

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Sunday, November 10, 2019

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## In-flight selfies by Marines angers Japan

BY SETH ROBSON  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Japan-based Marine Corps aviators' antics — including reading, hair grooming and letting go of aircraft controls while posing for in-flight photos — are detailed in an accident report that sparked outrage among Japanese officials who recently learned of its contents.

The report says a pilot's inexperience conducting nighttime, in-air refueling and toxic leadership contributed to the midair collision of an F/A-18 Hornet and KC-130 air tanker late last year that killed six crew members from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni.

Investigators determined that Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 suffered from "inadequate oversight of training and operations" and an "unprofessional command climate." Four Marine officers — the unit's commander, its executive officer, its opera-

tions officer and its aviation safety officer — were fired as a result.

The report, which said officers engaged in wrongful use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs, includes in-flight selfies taken by the squadron's aviators while performing antics like grooming facial hair with a switchblade comb and reading "The Great Santini" by Pat Conroy. It also quotes from an online chat group where Marine officers used inappropriate language to describe some of their colleagues.

Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi told reporters Tuesday in Tokyo that the Japanese government first received the report on Sept. 26.

"Detailed examination showed that one of the causes of the accident was that rules violations had become normalized in the unit that caused the accident," he said.

Operating U.S. military aircraft safely is the "major premise" for U.S. forces to be stationed in Japan and "there

must not be anything that would concern locals," he added.

Iwakuni Mayor Yoshihiko Fukuda, who showed journalists the report during a press conference at his city hall on Tuesday, said he was extremely surprised and felt strong anger about the behavior.

"I hope each and every service member will think again about how much this has made Iwakuni residents uneasy and how much it will damage the trust they have in the U.S. forces," he said at the gathering.

Iwakuni city has repeatedly asked the Marines and the Japanese government to take preventive measures and educate service members about safety, Fukuda said, adding that the pilots' actions were "outrageous."

Iwakuni city officials were given a copy of the report on Oct. 16, he said, but the Japanese government didn't point out any of the misbehaviors detailed in it.

The report also mentions a 2016 mishap involving the

squadron near Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, in which a Hornet's fuel drogue struck and sheared off a portion of a KC-130J's fuel hose and drogue. No one was injured in the incident.

Motegi said U.S. military officials told him they are reviewing their programs and manuals because of the report.

Maj. Brian Block, a spokesman for III Marine Expeditionary Force on Okinawa, told Stars and Stripes in an email Thursday that aviation safety is a top priority for the Marine Corps.

"We rely on the professionalism and attention of all Marines to adhere to regulations and policies," he said. "The findings of the investigation reconfirm our need to constantly evaluate risks, identify unsafe conditions, and ensure internal controls are being followed.

"Investigating ourselves when mishaps and other events occur is vital to helping us identify issues that create unsafe conditions," Block added.

## No injuries after USAF dropped fake bomb in Japan

BY SETH ROBSON  
AND HANA KUSUMOTO  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — An Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon flying out of Misawa Air Base dropped a 500-pound dummy bomb onto the Japanese countryside late Wednesday, according to the Tohoku Defense Bureau.

The incident happened at 6:37 p.m., and there were no reports of injuries or damages, a spokeswoman said Thursday.

The object — described by

Misawa's 35th Fighter Wing as an "inert training device" — landed onto a private, grassy area about 3 miles from Draughton Range, a 1,900-acre complex near Misawa where Air Force and Navy pilots train to defeat enemy air defenses. It's also used by the Japan Air Self-Defense Force.

The impact created a deep crater, according to Japanese public broadcaster NHK.

The Tohoku Defense Bureau has urged Misawa's commander to investigate the cause of

the incident and implement preventative measures, the spokeswoman said. It's customary in Japan for some government representatives to not give their names.

The 35th Fighter Wing has "suspended dropping inert objects as part of our training sorties until further notice and we are working with the appropriate parties to recover the device," Staff Sgt. Melanie Bulow-Gonterman, a wing spokeswoman, said in an email Friday. "We are committed

to performing our mission in a responsible manner and we will work with the Japanese community to ensure the well-being of our counterparts."

In January, a plastic part detached from a Misawa-based F-16 during flight and fell to the ground in northern Japan.

There were no injuries or damages.

In February 2018, an F-16 from Misawa was forced to drop its fuel tanks into a lake because of an engine fire.

The jet landed safely with no injuries.

# Navy in Europe aims to boost their renewable power sources

By SCOTT WYLAND  
*Stars and Stripes*

NAPLES, Italy — The Navy's three biggest bases in Europe are undergoing a multimillion-dollar retrofit to boost energy efficiency and create alternative power sources in case the main grid is disabled by an adversary, natural disaster or storm.

Solar farms are being installed, and central air systems, heating, boilers, lighting and other equipment upgraded or replaced at bases in Naples, Italy; Sigonella, Sicily; and Rota, Spain, under the energy resiliency and savings project, the Navy said.

"If there's a storm that knocks something out, you want to make sure you have those opportunities so the mission can keep going," said Brittany Roark, who's managing the contract for the Navy's public works department in Naples.

Under the project, a 14-acre solar farm that will generate six megawatts of electricity a

year is being built at Rota, and another, which will produce 4.5 megawatts of power annually, will be installed at Sigonella. Six megawatts is enough to power about 900 American homes for a year, according to a formula used by the Union of Concerned Scientists.

A new natural gas pipe in Naples will create a mini-plant that will generate one megawatt of energy yearly and will be used to heat and cool water for the base's central air systems.

Crews will also install 13,000 LEDs in Sigonella and 9,000 in Naples to replace less energy-efficient light bulbs.

"Our installations are focused on increasing energy efficiency, providing renewable and sustainable energy, and promoting energy resiliency," regional command spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Ed Early said in an email. "The energy projects at Naples, Sigonella and Rota clearly demonstrate our commitment to achieve these goals and enhance shore energy security throughout the region."

The Navy will pay Siemens, the contractor on the project, \$82.5 million after construction work is finished on all three bases, and yearly fees to maintain the equipment or replace parts that break or wear out, Roark said. The cost of the project will be around \$218 million spread over 25 years.

Meters will monitor how effective the equipment upgrades are at reducing power consumption and whether the solar and natural gas systems are producing the agreed-upon amount of electricity, Roark said.

If the results fall short, the Navy will withhold part of Siemens' annual payment, she said.

"Each year they have to prove to us it's still working and that it is still as efficient as they promised it would be," Roark said.

Once completed, the installations are expected to bring energy savings of \$6.5 million the first year, with those savings expected to increase over time.

# NATO sends 1st warfare team to Montenegro

By SLOBODAN LEKIC  
*Stars and Stripes*

NATO is deploying a specialized team to Montenegro to try to thwart hybrid attacks by pro-Russian factions against the small Adriatic nation, which holds its first elections since becoming an alliance member next year, officials said.

The team being dispatched will be the first to be deployed by the alliance, which established specialized counter hybrid support teams last year to help member nations prepare and defend against multipronged, often covert operations.

The announcement of the deployment came days after the U.S. military sent an elite cyber team to the Balkan nation to protect networks and study the tactics of adversaries like Russia. The twin deployments of allied hybrid warfare and cyberspecialists illustrate the seriousness with which the U.S. and its NATO allies are taking the threat of Russian meddling in the Balkans, a region U.S. military commanders in Europe have warned could be the Continent's next security flashpoint.

Montenegro was targeted by a hybrid attack during its elections in 2016 when officials in Podgorica and other NATO countries say Russian and Serbian operatives launched an abortive bid to try to oust the Montenegrin government and ran disinformation campaigns aimed at influencing the country's elections and prevent it from joining the alliance.

Despite the failed coup, the Balkan country of 620,000 people became the 29th member of NATO in 2017.

Montenegro is set to hold elections next year — the first since it joined NATO.

# Airman who fell from aircraft identified

*Stars and Stripes*

The special tactics airman who fell from an aircraft flying over the Gulf of Mexico on Tuesday has been identified by the Air Force.

Staff Sgt. Cole N. Condiff, 29, was a special tactics combat controller with the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, according to a release issued Saturday. He was assigned to Air Force Special Operations Command at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

The airman fell from a C-130 Tuesday during a planned static-line jump at about 11 a.m. over the Gulf of Mexico, south

of Hurlburt Field, according to a news release from the base's 24th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs.

Recovery efforts are still underway by a joint team of Air Force and Navy personnel, according to the release. The Coast Guard announced it was suspending its rescue efforts on Friday. The Air Force is investigating the incident and will not provide more details in the meantime, according to the release.

"Cole was a man with deep-rooted beliefs who dedicated himself to God, our freedoms,

peace and his family," squadron commander Lt. Col. Steven Cooper said in the news release. "He was a devoted family man within our squadron, focused on teaching his girls to be adventurous like he was."

Assignments to Africa in support of Operation Juniper Shield and Afghanistan as part of Operation Freedom's Sentinel were among those highlighted in the release and a biography the service sent out.

Condiff is survived by his wife, two daughters, parents, a sister and two brothers.

# New flu shots arrive at Yokota air base

By **SETH ROBSON**  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The Air Force has received a fresh batch of influenza vaccine to replace doses damaged when a medical refrigerator malfunctioned at the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo.

The mechanical failure delayed access to adult influenza vaccinations at the base earlier this month; however, they

are now available for active-duty troops, 374th Airlift Wing spokeswoman Kaori Matsukasa said in an email Thursday.

Service members can get vaccinated during walk-in hours at Yokota's allergy and immunizations clinic, she said, which is open from 7.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Dependents and civilians will be able to get the shots starting Nov. 21, Matsukasa said.

Pediatric flu shots for kids

ages 6 to 36 months weren't impacted by the refrigerator malfunction and have been available since last month, officials said.

Flu season began Sept. 26 in metropolitan Tokyo, 11 weeks earlier than last year, according to a recent report by the Mainichi Shimbun. Japanese citizens were advised to take precautions since the number of flu cases usually peaks five to 10 weeks after flu season sets in, the newspaper said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states on its website that everyone 6 months or older should get a flu vaccine every season, with rare exceptions.

"Flu vaccination has important benefits. It can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations," the website says. "Flu vaccine also has been shown to be life-saving in children."

# Study shows veteran benefit discrepancies

By **NIKKI WENTLING**  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Several years ago, Iraq War veteran Kayla Williams and her family moved to Pennsylvania, where she and her husband received \$500 each semester toward her two children's school costs, thanks to a statewide benefit.

The only problem? They had relocated from Virginia — a state that provides free tuition to children of disabled veterans. Williams' husband, also a veteran, has a 100 percent disability rating from the VA.

"I was shocked by that difference," Williams said. "My husband had the same level of disability, but the difference between free tuition and \$500 each semester was so stark. I thought, 'I have to know more.'"

Williams and her family moved back to Virginia after just one year in Pennsylvania because of a job opportunity. Williams led the Center for Women Veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs before taking her current position as director of the military, veterans and society program at the Center for a New American Security,

a Washington think tank.

In her new role, Williams looked back at her family's move to Pennsylvania and decided to investigate the differences in benefits for veterans, state by state.

She discovered that different states offer a wide variety and number of benefits, from a high of 60 benefits in Illinois to a low of 22 each in Hawaii and Oklahoma. Many of them were enacted by state legislatures after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, creating what the Center for New American Securities describes as a "sea of goodwill."

However, no state does a very good job of promoting the benefits or providing an easy process to apply for them, the think tank found. Williams' findings were released Monday, on Veterans Day, in a new report titled, "From Sea to Shining Sea: State Level Benefits for Veterans."

"To do this research has been totally eye-opening," Williams said. "We were really struck by how hard it was to find these benefits. What's the point in having a benefit if people can't figure out how to use it?"

To address that problem, the Center for a New American Security created an online

database that allows veterans to search for and compare state benefits. The tool was also launched Monday, along with the report.

In her research, Williams discovered states in the Midwest and Northeast provide a higher number of benefits on average than states in the South and West. That fact was surprising, Williams said, because southern states typically have higher rates of military enlistment.

"It's a big assumption that the South is so patriotic and they love the military, and they join the military, so they'll support them after," Williams said. "But that isn't necessarily how it played out."

The study couldn't pinpoint a single state that had the best benefits for veterans because what's offered varies so greatly state by state, she said. While Illinois has the most, it's unclear if the benefits there are more valuable in total than what another state may offer.

"There's just a lot of variation in who's eligible, what the benefits are and the value of the benefits," Williams said.

# Stepmother arrested for death of child near Army base

By **MARCUS KLOECKNER**  
AND **IMMANUEL JOHNSON**  
*Stars and Stripes*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The stepmother of a 4-year old U.S. Army dependent found dead in their Eschenbach home has been arrested on suspicion of homicide, German police said Friday.

The boy's father, a soldier assigned to the Vilseck-based 2nd Cavalry Regiment's Field Artillery Squadron, wasn't home when police were called at 1:15 a.m. on Nov. 4, Oberpfalz police said in a statement. First responders found the child unconscious and not breathing, police said.

The woman, 25, whose name

wasn't released, was arrested Wednesday, after an autopsy a day earlier found that the child died from "intense violence" that wasn't apparent at the scene, police said.

The death occurred at the Army's off-post housing area in Netzaberg, according to a 2nd Cavalry Regiment statement. Netzaberg is located is near

the Grafenwoehr Training Area. There are several other children that live in the home where the death occurred, police said.

German authorities are leading an ongoing investigation, with assistance from the Army's Criminal Investigative Command, the Army statement said.

# Get in the know about impeachment probe

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For only the fourth time in U.S. history, the House of Representatives has started a presidential impeachment inquiry. House committees are trying to determine whether President Donald Trump violated his oath of office by asking Ukraine to investigate political rival Joe Biden and his family and to investigate Ukraine's involvement in the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

A quick summary of the latest news and what's to come:

## What you need to know

Democrats and Republicans are already tussling over which witnesses to call for the public impeachment hearings.

On Saturday, Republicans released a list of people they want to hear from. Among them: Biden's son, Hunter; one of his former associates at a Ukrainian energy company; and the anonymous whistleblower.

But Republicans need the committee's approval to summon their witnesses and Democrats are in the majority. The committee chairman, California Rep. Adam Schiff, quickly cast doubt on whether Republi-

cans will get their way.

Without getting into specifics, Schiff said he won't let the hearings serve as a vehicle to conduct "sham investigations" into the Bidens or the 2016 election. Nor will he let the hearings aid Trump's "effort to threaten, intimate and retaliate against the whistleblower."

Altogether, Republicans want to hear public testimony from eight people they identified, some of whom have already testified privately. They also want to hear from anonymous officials who helped the whistleblower prepare his or her complaint.

Trump says he will release an account of another phone call with Ukraine's leader.

The two also spoke in April, soon after Zelenskiy won election. Trump said Saturday he has no problem making details of that call public. He says he'll probably do it Tuesday.

Investigators in the inquiry on Friday released hundreds of pages of testimony from Fiona Hill, a former White House Russia adviser, and Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, an Army officer assigned to the National Security Council. Both testified they were concerned Trump

was inappropriately pressuring Ukraine to investigate Democrats.

John Bolton, Trump's former national security adviser, was aware of "many relevant meetings and conversations" related to the Ukraine pressure campaign that House impeachment investigators have not yet learned about, his attorney Charles Cooper wrote in a letter to the House general counsel.

Acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and Office of Management and Budget associate director Mark Sandy defied House investigator subpoenas and were no-shows for their scheduled depositions. Mulvaney has asked to join a lawsuit brought by another of the president's advisers challenging a congressional subpoena.

## What's next

Investigators are preparing to start public hearings this week. Schiff said three State Department witnesses will appear in two hearings Wednesday and Friday: the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, William Taylor, career department official George Kent and Marie Yovanovitch, the former

U.S. ambassador to Ukraine. Yovanovitch was ousted in May on Trump's orders and Taylor replaced her; both have testified about their concerns with the administration's policy on Ukraine. The committee also must consider whether to summon the witnesses sought by Republicans, who call the impeachment process a sham.

## Numbers that matter

Last week, a dozen Trump administration figures, including big names like Mulvaney and Bolton, declined to appear before the Democratic-led panel. Democrats are wrapping up the closed-door portion of the proceedings.

## Worth watching

Trump's daughter and presidential aide, Ivanka Trump, granted a rare interview while on a trip to Morocco. Speaking with The Associated Press, she questioned the motives of the anonymous whistleblower whose allegations touched off the Trump impeachment inquiry and suggested that former Vice President Joe Biden profited from his time in public service.

# Trump considers attending Russia's Victory Day parade

The Washington Post

President Donald Trump said Friday he is considering attending Russia's Victory Day festivities, an annual May 9 military parade on Moscow's Red Square that commemorates the Soviet Union's World War II triumph.

Russian President Vladimir Putin invited Trump at the Group of 20 summit in June.

Trump has yet to visit Russia as president, but has openly questioned U.S. intelligence conclusions that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election.

"I am thinking about it," Trump told reporters at the

White House. "It is right in the middle of political season, so I'll see if I can do it, but I would love to go if I could."

Two U.S. presidents have attended Russia's Victory Day parade: Bill Clinton in 1995 and George W. Bush in 2005.

The 2020 events will mark the 75th anniversary of the 1945 Allied victory over Nazi Germany and will likely have more pomp than in recent years. Russia uses the day to show off its military might — featuring 13,000 troops, 130 military vehicles and 74 aircraft in the 2019 parade.

Several Western leaders, including president Barack Obama, declined to attend the

70th anniversary in 2015 because of Russia's annexation of Crimea the year before.

Putin aide Yuri Ushakov told Russian reporters in June that invitations were also extended to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

If Trump did attend, it would be a significant public-relations coup for the Kremlin.

U.S. relations with Russia are at a low after the U.S. intelligence community accused Moscow of the election interference and raised alarms it

could happen again in the 2020 presidential race.

After Trump and Putin's meeting at the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters that Trump "responded very positively" to the offer to attend the Victory Day parade.

"It's a very big deal celebrating the end of the war," Trump said Friday.

Trump traveled to France in June to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

In August, Trump canceled a trip to Poland for events marking the 80th anniversary of the beginning of World War II. Vice President Mike Pence represented the White House.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Blinking lights to be added to Amish buggies

**OH** ASHLAND — A law enforcement official said he's persuaded the bishops of an Amish sect to install blinking lights on buggies to make them more visible to motorists.

The Ashland Times-Gazette reported Ashland County Chief Deputy Sheriff Carl Richert has been working with local Amish and Mennonite communities for years to make their buggies and wagons easier to spot.

A local Amish buggy maker has ordered around 200 battery-powered blinking lights and anticipates community members will generally be willing to use them.

## Man pleads guilty to trafficking rare tortoise

**FL** MIAMI — A Nevada man was sentenced to 120 days of home confinement and ordered to pay a \$7,000 fine for trafficking an endangered Galapagos tortoise.

Court records show that Alan Wheelock, 33, was sentenced in Miami federal court after pleading guilty to violations of the Endangered Species Act.

Prosecutors said a K-9 officer with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission found the baby tortoise inside a parcel at a Miami-area FedEx store in August 2018. The package was shipped to a Las Vegas FedEx location, where Fish and Wildlife agents watched Wheelock pick it up.

Investigators said Wheelock found a licensed breeder online in central Florida who would only sell to out-of-state customers with the proper permits. Wheelock paid a cousin who was living in Florida, Mauricio Perez, to buy the reptile and then send it to Wheelock.

## Residents: wild turkeys are attacking seniors

**NJ** TOMS RIVER — Some residents have been getting an early Thanksgiving surprise.

A gaggle of 40 to 60 wild turkeys have been aggressively terrorizing residents in a 55-and-up community in Ocean County daily.

Holiday City residents said the turkeys are blocking doorways, pecking at cars and behaving aggressively when they are shooed away.

The township has received dozens of complaints but said animal control is powerless in capturing or stopping the birds since they are not licensed to trap wildlife. A spokesman for the state's Department of Environmental Protection said the agency is aware of the issue.

## Man sentenced for abandoning Yorkie

**WV** FAIRMONT — A man has been sentenced to one to five years' home confinement for abandoning his Yorkie.

News outlets reported Justin Ryan Lancianese, 36, was sentenced this month after pleading guilty this summer to a felony animal cruelty charge.

A criminal complaint said Lancianese trapped his dog named Jojo in a cooler bag that held a copy of Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight" and a CVS card, and then tossed the bag near a power plant last year.

## Police: Seized hemp was pot worth \$1B

**CA** BAKERSFIELD — The Kern County Sheriff's office said it served search warrants at several fields totaling 459 acres in the

Arvin area on Oct. 25 as part of a joint investigation with the FBI and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, The Bakersfield Californian reported.

Hemp and marijuana are cannabis plants but only pot has enough THC to get users high. Authorities said samples of the seized plants tested "well above" the federal limit of 0.3 percent of THC for "industrial" hemp.

They classified the plants as marijuana worth about \$1 billion.

## Baker ends years as farmers market fixture

**VT** NORWICH — Fans of Jinny Hardy Cleland's African honey bread, her ever-changing array of sweets and her bright-colored pansies might have to look just a little bit harder to find them in the future.

Cleland recently packed up her corner booth at the Norwich Farmers Market for the last time, ending nearly 40 years as a fixture at the busy market.

She'll be back, but not every week, and not in the spot where area locals could count on seeing her decade after decade.

## Wildlife officials: Be aware of urban coyotes

**NE** LINCOLN — State wildlife officials are urging owners of small pets — even those in cities — to be vigilant in protecting them from coyotes.

Coyotes are common throughout Nebraska, including in some urban areas where there are creek bottoms, green space with tall grass and agricultural fields.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission cautions people against approaching or

feeding a coyote. It also suggests not leaving pet food outside and keeping any eye on pets outside, even if they're out for just a few minutes.

## Woman said cellphone was shot from her hand

**RI** PROVIDENCE — Police said multiple shots were fired into a home including one a woman said shot a cell phone out of her hand.

Providence police said they were dispatched to a Wesleyan Avenue home Thursday night in response to shots fired. Police said Jessica Sims, 32, was in bed when multiple shots came through the wall. Sims told police her cellphone was in her hand at the time and was shot from her hand.

## Customers help solo Waffle House worker

**AL** BIRMINGHAM — Waffle House is known to not close for anything — even if there's only one worker behind the counter.

Ethan Crispo told AL.com that was the case at a location in Birmingham, Ala. He said he came in just after midnight to find a single man tending to "the incoming crowd of hungry, heavily imbibed customers."

That's when Crispo said a customer stood up, asked the employee for an apron and got to work. Soon, other customers also jumped in to wash dishes and bus tables.

Waffle House spokesman Pat Warner said a scheduling miscommunication left the lone worker to take care of the restaurant by himself. Warner said Waffle House appreciates the customers who stepped up but prefer their associates behind the counter.

From wire reports

On a mission to provide objective reporting to America's military, wherever they serve.  
Read us online at [www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com).

STARS AND STRIPES®

## Top 25 roundup

# Burrow, No. 1 LSU hold off No. 2 'Bama

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Joe Burrow passed for 393 yards and three touchdowns and No. 1 LSU snapped an eight-game losing streak to No. 2 Alabama with a 46-41 victory Saturday.

The Tigers (9-0, 5-0 Southeastern Conference, No. 2 CFP) are no longer second fiddle in the SEC West, or maybe in the playoff rankings. And Burrow stamped himself as the Heisman Trophy front-runner with a gutsy performance when he answered every challenge from 'Bama.

The Crimson Tide (8-1, 5-1, No. 3 CFP) rallied from a 33-13 halftime deficit to three times to pull within a touchdown in the fourth quarter.

The showdown lived up to its billing as a duel between two high-powered offenses and star quarterbacks with President Donald Trump attending. Tua Tagovailoa launched an 85-yard touchdown pass to DeVonta Smith with 1:21 left after the Tigers' own scoring march.

Justin Jefferson recovered the onside kick and LSU ran out the clock.

Burrow completed 31 of 39 passes and ran for 64 yards. Clyde Edwards Helaire ran for three touchdowns and caught a scoring pass.

Tagovailoa, 20 days removed from ankle surgery, was 21 of 40 for 418 yards and four touchdowns with an interception and a fumble.

**No. 13 Minnesota 31, No. 5 Penn State 26:** Minnesota's Jordan Howden picked off Sean Clifford's pass in the end zone with 1:01 left, the third interception thrown by Penn State's quarterback, and the Gophers beat the visiting Nittany Lions for their first victory over a top-five team in 20 years.

Tanner Morgan passed for 339 yards and three touchdowns to direct a dismantling of Penn State's staunch defense. Minnesota (9-0, 6-0, No. 17 CFP) not only remained undefeated, but stayed on track for its first trip to the Big Ten championship game.

The first sellout crowd for the Gophers at home in four years swarmed the field after the clock ran out, reveling in the biggest step forward yet under coach P.J. Fleck in his third season. The Gophers scrambled the College Football Playoff picture, too, after Penn State (8-1, 5-1, No. 4 CFP) emerged with a top-four spot in the first edition of the rankings.

Rashod Bateman got the Gophers going with a 66-yard score on their first possession and finished with seven catches for 203 yards, the second-most in program history.

Tyler Johnson had seven receptions for 104 yards and a touchdown, too, as Minnesota made enough early gains to hold up during the late rally.

**No. 9 Oklahoma 42, Iowa State 41:** Parnell Motley intercepted Brock Purdy's two-point conversion pass with 24 seconds left and the host Sooners held off the Cyclones.

Iowa State coach Matt Campbell went for the victory on the two-point try after Charlie Kolar caught a 13-yard touchdown pass to pull the Cyclones — down 42-21 in the second half — within one.

Jalen Hurts passed for 273 yards and three touchdowns and ran for 68 yards and two more scores for the Sooners (8-1, 5-1 Big 12, No. 9 CFP).

**No. 3 Ohio State 73, Maryland 14:** Justin Fields threw for three touchdowns and ran for another in the first half and the host Buckeyes hardly missed suspended defensive star Chase Young.

A team that gave Ohio State (9-0, 6-0 Big Ten, CFP No. 1) headaches last season was no trouble this time, even without the fierce pass rushing of Young. The preseason All-American was suspended Friday while Ohio State investigates a possible NCAA violation involving a loan.

**No. 4 Clemson 55, North Carolina State 10:** Trevor Lawrence threw for two scores and ran for another in a dominating first quarter and the visiting Tigers routed the Wolfpack to wrap up a trip to Atlantic Coast Conference title game.

The reigning national champion Tigers learned this week that they were on the outside looking in for the first rankings for the four-team College Football Playoff. Yet coach Dabo Swinney had said the Tigers (10-0, 7-0, No. 5 CFP) were in a "good spot" and needed to focus instead on finishing strong.

Starting that way was enough against the Wolfpack (4-5, 1-4) as Clemson extended its school-record winning streak to 25 games.

**No. 6 Georgia 27, Missouri 0:** At Athens, Ga., Jake Fromm threw two touchdown passes to George Pickens and Georgia posted its third shutout, dominating a Mizzou offense missing two of its biggest playmakers.

Georgia (8-1, 5-1 Southeastern Conference, No. 6 College Football Playoff) moved closer to its third straight berth in the SEC championship game. The Bulldogs can clinch the SEC East by beating No. 12 Auburn next week. Missouri (5-4, 2-3) fell to 0-4 in road games with its third straight loss.

**No. 11 Baylor 29, TCU 23 (3OT):** At Fort Worth, Texas, Denzel Mims made a leaping 4-yard touchdown catch in the third overtime for the Bears, capping another comeback victory that kept Baylor undefeated.

Charlie Brewer also threw a 20-yard touchdown pass to Mims on fourth down in the second overtime to extend the game. Brewer had a 3-yard scoring run in the first overtime.

**No. 15 Notre Dame 38, Duke 7:** At Durham, N.C., Ian Book rushed for a career-best 139 yards and threw four touchdown passes for the Fighting Irish.

C'Bo Flemister rushed 2 yards for a TD for the Fighting Irish (7-2, No. 15 CFP). In winning their second straight and fifth in six games, they rolled up 469 total yards, led 21-0 before the Blue Devils picked up their second first down and kept them at bay the rest of the way.

**No. 16 Wisconsin 24, No. 18 Iowa 22:** Jonathan Taylor rushed for a season-high 250 yards and Danny Davis ran for a touchdown and caught a scoring pass for the host Badgers.

**No. 17 Cincinnati 48, Connecticut 3:** Desmond Ridder threw for a pair of touchdowns and Michael Warren II ran for two more scores during a dominant opening half, and the host Bearcats remained the only unbeaten team in American Athletic play.

**Texas 27, No. 20 Kansas State 24:** Cameron Dicker kicked a 26-yard field goal as time expired to lift the Longhorns past the visiting Wildcats as Texas maintained hopes of returning to the Big 12 championship game.

**No. 21 Boise State 20, Wyoming 17 (OT):** Chase Cord threw for 190 yards and a touchdown, Eric Sachse kicked a 28-yard field goal in overtime and the host Broncos rallied to beat the Cowboys.

**Virginia Tech 36, No. 22 Wake Forest 17:** Hendon Hooker accounted for 311 yards of total offense and ran for a touchdown to help the Hokies beat the visiting Demon Deacons.

**No. 23 SMU 59, East Carolina 51:** At Dallas, Shane Buechele threw five touchdown passes, Xavier Jones broke one of Eric Dickerson's school records and SMU bounced back from its first loss.

**Nevada 17, No. 24 San Diego State 13:** Wide receiver Elijah Cooks threw a 50-yard pass on a trick play to set up Devonte Lee's go-ahead, 1-yard run with 10:31 to go that lifted the Wolf Pack past the host Aztecs.

## NBA roundup

## Celtics beat Spurs but lose Hayward

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — In the midst of Boston's most dominant performance of the season, Celtics point guard Kemba Walker could only muster anger and confusion after learning Gordon Hayward broke his left hand.

Jaylen Brown scored 30 points and Boston routed the San Antonio Spurs 135-115 on Saturday in a victory tempered by the loss of Hayward, who will miss at least a month and could face surgery after breaking his left hand late in the first half.

"I was in shock," Walker said. "In those kinds of situations, it's kind of hard to say anything. You just don't even know what to say sometimes. We're going to miss him for the time that he's out."

Walker add 26 points as Boston (7-1) won its seventh straight game and set season highs for total points, first-quarter scoring (39 points) and first-half scoring (72 points).

There was a somberness to the victory, though, after Hayward suffered his second significant injury since signing with the Celtics three seasons ago. The 6-foot-7 forward missed the 2017 season after breaking his leg six minutes into Boston's season opener.

"This one doesn't feel near as bad as it did two years ago," Boston coach Brad Stevens said. "So, he'll be back. Be off for a

few weeks or a month or whatever it is."

The Celtics forward broke his left hand after colliding with San Antonio's LaMarcus Aldridge with just over a minute remaining in the first half. Hayward was sent for an X-ray that confirmed the diagnosis. He did not return to the game.

"Going to get with the doctors tomorrow and decide if he needs to do surgery or not," Stevens said. "Sounds like should he decide that the surgery option (is best, it) might actually be a better timeline. So, we'll see what that all plays out to be."

DeMar DeRozan had 22 points for the Spurs (5-4), who trailed by as many as 22 points in a lackluster effort of an early tipoff.

**Pelicans 115, Hornets 110:** Brandon Ingram had 25 points and nine rebounds, and New Orleans overcame 26 turnovers to win at Charlotte and snap a three-game losing streak.

JJ Redick had 22 points on five three-pointers and Jrue Holiday added 12 points and 11 assists for the Pelicans (2-7).

Ingram, who was born and raised in Kinston, N.C., finished 8-for-12 from the field and had 10 points in the fourth quarter while the Hornets went cold down the stretch.

**Rockets 117, Bulls 94:** James Harden narrowly missed his first triple-double of the season, finishing with 42 points, 10 re-

bounds and nine assists as Houston pulled away in the second half to win at Chicago.

Russell Westbrook scored 26 points as the Rockets won their third straight.

Wendell Carter Jr. had 13 points and 16 rebounds for the Bulls, who have dropped six of eight.

The Bulls were a woeful 4-for-32 shooting from three-point range.

**Mavericks 138, Grizzlies 122:** Luka Doncic fell just short of a triple-double with 24 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists to lead Dallas to a win at Memphis.

Doncic recorded his stats in three quarters as Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle sat the second-year guard while Dallas maintained a double-digit lead in the final period. Kristaps Porzingis already had taken the night off recovering from a left knee injury.

**Thunder 114, Warriors 108:** Danilo Gallinari scored 19 points, Dennis Schroder added 18, and host Oklahoma City beat short-handed Golden State.

Chris Paul had 16 points and nine assists, Steven Adams scored 13 and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander added 12 to help the Thunder beat the Warriors for the second time this season. Oklahoma has won three of its last four games.

D'Angelo Russell scored 17 of his 30 points in the third quarter to lead Golden State.

## College basketball roundup

## Coleman, Liddell lead Texas past No. 23 Purdue

Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Texas' defense spent most of Saturday night harassing Purdue's scorers.

Eventually, all that work paid off.

The Longhorns forced three straight turnovers late in the game and took advantage of the miscues to score nine straight points, leaving town with a 70-66 upset over the No. 23 Boilermakers.

The Longhorns (2-0) won their seventh straight, snapped the nation's fifth-longest home-court winning streak at 18 and

became the first non-conference foe to win at Purdue since No. 3 Villanova on Nov. 13, 2016. And they did it after the Boilermakers went on a 7-0 run to take a 62-57 lead with 3:14 to go.

Matt Coleman III scored 22 points and Gerald Liddell added 14 points and eight rebounds, both career bests, to lead Texas.

**Air Force 79, Texas State 71:** Sid Tomes posted 19 points to lead the host Falcons.

Lavelle Scottie had 15 points and eight rebounds for Air Force (1-1). A.J. Walker added

12 points. Chris Joyce had 11 points and six rebounds for the home team. Mason Harrell had 15 points for the Bobcats (1-1).

**No. 7 Maryland 73, Rhode Island 55:** Jalen Smith had 19 points and 11 rebounds, Anthony Cowan Jr. scored all 14 of his points in the second half and the turnover-prone Terrapins overcame a sloppy start at home.

**No. 8 Gonzaga 110, Arkansas-pine Bluff 60:** Filip Petrushev scored a career-high 25 points on 9-for-10 shooting and the host Zags won easily.

The Zags scored 10 of the

final 11 points to take a 56-30 lead at halftime, behind 58.6% shooting.

**No. 12 Seton Hall 74, Stony Brook 57:** Romaro Gill had 10 points and 10 assists and Sandro Mamukelashvili scored 17 points in Pirates coach Kevin Willard's return.

**No. 13 Texas Tech 79, Bethune-Cookman 44:** TJ Holyfield scored 20 points to lead the host Red Raiders.

**No. 15 Oregon 106, Boise State 75:** Anthony Mathis scored a career high 30 points and the host Ducks routed the Broncos.

## NHL roundup

## Islanders' Greiss holds off Panthers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Thomas Greiss came through with some big saves. Johnny Boychuk and Jordan Eberle had a couple of key blocks when Greiss was out of position, and Scott Mayfield got the winning goal for New York right after Florida tied it in the third period.

Greiss stopped 37 shots and Mathew Barzal had a goal and an assist, helping New York beat Florida 2-1 Saturday for their 11th win in 12 games.

The Islanders rebounded nicely after they blew a three-goal lead in the third period of a 4-3 overtime loss to Pittsburgh on Thursday night.

"Last game was a tough last period," Greiss said. "So we wanted to win that one for sure and everybody battled hard, it was a good comeback."

New York earned a point for the 12th straight game — a stretch that followed a 1-3-0 start and began with a 3-2 shootout win against the Panthers at Nassau Coliseum on Oct. 12.

"You're going to win games different ways," Islanders coach Barry Trotz said. "We had been doing it with a lot of people out. (Today) we won it with excellent goaltending, good special teams and some high commitment in all those areas."

Aleksander Barkov scored for Florida, and Sergei Bobrovsky finished with 34 saves. The Panthers lost in regulation for just the second time in 13 games (6-2-5).

"It's frustrating we didn't get more than one goal," Barkov said. "We had chances ... a lot of chances to score a goal. That helped us and gave us a chance to win the game but we just didn't score enough goals."

Barkov tied the score with a power-play goal at 6:12 of the third, beating Greiss from the right side for his fourth.

Mayfield regained the lead for New York just 38 seconds later with a shot from the right point that deflected in off Panthers defenseman Anton Stralman's stick.

"We had the lead going into the third period, we didn't want to lose it there," Barzal said. "They got one back on the power play and we got one I think the next shift. It was a good response by our group. Shift after a goal is kind of huge."

A tripping penalty on Anders Lee gave Florida its fourth power play of the game and Barkov appeared to tie it again with 5:25 left. But the goal was disallowed because officials ruled he hit the puck with a high stick. The call was confirmed by a video review. Bobrovsky was pulled for an extra skater with 1:40 left, but the Panthers

came up empty the rest of the way.

Leading 1-0 after 20 minutes, the Islanders pressed to add to their lead in the scoreless second period with both goalies making some nice stops.

New York outshot Florida 19-8 in the period, including 9-1 over the first 5:15 and 6-0 over the final 5½ minutes. Greiss made a nice left pad stop on Mike Matheson in front 5½ minutes in. Barkov was stopped on a pair of shots about 45 seconds apart, and Greiss had a spectacular save on Mike Hoffman's shot from the right circle.

**Capitals 5, Golden Knights 2:** Evgeny Kuznetsov scored his sixth goal of the season, Jonas Siegenthaler added the first of his career and host Washington beat Vegas in a rematch of 2018 Stanley Cup finalists.

Kuznetsov revived his famous bird celebration, flapping his arms after scoring 58 seconds in, and added an assist in the Capitals' sixth consecutive victory. Washington has won 10 of 11.

Tom Wilson beat Marc-Andre Fleury in the first period for his eighth. Nicklas Backstrom sealed it with a power-play goal and an empty-netter. Braden Holtby made nine of his 30 saves on the penalty kill.

Max Pacioretty and Reilly Smith scored for the Golden Knights.

**Flyers 3, Maple Leafs 2 (SO):** Sean Couturier scored the shootout winner to lift Philadelphia to a win at Toronto.

Claude Giroux also scored in the shootout. William Nylander was the only successful Toronto shooter.

Phillipe Myers and Oskar Lindblom scored in regulation for Philadelphia, and Brian Elliott stopped 38 shots.

Nylander had a goal and an assist, Travis Dermott also scored for Toronto and Frederik Andersen made 30 saves. The Maple Leafs had won a season-high three games.

**Penguins 3, Blackhawks 2 (SO):** Jake Guentzel and Jared McCann scored in a shootout and host Pittsburgh rallied to end a 10-game losing streak against Chicago.

The Penguins beat the Blackhawks for the first time since March 30, 2014, by scrambling back from a two-goal deficit. Guentzel's eighth of the season late in the second period gave the Penguins life, and Rust's fifth since his return from injured reserve tied it midway through the third period.

**Avalanche 4, Blue Jackets 2:** Cale Makar had two goals and Pavel Francouz stopped 39 shots to lead host Colorado.

Nazem Kadri had a goal and an assist, Samuel Girard also scored and Tyson Jost had two assists.

Forward Pierre-Edouard Bellemare left late in the second period after he was elbowed in the head by Nick Foligno. The Avalanche were already without forwards Gabriel Landeskog, Mikko Rantanen and Colin Wilson as well as defenseman Nikita Zadorov and goaltender Philipp Grubauer.

**Lightning 5, Sabres 3:** Pat Maroon scored twice and Tampa Bay swept the two-game series in Stockholm. Swede Victor Hedman also scored for the Lightning, delighting the home crowd, and Curtis McElhinney made 40 saves. The Lightning beat Buffalo 3-2 Friday.

**Canadiens 3, Kings 2:** Defenseman Shea Weber scored two power-play goals in host Montreal's defeat of Los Angeles.

Nate Thompson also scored and Carey Price made 31 saves. Blake Lizotte scored his first NHL goal, Anze Kopitar also connected, and Jonathan Quick stopped 34 shots for the Kings.

**Wild 4, Coyotes 3:** Ryan Hartman scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period and Minnesota overcame a two-goal deficit to win at Arizona.

Jared Spurgeon had two assists, including a long pass from the corner to Hartman at 4:54 of the third. Mikko Koivu, Kevin Fiala and Matt Dumba also scored, and Devan Dubnyk stopped 31 shots for the Wild.

**Senators 4, Hurricanes 1:** Anders Nilsson made 38 saves and host Ottawa scored three first-period goals.

Filip Chlapik, Vladislav Namestnikov and Jean-Gabriel Pageau scored in the first, and Brady Tkachuk connected in the third. Andrei Svechnikov scored for Carolina.

**Blues 3, Flames 2 (OT):** David Perron scored a power-play goal 2:46 into overtime to lift St. Louis to its seventh straight win.

Ryan O'Reilly and Ivan Barbashev also scored for the Blues, and Perron and O'Reilly each added an assist. Jordan Binnington stopped 27 shots to help the defending Stanley Cup champions complete a perfect four-game trip and with their fifth straight away from home.

**Sharks 2, Predators 1 (SO):** Timo Meier scored in the seventh round of the shootout to lift host San Jose to its third straight win after losing seven of eight.

Tomas Hertl scored in regulation for the Sharks. Martin Jones had 24 saves through overtime and then denied all seven Nashville attempts in the tiebreaker.