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Candidates make final push for victory

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — President Donald Trump and Democratic challenger Joe Biden had one last chance to make their case to voters in critical battleground states on Monday, the final full day of a campaign that has laid bare their dramatically different visions for tackling the nation's pressing problems and for the office of the presidency itself.

The candidates are seeking to lead a nation at a crossroads, gripped by a historic pandemic that is raging anew in nearly every corner of the country and a reckoning over race. More than 93 million people have already voted, and it could take longer than usual for elections officials to process the historic surge in early and mail-in ballots.

Both campaigns insist they have a pathway to victory, though Biden's options for picking up the required 270 Electoral College votes are more

plentiful. Trump is banking on a surge of enthusiasm from his most loyal supporters while also threatening legal action to stop vote counting in some crucial states, including Pennsylvania.

The Republican president's final day had him sprinting through five rallies, from North Carolina to Wisconsin. Biden, meanwhile, devoted most of his time to Pennsylvania, where a win would leave Trump with an exceedingly narrow path. Biden was also dipping into Ohio, a show of confidence in a state where Trump won by 8 percentage points four years ago.

Heading into the closing 24 hours, Trump and Biden each painted the other as unfit for office and described the next four years in near apocalyptic terms if the other were to win.

"The Biden plan will turn America into a prison state locking you down while letting the far-left rioters roam free to loot and burn," Trump thun-

dered Sunday at a rally in Iowa, one of the five he held in battleground states.

Biden said America was on the verge of putting "an end to a presidency that's fanned the flames of hate.

"When America is heard, I believe the message is going to be clear: It's time for Donald Trump to pack his bags and go home," Biden said in Philadelphia, the biggest city in a state that could decide the presidency.

As the candidates close out the campaign, the pandemic, which has killed more than 231,000 people nationwide and caused nearly 20 million to lose jobs, reached a new peak in infection rates, threatening yet another blow to lives and livelihoods of voters.

The election caps an extraordinary year that began with Trump's impeachment, the near collapse of Biden's candidacy during the crowded

Democratic primary and then was fully reshaped by the coronavirus outbreak.

A record number of votes have already been cast, through early voting or mail-in ballots, which could lead to delays in their tabulation. Trump has spent months claiming without evidence that the votes would be ripe for fraud while refusing to guarantee that he would honor the election result.

In the starkest terms yet, Trump on Sunday threatened litigation to stop the tabulation of ballots arriving after Election Day. As soon as polls closed in battlegrounds such as Pennsylvania, Trump said, "we're going in with our lawyers."

It was unclear precisely what Trump meant. There is already an appeal pending at the Supreme Court over the counting of absentee ballots in Pennsylvania that are received in the mail in the three days after the election.

Official: US, S. Korea watching North's nuclear complex

By KIM GAMEL
AND YOO KYONG CHANG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea and the United States are closely monitoring North Korea's main nuclear complex after a report of increased activity there, a South Korean military official said Monday.

Commercial satellite images of the Yongbyon nuclear scientific center on Oct. 27 "indicates activity has picked up throughout the complex," including smoke or vapor rising from a building south of the uranium enrichment plant, according to the monitoring website 38 North.

"Historically this building was used to recover and purify uranium from yellowcake and, in some cases, from leaching solutions from uranium mining facilities," 38 North said. "However, what is taking place

now is unclear."

The Yongbyon facility, north of Pyongyang, is the heart of North Korea's nuclear weapons program as it produces highly enriched uranium and tritium, and houses a 5-megawatt reactor that produces plutonium.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un dangled the possibility of closing it as a reward for sanctions relief during his second summit with President Donald Trump last year in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Talks collapsed when Trump refused the deal, however, as experts believe the North has other facilities to produce fissile material to produce weapons.

An uptick in activity would be worrisome, as many experts believe the North will likely conduct a missile test or another provocation to test the administration after the U.S. presidential election on Tuesday.

"South Korean and U.S. intelligence authorities are carefully tracking and monitoring related movements while working closely together," Col. Kim Jun-rak, spokesman for South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff told reporters during a regular briefing. He declined to comment on whether the military had detected any unusual movements by North Korean troops.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog, also said in September that the production of enriched uranium at Yongbyon appeared to be continuing, citing emissions from the building.

The North has also shown other signs of continuing to develop nuclear weapons, including showing off a huge, new intercontinental ballistic missile during a military parade, as U.S.-led diplomatic efforts have failed to persuade it to stop.

Gunmen attack Kabul University, kill at least 19

BY PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — At least 19 were killed and 22 wounded when gunmen stormed Kabul University on Monday and sparked an hours-long battle with security forces, Afghan Interior Ministry officials said.

The attack left students fleeing for their lives on the day the university hosted a book fair attended by the Iranian ambassador to Afghanistan, The Associated Press reported.

Afghan police and special operations forces were immediately deployed to the campus, located several miles from NATO's headquarters in the city. The U.S.-led NATO coalition supported local forces at the scene, coalition officials said.

All three gunmen were eventually killed, Afghan Interior Ministry spokesman Tariq Arian said.

Hundreds of students and faculty members were at the university when the attack began at about 11 a.m., according to Hamid Obaidi, a spokesman for the Higher Education Ministry, who said authorities were able to rescue a number of teachers and students trapped inside buildings as the violence ensued.

"Oh God, give me patience, my classmates were martyred and injured in front of my eyes, we are hostages," wrote Milad Kohistani, a student who was posting on Facebook during the attack and managed to escape.

Abdul Manan, a literature student, said a large explosion shook his classroom before the shooting began.

"When we came out of the department everyone was running around, trying to flee," Manan told Stars and Stripes in a phone interview.

The Taliban were quick to deny any involvement in the attack and no other group has claimed responsibility.

3 Marines arrested on Okinawa

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Three Marines spent part of Halloween weekend in police custody following three incidents, one of which left a fourth Marine with a stab wound, according to Okinawa police.

Police arrested Lance Cpl. Deantwan Isiah Jefferson, 23, of Camp Kinser, on suspicion of stabbing a fellow Marine with a foldable knife at approximately 11:30 p.m. Saturday in the Mihama neighborhood of Chatan, an Okinawa police spokesman told Stars and Stripes on Monday.

The spokesman said Jefferson, who did not take a Breathalyzer test, was intoxicated at the time. No fight or argument preceded the alleged assault, according to police.

The injured Marine is also in his 20s and assigned to Camp

Hansen, the spokesman said. Japanese police declined to comment on his condition.

Marine officials did not respond to requests seeking comment Sunday or Monday.

Police expect to refer charges of bodily injury and property damage against Jefferson to the Naha prosecutor's office. The spokesman said Jefferson broke a desk at the police station while being questioned.

Minutes later and farther north, police took Staff Sgt. Eric Ralen Roberts, 35, of Camp Hansen, into custody on suspicion of assaulting a local man at a Nago city restaurant, a second police spokesman told Stars and Stripes by phone Monday.

Police allege Roberts punched the 52-year-old man in the face following an argument in the Gusuku section of the city around 11:50 p.m.

The police spokesman said Roberts' blood-alcohol content

measured 0.18% after a Breathalyzer test. By comparison, the legal blood-alcohol limit for driving in Japan is 0.03%.

Finally, police arrested Marine Lance Cpl. Kaimelye Helotu Politoni, 20, of Camp Courtney, shortly after 3:15 a.m. Sunday in the Mihama neighborhood of Chatan city on suspicion of assaulting a restaurant-and-bar employee, the first spokesman said.

Police allege Politoni threw the employee to the ground after Politoni was asked to leave the business following an argument with other patrons.

The employee suffered a minor injury to his chin, the police spokesman said. He said Politoni was intoxicated at the time of his arrest and told police he doesn't remember the incident.

Police are also referring charges of bodily injury against Politoni in Naha and Roberts in Nago, the spokesmen said.

Space Force liaison officer happily made history on MEU deployment

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Air Force 1st Lt. Rio Sarmiento was set to make history in mid-August when she boarded the amphibious assault ship USS America in Japan and headed out to sea with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The 26-year-old space electronic warfare officer from Parker, Colo., was sworn into the Space Force on Sept. 17 during the two-month patrol and became the new service's first liaison officer deployed at sea with an MEU.

An affable and easygoing "space professional," the term preferred by Space Force members, Sarmiento is assigned to the 16th Space Control Squadron at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. She transferred from the Air Force Space Command, she

said, to be among the first to wear the Space Force patch.

Sarmiento, a 2017 Air Force Academy graduate, segued easily, she said.

"We've been doing this mission for years, right, so nothing tactically, operationally really changes," she said during an Oct. 23 interview at Camp Hansen after the America returned to its homeport at Sasebo Naval Base, Japan. "By establishing a new military branch, it just allows us to have more resources and perhaps more manpower, since it is becoming a bigger thing that we need to make more of a priority."

Space Force, a separate military branch created within the Department of the Air Force on Dec. 21, has attracted approximately 2,000 service members, most of whom transferred from the Air Force. Aboard the America, Sarmiento's job

was to familiarize Marines and sailors with the Space Force, its mission and what assets it has available to them, she said.

Her participation in the America patrol "was a huge milestone for my family," she said, and a win for Asians and for women. It also vindicates her grandfather's Navy service. Both of her grandfathers served during World War II, and one, Army Sgt. Julian Sarmiento, was awarded the Bronze Star for surviving the Bataan Death March. However, the other, Steward 1st Class Jimmy Tadio, who served in the Navy, was only allowed to be a cook because of his Filipino ancestry, Sarmiento said.

"Having my family see that accomplishment that happened on the ship was huge because they fought for us to have a good life in the States, and here we are now," she said.

USS 'Woody' arrives at new port in Greece

By JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

STUTT GART, Germany — The USS Hershel “Woody” Williams has arrived in Greece, marking its first stop in the country since the Navy announced Souda Bay will serve as the new home for the expeditionary sea base.

The “Woody” arrived Sunday at a port in Astakos, Greece, where it is undergoing scheduled maintenance after a 43-day mission in support of U.S. Africa Command, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa said in a statement.

No U.S. Navy warship has

been based in Greece in at least 40 years. The military’s decision to boost capabilities in the region comes at a time of increased Russian activity in the eastern Mediterranean and concern about unrest in northern Africa.

During its recent mission, the ship worked alongside other allied vessels and took part in multinational drills and at-sea refueling, the Navy said.

“Our recent operations have shown the importance of our mutual commitment to security and stability off the coast of Africa,” said Capt. David Gray, the ship’s commander.

While the ship undergoes maintenance, sailors will stay on board as a health precaution because of the coronavirus pandemic, NAVEUR said.

The ship is designed to give the military a naval presence around Africa, and can help Marines and special operations units deploy to hot spots as needed.

The ship has two crews, which will turn over periodically to allow the vessel to remain based at Souda Bay. Personnel will rotate to Souda Bay on roughly six-month assignments from their home base in Norfolk, Va.

The 784-foot-long ship features a 52,000 square-foot, four-spot flight deck that helicopters can land on. There is also living space for the crew, which has a complement of about 250.

Souda Bay, positioned on the Greek Island of Crete, has served as a Navy logistics hub since 1969, but it hasn’t permanently hosted any U.S. warships until now.

The decision to base the ship in the country was announced in late September by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo during a visit to Greece, where the U.S. has deepened military ties during the past year.

Rescuers pull 2 girls from rubble in Turkey

Associated Press

IZMIR, Turkey — In scenes that captured Turkey’s emotional roller coaster after a deadly earthquake, rescue workers dug two girls out alive Monday from the rubble of collapsed apartment buildings three days after the region was jolted by a quake that killed scores of people.

Onlookers applauded in joy and wept with relief as ambulances carrying the girls rushed to the hospital immediately after their rescues in the hard-hit city of Izmir.

The death toll in Friday’s

quake reached 87 on Monday after teams found more bodies amid toppled buildings in Izmir, Turkey’s third-largest city.

Close to 1,000 people were injured, mostly in Turkey, by the quake that was centered in the Aegean Sea northeast of the Greek island of Samos. The death toll included two teenagers on Samos, and at least 19 other people on the island were injured.

Rescue workers clapped in unison Monday as 14-year-old Idil Sirin was removed from the rubble after being trapped for 58 hours. Her 8-year-old

sister, Ipek, did not survive, NTV television reported.

Seven hours later, rescuers working on another toppled building extricated 3-year-old Elif Perincek, whose mother and two sisters had been rescued two days earlier. The child spent 65 hours in the wreckage of her apartment and became the 106th person to be rescued alive, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported.

Muammer Celik of the Istanbul fire department’s search-and-rescue team told NTV television that he thought Elif was dead when he reached her

inside the wreckage.

“There was dust on her face, her face was white,” he said. “When I cleaned the dust from her face, she opened her eyes. I was astonished.”

The girl was pictured holding Celik’s thumb while being carried on a stretcher into a tent where she was treated before being taken to the hospital. Rescuers were seen shedding tears of joy and hugging each other.

Rescue workers scrambling to find more survivors used listening devices to detect any signs of life.

Snowden, wife plan to seek dual US, Russian citizenship

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Former U.S. security contractor Edward Snowden said Monday that he and his wife intend to apply for Russian citizenship without renouncing their U.S. citizenship.

Snowden, a former contractor with the U.S. National Security Agency, has been living in Russia since 2013 to escape prosecution in the United States after leaking classified docu-

ments detailing government surveillance programs. He was granted permanent residency last month, his Russian lawyer said.

Snowden’s wife, Lindsay Mills, an American who has been living with him in Russia, announced last week that the couple are expecting a child. According to Snowden’s lawyer, Anatoly Kucherena, the child, a boy, will be born in December and will have Russian

citizenship.

“After years of separation from our parents, my wife and I have no desire to be separated from our son. That’s why, in this era of pandemics and closed borders, we’re applying for dual U.S.-Russian citizenship,” Snowden said in a tweet Monday.

Snowden will be able to get a Russian passport without renouncing his U.S. nationality after Russia earlier this year

relaxed its strict citizenship laws. The law previously required foreigners to renounce other nationalities in order to get Russian citizenship.

In another tweet, Snowden said the couple plans to be “raising our son with all the values of the America we love — including the freedom to speak his mind” and that he looked forward to the day he can return to the U.S., “so the whole family can be reunited.”

Trump threatens to fire disease expert

From wire reports

OPA-LOCKA, Fla. — President Donald Trump is suggesting that he will fire Dr. Anthony Fauci after Tuesday's election, as his rift with the nation's top infectious disease expert widens while the nation sees its most alarming outbreak of the coronavirus since the spring.

Speaking at a campaign rally in Opa-locka, Fla., Trump expressed frustration that the surging cases of the virus that has killed more than 230,000 Americans so far this year remains prominent in the news, sparking chants of "Fire Fauci" from his supporters.

"Don't tell anybody but let me wait until a little bit after the election," Trump replied to thousands of supporters just after midnight Monday, adding he appreciated their "advice."

Trump's comments on Fauci less than 48 hours before polls close all but assure that his handling of the pandemic will remain front and center heading into Election Day.

It's the most direct Trump has been in suggesting he was serious about trying to remove Fauci from his position. He has previously expressed that he was concerned about the political blowback of removing the popular and respected doctor before Election Day.

Trump's comments come after Fauci leveled his sharpest criticism yet of the White House's response to the coronavirus and Trump's public assertion that the nation is "rounding the turn" on the virus.

Arizona

WINDOW ROCK — Navajo Nation health officials are reporting 73 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 but no deaths.

The latest figures bring the total number of cases to 11,828 and the known death toll to 581.

Tribal health officials said 125,851 people on the vast reservation that covers parts of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah have been tested for COVID-19 since the pandemic started and 7,546 have recovered. A shelter-

in-place order, mask mandate, daily curfews and weekend lockdowns remain in effect on the Navajo Nation.

Meanwhile, the tribe is considering legislation to permit casinos and other gaming facilities to reopen at 50% capacity. Without the legislation, Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise likely will be forced to permanently close and lay off all employees by the end of this month.

California

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles County public health officials on Sunday reported 1,590 new cases of the coronavirus and four related deaths.

The numbers brought the county's total to 309,197 cases and 7,074 deaths.

Though hospitalizations have increased slightly, they remain far below the 2,220-plus patients seen during the peak of the outbreak in July.

Still, many Southern California communities are reporting increases in the number of cases recorded each day, a concerning trend that has some officials worried that transmission of the virus could be on the rise.

Florida

MIAMI — The Florida Department of Health's COVID-19 dashboard reported 4,865 new cases Sunday, the most on a Sunday since early August, as positive test rates trend upward again.

Throughout the pandemic, less data collection and entry result in Sunday reports having lower case and fatality numbers than the rest of the week. Sunday case numbers have ranged from 1,800 to 2,500 over the last two months. Not counting Oct. 11, when the case report combined Oct. 10 and 11, this is the most reported on a Sunday since the 6,229 cases on Aug. 9.

North Dakota

FARGO — Officials in one of North Dakota's largest school districts are discussing whether to have older children head

back to classrooms, even as the state struggles with the worst outbreak of coronavirus in the nation.

A task force was formed when parents and others complained after the Fargo Public School District opted for distance learning. The task force was scheduled to meet Monday to discuss ideas for sending junior and senior high students back to class. Grade school students began a four-day-a-week classroom schedule last week.

Nevada

CARSON CITY — Nevada health officials on Sunday reported 716 new COVID-19 cases and four additional deaths.

That brings the total number of coronavirus cases to 101,479 and known deaths to 1,781.

Updated statistics from the state Department of Health and Human Services show that of the 716 new cases, 604 were in Clark County.

The state's largest county that includes metro Las Vegas also has had 82,966 of the COVID-19 cases in Nevada since the pandemic began and 1,517 of the total deaths.

Ohio

COLUMBUS — New coronavirus cases in Ohio continue to be reported by the thousands each day.

Sunday marked the 17th day in a row that cases surpassed 2,000 as the Ohio Department of Health reported that another 3,300 Ohioans have tested positive for COVID-19.

That figure, which brings the statewide total to 219,000, falls short of Friday's record single-day case total of 3,845. However, it represents 385 more cases than what was reported Saturday.

The spike also exceeds the three-week daily average of 2,393 new cases per day.

Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE — Rhode Island's largest hospital group announced Monday it is sus-

pending most visits in response to a rising number of coronavirus cases in the state.

"We have decided after great deliberation to take this step in these highly unusual circumstances to protect our patients and our workforce," Dr. Timothy Babineau, Lifespan president and CEO said in a statement posted on the company's website.

Exceptions may be made in special circumstances, the statement said.

Hasbro Children's Hospital will allow one parent for each patient. Newport Hospital maternity services will allow for a birthing partner only. Emergency department patients will be limited to one accompanying adult, and the length of that person's stay will be limited.

South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS — South Dakota health officials on Sunday reported a fifth straight day of more than 1,000 cases of the coronavirus, lifting the total number of positive tests to more than 45,000.

The update showed 1,332 new infections of the 2,638 people tested. Twelve deaths were reported in the last day, increasing the total fatalities due to complications from COVID-19 to 437. There are 421 people hospitalized, including 79 in intensive care units.

Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE — Wisconsin health officials on Sunday reported nearly 3,500 new cases of the coronavirus and 16 additional deaths in the last day.

There have been 2,047 fatalities due to complications from COVID-19. The death count is the 27th highest in the country overall according to The COVID Tracking Project.

The Johns Hopkins University report shows there were 1,018 new cases per 100,000 people in Wisconsin over the past two weeks, which ranks third in the country behind North Dakota and South Dakota for new cases per capita.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Off-duty trooper stops wrong-way driver

NV LAS VEGAS — The Nevada Highway Patrol said an off-duty state trooper wearing a “Star Wars” costume while returning home from a Halloween party prevented a suspected drunken driver from entering a Las Vegas freeway in the wrong direction.

The Highway Patrol said Trooper Britta Foesch was a designated sober driver and in her personal vehicle and wearing a Stormtrooper costume — but not its helmet — when she stopped the other vehicle and called dispatchers to get on-duty troopers to the scene.

The Highway Patrol said the other vehicle’s driver was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence, driving without a valid driver’s license and two traffic violations.

Woman brings crowbar, demands cable refund

FL DELTONA — A Florida woman was so angered by her cable provider that she drove to their office, demanded a refund and smashed the cash register with a crowbar, police said.

Diahianna Serraty went to the Spectrum office to demand her money back. She yelled at employees when they explained the refund policy, smashed a cash register with a crowbar and took some money, according to Orange City police Lt. Jason Sampsell.

The 34-year-old drove home and was later surrounded by deputies who called and asked her to surrender.

The Daytona Beach News-Journal reported she was charged with armed robbery.

Hay ride accident leaves 10 people injured

MS PICAYUNE — Ten people on a hayride in Mississippi were being treated for critical injuries after a pickup truck collided with their trailer being pulled by an ATV.

Multiple ambulances and helicopters transported the injured to several hospitals, including Highland Community Hospital in Picayune, Forrest General Hospital in Hattiesburg, and University Medical Center in New Orleans. All 10 patients transported were in critical condition, said Pearl River County Emergency Management Director Danny Manley.

The collision sent the trailer tumbling off the road, which accounted for the severity of the injuries, Manley said.

Convenience store cash machine blast probed

PA PHILADELPHIA — Police were called to an explosion at a cash machine at a closed convenience store in northeast Philadelphia, the latest in a rash of such blasts amid civil unrest in the city recently.

WPVI reported that the blast was reported at the automated teller machine inside a Wawa in the Mayfair neighborhood. The store had been boarded up after widespread robberies amid unrest following the shooting death of Walter Wallace Jr. by police officers.

Police told the station that the suspect broke into the store through a rear door, and an explosive device was placed under the ATM and ignited. But, police said, the money in the ATM had already been stolen earlier in the week.

Driver sentenced in fatal 2018 multicar pileup

NY NEW YORK — A driver who drove while drunk and high, setting off a 2018 multi-car pileup that killed a man and injured others, was sentenced to six to 15 years in prison.

Alex Elicier, 31, of Brooklyn, had pleaded guilty in July to aggravated vehicular homicide and other charges stemming from the August 2018 crash on the Van Wyck Expressway in Queens.

Prosecutors said he was weaving through early morning traffic when he crashed into the back of an Acura at more than 80 mph, sending it into the guardrail and then airborne before it landed and was hit by another car.

Police: Man assaulted victim in fake interview

MD MIDDLE RIVER — A Maryland man was accused of sexually assaulting another man who came to his apartment to do an interview for a fake job opportunity that the suspect posted on social media.

Charging documents said William Pervis McNeill Jr. told the victim to come to the apartment in Middle River for a physical exam, which included a prostate exam, news outlets reported.

The victim was told that the exam had to be done at McNeill’s apartment since the location where the exam usually takes place was closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Investigators said McNeill admitted to the allegations against him, and said he has done it at least three times since January, WBAL-TV reported.

Truck drops metal on road, tires flattened

AL TUSCUMBIA — A truck hauling scrap metal dropped multiple shards along a north Alabama highway, flattening the tires of more than 50 vehicles.

Emergency management officials began getting calls about multiple vehicles with flat tires, and reports began coming in later about the same problem in another area. Soon, dozens of vehicles were stopped on roadways with flat tires, news outlets reported.

Authorities determined a truck had dropped pieces of metal ranging from an inch to a foot in length, flattening all four tires on some cars and trucks. Highway crews from Colbert, Lawrence and Morgan counties brought out sweepers, and workers also picked up pieces by hand.

Police: \$30K worth of meth found in man’s car

NE LINCOLN — Officers who stopped a Lincoln man wanted on an assault warrant found \$30,000 worth of methamphetamine in his car, police in Lincoln said.

Members of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Narcotics Task Force stopped the 51-year-old man’s BMW outside a Lincoln apartment because he was wanted for an assault that had occurred two days earlier, police said. The man was also suspected of driving on a suspended license.

Officers who searched the man and his car said they found 344 grams of meth in a bag and under the passenger seat, as well as \$4,000 in cash.

From wire reports

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On Football

Rookie QB trio all start on same day

Associated Press

Joe Burrow guided his team to a win. Justin Herbert probably deserved one. And Tua Tagovailoa didn't have to do much to be successful in his NFL starting debut.

It was a mixed bag Sunday for the three quarterbacks drafted in the top six last April. It also was an intriguing look into what might be ahead for Burrow in "Joehio," Herbert in Hollywood, and Tua in South Beach.

"It was fun just being able to go out there and play a full 60-minute game now, being that it was my first start in the NFL," said Tagovailoa after a 28-17 victory over the Rams in a game the defense and special teams basically won. "We really faced a really good defense. I'm proud of what we got to do offensively, but I do know that there's still a lot of things we need to correct come Monday."

Tagovailoa sat behind veteran Ryan Fitzpatrick for six games, and Fitz led the Dolphins to two straight victories to get to 3-3. But then came the bye week, and it apparently was Miami's

plan all along to turn to a healthy Tua — even when the bye was moved up from Week 11 due to league rescheduling because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The best moves the lefty from the Alabama Crimson Tide showed were doing a dance following a 3-yard touchdown pass to DeVante Parker. Tagovailoa also retrieved the ball as a souvenir.

But it's not about Tagovailoa being Dan Marino quite yet. It's about establishing him as the team's leader for the next decade, even if he isn't tearing it up the way Burrow and Herbert are.

Tagovailoa also has something the other two NFL newbies don't: a potential playoff contender. So turning him loose might not be on the Dolphins' agenda in 2020.

Burrow, the top overall draftee, has been turned loose since preseason. There was never any question the 2019 national champion at LSU would be the man in Cincinnati. While the Bengals (2-5-1) are barren in so many areas, Burrow looks exactly like a franchise QB.

Burrow has 221 comple-

tions, the most by a player in his first eight career games in NFL history. He has completed at least 25 passes in six games, tied with Arizona's Kyler Murray (2019) for the second-most such games by a rookie. Only Philadelphia's Carson Wentz had more, with seven in 2016.

He shows poise, creativity — and toughness, a must for any quarterback, but absolutely essential for one joining a rebuilding team coming off a 2-14 year. Burrow has been as good or better than nearly every opposing quarterback he has faced.

And the Bengals are improving.

"We don't feel like a 1-5 football team," he said. "One or two plays go our way over the last couple weeks and we're 6-2 or 7-1, but we know that we didn't make those plays until today and it feels good to make them."

It can't feel very good for Herbert, whose Chargers (2-5) can't hold leads. They've been outscored by only six points overall, but they find ways to lose in excruciating fashion — such as 31-30 at Denver on

Sunday.

Still, Herbert has been pretty much everything the Chargers sought with the sixth overall draft pick. He had three touchdown passes in that loss to the Broncos, tying him with Houston's Deshaun Watson (2017) as the only rookies with at least three TD tosses in four consecutive games.

He is resourceful, competitive and possibly more versatile than his two rookie peers.

And he sounds like a veteran already.

"If anyone thinks this doesn't bother me at all, they're wrong," Herbert said. "I take a lot of pride in this team. I know I've only been here for a little bit, but you can't do anything about changing results that have already happened. All we can do now is look forward, go forward, continue to have great weeks of practice and get better."

"It's obviously tough. It's definitely tough any time you lose close games like that, especially for five weeks in a row. It's tough, but we're going to get better and there's nothing we can do about it now."

Jets trade Williamson to unbeaten Steelers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Avery Williamson is going from winless to undefeated.

The New York Jets agreed Sunday night to trade the veteran linebacker to the Pittsburgh Steelers. The Jets also are sending a 2022 seventh-round draft pick to the Steelers for Pittsburgh's 2022 fifth-rounder.

The deal, announced Monday, moves Williamson from the Jets, who are 0-8 after a 35-9 loss at Kansas City, to the 7-0 Steelers, the league's only undefeated team after a 28-24 win at Baltimore.

The 28-year-old Williamson should immediately help the Steelers, who were in need of an experienced inside linebacker after Devin Bush was lost for the season on Oct. 18 with a torn ACL. Pittsburgh has survived without Bush but the run defense was gashed by the Ravens, who piled up

265 yards rushing but were undone by four turnovers by quarterback Lamar Jackson.

Williamson had been the subject of trade rumors during the offseason because of his hefty salary. He was set to make \$6 million in base salary this season, but agreed to restructure his deal for this season. Williamson was making \$3.5 million with \$1 million in guaranteed money, and was scheduled to be a free agent after this season.

Williamson spent his first four seasons with Tennessee after being drafted in the fifth round out of Kentucky in 2014. He has 556 career total tackles, along with 14½ sacks, four interceptions and five forced fumbles.

In other NFL news:

■ The Tennessee Titans have traded for cornerback Desmond King for a sixth-

round draft pick to the Los Angeles Chargers, according to a person familiar with the trade.

The Titans made the move Monday, a day after a 31-20 loss to Cincinnati. It was their second straight loss after winning their first five games.

■ Baltimore Ravens All-Pro cornerback Marlon Humphrey says he has tested positive for the coronavirus.

In a post on Twitter, Humphrey wrote Monday: "I got the Rona hopefully I'll be back healthy soon."

Humphrey missed practice last Wednesday with what the team described as an "illness" but returned Thursday and played in Sunday's 28-24 loss to Pittsburgh.

The Ravens confirmed Monday that a player tested positive for COVID-19, but did not release the name of the individual.

Steelers rally past Ravens to reach 7-0

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The Pittsburgh Steelers rallied behind Ben Roethlisberger to remain the lone unbeaten team in the NFL, beating error-prone Lamar Jackson and the Baltimore Ravens 28-24 Sunday in a duel for first place in the AFC North.

Roethlisberger threw a pair of second-half touchdown passes to bring Pittsburgh (7-0) back from a 10-point halftime deficit. After completing only four passes for 24 yards in the first half, the 38-year-old finished 21-for-32 for 182 yards.

Jackson threw two interceptions and lost two fumbles, turnovers that helped the Steelers stay within striking distance until their offense finally got on track.

Pittsburgh led 28-24 when the Ravens (5-2) faced a fourth-and-3 at the Steelers' 8 with 2 minutes left. Jackson ran a quarterback draw and lost the ball while being stopped short.

Baltimore got the ball back and moved to the Pittsburgh 23 before Jackson's pass in the

end zone was broken up on the final play.

Earlier, Robert Spillane took an interception back for a score to end the Ravens' first possession; Jackson lost a fumble inside the Steelers' 5; and Alex Hightower set up a touchdown by picking off a pass on Baltimore's initial offensive play of the second half.

Jackson went 13-for-28 for 208 yards and two interceptions, the most he's had in a regular-season game since tossing three against Pittsburgh in October 2019.

After Hightower's pick, Roethlisberger threw an 18-yard TD pass to Eric Ebron. The Steelers then went ahead 21-17 on a 1-yard touchdown run by James Conner.

The Ravens had scored in every quarter this season before being blanked in the third period.

Jackson made it 24-21 with a 3-yard touchdown pass to Marquise Brown with 11:52 left, but Roethlisberger answered with an 80-yard drive capped by an 8-yard TD pass to Chase

Claypool.

The game carried the intensity expected when longtime division rivals clash in a showdown for first place. There were hard hits, late hits and head butts, the latter occurring when Baltimore cornerback Marcus Peters popped Pittsburgh receiver Diontae Johnson during a confrontation away from the play.

That brought players from both teams near the Ravens' sideline. Late in that fray, Baltimore linebacker Matthew Judon was ejected for making contact with an official. It appeared the slap to the arm occurred while Judon was trying to break free from the grasp of an assistant coach.

Ravens All-Pro left tackle Ronnie Stanley left with an ankle injury in the first quarter after being undercut by the Steelers' T.J. Watt. Stanley had an air cast applied to his left leg and was carted off the field.

A heavy rain let up just before the opening kickoff, but the combination of a wet field and two strong defenses result-

ed in a first quarter with three turnovers — two by Jackson.

After Pittsburgh went up 7-0 on Spillane's 33-yard touchdown, the Ravens pulled even on a 6-yard touchdown catch by Miles Boykin. Baltimore then drove inside the Steelers 10 before Bud Dupree jostled the ball from Jackson's grasp and Vince Williams recovered at the 4.

Streaks extended

The Steelers stretched their streak of games with at least one sack to 64, and Baltimore's run of games with a takeaway reached 20 when Peters forced a fumble by Claypool in the first quarter.

Fans return

The announced crowd was 4,345. It was the first time the Ravens had fans at a home game after previously making around 250 seats available to the immediate family of players, coaches and front office personnel.

Bills defeat Patriots after Newton's late fumble

Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Jerry Hughes has too often watched the Patriots snatch victory away from the Buffalo Bills in what has been an AFC East rivalry that for too long tilted in New England's favor.

How exciting it was for Buffalo's veteran defensive end to eagerly watch from the sideline as Josh Allen knelt three times to run out the clock to close out a 24-21 win Sunday.

"Man, that was fun," said Hughes, who was 2-12 during his first seven seasons against the Patriots. "It feels good, to be honest with you, to be on the other side of the spectrum, to be watching our offense hit that victory formation. It felt amazing."

And it nearly didn't happen. Bills backup defensive line-

man Justin Zimmer, who opened the season on the practice squad, and safety Dean Marlowe, playing in place of injured starter Micah Hyde (concussion), combined to create the decisive play with New England in position to at the very least tie the game.

Zimmer punched the ball out of quarterback Cam Newton's arms. The fumble was recovered by Marlowe at the Buffalo 13 with 31 seconds left to secure what can be regarded as the Bills' most meaningful victory in 20 years over the Bill Belichick-coach Patriots.

In getting off to a 6-2 start for a second consecutive season, Buffalo did so against a nemesis that entered the game having beaten the Bills in each of the past seven meetings and 35 of the previous 40, dat-

ing to Belichick's arrival in Foxborough.

"Honestly, I don't know what to feel right now," Zimmer said. "I'm still just like breathing heavy from the game, just excited. It'll probably take me a good 24 hours to realize kind of everything that happened."

Of course, Tom Brady had something to do with that string of domination before leaving New England to sign with Tampa Bay this offseason. Brady went 32-3 against Buffalo in setting the NFL record for most wins over one opponent.

Minus Brady, the Patriots are suddenly in freefall. Their 2-5 start is their worst since 2000, and New England's four-game skid matches its longest since 2002. Their string of an NFL-record 11 straight division titles is suddenly in jeopardy, as

might be their 19 consecutive seasons with a winning record.

"This is the third time we've been in this situation this year and unfortunately haven't been able to make enough plays to win," said Belichick, referring to one-score losses to Seattle and Denver.

"It affects me more that I still am jeopardizing this team's success because of my lackluster performances protecting the football," Newton said. "Coach trusts me with the ball in my hands and I wouldn't have it any other way. I've got to do a better job of protecting it."

Newton finished 15 of 25 for 174 yards passing, and added 54 yards rushing plus a touchdown. Damien Harris had 102 yards rushing and scored on a 22-yard run.

Stunner: Harvick bumped as Elliott wins for title shot

Associated Press

MARTINSVILLE, Va. — Kevin Harvick was on cruise control all season long, the most dominant driver in NASCAR, coasting into the championship round with a comfortable cushion that left plenty of room for error.

That's how it was supposed to play out, at least, after Harvick won a Cup series-high nine races and the regular-season title.

Then his nearly perfect season came to a spinning and sudden halt Sunday when a mediocre run bounced Harvick from the playoffs in a stunning upset at Martinsville Speedway.

Chase Elliott won the high-stakes race to earn his first career berth in the championship four. It stopped Harvick one race short of the title round in a stunning collapse to a season spent as the favorite to win the Cup crown.

"We won nine races and had a great year. Just came up short," Harvick said.

Eight points short, to be exact, after his spinning 17th-place finish at Martinsville.

Elliott, Brad Keselowski and Denny Hamlin will race Joey Logano, who had already clinched his berth, in next week's finale at Phoenix. It's a matchup of a pair of Fords from Team Penske against Hamlin's Toyota and Elliott, the first Hendrick Motorsports and Chevrolet driver to make the finale since Jimmie Johnson won his seventh and final title in 2016. Harvick was eliminated along with Alex Bowman, Kurt Busch and Martin Truex Jr., who battled for the win until a late loose wheel ended his shot.

Harvick noted NASCAR's 10-race championship format

is far different from the season-long points battle Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt won seven times each. The system now spans three series of three races each, with eliminations in each round, before four drivers line up for a championship shootout.

"They aren't won the same way that Earnhardt and Petty did. You have to put together a few weeks and we didn't put together these last few weeks like we needed to," Harvick said. "That's the system that we work in and it's obviously skewed more towards entertainment than the whole year."

Harvick was only mediocre at Martinsville and even fell a lap off the pace after a flat tire. His Stewart-Haas Racing team was in trouble, trying desperately to tune his Ford so he could drive his way onto the lead lap and above the cutoff line.

But it was an incredibly long 500-lap points-chasing quest at NASCAR's oldest and smallest speedway. Harvick was racing for the fourth and final slot in the field, separated from Hamlin and Keselowski by one point on one lap, two on the next, back to one after that.

On and on it went, those three drivers locked into a tense fight for single digit points because with Elliott out front, just two spots remained open.

Harvick was one point below the cutline when Elliott crossed the finish line. He needed to pass one car ahead of him — Kyle Busch, Hamlin's teammate at Joe Gibbs Racing — to grab that point and Busch wasn't going to make it easy.

Harvick tried to knock Busch out of his way in a failed desperate effort as they closed in on the finish line. Both cars spun and Harvick's season was done.

Springer, LeMahieu, Realmuto among 6 given qualifying offers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Houston outfielder George Springer, New York Yankees second baseman DJ LeMahieu and Philadelphia catcher J.T. Realmuto were among just six free agents who received \$18.9 million qualifying offers on Sunday from their former teams.

Three right-handed pitchers also received the offers, Cincinnati's Trevor Bauer, the New York Mets' Marcus Stroman and San Francisco's Kevin Gausman.

Those six players have until 5 p.m. on Nov. 11 to accept the offers or press ahead as free agents, who could start negotiating contracts with all teams on Sunday night.

They are the only ones subject to compensation among the 181 players who became free agents in a market that also includes pitcher Masahiro Tanaka, outfielder Marcell Ozuna, shortstop Didi Gregorius and designated hitter Nelson Cruz.

A brutal market is expected, with many teams likely to cut payrolls following a regular season played with no fans in the seats due to the coronavirus pandemic.

If a team makes a qualifying offer to a player who signs a major league contract with another club before the June amateur draft, his former club would receive a draft pick as compensation at the end of the first round or at the end of competitive balance round B. The placement depends on whether the new contract is worth \$50 million or more and the revenue-sharing and luxury tax status of the team losing the player.

A free agent could be made a qualifying offer only if he had been with the same team continuously since opening day and had never received a qualifying offer before.

Qualifying offers began after the 2012 season, and only five of 90 offers have been accepted:

New York Mets second baseman Neil Walker and Philadelphia pitcher Jeremy Hellickson after the 2016 season; Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Hyun-Jin Ryu after the 2018 season and Chicago White Sox first baseman Jose Abreu last season. Abreu later agreed to a \$50 million, three-year contract.

The qualifying offer price started at \$13.3 million in 2012 and rose to \$14.1 million in 2013, \$15.3 million in 2014, \$15.8 million in 2015, \$17.2 million in 2016 and \$17.4 million in 2017.

New York Yankees designated hitter Giancarlo Stanton and Boston DH J.D. Martinez kept their contracts rather than go free and test the market following subpar seasons.

Stanton is owed \$218 million for seven seasons and Martinez \$38.75 million for two years.

Stanton, who turns 31 on Nov. 8, hit .266 with 38 homers and 100 RBIs in his first season with the Yankees in 2018. He batted .288 with three homers and 13 RBIs in 2019, when he was limited to 18 games by a left biceps strain that sidelined him from April 1 to June 18 and a right knee strain that kept him out from June 26 to Sept. 18.

Stanton hit .250 with four homers and 11 RBIs in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season, limited to 23 games by a left hamstring strain that sidelined him from Aug. 9 to Sept. 15. He rebounded to become the Yankees' best offensive player in the playoffs, hitting .308 (8-for-26) with six homers and 13 RBIs in seven games.

Martinez gets \$19,375,000 in each of the next two seasons and can opt out after 2021.

Martinez hit a career-low .213 in the pandemic-shortened season with seven homers and 27 RBIs, his lowest output since 2013.

Boston declined a \$6.85 million option on left-hander Martin Perez and opted to pay a \$500,000 buyout to the 29-year-old, who became a free agent.