

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## US reevaluating foes' space capabilities

*Bloomberg*

The U.S. intelligence community is updating its assessment of space warfare capabilities of Russia and China as military commanders express concerns about advances in the adversaries' ability to jam, ram or destroy satellites in orbit.

Air Force Gen. John Hyten requested the National Intelligence Estimate before he left his prior command at the U.S. Strategic Command, and it "is being worked by the [intelligence community] at this time," said Lt. Col. Christina Hoggatt, an Air Force spokeswoman. Hyten is now the U.S.' No. 2 military officer.

The new U.S. Space Command will use the updated intelligence estimate "alongside current operations and critical information from our international, civil and commercial partnerships, to identify and drive" future "training and ac-

quisition requirements," Hoggatt said.

The actual and potential threats of space wars were used in part to justify establishing the Space Command, a new Space Development Agency and possibly a sixth service branch that would be called the Space Force. Those concerns will be reinforced this week by the congressionally mandated U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission in its annual report to be released Thursday.

The report concludes that China "views space as a critical U.S. military and economic vulnerability and has fielded an array of direct-ascent, cyber, electromagnetic and co-orbital counterspace weapons capable of targeting nearly every class of U.S. space asset."

"It may be difficult for the United States to deter Beijing from using these weapons due to China's belief the U.S. has

a greater vulnerability in space," according to an advance copy.

Although China hasn't shot down a satellite since a widely cited test in 2007, "it has continued to test kinetic counterspace systems nearly every year, sometimes disguised as" ballistic missile intercept tests, according to the commission, which is specifically charged with reporting economic and military threats posed by China.

Reflecting such concerns, the Pentagon requested \$14.1 billion for an expanded national security space budget for the current 2020 fiscal year, about 14% more than in fiscal 2019, according to the Congressional Research Service.

The U.S. operates 870 of the world's 1,880 intelligence, communications, navigation and scientific satellites, according to the Pentagon's inspector general.

The intelligence agencies' National Intelligence Estimates are generally updated every two to three years. The results of the new NIE will be folded into the intelligence community's next public "Worldwide Threat Assessment."

The new Space Command has "daily interactions with" the intelligence agencies, and they have representatives within the organization, Hoggatt, the Air Force spokeswoman, said. "We regularly collaborate and coordinate on all space threats, to include China/Russia."

"We have a good understanding" of China's space strategy, Gen. John Raymond, the head of Space Command, said at an Air Force Association event in September. "We understand their capabilities," and "we're pretty comfortable they are developing directed energy weapons and probably fielding lasers to blind our satellites," Raymond said.

## Mom of Navy recruit who died in training seeks 2nd autopsy

*Associated Press*

CHICAGO — The mother of a Navy recruit who died after a boot camp run at an Illinois base earlier this year said she will seek another autopsy after a blood disorder was revealed to have played a role in her daughter's death.

Kenya Evans told the Chicago Tribune that the Navy discovered that her daughter, Kierra Evans, who was 20 when she died, possessed the sickle cell trait during a medical test.

Most who have it don't deal with symptoms of sickle cell disease, which is a potentially fatal condition that causes blood cells to deform and clog blood vessels. But the symptoms can emerge during rigor-

ous exercise.

On Feb. 22, Kierra Evans was running during a timed training at Naval Station Great Lakes in North Chicago when she vomited and collapsed, according to Lake County coroner records obtained by the newspaper. She was taken to a hospital but suffered cardiac arrest and died.

The cause of Evans' death was exertional rhabdomyolysis — the disintegration of muscle tissue during intense exercise — with sickle cell trait listed as an important contributing factor, the coroner determined.

Evans, who was from Monroe, La., was the first of two recruits to die during boot camp in 2019. Kelsey Nobles, 18, of Mobile, Ala., died April 23 of

possible cardiac arrest due to an irregular heartbeat.

Though Nobles also had the sickle cell trait, the coroner's office determined that it was not a factor in her death.

The deaths led Great Lakes to announce in May that it was keeping people with unspecified "medical traits" from participating in intense exercise pending a review.

The Navy also issued an administrative memo encouraging fitness trainers to acquaint themselves with sickle cell trait, and for black workers, who are disproportionately affected by the condition, to "engage with medical (staff) to determine their status and understand the risk."

A Great Lakes spokesman

declined to comment.

Two days prior to Kierra's death, she called home and told her mother she was being set back in training for unspecified medical reasons, Kenya Evans said.

The Navy requires recruits with sickle cell trait to wear red belts during physical training, and Kenya Evans noted that meant instructors should have understood not to push her daughter too hard.

Kierra Evans' death certificate was completed Oct. 22. Her mother said she intends to have her daughter's body unearched and a second autopsy performed to learn more about the circumstances surrounding her death. She said the Navy has not told her much about it.

# Oracle presses ahead with DOD cloud suit

*The Washington Post*

Oracle is pressing forward with a long-running legal challenge to the Pentagon's massive cloud computing contract, its third such attempt to upend the procurement since the project was announced 18 months ago.

In an appeal filed recently in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the company accused the Defense Department of improperly limiting competition when it set the terms of the procurement.

Oracle challenged an earlier Pentagon decision to toss its bid, arguing it now meets the minimum requirements. Also, it doubled down on long-standing accusations that revolving-door hires "corrupted" the process and skewed the playing field in Amazon's favor. (Amazon founder Jeff Bezos owns *The Washington Post*.)

Oracle is now seeking an injunction that would block the Defense Department from assigning additional work on the contract.

Oracle's appeal comes as a surprise to those who followed the company's lawsuit in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, which fixated on the idea that Amazon had an unfair advantage. In the end, Amazon lost to Microsoft.

Even so, procurement experts say Oracle may still have a shot at blocking the contract. Steven Schooner, a leading expert in procurement law with George Washington University, said there is "no reason to think that DOD's award to Microsoft dramatically alters Oracle's litigation."

Instead, the Amazon-related conflicts could continue to call into question the Defense Department's handling of the procurement.

"I could easily see a panel of Federal Circuit judges being sufficiently troubled by the conflicts of interest ... and concluding that DOD has to take a step back and more proactively address those concerns before it can proceed," Schooner said

in an email.

Amazon Web Services declined to comment for this report.

The Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure contract, known as JEDI, is meant to create an enterprisewide cloud computing system run by a commercial tech company. The Defense Department's decision to turn to just one provider for the contract, worth up to \$10 billion over 10 years, made it a competitive lightning rod for the handful of giant tech companies jostling for cloud computing market share.

In April, the Pentagon announced Amazon and Microsoft were the only companies capable of meeting the minimum requirements. Initial bids from Oracle and IBM were thrown out.

Amazon Web Services was long seen as the inevitable winner. It is the commercial market leader by far and got a head start in the national security sector due to an earlier \$600

million contract with the CIA.

It came as a shock when, late last month, the Defense Department instead awarded the contract to Microsoft. Amazon has not said whether it will protest.

Oracle, whose database business is threatened by the rise of cloud computing, has been working to thwart the Pentagon's plans since long before the competition started. In court filings and informal lobbying documents, it has accused top officials of conspiring to give Amazon a long-term monopoly on the military's information technology infrastructure.

"The bigger question in all of the legal battles is how do we help the government do a better job of buying technology out of the commercial world and doing so in a timely manner, where it's still relevant," said David Berteau, president of the Professional Services Council, a trade group for government contractors.

## Marine deserter sought in fatal shooting in Virginia

*Associated Press*

HARDY, Va. — Authorities in Virginia are searching for a Marine who deserted his post in North Carolina and has since been named as a person of interest in the shooting death of his mother's boyfriend.

News outlets reported that Michael Al-

exander Brown, 22, is wanted for questioning in the Saturday death of Rodney Brown in Franklin County, Va.

Authorities said Michael Brown is a combat engineer who deserted his Camp Lejeune post in North Carolina last month and was later spotted in Franklin County.

The Craven County Sheriff's Office said

Michael Brown may now be back in North Carolina as his last known address was in New Bern, about 250 miles southeast of Franklin County and 50 miles north of Camp Lejeune.

Authorities said anyone who spots him should act with "extreme caution."

## Former VA nominee Jackson may run for Congress

*CQ-Roll Call*

WASHINGTON — Navy Rear Adm. Ronny Jackson is considering a run for Congress in Texas, two sources familiar with his plans said Friday.

Jackson was the chief White House physician in 2018 when President Donald Trump nominated him to be Department

of Veterans Affairs secretary. Jackson withdrew his nomination from consideration amid allegations that he abused alcohol and mishandled prescription drugs, although he said at the time the charges were "completely false and fabricated."

A Texas native, Jackson is

eyeing a run as a Republican in the 13th District, which opened after longtime GOP incumbent Mac Thornberry announced his retirement. Trump won the district by 63 points in 2016, and Inside Elections with Nathan L. Gonzales rates the race "solid Republican."

Jackson was born in Level-

land, Texas, which is in the neighboring 19th District. He is well-liked by Trump and is still employed at the White House, although he is no longer the chief physician. He also served as a physician for Presidents Barack Obama and George W. Bush. Candidate filing began Saturday and ends Dec. 9.



# Trump honors vets, kicks off NYC tribute

Associated Press

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump kicked off New York City's Veterans Day Tribute on Monday by saying the nation's veterans "risked everything for us. Now it is our duty to serve and protect them every single day of our lives."

Trump spoke at the opening of the 100th annual parade organized by the United War Veterans Council in Madison

Square Park. He is the first sitting president to accept the group's invitation to speak at the event.

As Trump spoke, more than 100 protesters gathered and could be heard with whistles and booing. Some chanted "lock him up" and "shame, shame, shame."

Trump told the crowd that the nation's veterans often came face to face with evil and did not back down.

"You returned from war and you never forgot your friends who didn't return," Trump said. "But your greatest tribute of all is the way you lived your lives in the years since."

Trump also used the event to tout the strength of the U.S. military and the death of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, saying "al-Baghdadi is dead. His second in charge is dead. We have our eyes on number 3."

Trump has been a longtime supporter of the parade. The New York Times reported that during the 1990s he pledged \$200,000 and offered to raise money from friends in exchange for being named the parade's grand marshal.

Trump is a lifelong New Yorker but recently changed his official residence to Florida, complaining about his treatment by the heavily Democratic city's elected officials.

## Iran underground lab produces more uranium

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran is producing even more low-enriched uranium daily than previously thought after resuming enrichment at an underground laboratory built in a mountain, the head of the country's nuclear program told The Associated Press on Monday.

Ali Akbar Salehi, of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, attributed the rise to the work at Fordo, a long-secret facility the West feared could be used to divert and

rapidly enrich uranium to weapons-grade levels.

Iran resumed uranium enrichment at Fordo as it also broke other limits imposed by the 2015 nuclear deal that began to unravel after President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the accord over a year ago. Under the nuclear accord, Fordo was supposed to be a research lab — and not used for uranium enrichment.

Iran hopes to pressure Europe through these moves and get European nations to

offer it a way to sell its crude oil abroad despite American sanctions. However, President Hassan Rouhani faces growing criticism at home over the accord's collapse.

Rouhani on Monday separately urged Iran to stick with the deal, saying it could open up international arms sales for the Islamic Republic next year.

Salehi told the AP in Tehran that the country is now producing at least 12 pounds daily. That's compared with what Tehran had been produc-

ing — about 1 pound of low-enriched uranium per day.

The increase in enrichment comes from the inclusion of over 1,000 centrifuges at Fordo, some 15 miles north-east of Qom, a Shiite holy city, Salehi said. Shielded by the mountains, the facility also is ringed by anti-aircraft guns and other fortifications. It is about the size of a football field, large enough to house 3,000 centrifuges, but small and hardened enough to lead U.S. officials to suspect it had a military purpose.

## Turkey deports Americans, others who fought for ISIS

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkey on Monday deported citizens of the United States and Denmark who fought for Islamic State, and it made plans to expel other foreign nationals as the government began a new push to send back captured foreign fighters to their home countries, a Turkish official said.

The move comes just over a week after the Turkish interior minister said Turkey was not a "hotel" for ISIS fighters and criticized Western nations for their reluctance to take back citizens who had joined the ranks of the extremist militant group as it sought to establish a

"caliphate" in Iraq and Syria.

Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu said last week that about 1,200 foreign ISIS fighters were in Turkish prisons and 287 members, including women and children, were recaptured during Turkey's offensive in Syria.

Several European countries, including Britain, have stripped ISIS fighters of their nationalities to prevent their return.

A U.S. and a Danish national were deported from Turkey on Monday, while a German national was scheduled to be deported later in the day, Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency quoted Interior Ministry spokesman Ismail Catakli

as saying. Seven other German nationals were scheduled to leave the country on Thursday, he said.

Two Irish nationals, two German nationals and 11 French nationals who were captured in Syria were also to be transferred to their home countries soon, Catakli said. He did not provide further information but said the suspects were being held in Turkish deportation centers.

The U.S. did not immediately comment on Ankara's announcement. A Greek official who spoke on condition of anonymity pending a public announcement said Turkey deported the U.S. citizen to

Greece, which rejected him, leaving him in a heavily militarized no man's land between the two borders. It was unclear why he was deported to Greece.

In Denmark, Justice Minister Nick Hakkerup told Danish broadcaster TV2 that any Danish citizens who fought for ISIS and are repatriated to the country "must be punished as severely as possible."

Germany said it will not refuse entry to its own citizens, but added that as far as German officials know, the citizen being deported Monday was not involved with ISIS.

# Guardisman pleads guilty to dog tags theft

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — A Virginia National Guard sergeant accused of stealing World War II-era dog tags from the National Archives and Records Administration in Maryland has pleaded guilty to a theft charge.

Robert Rumsby, of Fredericksburg, Va., entered a guilty plea to one misdemeanor count of theft on Friday, according to Marcia Murphy, a spokeswoman for U.S. Attorney Robert Hur's office. Rumsby is scheduled to be sentenced Jan. 22 by U.S. Magistrate Judge Thomas DiGirolamo at the federal courthouse in Greenbelt, Murphy said.

Rumsby told investigators he took dog tags that belonged to four U.S. airmen killed in plane crashes in 1944, according to a criminal complaint.

Rumsby's wife is the great niece of one of the deceased airmen. Rumsby said he gave that airman's dog tags to his wife's grandmother as a Christmas gift and gave another airman's dog tags to a relative of that serviceman, the complaint says.

Rumsby referred questions about his guilty plea to his attorney, Peter Fayne, who didn't immediately return an email seeking comment Monday. Rumsby said in an email that he will make a "full statement" at his sentencing hearing.

National Archives staff were

investigating possible thefts of artifacts in January 2017 when they discovered that dog tags belonging to World War II aviator Theodore Ream were missing from a box Rumsby had accessed several weeks earlier, according to the criminal complaint. Rumsby's wife is the great-niece of Ream. Investigators recovered Ream's dog tag from a shadow box at the grandmother's home in Chesapeake, Va.

In 2015, Rumsby also accessed a box that contained dog tags for three airmen who died in a July 21, 1944, plane crash. When investigators questioned him in April, Rumsby retrieved the dog tags for two of those airmen from a shelf in his home

and said he had given the third dog tag to a relative of that airman, the complaint says.

Earlier this year, Rumsby told Stars and Stripes he took the dog tags from the facility so he could give them to dead soldiers' families.

Rumsby is assigned to the Virginia National Guard's 116th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. National Guard spokesman A.A. "Cotton" Puryear said Rumsby's unit leaders were tracking the criminal case.

"Once his case has been heard and a decision is reached, his unit leadership will determine the ... action to take," Puryear wrote in an email last month.

## Perry-supported backers got huge Ukrainian deal

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Two political supporters of U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry secured a potentially lucrative oil and gas exploration deal from the Ukrainian government soon after Perry proposed one of the men as an adviser to the country's new president.

Perry's efforts to influence Ukraine's energy policy came earlier this year, just as President Volodymyr Zelenskiy's new government was seeking military aid from the United States to defend against Russian aggression, and allies of President Donald Trump were ramping up efforts to get the Ukrainians to investigate his Democratic rival, Joe Biden.

Ukraine awarded the contract to Perry's supporters a little more than a month after the U.S. energy secretary attended Zelenskiy's May inauguration. During that trip, Perry handed the new president a list of people he recommended as energy advisers, including his longtime political backer Michael Bleyzer.

A week later, Bleyzer and his

partner, Alex Cranberg, submitted a bid to drill for oil and gas at a sprawling government-controlled site called Varvynska. Their proposal was millions of dollars lower than their only competitor's, according to internal Ukrainian government documents obtained by The Associated Press.

But their newly created joint venture, Ukrainian Energy, was awarded the 50-year agreement because a government-appointed commission determined they had greater technical expertise and stronger financial backing, the documents show.

Testimony in the impeachment inquiry into Trump shows the energy secretary was one of three key U.S. officials who were negotiating a meeting between Trump and the Ukrainian leader.

The sequence of events suggests that the Trump administration's political maneuvering in Ukraine was entwined with the big business of the energy trade.

## Bolivia in power void as president, successors resign

Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia — Bolivia entered a sudden era of political uncertainty on Monday as President Evo Morales, pushed by the military and weeks of massive protests, resigned after nearly 14 years in power, and seemingly every person constitutionally in line for the job quit as well.

Crowds of jubilant foes of the socialist leader celebrated in the streets with honking horns and fireworks after Morales' announcement Sunday, treating as a triumph of democracy the ouster of a man who pushed aside presidential term limits and claimed victory in a widely questioned October election.

"We are celebrating that Bolivia is free," said one demonstrator near the presidential palace.

But others — including Morales himself — saw it as a return to the bleak era of coups d'etat overseen by Latin American militaries that long dominated the region. Morales stepped aside only after the military chief, Gen. Williams Kaliman, called for him to quit

to allow the restoration of peace and stability.

Morales earlier in the day had already accepted calls for a new election by an Organization of American States team that found a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 election, the official results of which showed Morales getting just enough votes to avoid a runoff against a united opposition.

It wasn't immediately clear who would succeed Morales or how his successor would be chosen.

His vice president also resigned, as did the Senate president, who was next in line. The only other official listed by the constitution as a successor, the head of the lower house, already had resigned.

There were no immediate signs that the military itself was maneuvering for power, but "I think we have to keep a close eye on what the military does over the next few hours," said Jennifer Cyr, associate professor of political science and Latin American studies at the University of Arizona. "Are they overstepping their role?"



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## 24 chow down in crab eating contest

**FL** MARATHON — A Florida resident won a stone crab claw eating competition in the Florida Keys.

Kevin Bombardier, of Miami, bested 23 rivals Saturday by cracking and consuming 25 stone crab claws in 14 minutes and 16 seconds, a new record at the Keys Fisheries Stone Crab Claw Eating Contest.

Marathon residents Greg D'Agostino and Ryan Beckett claimed a fifth consecutive top team title, finishing in 6:40.

Contestants had to pick claws completely clean of meat in the fastest time. Meat left behind resulted in time penalties.

## Monument at Civil War site rededicated

**MS** VICKSBURG — A Mississippi monument was rededicated in a national park on a Civil War battlefield.

A ceremony took place Nov. 4 in the Vicksburg National Military Park.

The Vicksburg Post reported the Mississippi monument underwent a \$75,000 restoration funded by the state and promoted by a group called Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign.

Work included masonry repairs, testing of the monument's lightning suppression system and thorough cleaning. It was done by the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Training Center.

## Busted for speeding? Troopers have an app

**ME** PORTLAND — Busted for speeding? Maine State Police have an app for that.

Maine troopers are preparing to issue traffic citations via computers in their cruisers. The motorist gets a printout of the citation, which is electronically sent to court.

Trooper Anthony Keim, the first to test the "e-citation program," said it's easier to type out the ticket than to write out a ticket by hand. It will be rolled out to all state police cruisers in December.

But it comes with a cost of about \$1,000 per cruiser. That's a problem for smaller departments, but some of them are hoping grants may eventually cover the costs.

## Man: McDonald's tea had weed inside

**SC** HILTON HEAD — A South Carolina man who went to McDonald's for a sweet tea says he received a little extra herbal substance on the side.

The Island Packet reported that Parrish Brown went to a McDonald's on Hilton Head Island and asked for a sweet tea with light ice and extra lemon.

Brown now believes "extra lemon" was code for marijuana, since he found three bags of weed in his cup. He said he realized it once he was "high as a kite."

Brown said he'd never had marijuana so he didn't recognize the taste. He said he paid regular price for the items.

## Sheriff: 17 arrested in child porn sting

**FL** WINTER HAVEN — Authorities in central Florida said two Disney workers and a former assistant principal at a middle school were among 17 people arrested in a child porn sting.

In a news release, Polk Coun-

ty Sheriff Grady Judd said Friday that the 17 men arrested range in age from 19 to 77.

Authorities said Walt Disney World Resorts janitor Donald Durr, 52, of Davenport had images of child porn on an electronic tablet.

Investigators said Brett Kinney, 40, of Lake Alfred, told officers he had an addiction to child pornography and worked as a guest experience manager at Disney World.

In a statement, Disney said Kinney is no longer employed by the company and Durr is on unpaid leave.

## Police look for archer after 2 men injured

**CA** RICHMOND — Police are searching for an archer who shot arrows at a homeless encampment in the San Francisco Bay Area, striking two men in the abdomen.

The East Bay Regional Park District police said Saturday the victims were hit by arrows about midnight in Richmond, a working-class suburb east of San Francisco.

Police said the attacker was someone the victims knew.

Sgt. Gretchen Rose said the victims were staying at the encampment along the San Francisco Bay Trail but their attacker did not live there. She said one victim was additionally hit in the leg.

Both men were taken to the hospital, where one underwent surgery. They were listed in stable condition.

## Teenager says he shot himself while dancing

**UT** LOGAN — Police in northern Utah are investigating a shooting in which a 17-year-old boy said a gunshot wound to one of his legs

was self-inflicted when his gun accidentally discharged as he danced while intoxicated.

The Deseret-News reported that North Park police said the teen sought treatment at a Logan hospital Oct. 5 and that witnesses told investigators the shooting happened when the teen got out of a car at an apartment complex and started dancing.

According to police, the teen told officers that the gun was in his sweatshirt pocket. Police said the youth's account is plausible but that their investigation into possible firearm and alcohol violations continued Friday.

## Man accused of trap to steal car, hit-runs

**NC** CHARLOTTE — Authorities in North Carolina said a man parked a minivan on a busy interstate to trap a driver and steal their vehicle.

News outlets reported that deputies in Iredell County said a woman stopped to avoid hitting the minivan Nov. 4 along Interstate 77.

The woman told deputies the man was standing next to her car with a long metal pipe. The man, later identified as Landis Darnell Glaspy, 48, is accused of opening her car door, throwing her onto the median and driving away with her car.

Deputies said Glaspy was fleeing from multiple hit-and-run collisions he allegedly caused on N.C. 901 near I-77.

Glaspy was arrested Nov. 5. He's charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon and assault.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

## NFL Week 10 roundup

# Titans spoil Mahomes' return

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Ryan Tannehill threw a 23-yard touchdown to Adam Humphries with 23 seconds left, and the Tennessee Titans blocked a last-second field goal attempt to beat the Kansas City Chiefs 35-32 to spoil the return of NFL MVP Patrick Mahomes.

The Titans (5-5) only had a chance to take the lead after a bad snap by the Chiefs on Harrison Butker's fifth field goal attempt of the day. The snap caught holder Dustin Colquitt by surprise, and he threw the ball away in desperation for an intentional grounding call, setting the Titans up at their own 39.

Tannehill scrambled for 18, hit Anthony Firsler for 20 yards and then found Humphries who ran in for the TD. Tannehill also ran for the 2-point conversion for a 35-32 lead.

The Chiefs (6-4) had a final chance with Mahomes. He drove them down, setting up Butker for another field goal try from 52 yards.

Joshua Kalu blocked the kick with his left hand, and the Titans poured onto the field to celebrate.

The loss spoiled the best passing game this season for Mahomes as the Chiefs outgained the Titans 530-371. Mahomes threw for 446 yards and three touchdowns. His best play came with the pocket collapsing around him when he jumped up to throw over the linemen to Mecole Hardman who ran for a 63-yard TD with 11:54 left and a 29-20 lead.

Mahomes looked very healthy playing for the first time since dislocating his right kneecap Oct. 17. He got lucky when his first pass first ruled an interception was overturned by replay for Titans safety Kenny Vaccaro trapping the ball on the ground. Mahomes capped the Chiefs' first drive with a 3-yard shovel pass to Travis Kelce.

### Packers 24, Panthers 16:

Preston Smith and Green Bay's defense stopped Christian McCaffrey at the goal line as time expired and the Packers beat Carolina at snowy Lambeau Field.

Aaron Jones scored three rushing touchdowns for the second time this season to lead Green Bay (8-2). Aaron Rodgers was held out of the end zone, but the two-time MVP completed 17 of 29 passes for 233 yards, including 118 yards to Devante Adams.

McCaffrey had a relatively quiet 108 yards and a touchdown on 20 carries for the Panthers (5-4).

### Vikings 28, Cowboys 24:

Dalvin Cook ran for 97 yards, including the go-ahead touchdown on fourth down, and had another 86 yards receiving to set up three other scores as visiting Minnesota beat Dallas.

Cook, the NFL rushing leader, easily outplayed two-time rushing champion Ezekiel Elliott as the Vikings (7-3) beat a winning team on the road for the first time in almost two years. Minnesota was 0-9-1 in its previous 10 such games.

Elliott had 47 yards rushing after three straight 100-yard games as the Cowboys (5-4) fell into a first-place tie with Philadelphia in the NFC East.

### Falcons 26, Saints 9:

Matt Ryan passed for two touchdowns and Atlanta ended its six-game slide with a win over the Saints that stopped host New Orleans' six-game winning streak.

Atlanta's defense stunningly dominated New Orleans' normally stout offensive line. Coming in with an NFL low seven sacks all season, the Falcons sacked Drew Brees six times, with Grady Jarrett, Vic Beasley Jr., Adrian Clayborn and De'Vondre Campbell all getting involved. Jarrett finished with a team-high 2½ sacks.

Ryan, returning from an ankle injury that sidelined him in the game before the Falcons' Week 9 bye, was 20 of 35 for 182 yards.

### Browns 19, Bills 16:

Baker Mayfield threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Rashard Higgins with 1:44 left and Cleveland snapped a four-game losing streak — and took some pressure off first-year coach Freddie Kitchens — with a win over visiting Buffalo.

### Ravens 49, Bengals 13:

Lamar Jackson threw for three touchdowns in a near-perfect passing performance and added a sensational 47-yard scoring run. Marcus Peters got his third pick-6 of the season — this one off rookie Ryan Finley — and Baltimore won its fifth in a row, routing winless host Cincinnati.

### Steelers 17, Rams 12:

The Steelers forced four turnovers — including a 43-yard fumble return for a touchdown by safety Minkah Fitzpatrick — in an ugly victory that pushed their winning streak to four games and dealt the visiting Rams' chances of chasing down Seattle and San Francisco in the NFC West a serious blow.

### Bears 20, Lions 13:

Mitchell Trubisky tied a season high with three touchdown passes, and host Chicago withstood a late charge by Detroit with Jeff Driskel filling in for injured quarterback Matthew Stafford, beating Detroit 20-13 on Sunday to snap a four-game losing streak.

### Buccaneers 30, Cardinals 27:

Jameis Winston threw for 358 yards and one touchdown, helping Tampa Bay rally to snap a four-game losing streak with a victory over visiting Arizona.

### Jets 34, Giants 27:

At East Rutherford, N.J., Le'Veon Bell scored a go-ahead 1-yard touchdown early in the fourth quarter after a 33-yard pass interference penalty on DeAndre Baker, and the Jets rallied and then held on to beat the Giants for Big Apple bragging rights.

### Dolphins 16, Colts 12:

Ryan Fitzpatrick scored on an 11-yard run in the first half and Miami made a late stop to preserve a victory over Indianapolis.

## Sounders claim 2nd MLS title in 4 years

Associated Press

SEATTLE — They waited a decade to enjoy a celebration like this. As the Seattle Sounders, who topped Toronto FC 3-1, paraded the championship trophy around their home stadium, only those clad in red headed for the exits.

Ten years after helping change the scope of Major League Soccer, Seattle finally got to see its home team host the championship match. And it was rewarded with a second celebration in four years.

"The players and the fans deserve this," Seattle coach Brian Schmetzer said. "The players persevered because again it was a first-half we needed to make some adjustments and they never quit. And the fans never stopped believing."

Seattle had craved this moment since it joined the league in 2009. The Sounders brought record crowds and record success — 11 straight playoff appearances — but its previous two appearances in the finals both required trips to Toronto. Seattle wanted the showcase of playing for a championship with a stadium crammed full of green.

They got their wish. The 69,274 in attendance was a stadium record, the largest crowd to see a soccer match in Seattle, and the second-largest to witness an MLS Cup final behind last year in Atlanta. Seattle became the sixth franchise in league history with multiple titles. The Sounders joined Houston, Sporting Kansas City and San Jose with two titles. The LA Galaxy have five, and D.C. United four.

"I got a little teary-eyed, not so much for winning the trophy but winning it at home with our fans and having that positivity and joyous moments that you can share with everybody," Seattle goalkeeper Stefan Frei said.



## Top 25 roundup

## Emotional Winston leads Michigan State

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Playing a night after the death of his brother, Cassius Winston had 17 points and 11 assists to lift No. 1 Michigan State to an emotional 100-47 victory over Binghamton in the Spartans' home opener Sunday night.

Zachary Winston, Cassius' younger brother, died after being hit by a westbound Amtrak train in Albion on Saturday night. He was a basketball player at Albion College.

Cassius Winston took his usual spot in Michigan State's starting lineup Sunday. The crowd observed a moment of silence in Zachary's honor, then Cassius assisted on Michigan State's first basket and sank his first shot, a three-pointer from near the top of the key.

The game was a rout, as expected. Michigan State (1-1) rebounded easily from its season-opening loss to No. 2 Kentucky. Xavier Tillman scored 17 points for the Spartans, and Aaron Henry added 16.

Winston's final basket came when he shook past a defender and drove for a layup. He was taken out immediately after that, receiving a hug from coach Tom Izzo and a standing ovation from the crowd.

Sam Sessoms led Binghamton (0-2) with 12 points.

**Florida State 63, No. 6 Florida 51:** Devin Vassell scored 13 points, M.J. Walker added 12 and the Seminoles upset the host Gators, extending its series winning streak to six.

Florida State (1-1) avoided its first 0-2 start since 2000 thanks to suffocating defense that forced the rival Gators (1-1) into 16 turnovers and a woeful shooting performance. Florida was 14-for-50 from the field, including 4-for-22 from three-point range.

The Gators, a six-point favorite at home, expected some growing pains from a team

that features graduate transfer Kerry Blackshear Jr., three sophomores and five freshmen. They clearly weren't ready to match Florida State's intensity.

**No. 5 Louisville 78, Youngstown State 55:** Jordan Nwora scored 21 points in the Cardinals' home opener.

Louisville (2-0) made the first 11 shots to jump out to a 24-8 lead. The Cardinals then started the second half making seven of their first nine shots to put away the Penguins (1-1).

Steven Enoch added 17 points and a career-high 14 rebounds for Louisville.

Naz Bohannon led the Penguins with 14 points.

**No. 11 Virginia 65, James Madison 34:** Mamadi Diakite had 19 points and 13 rebounds and the host Cavaliers used a 29-6 run spanning halftime to pull away.

Virginia (2-0) led by just 22-20 until Kihei Clark's three-pointer started a 9-0 burst for Virginia. A three-pointer by Darius Banks ended that, making it 31-23 at the half.

Matt Lewis led James Madison (1-1) with 14 points.

**No. 18 Ohio State 76, UMass-Lowell 56:** Freshman D.J. Carton and Kaleb Wesson each had 13 points for the host Buckeyes.

The Buckeyes (2-0) got contributions throughout the lineup in the tuneup against the Atlantic East squad ahead of Wednesday night's matchup with No. 10 Villanova.

Obadiah Noel led UMass-Lowell (1-2) with 15 points.

**No. 21 Arizona 90, Illinois 69:** Nico Mannion scored 23 points, Josh Green added 20 and the Wildcats' freshmen dominated in a victory over the visiting Illini.

Arizona (2-0) was good at both ends, shooting 56% while nabbing 14 steals.

Ayo Dosunmu led Illinois (2-1) with 15 points and Trent Frazier added 14.

## NBA roundup

## Raptors end Lakers' 7-game win streak

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Pascal Siakam had 24 points and 11 rebounds, Fred VanVleet finished with 23 points and 10 assists and the Toronto Raptors snapped the Los Angeles Lakers' seven-game winning streak with a 113-104 victory Sunday night.

Chris Boucher matched his career high with 15 points for the Raptors, who have won three straight and six of seven. The defending NBA champions played without two key regulars after losing starter Kyle Lowry to a broken left thumb and top reserve Serge Ibaka to a sprained right ankle, but Toronto still rallied in the fourth quarter and hung on late for its 10th consecutive win over the Lakers.

Anthony Davis scored 27 points and LeBron James had 13 points, 15 assists and 13 rebounds in his 85th career triple-double, but the Lakers lost for the first time since opening night against the Clippers.

Toronto led 104-92 with 3:50 to play on Terence Davis' third three-pointer after a rally by four reserves and Siakam, but Kyle Kuzma hit back-to-back three-pointers while LA scored eight straight points.

**Nuggets 100, Timberwolves 98 (OT):** Nikola Jokic hit a fadeaway jumper with 2.4 seconds left in overtime to lift Denver past host Minnesota.

Jokic had 20 points, six rebounds and seven assists to help Denver win its fourth straight game. Will Barton had 13 points, including a pair of threes in overtime, and 12 rebounds.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 25 points and 16 rebounds for Minnesota. Towns sent it to overtime with a corner three, but the Wolves shot a season-low 13.3% from three-point range and 35.1% overall from the field.

**Suns 138, Nets 112:** Devin Booker scored 27 points and

hit four three-pointers, Ricky Rubio added a season-high 22 points and 12 assists and Phoenix routed visiting Brooklyn.

Booker was 10-for-14 from the field, making four of five three-pointers, and had nine assists.

**76ers 114, Hornets 106:** Joel Embiid had 18 points and nine rebounds, Al Horford scored 15 points and host Philadelphia beat Charlotte to snap a three-game losing streak.

Furkan Korkmaz scored 17 points and keyed a Sixers' run in the third quarter in their return home from a four-game trip. Korkmaz hit a three with just 0.4 seconds left to beat Portland for the lone win on the trip.

**Pacers 109, Magic 102:** Domantas Sabonis had 21 points, 16 rebounds and seven assists in Indiana's victory over host Orlando.

Malcolm Brogdon and T.J. Warren scored 19 points each to help the Pacers win for the sixth time in seven games.

**Bucks 121, Thunder 119:** Giannis Antetokounmpo had 35 points and 16 rebounds to help visiting Milwaukee rally and beat Oklahoma City.

Antetokounmpo scored 24 points in the second half. Eric Bledsoe added 25 points and nine assists for the Bucks, who have won five of six.

**Trail Blazers 124, Hawks 113 (OT):** Damian Lillard scored 30 points and Portland outlasted visiting Atlanta in overtime to snap a four-game losing streak.

Kent Bazemore made back-to-back three-pointers to open the extra period, sending the Blazers to their first win at home this season.

**Cavaliers 108, Knicks 87:** Collin Sexton scored 31 points and Cleveland knocked off host New York.

Kevin Love and Jordan Clarkson each added 17 points for Cleveland (4-5), which has its first winning streak of the season.



## NHL roundup

# Devils score early, hold off Canucks

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Mackenzie Blackwood had some more fan at the Vancouver Canucks' expense.

Blackwood made 30 saves, Wayne Simmonds and Jesper Bratt scored 22 seconds apart in the first period and the New Jersey Devils beat the Canucks 2-1 on Sunday.

"It seems like he is standing on his head every time he plays us," Vancouver captain Bo Horvat said. "I don't know if we're his favorite team to play against, but you have to give him credit. He made some great saves out there."

Blackwood is 4-0 against Vancouver with a 972 save percentage.

"I'm not really sure what it is, but I'll take it," Blackwood said. "I'm not going to over-think it too much. 'I just play like any other game and it just so happens that we've been pretty successful against this team. I'm just going to play them the same way every time and just hopefully get the results that we want every time.'"

Coach John Hynes praised Blackwood.

"He gave us saves when we needed them and that's what you need," said Hynes. "He looks good. He's finding ways to win games and that's exactly what you need from a goaltender."

Brock Boeser had a power-play goal for Vancouver. The Canucks are 0-3-1 in their past four games.

**Red Wings 3, Golden Knights 2:** Anthony Mantha scored with 30.9 seconds left to give host Detroit the comeback victory over Vegas.

Mantha broke in alone off the right wing after taking a pass off the boards from Robby Fabbrì, then beat goalie Malcolm Subban with a wrist shot from the right circle. Mantha has 11 goals this season.

**Panthers 6, Rangers 5 (SO):** Vincent Trocheck scored the shootout winner for visiting

Florida against New York.

Frank Vatrano scored in regulation and converted in the shootout for the Panthers.

Kaapo Kakko scored the lone shootout goal for New York and had a power-play goal.

**Jets 3, Stars 2 (OT):** Mark Scheifele scored 21 seconds into overtime to lift host Winnipeg past Dallas.

Scheifele went in on a 2-on-1 with Kyle Connor, kept the puck and beat Anton Khudobin with a low shot for his seventh goal.

**Blackhawks 5, Maple Leafs 4:** Patrick Kane had two goals and an assist, Robin Lehner made 53 saves and host Chicago struck early and then held off Toronto.

William Nylander scored twice for the Maple Leafs, and John Tavares and Andreas Johnsson added power-play goals in the third as Toronto stormed back with 26 shots in the final period. Auston Matthews had four assists for Toronto, which was 3-0-2 in its last five and lost in regulation for the first time in two weeks.

**Flyers 3, Bruins 2 (SO):** Joel Farabee scored in the shootout to lead visiting Philadelphia to its fourth straight win.

Travis Konecny had a goal and an assist, and Phillipe Myers also scored in regulation for the Flyers.

Danton Heinen and Brad Marchand each had a goal and Jaroslav Halak stopped 27 shots for the Bruins, who lost their third straight (0-2-1) after six-game win streak.

**Oilers 6, Ducks 2:** Connor McDavid had a hat trick and became the eighth NHL player to record 400 points before his 23rd birthday as visiting Edmonton beat Anaheim.

Ryan Nugent-Hopkins also scored twice for the Oilers, who have won four of their last six. Zack Kassian had a goal and two assists and Leon Draisaitl added three assists to move into the NHL scoring lead with 33 points (14 goals, 19 assists).

# Hamlin races way into title-race field

Associated Press

AVONDALE, Ariz. — Denny Hamlin adamantly insisted 'it's not over' after a critical mistake last week put the Daytona 500 winner on the verge of elimination from NASCAR's championship race.

He remained undeterred, confident in his chances to win Sunday at ISM Raceway and save his season with a victory that would give him an automatic berth into the final four.

He called his shot and delivered.

Hamlin snagged his first spot in the championship field since 2014 with his win, a victory that eliminated NASCAR champion Joey Logano from the playoffs and gave Joe Gibbs Racing and Toyota three of the slots in next week's decider at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"I try not to put too much into it," Hamlin said. "There's still work to be done. Doesn't guarantee a championship. Gives us a chance. Live to fight another day. That's all you can ask for."

Hamlin, one of the favorites to win the title, faced elimination after spinning last week at Texas but took control and had the win essentially in the bag until a caution with nine laps remaining set up a final restart.

Hamlin, who had been terrible on restarts the entire race, punched his steering wheel in anger when the yellow flag waved. His Joe Gibbs Racing team made an unusual call to take just two tires — the same strategy as contender Ryan Blaney — and the two lined up next to each other for the restart with three laps to go.

Hamlin finally got a decent restart, pulled into the lead, and Gibbs teammate Kyle Busch passed Blaney to put a buffer between the two.

Hamlin then cruised to his sixth win of the season and punched the air with his fist in his car as he crossed the finish line. He jumped into the arms of his waiting crew, which he

had promised earlier Sunday to give his all in an effort to make the championship field at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"This race team worked so hard this whole year. They deserve to be there," Hamlin said of his No. 11 crew. "I put them in a bad hole last week. I told them today in the meeting, I said, 'I'm going to give everything I've got to make up for the mistake I made last week.' That's all I got."

Hamlin will race Gibbs teammates Busch and Martin Truex Jr., as well as Kevin Harvick of Stewart-Haas Racing, for the championship. Gibbs, winner of 18 races this season, and Toyota have three of the slots in the final four.

Chevrolet will not be represented for the third consecutive season and Harvick races a Ford. Hamlin's win sealed the manufacturer championship for Toyota.

Truex won the 2018 title, Busch won in 2015 and Harvick in 2014. All three raced for the championship last season against Logano, who won the finale to snag the title away from the three drivers who dominated the season. This year the final four is equally deserving of their spots in the finale — the champion has had to win the race at Homestead to claim the title every year since the elimination format debuted in 2014.

Hamlin has never won a championship, but had chances in 2010 and 2014 but had disappointing races — a decision not to take tires after a late caution took Hamlin from the lead to out of contention in the 2014 race.

"Denny has not won a championship, so you can imagine how hard he's going to go for it," said Gibbs.

Chase Elliott, Kyle Larson, Blaney and Logano were eliminated.