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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Fighters travel through Turkey to join ISIS

By JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Turkey remains a transit point for foreign fighters looking to join Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, which could help the terrorist group to reorganize and regain influence, a State Department report on global terrorism says.

The annual U.S. country reports on terrorism trumpeted how “the United States and its partners made major strides to defeat and degrade international terrorist organizations in 2018,” including liberating nearly all of the territory previously held by ISIS in Syria and Iraq.

But the section on Turkey warned that the country could

serve as a corridor for militants looking to replenish the radical group’s ranks and allow ISIS to regenerate.

“Turkey is a source and transit country for FTFs (foreign terrorist fighters) seeking to join ISIS and other terrorist groups fighting in Syria and Iraq,” the report stated.

The U.S. has emphasized to Turkey the importance of ensuring its borders are secure, the State Department’s counterterrorism coordinator, Nathan A. Sales, told reporters Friday.

“We don’t want other fighters flooding into Syria to provide a shot in the arm to an ISIS that is seeking to reconstitute itself,” Sales said.

Turkey also “will sometimes deport suspected foreign ter-

rorist fighters without providing advance notice to the destination countries,” the State Department terrorism report said, without going into detail about how often suspects are expelled.

On Monday, Turkish officials issued a new warning, saying ISIS prisoners would be sent to their home countries in Europe even if their citizenship has been revoked.

While Turkey is a member of the U.S. coalition against ISIS and of NATO, relations between the allies have become increasingly strained.

Critics in the West have blamed Turkey for turning a blind eye to foreign fighters who used Turkey as a transit zone that helped fuel ISIS’ rise in the first place.

While ISIS has suffered significant losses in recent months, including the death of its leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who was killed last week in a raid by U.S. forces, the group still poses a threat.

A Pentagon inspector general report in August estimated between 14,000 and 18,000 ISIS members were still in Iraq and Syria. In addition, there are roughly 10,000 suspected ISIS fighters being held in prison camps, many overseen by Kurdish forces that Turkey is fighting in Syria. The Kurds have warned that the fight with Turkey has diminished their ability to guard prisons in eastern Syria holding ISIS prisoners and could lead to jailbreaks.

McCain performs ‘exceptionally well’ in sea trials

By CHRISTIAN LOPEZ
AND CAITLIN DOORNBOS

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Dozens of friends and family members happily gathered pierside at Yokosuka on Sunday as the USS John S. McCain returned home from sea for the first time in two years.

The destroyer’s last homecoming in December 2017 was somber. Ten of its sailors died four months earlier when the ship collided with a commercial oil tanker near Singapore. The crippled vessel returned with hundreds of millions of dollars in damage that took the past two years to fix.

Last week, the repaired McCain departed its homeport for six days of sea trials to ensure all systems meet or exceed Navy specifications. Its skip-

per, Cmdr. Ryan Easterday, said the destroyer passed with flying colors and will set sail again “in the coming weeks.”

“I’m proud to share with you that this ship and this crew performed exceptionally well,” he told reporters Sunday. “We are happy to be back home today, but eager to get back to sea.”

The crew also fired the McCain’s Mark 45 5-inch gun in a live-fire exercise in the Philippine Sea while underway, according to a Navy photo.

Along with repairs to the collision damage, the McCain received several upgrades to its combat weapons systems, computer network, radar array and antenna systems, the Navy said. It spent 11 months in dry dock at Yokosuka’s Ship Repair Facility and Japan Regional Maintenance Center.

Next, the McCain crew will undergo “basic phase training” to prepare for the ship’s return to the operational fleet, Easterday said. The training is an 18-week period in which a ship’s crew is trained and evaluated on aspects such as ship handling, seamanship, damage control and engineering, according to the Navy. Sailors also must demonstrate proficiency in areas such as surface warfare, strike warfare and undersea warfare.

The McCain collision came just two months after seven sailors were killed when the Yokosuka-based USS Fitzgerald ran into a Philippine-flagged container ship about 12 miles southeast of Shimoda, Japan.

The Navy made major changes in its processes to get ships to sea after post-collision re-

ports in late 2017 cited training and certification issues among the contributing factors in the accidents.

The service in April 2018 launched Naval Surface Group Western Pacific in Yokosuka to oversee ship activities during maintenance and basic phases until they are certified “Basic Phase Complete,” according to a Navy statement from the time.

The Navy also made it more difficult for ships to go to sea on lapsed certifications, requiring multiple high-level officials to approve a waiver to do so. Between fall 2017 and 2018, Japan-based guided-missile cruisers and destroyers going to sea with expired certifications dropped from 41% to 3%, according to a 2018 Government Accountability Office report.

Report: Russia, China are most pressing threats to US

BY MARTIN EGNASH
AND IMMANUEL JOHNSON
Stars and Stripes

Russia and China represent the most pressing security threats to the United States, ahead of North Korea, Iran and extremist groups, a report by a prominent American conservative think tank says.

In its annual assessment of the U.S. military, the Washington-based Heritage Foundation, which wields influence with the Trump administration, said Russia and China showed “aggressive” behavior toward U.S. vital interests in 2018. Russia was deemed the more urgent threat, due to frequent disinformation and hacking campaigns that are tied to the Kremlin, and its “formidable” and growing military capabilities.

The Heritage Foundation ranks two categories — behavior and capability — in its annual assessment. “Aggressive” is the second-highest ranking in the behavior category, and “formidable” is the highest under capability.

“From the Arctic to the Baltics, Ukraine, and the South Caucasus, and increasingly in the Mediterranean, Russia continues to foment instability in Europe,” the report said.

“Its aggressive stance in a number of theaters, including the Balkans, Georgia, Syria, and Ukraine, continues both to encourage destabilization and to threaten U.S. interests,” it said.

The U.S. responded to Russia’s 2014 annexation of Ukraine’s Crimean Peninsula by launching Operation Atlantic Resolve, a continuous rotation of tanks and aircraft into Eastern Europe to deter further aggression.

Despite its laggard economy, Russia has increased investment in its military in recent years and has upgraded its nuclear arsenal, the report said. Last week, it tested an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of hitting a target thousands of miles away from a new, advanced Borei-class nuclear

submarine. The new subs are scheduled to enter service with Russia’s Northern Fleet at the end of 2019, a Russian Defense Ministry spokesman said.

Tensions are also running high between the U.S. and Russia in northern Syria, where Moscow now patrols territory recently vacated by American forces. Russia has gained significant combat experience in Syria while continuing to sabotage U.S. and Western policy in the region, the report states.

However, China was deemed a more comprehensive threat, due to its economic power, efforts to modernize its military, and political behavior.

“The People’s Liberation Army continues to extend its reach and military activity beyond its immediate region and engages in larger and more comprehensive exercises, including live-fire exercises in the East China Sea near Taiwan,” the report states.

China also has territorial disputes in the region, including with U.S. allies the Philippines and Japan, and continues to probe South Korean and Japanese air defense zones, escalating tensions with both Seoul and Tokyo, the report says.

Meanwhile, the report gives all four branches of the U.S. military and America’s nuclear capabilities a “marginal” grade. The U.S. military is two-thirds the size it should be, operates older than optimal equipment and is “burdened by readiness levels that are problematic,” it says.

“The current U.S. military force is likely capable of meeting the demands of a single major regional conflict ... but it would be very hard-pressed to do more and certainly would be ill-equipped to handle two nearly simultaneous major regional contingencies,” the report says.

“More will be needed in the years to come to ensure that the U.S. military is properly sized, equipped, trained and ready to meet the missions that the services are called upon to fulfill,” it concludes.

Trump’s moves fuel doubts on US’ future in S. Korea

The Washington Post

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korean lawmaker Won Yoo-chul calls it “Trump risk” — the possibility that he will wake to a tweet from the U.S. president abruptly announcing the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the Korean Peninsula.

The concern is fueled by Trump’s demand that South Korea raise fivefold its payment for the cost of stationing U.S. forces in the country, and by what many here see as the president’s transactional approach to the alliance.

South Korea isn’t alone. Trump’s sudden decision to withdraw from border zones in Syria, undercutting the Kurds, has undermined trust in the United States and its commitment to other allies, from Israel to Taiwan and the Baltic states.

“If the United States withdraws its troops abruptly, our nuclear umbrella will disappear,” Won said. “What will happen to the safety of the South Korean people?”

Won and fellow opposition lawmaker Baek Seung-joo called in September for a new South Korean nuclear strategy, proposing that nuclear weapons be stationed in the country under the joint command of U.S. and South Korean forces, just as U.S. nuclear weapons are shared with NATO states.

Others have renewed the idea that South Korea will eventually be forced to acquire its own nuclear deterrent.

“President Trump is the most unpredictable head of state in the world,” Baek said. “I get concerned looking at the words Trump used when he announced the withdrawal of U.S. troops in Syria.”

Over the past two years, Trump has returned to a cen-

tral obsession: that South Korea, “a very wealthy nation,” is not paying enough toward the cost of stationing around 28,500 U.S. troops on the peninsula.

In Singapore, after his 2018 summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, he said he’d like to bring the U.S. forces all home “at some point,” while calling for an end to the “very expensive” and “provocative” joint-military exercises between the U.S. and South Korea.

Trump has — in the words of the State Department — “been clear that the Republic of Korea can and should contribute more of its fair share” of the costs.

South Korea points out it provides land for the bases rent-free, spends billions of dollars a year on U.S. military hardware and provided 92% of the \$10.7 billion cost of moving the main U.S. base out of Seoul to Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek, about 40 miles south of Seoul.

Polls show most South Koreans support the alliance and U.S. troop presence, but few believe their country should pay more for the privilege.

Victor Cha, who served as President George W. Bush’s top adviser on North Korea and now works at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, warns of a scenario where Trump rushes into a bad nuclear deal with North Korean leader Kim, claims a “big victory” and decides he doesn’t need so many troops in the South.

“And then the U.S.-South Korea cost-sharing negotiations fail. Then you might have this perfect storm where Trump says, ‘OK, I have a deal with North Korea and you don’t want to pay. So I’ll pull the troops out, or a portion of the troops out,’” Cha said.

US air power is seen growing Down Under

By **SETH ROBSON**
Stars and Stripes

Thousands of U.S. Marines on an Australian army base this past summer might have been the most visible example of America's growing military presence Down Under. But the nations' air forces are growing equally close under a lesser-known program known as Enhanced Air Cooperation, or EAC.

The initiative, which kicked off in 2017, focused this year on fifth-generation fighter integration, aeromedical evacuation and aircraft maintenance. It involved the U.S. F-22 Raptor, F-35B Lightning II, F-16 Fighting Falcon and F-15 Eagle fighters, B-52 strategic bombers and C-130J Super Hercules transports, according to the Australian Defence Force's website.

Airmen involved in the program practiced joint and combined warfighting, maneuver, resiliency and logistics, the website said.

"The major motivator for U.S. force restructure and redeployment on the western Pacific rim is China. It's as simple as that," said Paul Buchanan, an American security analyst in Auckland, New Zealand.

EAC is about two air forces developing how they maneuver together and remain resilient, said group Capt. David Banham, who has served as the Royal Australian Air Force liai-

son officer at Pacific Air Forces in Hawaii since January.

It's notable that PACAF was formed in Brisbane, Australia, in 1944, he added.

This year's EAC encompassed a range of activities, including the air component of the Talisman Saber exercise involving 34,000 U.S. and Australian personnel in July. That exercise included a dozen U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor stealth fighters that flew to Australia from Alaska, Banham said.

Most EAC activities have been held at RAAF Darwin and RAAF Tindal in Australia's Northern Territory, but during Talisman Sabre they took place at RAAF Amberly in the east coast state of Queensland, he said.

There are some links between the air force activities and the Marines based at Darwin's Robertson Barracks, Banham said.

"Both the [U.S. Air Force] and RAAF and the Marine Corps will fly the F-35" stealth fighter, he said. "There will be opportunities to exercise that capability not just for flying but through things such as maintenance," when Marine Rotational Force-Darwin is deployed, he said.

The Marines have been deploying to Darwin on summer rotations since 2012, and they sent an Air Ground Task Force of 2,500 Marines there this year.

The Air Force's activities in the Northern Territory, along with those of the Marines, are being supported with \$2 billion worth of new military infrastructure funded by the U.S. and Australia, according to the Australian Defence Force.

Pitch Black, which runs every other year at RAAF Darwin, is Australia's biggest air force exercise, Banham said. Australia is planning to host a dozen nations from the region there next year.

The two nations' air forces have a long history of cooperation, said Lt. Col. Nicholas Amato, who oversees EAC for Pacific Air Forces from Hawaii.

"This program is to take the fact we are working together and push it faster," he said.

The program was set up to take U.S. aircraft to northern Australia because of the benefits of operating there.

The Northern Territory is a vast, sparsely populated region with the sort of massive military ranges that aren't available in some of the places where U.S. forces are stationed in the western Pacific, such as Japan and South Korea.

But with no funding specifically allocated to the program in a region where distance makes movement time-consuming and expensive, officials decided to focus it on units already heading Down Under for exercises, Amato said.

"We look for opportunities where we are already working together and then expand on that," he said. "We will come in (for an exercise) and stay for additional training."

One of the program's successes this year was an agreement signed in May that allows for U.S. or Australian mechanics to work on C-17 Globemaster III transport planes belonging to either air force, Amato said.

The system was used for the first time in September, when an RAAF C-17 that broke down at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., was repaired by U.S. maintainers, he said.

"We have shown that having one of these agreements makes sense and it is useful," he said, adding that the system should apply to other aircraft flown by both air forces, such as the C-130J and the F-35A.

What started with maintenance can be applied to other areas of operations. For example, an Australian medical team could fly on a U.S. plane to conduct an aeromedical evacuation, or a U.S. security team could provide force protection for an Australian aircraft, Amato said.

"The U.S. has a lot of capacity and can solve a lot of problems on our own, but with Australia, we get a better answer sooner ... that is not just good for the U.S. but good for the region," he said.

Marine spouse launches fundraiser after castle fire on Okinawa

By **AYA ICHIHASHI**
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A Marine Corps spouse has started a crowdfunding campaign to help rebuild and restore a UNESCO World Heritage site on Okinawa severely damaged by fire last week.

Shuri Castle, rebuilt in 1992 following its destruction in World War II, was reported ablaze at 2:21 a.m. Wednesday. It took 171 firefighters more than 11 hours to extinguish the fire, and several buildings, including the castle's main hall, called Seiden, were destroyed.

On the day of the blaze, Mari Gregory, 40

— wife of Maj. Indigo Gregory, 43 — started a GoFundMe campaign titled "Shuri Castle devastation aid" that as of Monday had raised nearly \$5,000 of its \$100,000 goal.

"I felt the desire to help and want to do something for this devastation being felt all over Okinawa," she told Stars and Stripes in an email Monday.

The couple have been stationed at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., since summer, but they spent their previous tour living on Camp Courtney, Okinawa. Mari Gregory — who has Japanese ancestry and once taught the military community about local culture via an AFN radio program

called "Living in Japan" — wrote on the GoFundMe page that images of the fire left her heartbroken.

A day after the fire, Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki launched a Shuri Castle restoration team and asked the world to consider helping the historic castle, which became a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2000.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation; however, arson is not likely to blame, according to an Okinawa Times report that quoted police who checked surveillance camera footage.

A sprinkler system was not installed inside Seiden, where the fire started, the report said.

Lawyer for NSC, others defy subpoenas

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The lead lawyer for the National Security Council defied a subpoena Monday to appear before House impeachment investigators, as did other White House witnesses, following President Donald Trump's orders not to cooperate with the probe.

John Eisenberg and White House aide Robert Blair did not show up for scheduled 9 a.m. interviews in the Democrats' impeachment inquiry, and two other White House witnesses scheduled for this afternoon,

National Security Council aide Michael Ellis and Office of Management and Budget aide Brian McCormack, are also not expected to show, according to a person familiar with the matter who requested anonymity to discuss the confidential interviews. All four witnesses had been subpoenaed.

Democrats want to talk to all four about the machinations inside the White House before and after Trump held a July phone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and asked him to pursue investigations into political rival

Joe Biden and his family and Ukraine's involvement in the 2016 election. Eisenberg was instrumental in discussions about how to handle a White House memo recounting the Trump phone call with Ukraine that is central to the impeachment inquiry.

Blair is a top aide to acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, and McCormack is a former chief of staff to Energy Secretary Rick Perry, who led a U.S. delegation to Ukraine for Zelenskyy's inauguration in May. Ellis is Eisenberg's deputy and a former Republican

aide to the House intelligence panel.

The three committees leading the impeachment probe informed Ellis and Blair of the subpoenas in letters to their lawyers on Monday morning. In the letters, the heads of the three committees said they had been told by the lawyers that their clients would not appear because a White House lawyer could not be present — one of the points that Trump and Republicans in Congress have used to try and describe the Democrats' impeachment process as a "sham."

Trump's attempt to withhold tax returns rejected

The Washington Post

A federal appeals court on Monday rejected President Donald Trump's effort to block New York prosecutors from accessing his tax records and Trump's sweeping claims of presidential immunity.

The decision is the second time in recent weeks that a federal appeals court has ruled against the president in his bid to stop investigators from scrutinizing his private financial records. The case is one

of several legal clashes testing the limits of presidential power that is expected to reach the Supreme Court as soon as this term.

The Manhattan District Attorney is investigating hush-money payments made in the lead-up to the 2016 presidential election.

The ruling does not mean that Trump's tax records will be turned over immediately. Local prosecutors agreed to delay enforcement of the subpoena to Trump's longtime ac-

counting firm if the president's lawyers move quickly to ask the Supreme Court to intervene.

At oral argument last month, Trump's private attorney William Consovoy told the court that the subpoena is a politically motivated "fishing expedition." A sitting president, he said, cannot be investigated — or prosecuted — while in office, even for shooting someone on the streets of Manhattan.

His assertion of "temporary presidential immunity" came in response to a question about

Trump's own hypothetical from 2016 when he said as a candidate his political support was so strong that he could "stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody" and not "lose any voters."

The appeals court upheld an October ruling from U.S. District Judge Victor Marrero, who dismissed Trump's lawsuit. Marrero rejected Trump's claim of immunity as "repugnant to the nation's fundamental structure and constitutional values."

Iran adds more centrifuges and a new prototype

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran on Monday broke further away from its collapsing 2015 nuclear deal with world powers by announcing it's doubling the number of advanced centrifuges it operates, calling the decision a direct result of President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the agreement.

The announcement — which also included Iran saying it now has a prototype centrifuge that works 50 times faster than those allowed under the deal — came as demonstrators across the country marked the 40th

anniversary of the 1979 U.S. Embassy takeover that started a 444-day hostage crisis.

By starting up the advanced centrifuges, Iran further cuts into the one year that experts estimate Tehran would need to have enough material for building a nuclear weapon if it chose to pursue one. Iran long has insisted its program is for peaceful purposes, though Western fears about its work led to the 2015 agreement that saw Tehran limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

Tehran has gone from pro-

ducing some 1 pound of low-enriched uranium a day to 11 pounds, said Ali Akbar Salehi, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran.

Salehi dramatically pushed a button on a keyboard to start a chain of 30 IR-6 centrifuges at Iran's Natanz nuclear facility, where he was being filmed, increasing the number of working centrifuges to 60.

"With the grace of God, I start the gas injection," the U.S.-trained scientist said.

The nuclear deal limited Iran to using only 5,060 first-generation IR-1 centrifuges

to enrich uranium by rapidly spinning uranium hexafluoride gas. Salehi also announced that scientists were working on a prototype he called the IR-9, which worked 50 times faster than the IR-1.

As of now, Iran is enriching uranium to 4.5%, in violation of the accord's limit of 3.67%. Enriched uranium at the 3.67% level is enough for peaceful pursuits but is far below weapons-grade levels of 90%. At the 4.5% level, it is enough to help power Iran's Bushehr reactor, the country's only nuclear power plant.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Water gushes from building during test

PA PHILADELPHIA — A fire department spokesperson said water seen gushing from the side of a Philadelphia skyscraper over the weekend was the result of a fire system test.

Kathy Matheson told the news website Billy Penn that because One Liberty Place was built in 1987, it lacks a modern drainage system to prevent the surge of water that shot out Sunday.

Matheson said the city's newer buildings are equipped with drains to avoid such a problem.

Off-road vehicle hits parade float; 3 hurt

WV ST. ALBANS — Police in West Virginia said three children were taken to a hospital after an off-road utility vehicle rear-ended a trailer carrying them in a parade.

St. Albans police Chief Joe Crawford told news outlets that the accident occurred Saturday during the city's Veterans Day Parade. Crawford said the UTV went on top of the trailer, on which five young dancers were riding.

Crawford said the injuries included a concussion, broken bones and lacerations.

State now allows dogs on restaurant patios

MS JACKSON — Pet dogs can now dine with their owners under certain conditions at Mississippi restaurants.

The Mississippi State Department of Health's new policy went into effect Friday.

Restaurants must apply for

a variance to the department's food code to allow the animals and pay a \$165 inspection fee. Under the new policy, a restaurant must have a separate outside entrance into a designated outdoor dog-friendly area. Dogs, who must remain leashed, are not allowed to go indoors unless they are considered a service dog.

Disposable dishes and utensils are required, and dogs can't come into contact with any items involved in food service operations. Employees cannot touch or handle the animals.

Man guilty of killing endangered fish

FL JACKSONVILLE — A man pleaded guilty to killing an endangered fish unique to Florida waters whose extended nose is lined with teeth that resemble a saw.

Federal prosecutors said Chad Ponce, of Jacksonville, faces a year in prison and a \$50,000 fine when he is sentenced for killing the sawfish, which is listed as an endangered species. A sentencing date hasn't been set.

Police say father left girl at haunted house

FL MERRITT ISLAND — An Indiana man is facing a child neglect charge after deputies say he left a young girl by herself at a haunted house on Florida's Space Coast and didn't go back to pick her up.

Charles Jones was arrested Thursday after turning himself in at a Brevard County Sheriff's Office precinct.

An arrest report has the girl's age and relationship to Jones redacted, but WFTV in Orlando reported the girl is the 5-year-old daughter of Jones.

Deputies were called to the Merritt Island haunted house

after other parents found the girl unsupervised. The arrest report says she was scared after being left at the house for 2½ hours.

Couple is charged in stolen goods scheme

AZ GILBERT — Police in Gilbert said a couple was in custody for allegedly running an interstate stolen goods operation that took in more than \$2.7 million from online sales.

Police said Zach Robbins, 42, and his wife, Jie, 47, were arrested Friday after a search warrant was served at their home.

The couple was booked into jail on suspicion of trafficking stolen property, money laundering and illegal control of an enterprise.

Detectives reported finding up to \$750,000 worth of stolen over-the-counter health and beauty products in the Robbins' home.

Man sentenced in ambulance at court

VA RICHMOND — A convicted drug dealer who weighs 750 pounds was sentenced to five years in prison during a hearing that was held in a courthouse loading dock as he lay on a stretcher inside an ambulance.

U.S. District Judge David Novak sentenced Kenneth Hicks on Oct. 26 on federal cocaine conspiracy charges.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch reported that his sentencing hearing was held in a courthouse loading dock because Hicks' weight required that he attend from the back of an ambulance.

When Hicks pleaded guilty in May, his hearing was also held

in the loading dock. The judge wrote that the court took the measures to deal with Hicks' health issues and to "protect his dignity."

Monkey injured in break-in at zoo dies

KS DODGE CITY — A monkey who was injured last month trying to protect his offspring during an apparent break-in at a zoo in Dodge City has died.

Officials at the Wright Park Zoo in Dodge City said the 32-year-old Tufted Capuchin monkey was found unresponsive early Oct. 26. City spokeswoman Abbey Martin said the zoo's veterinarian was unable to revive the monkey.

The Hutchinson News reported a necropsy will be done to determine the cause of death. The monkey underwent surgery for broken bones after the break-in at the zoo Sept. 3.

Man pretending to be police officer arrested

NC WILSON — Police said a North Carolina man was arrested for impersonating a law enforcement officer after he got involved in a police chase.

The incident happened on Oct. 5 after Wilson police stopped a car at a grocery store in search of a murder suspect. As they approached the car, it sped off.

Police had chased the car for about 2 miles when a Ford Taurus with blue lights sped past the officers and got in front of the suspect's car.

Police said the Taurus' driver, David Adams Jr., 30, forced five men out of the suspect car at gunpoint. Adams was charged with impersonating an officer.

From wire reports

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Reporting
World, National
and Military News

NFL roundup

Jackson, Ravens rip unbeaten Patriots

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The New England Patriots' unbeaten season crashed to an end under the weight of their own mistakes and inability to contain Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson, who ripped apart the NFL's stingiest defense with his arm and legs in a 37-20 victory Sunday night.

Baltimore (6-2) zipped to an early 17-0 lead and let the Patriots (8-1) creep within striking distance before quelling the comeback with a 70-yard fumble return by Marlon Humphrey and a 5-yard touchdown pass from Jackson to Nick Boyle early in the fourth quarter.

That made it 30-20, and not even six-time Super Bowl winner Tom Brady could bring New England out of the hole. Brady, who went 30 for 46 for 285 yards, threw an interception with 12:47 left.

Jackson then led a methodical 9½-minute drive that ended with his thrust into the end zone from the 1.

Jackson ran for 61 yards and two touchdowns and went 17-for-23 for 163 yards and a score. Mark Ingram ran for 115 yards, and the NFL's leading rushing attack amassed 210 yards on the ground.

The defending Super Bowl champion Patriots picked up two fumbles, but they had two turnovers themselves and committed a costly penalty that contributed to Baltimore's first touchdown.

Baltimore's defense played a role, too. Patrick Onwuasor stripped the ball from Julian Edelman in the third quarter and Humphrey took it the other way for a score. Although Brady answered with a touchdown of his own to make it 24-20, the Patriots would not get closer. New England had won 13 straight, dating to last season and including the playoffs.

Seahawks 40, Buccaneers 34 (OT): Russell Wilson hit Jacob Hollister with a 10-yard touchdown pass on the opening possession of overtime, and host Seattle rallied to beat Tampa Bay.

Wilson continued his brilliant season, tying his career high with five touchdown passes as Seattle (7-2) overcame Jason Myers' missed 40-yard field-goal attempt on the final play of regulation and never gave Tampa Bay a chance in the extra session. Wilson was 5 of 8 for 70 yards in overtime, capping the winning drive by hitting the reserve tight end across the middle for his second touchdown of the game.

Wilson finished 29 of 43 for 378 yards. It was his third career game with five TD passes.

Chiefs 26, Vikings 23: Harrison But-

ker matched a career long with a 54-yard field goal to tie the game late in the fourth quarter, then drilled a 44-yarder as time expired to give Kansas City a thrilling victory over visiting Minnesota.

Tyreek Hill finished with six catches for 140 yards for the Chiefs (6-3), including a spectacular TD grab, while Damien Williams ran for 125 yards — most of it on a 91-yard touchdown run.

Kirk Cousins threw for 220 yards and three touchdowns for the Vikings (6-3), though he struggled to deal with the Chiefs' blitzes late in the game. Dalvin Cook was held to 71 yards rushing while top wide receiver Stefon Diggs had a single catch for 4 yards.

Steelers 26, Colts 24: Adam Vinatieri missed a go-ahead 43-yard field goal with 1:14 remaining, helping host Pittsburgh escape with a victory.

Vinatieri, whose 55-yard kick last week against Denver gave the Colts their third straight victory, pulled his attempt left of the uprights as the Colts (5-3) fell out of first place in the AFC South.

Mason Rudolph threw for 191 yards with a touchdown and an interception for Pittsburgh, and Minkah Fitzpatrick returned an interception 96 yards for a score as the Steelers (4-4) won their third consecutive game. Backup running back Trey Edmunds ran for a career-high 73 yards and Chris Boswell kicked four field goals as Pittsburgh reached the midpoint of the season at .500 despite losing quarterback Ben Roethlisberger to a right elbow injury in Week 2.

The Colts may have quarterback issues of their own after Jacoby Brissett left in the second quarter with a left knee injury. Brian Hoyer came on and threw for three touchdowns in Brissett's absence and drove Indianapolis to well within field goal range in the final minutes thanks in part to a 40-yard pass interference penalty against Pittsburgh's Steven Nelson.

Raiders 31, Lions 24: Derek Carr threw a 9-yard touchdown pass to rookie Hunter Renfrow with 2:04 remaining and Karl Joseph broke up a fourth-down pass in the end zone with 3 seconds left to give the Raiders a victory over Detroit in their first game back in Oakland in seven weeks.

After surviving an odyssey that forced them to travel about 20,000 miles for four road games and a neutral site game in London, the Raiders (4-4) came back home for the first time since losing to Kansas City on Sept. 15. They put on quite a show for the fans who are hoping the Raiders can put together a successful season before their

planned move to Las Vegas next year.

Chargers 25, Packers 11: At Carson, Calif., Melvin Gordon scored two touchdowns, Michael Badgley kicked four field goals and Los Angeles dominated Green Bay.

Aaron Rodgers was 23 of 35 for 161 yards as the Packers (7-2) had their four-game winning streak snapped.

Broncos 24, Browns 19: Fourth-year quarterback Brandon Allen sparked host Denver's stagnant offense, throwing for two touchdowns in his first career NFL start and leading the Broncos past stumbling Cleveland.

Denver's defense stifled Baker Mayfield & Co. all afternoon, forcing the Browns (2-6) to settle for four short field goals and twice stuffing them on fourth down.

Panthers 30, Titans 20: Christian McCaffrey had 166 yards from scrimmage and scored three touchdowns, and host Carolina bounced back from an embarrassing defeat with a victory over Tennessee.

Kyle Allen, who threw three interceptions in last week's 51-13 loss to the San Francisco 49ers, threw TD passes of 7 yards to McCaffrey and 12 yards to Curtis Samuel to improve to 5-1 this season as Carolina's starting QB.

Dolphins 26, Jets 18: Ryan Fitzpatrick threw three touchdown passes, two of them to rookie Preston Williams, and Miami got its first win of the season by beating former coach Adam Gase and visiting New York.

The Dolphins avoided what would have been the second 0-8 start in franchise history, joining 2007. The win leaves Cincinnati (0-8) as the NFL's lone winless team this season, and for now the front-runners to win the No. 1 pick in the 2020 NFL draft.

Eagles 22, Bears 14: Carson Wentz threw for 239 yards and one touchdown, Jordan Howard ran for 82 yards and a score and host Philadelphia held on for a victory over Chicago.

The Eagles (5-4) have won two in a row after a pair of lopsided losses.

The Bears (3-5) have lost four straight.

Bills 24, Redskins 9: Rookie Devin Singletary had 95 yards rushing, including a 2-yard touchdown, and Buffalo is off to its best start since 1993 following a win over visiting Washington.

Josh Allen had a touchdown pass and scored on a 1-yard plunge for the Bills, who improved to 6-2 — a record built on victories over some of the NFL's worst teams.

Washington (1-8) matched its worst start since 1998.

Harvick secures spot in Cup championship

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Kevin Harvick and the Stewart-Haas Racing team had already been preparing for NASCAR's finale. With another win at Texas, they now know they will be racing for a Cup title in two weeks.

Harvick won the fall race at Texas for the third year in a row Sunday, again securing one of the championship-contending spots for the Nov. 17 season-ending race at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"Well, we've already been going down the road," Harvick said from Victory Lane in Texas. "We've already been to the simulator, we've already built the car, and now we've just got to make sure that we do what we think is right and go with our gut and see what happens."

After starting from the pole, Harvick led 119 of 334 laps and paced a 1-2-3 finish for Stewart-Haas. He had gotten to Texas fifth in points, below the cutline for a championship run.

"It's a scenario that takes a lot of pressure off next week," car owner Tony Stewart said. "It does take that edge off. ... It's big for the organization."

Harvick led six times in the No. 4 Ford, including the final 21 laps and 73 of the last 80, and finished 1½ seconds ahead of

teammate Aric Almirola. Daniel Suarez, the Stewart-Haas driver still unsigned for next season, was third.

With Martin Truex Jr. already locked in for the final four at Homestead, the final two spots for the title run will be determined next week at Phoenix. At least one driver will get in on points.

"It is going to be a good battle for sure," said Joey Logano, the defending Cup champion who remained in fourth in points after finishing fourth in the No. 22 Team Penske Ford at Texas. "We are definitely racing for that last spot just in case someone behind us outside of the top four wins. ... It's going to be fun."

Kyle Busch is third in the standings, only two points ahead of Logano.

"We all know one guy is going to move through on points and we have to do whatever we have to do in order to be that guy," Busch said.

Truex finished sixth at Texas, a week after clinching his title chance with a win at Martinsville. Playoff contenders Busch and Ryan Blaney were seventh and eighth, with Kyle Larson 12th. The other contenders, Denny Hamlin and Chase Elliott, had accidents that put them deep in the field.

Hamlin's 28th-place finish, six laps behind Harvick, dropped him from second to fifth in the standings. He is 20 points be-

hind Logano, and only three ahead of both Larson and Blaney.

Harvick's fourth win this year was the 49th of his career, matching Stewart for 14th on NASCAR's career list. Harvick's only championship in his 19 Cup seasons came five years ago.

Hamlin got loose coming out the fourth turn on the 81st lap and slid off the track and through the infield. The No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota was damaged after slamming hard across the grass and over asphalt.

"Just lost control. That's all there is to it," Hamlin said. "Did the best we could, and we'll go to Phoenix and try to win. ... There's no doubt in my mind that we can go there and win. In these circumstances, I like the challenge."

Elliott was in the eighth and final playoff spot coming into the race, and stayed there after getting into trouble early. He will have to win at Phoenix to get in the final four.

On the ninth lap Sunday, Elliott got loose and slammed hard into the wall. After an extended time on pit road for repairs, he got back on the track and finished the race. He finished 22 laps behind in 32nd place.

"I made a mistake, got loose and crashed. I really hate that happened," Elliott said.

Penske purchases Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Associated Press

Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the IndyCar Series were sold to Penske Entertainment Corp. in a stunning move Monday that relinquishes control of the iconic speedway from the Hulman family after 74 years.

Tony Hulman bought the dilapidated speedway in 1945 and brought racing back to the corner of 16th Street and Georgetown Avenue after a four-year absence following World War II. Billionaire Roger Penske will become just the fourth owner of 110-year-old speedway.

The speedway spun off multiple subsidiaries, including the IndyCar Series and Indianapolis Motor Speedway Productions, which are also part of the deal to Penske Entertainment. That group is a subsidiary of Penske Corp., which is owned

by Penske.

The IndyCar Series is on an upward trend with improved television ratings and increased interest. Penske is the winningest team owner in Indianapolis 500 history with 18 victories, including Simon Pagnaud's win in May. He capped the IndyCar Season with a championship from driver Josef Newgarden, the 15th for the Team Penske organization.

The speedway is to discuss the deal in a news conference Monday. The sale is expected to close in early January, according to a document of message points sent to IndyCar teams on Monday, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press.

"We have found the ideal steward of the company and its iconic assets," the document states. "Penske Corporation

— with its 64,000-plus employees and more than \$32 billion in consolidated revenue — will bring tremendous energy, leadership and resources to IMS, IndyCar and IMSP.

"For a number of years, the Hulman & Company management and board have engaged outside advisers and experts to consider the full range of strategic options available. Ultimately, it was decided to focus on the possible sale of the company and finding a buyer that would be the best steward of the company and its iconic assets."

Penske's love of the speedway dates to 1951 when his father, Jay, scored a pair of tickets to the Indianapolis 500 from the metal fabrication company in Cleveland where he worked. He brought his 14-year-old car-loving son to the speedway to see the event live after listen-

ing to it only on radio for many years.

Penske was instantly hooked and has missed only six Indy 500s since, five of which came when the IndyCar Series was formed by Tony George and split from CART. Penske teams remained in CART, and CART teams were not welcome at the 500.

George, the grandson of Tony Hulman, has long run the speedway and its properties along with his sister and a board of directors. But matriarch Mari Hulman George, daughter of Tony Hulman, died last December and the family has now turned over all its racing properties to Penske.

"I cannot think of a better owner than Roger Penske and his corporation to ensure the future and growth of IndyCar," Zak Brown, CEO of McLaren, told the AP.

NHL roundup

Vrana's hat trick lifts Caps to win

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Washington's newly crowned championship baseball team provided the cheers. Jakub Vrana supplied the goals.

Two days after his first multigoal game of the season, Jakub Vrana got his first career hat trick as the Washington Capitals beat the Calgary Flames 4-2 Sunday night.

With the World Series-winning Washington Nationals looking on, Vrana scored twice in the first period before putting the Capitals up for good with a breakaway goal late in the second. The hat trick also completed Vrana's first career consecutive multigoal games.

"I'm not that surprised," said Capitals center Lars Eller, who added a power-play goal in the third period. "He has it in him. I don't expect him to score three every night but he's got that kind of talent that he can do that once in awhile."

Vrana praised the Nationals, who roused the home crowd throughout the evening by taking the World Series trophy on the ice before the game and celebrating each Capitals goal in animated fashion.

The Capitals previously took the Stanley Cup to Nationals Park after winning it in 2018.

"That was unbelievable," Vrana said. "It just brings me a little memory from when we won. They brought us lots of energy."

Evgeny Kuznetsov and Tom Wilson each had two assists for the Capitals, who have won eight of nine and lead the NHL with 25 points. Ilya Samsonov stopped 25 shots.

Blackhawks 3, Ducks 2 (OT): Patrick Kane scored 24 seconds into overtime off a pass from Jonathan Toews and visiting Chicago beat Anaheim.

Rookie Adam Boqvist scored his first career NHL goal and Alex DeBrincat scored on a two-man advantage as the Blackhawks spoiled the 1,000th career game of Ducks center Ryan Getzlaf.

Sam Steel and Nick Ritchie scored for Anaheim. Ryan Miller had 34 saves.

Toews, stopped in traffic shortly after overtime began, spun around and slipped a cross-ice pass to Kane, who lifted the puck over the shoulder of Miller for the winner.

Blackhawks goalie Robin Lehner made 36 saves in the victory as Chicago won for just the second time in eight games. The Blackhawks also became the last Western Conference team to win a game on the road.

Elias Lindholm and Andrew Mangiapane scored for Calgary, and Cam Talbot finished with 28 saves.

NBA roundup

Lakers hand Spurs 2nd loss

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Anthony Davis had 25 points and 11 rebounds, LeBron James added 21 points, 13 assists and 11 rebounds and the Los Angeles Lakers held off the San Antonio Spurs 103-96 on Sunday night.

James also had a triple-double Friday night in an overtime victory in Dallas.

Dwight Howard had 14 points and 13 rebounds in a throw-back performance to help the Lakers improve to 5-1.

Dejounte Murray had 18 points and 11 rebounds for the Spurs, Rudy Gay added 16 points off the bench, and DeMar DeRozan had 14. They lost for the second time in three games to drop to 4-2.

Heat 129, Rockets 100: Duncan Robinson scored 23 points, Meyers Leonard added 21 and Miami led by 41 points on the way to a victory over visiting Houston.

Jimmy Butler scored 18 points and had nine assists for the Heat, and James Johnson had 17 points in his season debut. Miami is 5-1, matching the best six-game start in franchise history.

James Harden scored 29 points for Houston, and Russell Westbrook was held to only 10.

Mavericks 131, Cavaliers 111: Luka Doncic had his second straight triple-dou-

ble and third of the season, finishing with 29 points, 14 rebounds and a career high-tying 15 assists to lead Dallas past host Cleveland.

Kristaps Porzingis added 18 points and nine rebounds, and Boban Marjanovic had 12 points and eight rebounds. The Mavericks are 3-0 on the road for the first time since their 2010-11 championship season.

Kings 113, Knicks 92: De'Aaron Fox scored 24 points, Buddy Hield had 22 and Sacramento beat host New York for its second straight victory following an 0-5 start.

Marcus Morris scored 28 points for New York. The Knicks have lost three straight to fall to 1-6.

Pacers 108, Bulls 95: T.J. Warren scored a season-high 26 points and Indiana beat visiting Chicago.

Zach LaVine scored 21 points for Chicago. The Bulls are 0-5 on the road.

Clippers 10, Jazz 94: Kawhi Leonard scored 18 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter to lead Los Angeles past visiting Utah.

Leonard's scoring surge helped the Clippers erase a double-digit second-half deficit and improve to 4-0 at home. He only made 9 of 26 shots, but with the game tied at 86, Leonard scored six points to spark a 19-8 run to close out the victory.

Sports briefs

CBS Sports fumbles Air Force graphic

Wire reports

If you saw the Air Force-Army football game Saturday, you might have noticed a graphic on CBS Sports, featuring an Army tank and what was supposed to be an Air Force jet.

On closer inspection, the tank was an M-60 Patton — a little dated but definitely Army — but the jet was an F-18 Hornet, flown by the Navy, not the Air Force.

The graphic was displayed behind CBS Sports announcers Brent Stover, Houston Nutt and Keenan Reynolds as they talked about the two teams and their chances of winning the game. Reynolds, coincidentally, played quarterback at Navy.

"The F/A-18 seems to be used all the time to describe the Air Force by media and ad agencies," said Kevin Divers, an Air Force Academy graduate who was on the F-22 developmental test team at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.

"They should just use my plane, the

F-22 Raptor. Much cooler look and absolutely Air Force," said Divers, who posted the erroneous image used by CBS on his Facebook page.

Florida State fires Taggart

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State fired second-year football coach Willie Taggart on Sunday, less than 24 hours after the Seminoles lost to rival Miami and with the team in danger of missing a bowl game for the second consecutive season.

Taggart was 9-12 at Florida State, which won the national title in 2013 and has been in a freefall for the past three seasons. The Seminoles have not been ranked this season, are 0-5 against rivals Miami, Florida and Clemson under Taggart and attendance for games at Doak Campbell Stadium has plummeted.

"We had no choice but to make a change," Florida State President John Thrasher said.