3, Samuels 1-4, Anderson 2 (minus 1). **Pittsburgh, Newton** 13-65, Roethlisberger 3-27, Ridley 5-26, Smith-Schuster 3, Samuels 5-77.

PASSING—Carolina, Newton 23-29-0, 328, Dobbbs 1-3-0 (minus 3). **RECEIVING—Carolina, McCaffrey** 5-61, Odoms 2-14-0, Moore 1-5-0, Armah 2-3-3, Wright 3-22, Pittsburger, Brown 6-41-4, Anderson 2-3-0, Schuster 3-30, Samuels 3-32, Switzer 2-31, Nik 1-17, Heyward-Bey 1-9, James 1-8, Conner 1-8.

Rams' CB Peters fires back at Payton

Saints coach 'liked matchup' between Peters, WR Thomas

By Greg Beacham
 Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Cornerback Marcus Peters criticized himself for playing poorly when his Los Angeles Rams lost at New Orleans last weekend.

That doesn't mean Saints coach Sean Payton can say anything about it, however.

Peters reacted sharply in the Rams' locker room Thursday when asked about postgame

comments by Payton in which the veteran coach said the Saints liked the matchup of receiver Michael Thomas going against Peters, a former Pro Bowl selection. Peters also claimed Payton said something to him or his teammates during New Orleans' 45-

35 victory.

"Tell Sean Payton to keep talking that (expletive), and I hope he sees me soon. And then we're going to have a nice little bowl of gumbo together."

Rams Peters
 Rams cornerback

"We're going to see him soon. You feel me?" New Orleans sent the Rams (8-1) to their first defeat of the season with a 487-yard-of-offensive game last Sunday.

Thomas caught 12 passes for 211 yards and a touchdown, none bigger than the 72-yard touchdown catch on which he burned Pat Peters to seal the win. All told, Thomas made six catches when Peters was in coverage on him.

"They were going to travel Marcus to him, and that was fine by us," Payton said afterward. "We thought we really liked that



BILL FERG/AP

Saints wide receiver Michael Thomas, left, pulls in a pass against Los Angeles cornerback Marcus Peters during the first half of last Sunday's game in New Orleans. Peters criticized himself for playing poorly when the Rams took their first loss of the season, but that doesn't mean Saints coach Sean Payton can, however. Peters reacted sharply on Thursday when asked about postgame comments by Payton in which the New Orleans coach said the Saints liked the matchup of receiver Michael Thomas going against Peters, a former Pro Bowler.

matchup, a lot."

Peters repeatedly blamed himself for having a bad game, and he refused to echo defensive coordinator Wade Phillips' claim that he put together a poor scheme that didn't help Peters.

After a few seconds to think about it Thursday, Peters had more to say about Payton.

"Yeah, because I liked what he was saying on the sidelines, too," Peters said. "So tell him, keep talking that (expletive), and I hope

he sees me soon. And then we're going to have a nice little bowl of gumbo together."

Peters didn't elaborate on what Payton said on the sideline, but that delicious dinner date is a distinct possibility for January.

The Saints (7-1) and the Rams are the only one-loss teams in the NFC, putting both on track for first-round postseason byes if they can maintain their outstanding starts.

Los Angeles hosts the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday.

Contenders: Red-hot Steelers dismantle Panthers

FROM BACK PAGE

Roethlisberger completed 22 of 25 passes for 328 yards and five touchdowns while posting a perfect quarterback rating of 158.3.

James Conner, who has filled in capably during Bell's self-imposed sabbatical, ran for 65 yards and a score before being evaluated for a concussion late.

Antonio Brown added eight receptions for 96 yards—including a 53-yard touchdown in the second quarter—to top an eventful day that began with the star wide receiver being cited for reckless driving after police clocked Brown's Porsche driving over 100 mph down a busy highway in the northern city suburbs.

"This is what we expected," Roethlisberger said. "We knew we were going to have to put up a lot of points. We did that. The defense, they were playing like their hair was on fire."

Bell has until next Tuesday to sign a contract if he wants to play this season. His teammates have long since tired of talking about Bell's status and at this point.

"I'm not going to comment on someone who's not in the locker room right now," Roethlisberger said.

And why bother? For three hours on Thursday night Pittsburgh looked every bit as potent without Bell as it did with him. If he returns, they insist they'll welcome him with open arms. If he doesn't, they are intent on keeping the train rolling.

The Panthers (6-3) saw their three-game winning streak come to an abrupt halt in a city where they've never won. Carolina fell to 0-4 all-time in Pittsburgh and was never really in it after the Steelers scored 21 points in



KEITH SRANOGIC/AP

Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton fumbles the ball as he hit by Pittsburgh outside linebacker T.J. Watt during the first half on Thursday in Pittsburgh. Newton completed 23 of 29 passes for 193 yards and two scores, but was sacked five times.

the game's first 11 minutes.

Cam Newton completed 23 of 29 for 193 yards and a pair of flips to Christian McCaffrey that the second-year running back turned into scores, but Newton's shutdown when Roethlisberger never materialized. The Steelers sacked Newton five times and rarely let him get comfortable. McCaffrey finished with 138 yards total offense (77 yards rushing, 61 yards receiving) and accounted for all three Panther touchdowns but it wasn't nearly enough.

"We had a lot of our noses bleeding early on," Newton said. "We've got to stop it and keep things going in our favor. We just got outplayed today."

Newton didn't help matters when he threw off his back foot out of the Carolina end zone while trying to avoid getting sacked in the first quarter. Pittsburgh linebacker Vince Williams raced under the floater and returned it 17 yards for a touchdown to give the Steelers a 14-7 lead they never came close to relinquishing.

Roethlisberger's rainbow to Brown put Pittsburgh up 31-14 at the half and when Roethlisberger found Vance McDonald in the back on the end zone on the Steelers' first drive of the second half, the competitive portion of the evening was over. Pittsburgh's 52 points matched the most ever surrendered by the Panthers in franchise history. Carolina allowed the same total in a 52-9 loss to Oakland on Dec. 24, 2000.

"They did some good things against us," Panthers head coach Ron Rivera said. "He made too many mistakes early on to give ourselves an opportunity to win a football game."

SPORTS



Running Back U.
Swift, Holyfield helping Georgia
live up to reputation » **Page 30**

NFL

Steel yourself

With or without All-Pro RB Bell, Pittsburgh looks like contender

By WILL GRAVES
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH

Ben Roethlisberger's first pass went for a touchdown. His last did the same. And in between the Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback and his red-hot team put together systematic S2-21 dismantling of Carolina on Thursday night that left little doubt about their depth and their talent regardless of whether Le'Veon Bell ever shows up for work or not.

Ten different Steelers touched the ball on offense. Six of

'Really big performance against a really good team on a short week so there is a lot to be proud of. But we are probably not that good.'

Mike Tomlin

Pittsburgh Steelers head coach

them scored. None of them were named Bell. While the three-time Pro Bowl running back tweeted his thoughts from home while waiting — and waiting — to sign his one-year franchise tender, Pittsburgh ripped off its fifth straight victory with stunning ease.

"Really big performance against a really good team on a short week so there is a lot to be proud of," Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin said. "But we are probably not that good."

Maybe not, but Pittsburgh (6-2-1) looked like a legitimate contender in the AFC, perhaps for the first time this season.

**SEE CONTENDER
ON PAGE 31**



Pittsburgh
Steelers
quarterback
Ben Roethlisberger
KETH SRAKOCIC/AP

Inside: Rams' CB Peters on comments from Saints' coach Payton: 'Keep talking', Page 31