

## Pentagon rushes to buy last-of-kind chips

*Bloomberg News*

The Pentagon plans to place as much as \$2 billion in rush orders by early March for customized semiconductors used in weapons like the B-2 bomber before the production line for them is shut down.

GlobalFoundries has sold the factory in Fishkill, N.Y., that produces the specialized chips used in GPS-dependent systems, and the new owner won't be making them.

The Defense Department is confronting its looming supply crunch amid a global shortage of the chips used in consumer items from mobile phones to autonomous vehicles, markets where GlobalFoundries is expanding its production. The Pentagon's move "addresses a diminishing manufacturing capacity," said Jessica Maxwell, a spokeswoman for the department's acquisition office.

Under a stopgap spending bill passed by Congress, an initial \$885 million in orders would be placed by Dec. 15 with U.S. contractors dependent on the components so that they can contract a substantial share of the total with GlobalFoundries. That gives the company "enough time to process

the requests and manufacture the parts before the production line shuts down," Maxwell said via email.

A sign of the issue's urgency: The \$885 million was the only Pentagon-related exception that the White House budget office asked Congress to approve in its stopgap spending measure, which generally freezes spending at fiscal 2021 levels.

The remainder of the \$2 billion in orders would need to be placed by March 3, in advance of the expected completion of the factory's sale next December, according to a defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity. Chips take about three months to go from discs of silicon to finished products.

Systems that use the semiconductors include the B-2 stealth bomber, the Army and Marine Corps Joint Tactical Light Vehicle, the Army's wheeled Stryker vehicle, the Navy's Arleigh Burke-class destroyer and the Air Force's new Small Diameter Bomb II, according to the Air Force, which is overseeing the chip purchases.

GlobalFoundries's \$430 million sale of its specialized fabrication, or "Fab 10," fa-

cility to On Semiconductor is driving these "end-of-life" orders, the company said in a statement. "For certain programs and technologies, we are meeting the DoD's needs by manufacturing large volumes of chips sufficient for the lifetime of the program."

"In other instances, we are partnering with the DoD to extend the lifecycle of certain technologies manufactured at Fab 10 by transitioning the manufacturing of their chips to other GF Fabs," the company said.

The April 2019 announcement of the Fishkill facility transaction called for On Semiconductor to take full control of the facility — originally built by IBM — and its workforce by about December 2022, subject to regulatory review.

The Air Force said in a statement that the "bulk buy" of the military's specialized GPS code-compliant "Application Specific Integrated Circuits" is intended to cover multiple years "for use in various cards, receivers, and/or platforms based on service requirements." The components are built to defense standards for specialized weight and power requirements.

## Study: Militaries lag in reporting carbon emissions

**BY PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN**

*Stars and Stripes*

A group of U.K.-based academics is calling for mandatory reporting of the carbon pollution that the U.S. military and its counterparts worldwide release into the atmosphere.

On the sidelines of the United Nations climate change conference in Scotland on Tuesday, researchers unveiled a website with data they had compiled, concluding that most militaries are "severely underreporting" their greenhouse gas emissions.

The study and the resulting website were a collaboration between the Conflict and Environment Observatory and the universities of Durham and Lancaster.

In many countries, militaries pollute more than any other institution, but reporting of their emissions to the United Nations remains voluntary and is often not calculated, the group said Tuesday.

Only a handful of the 60 that the researchers examined met the U.N.'s minimum reporting requirements, according to a statement by the group.

"Militaries produce a lot of greenhouse gas emissions, but until they and we know just how much, it's going to be very difficult to start reducing them, something that all sectors of society have to do urgently if we're to keep below 1.5 degrees of warming," Doug Weir, research and policy director at the Conflict and Environment Observatory, told Stars and Stripes on Monday. Weir was referring to the amount of global warming in degrees Celsius that the international community is trying to stay below to prevent the worst effects of climate change.

Only Cyprus, Germany, Hungary, Norway and Slovakia currently follow the voluntary reporting standard, according to data published on the new Military Emission

Gap website, <https://militaryemissions.org/>, which brings the voluntary tallies into one place for the first time.

The institutional changes that would occur with mandatory emissions reporting would be significant, researchers said. It could result in "greener" operations planning and more eco-friendly weapons systems, many of which remain extremely carbon-intensive.

Under the U.N.'s Framework Convention on Climate Change, whose signatories include the U.S., developed countries are required to report their total annual carbon emissions. But military emissions have been exempted from reporting since Washington petitioned for it in the 1990s.

And even the voluntary emissions disclosures only account for things like military vehicles and buildings, and are "nowhere near the full story of what militaries produce," Weir said.

# Congress wants technology to end DULs

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress has created a new requirement for automakers: Find a high-tech way to keep drunken people from driving cars.

It's one of the mandates along with a burst of new spending aimed at improving auto safety amid escalating road fatalities in the \$1 trillion infrastructure package that President Joe Biden is expected to sign soon.

Under the legislation, monitoring systems to stop intoxicated drivers would roll out in all new vehicles as early as 2026, after the Transportation Department assesses the best form of technology to install in millions of vehicles

and automakers are given time to comply.

In all, about \$17 billion is allotted to road safety programs, the biggest increase in such funding in decades, according to the Eno Center for Transportation. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said Monday that could mean more protected bike paths and greener spaces built into busy roadways.

"It's monumental," said Alex Otte, national president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Otte called the package the "single most important legislation" in the group's history that marks "the beginning of the end of drunk driving."

Last month, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reported an estimated 20,160 people died in traffic collisions in the first half of 2021, the highest first-half total since 2006. The agency has pointed to speeding, impaired driving and not wearing seat belts during the coronavirus pandemic as factors behind the spike.

Each year, around 10,000 people are killed due to alcohol-related crashes in the United States, making up nearly 30% of all traffic fatalities, according to NHTSA.

Currently, some convicted drunken drivers must use breathalyzer devices attached to an igni-

tion interlock, blowing into a tube and disabling the vehicle if their blood alcohol level is too high. The legislation doesn't specify the technology, only that it must "passively monitor the performance of a driver of a motor vehicle to accurately identify whether that driver may be impaired."

Sam Abuelsamid, principal mobility analyst for Guidehouse Insights, said the most likely system to stop drunken driving is infrared cameras that monitor driver behavior. That technology is already being used by automakers such as General Motors, BMW and Nissan to track driver attentiveness while using partially automated driver-assist systems.

## Jan. 6 panel subpoenas 6 more Trump allies in probe

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Further expanding its probe, the U.S. House committee investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection has issued subpoenas to six additional associates of former President Donald Trump who were closely involved in his efforts to overturn his defeat in the 2020 election.

The committee's chairman, Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, said in a statement Monday that the panel is demanding testimony and documents from former Trump campaign officials and others who participated in a "war room" ahead of the siege and strategized about how to halt the certification of Joe Biden's victory.

Thompson said the committee had issued new subpoenas to Bill Stepien, manager of Trump's 2020 reelection campaign; Jason Miller, a senior adviser to the campaign; Angela McCallum, national executive

assistant to the campaign; John Eastman, a lawyer who advised the former president; Michael Flynn, a former national security adviser to Trump who talked with Trump ahead of the insurrection; and Bernard Kerik, who the committee says paid for hotel rooms that served as command centers ahead of Jan. 6.

"In the days before the January 6th attack, the former president's closest allies and advisers drove a campaign of misinformation about the election and planned ways to stop the count of Electoral College votes," Thompson said. "The Select Committee needs to know every detail about their efforts to overturn the election."

The subpoenas come after the panel has already demanded documents and testimony from several other Trump advisers — some who have cooperated and some who have not. Trump himself is fighting the probe in court.

## Lawmaker blasted for post of anime attack on Ocasio-Cortez

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona Rep. Paul Gosar was facing criticism after he tweeted a video that included altered animation showing him striking Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez with a sword.

In a tweet Monday night, Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., referred to Gosar as "a creepy member I work with" and said he "shared a fantasy video of him killing me." She added that Gosar would face no consequences because Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy "cheers him on with excuses." She also said that institutions "don't protect" women of color.

A fellow House Democrat, Ted Lieu of California, referred to Gosar's tweet as "sick behavior" and said in a tweet of his own: "In any workplace in America, if a coworker made an anime video killing another coworker, that person would be fired."

Gosar, a Republican, posted

the video Sunday afternoon with a note saying: "Any anime fans out there?"

The roughly 90-second video is an altered version of a Japanese anime series, interspersed with shots of border patrol officers and migrants at the southern U.S. border. During one roughly 10-second section of the video, animated characters whose faces have been replaced with Gosar and fellow Republican Reps. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia and Lauren Boebert of Colorado are seen fighting other animated characters.

In one scene, Gosar's character is seen striking the one made to look like Ocasio-Cortez in the neck with a sword.

Twitter later attached a warning to the tweet saying "it violated the Twitter Rules about hateful conduct. The company later determined, however, that it may be in the public's interest for the Tweet to remain accessible."

# SpaceX returns 4 astronauts to Earth

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Four astronauts returned to Earth on Monday, riding home with SpaceX to end a 200-day space station mission that began last spring.

Their capsule streaked through the late night sky like a dazzling meteor before parachuting into the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Pensacola, Fla. Recovery boats quickly moved in with spotlights.

“On behalf of SpaceX, welcome home to Planet Earth,” SpaceX Mission Control radioed from Southern California. Within an hour, all four astronauts were out of the capsule, exchanging fist bumps with the team on the recovery ship.

Their homecoming — coming just eight hours after leaving the International Space Station — paved the way for SpaceX’s launch of their four replacements as early as Wednesday night.

The newcomers were scheduled to launch first, but NASA switched the order because of bad weather and an astronaut’s undisclosed medical condition. The welcoming duties will now fall to the lone American and two Russians left behind at the space station.

Before Monday afternoon’s undocking, German astronaut Matthias Maurer, who’s waiting to launch at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center, tweeted it was a shame the two

crews wouldn’t overlap at the space station but “we trust you’ll leave everything nice and tidy.” His will be SpaceX’s fourth crew flight for NASA in just 1½ years.

NASA astronauts Shane Kimbrough and Megan McArthur, Japan’s Akihiko Hoshide and France’s Thomas Pesquet should have been back Monday morning, but high wind in the recovery zone delayed their return.

“One more night with this magical view. Who could complain? I’ll miss our spaceship!” Pesquet tweeted Sunday alongside a brief video showing the space station illuminated against the blackness of space and the twinkling city lights on the nighttime side of Earth.

## Astroworld deaths prompt calls for independent review

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston police and fire departments were deeply involved in safety measures for the music festival where a surging crowd killed eight people, playing key roles in crowd control measures, on-site security staffing and the emergency response. The police chief even said he met with the headlining performer before the show.

Now the city’s police department is leading the criminal investigation into how the deadly chaos erupted during Friday night’s performance by rapper Travis Scott.

While a prominent local official is calling for a separate, independent review of the tragedy, experts in crowd safety have said that an investigation by neutral outsiders could help the city avoid potential conflicts of interest and promote transparency.

Houston Police Department spokeswoman Jodi Silva declined to comment on questions about whether its close involvement in the event created a conflict or if it

considered handing the probe off to an outside agency. Such decisions are often made in investigations like police shootings.

“All of the information we have available to put out at this time has been placed out on Twitter,” Silva said.

The police department’s probe would be separate from any independent investigation ordered by County Judge Lina Hidalgo, Harris County’s top elected official, according to Rafael Lemaitre, a spokesman for the county judge’s office. Hidalgo hasn’t decided who would conduct such an independent review or how it would be done, Lemaitre said Monday.

“She wants to know if this could have been prevented in any way,” Lemaitre said. “It’s also entirely possible that it was not preventable for whatever reason, and that’s something we would like to know, as well.”

Key questions remained unanswered after the Astroworld festival at the Harris County-owned NRG Park. Some of the lingering questions involve what the Houston

police and fire departments did before, during and after a crowd surged toward the stage, killing eight people and injuring many more, with over 300 people treated on site and at least 13 others hospitalized. Other questions center on the actions of event organizers.

Officials with the Houston police and fire departments have said that part of their investigation will include reviewing whether the concert promoter and others behind the festival adhered to the plans that were submitted for the event.

Astroworld’s organizers laid out security and emergency medical response protocols for the festival in plans filed with Harris County. The 56-page operations plan, obtained by The Associated Press, says that a decision to evacuate the event would be made by the festival director after consultation with other individuals, including the security director. Such plans were filed with Harris County and Houston and have to be reviewed by Houston police officials.

## Man Rittenhouse shot says he didn’t mean to point gun

Associated Press

KENOSHA, Wis. — The protester and volunteer medic who survived after Kyle Rittenhouse shot him on the streets of Kenosha testified that he pointed his own gun at Rittenhouse but didn’t mean to and had no intention of firing it.

Gaige Grosskreutz, the third and final man gunned down by Rittenhouse during a night of turbulent racial-justice protests in the summer of 2020, took the stand Monday

at Rittenhouse’s murder trial and recounted how he drew his own pistol after the bloodshed started.

“I thought the defendant was an active shooter,” said Grosskreutz, 27.

Asked what was going through his mind as he got closer to the 17-year-old Rittenhouse, he said, “That I was going to die.”

Rittenhouse shot Grosskreutz in the arm, tearing away much of his bicep — or “vaporized” it, as the witness put it.

Rittenhouse, now 18, is on trial on charges of killing the two other men and wounding Grosskreutz.

The one-time police youth cadet from Antioch, Ill., had gone to Kenosha with an AR-style semi-automatic rifle and a medical kit in what he said was an effort to safeguard property from the violent demonstrations that broke out over the shooting of Jacob Blake, a Black man, by a white Kenosha police officer.



# Taiwan: China looks to sap military, morale

Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Taiwan on Tuesday said China is seeking to take control of the island by wearing down its military capabilities and influencing public opinion, while avoiding an all-out military conflict that could likely draw in the United States.

Taiwan's Defense Ministry said in a biennial report that Beijing is employing "gray

zone" tactics to ratchet up pressure on the self-governing island republic which China claims as its own territory.

China has been stepping up its threats to use force to against Taiwan by holding military exercises and sending planes close to the island.

During China's National Day weekend in early October, China dispatched 149 military aircraft southwest of Tai-

wan in strike group formations, causing Taiwan to scramble aircraft and activate its air defense missile systems.

The report said that reflects Beijing's effort to degrade Taiwan's air force through wear and tear and heavy requirements on its personnel. It said the strategy also includes cyberwarfare, propaganda and a campaign to isolate Taiwan in-

ternationally to force it to accept China's terms without engaging in a shooting war.

China and Taiwan separated during a civil war in 1949. While the U.S. cut formal diplomatic relations with Taipei in 1979 in order to recognize Beijing, Washington is committed by law to ensure the island can defend itself and to treat all threats toward it as matters of grave concern.

## Climate talks struggle with gap between rich and poor

Associated Press

GLASGOW, Scotland — Large rifts remain as United Nations climate talks tick down to a Friday deadline. A lot of the divide comes down to money, which nations have it and which do not. So it's time for the diplomatic cavalry to ride in.

Democratic Congress members also joined the two-week climate conference in Glasgow on the sidelines Tuesday to reinforce the Biden administration's efforts to increase climate action.

The start of the conference saw heads of government talking about how curbing global warming is a fight for survival. The leaders focused on big pictures, not the intricate wording crucial to negotiations. Then, for about a week, the technocratic negotiations focused on those key details, getting some things done but not resolving the really sticky situations.

Now, it's time for the "high level" negotiations, when government ministers or other senior diplomats swoop in to make the political decisions that are supposed to break the technical logjams. The U.N. has three goals out of Glasgow, which so far are all out of reach: cutting carbon dioxide emissions in half by 2030; rich nations giving poor countries

\$100 billion a year for combating climate change and ensuring that half of that money goes to adapting to climate change's increasing harms.

To forge compromise, they have a big gap to bridge. Or more accurately, multiple gaps: there's a trust gap and a wealth gap. A north-south gap. It's about money, history and the future.

On one side of the gap are nations that developed and became rich from the Industrial Revolution fueled by coal, oil and gas that started in the United Kingdom. On the other side are the nations that haven't developed yet and haven't gotten rich, and are now being told those fuels are too dangerous for the planet.

The key financial issue is the \$100 billion a year pledge first made in 2009. The developed nations still haven't reached the \$100 billion a year mark. This year, the rich nations increased their aid to \$80 billion a year, still short of what's promised.

As the head of the conference briefed countries Monday on the progress — and the lack of it, in some ways — in the talks, developing country after developing country responded by noting how unfulfilled rich nations' financial pledges were.

## Calif. parents file suit after getting the wrong embryo

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Two California couples gave birth to each others' babies after a mix-up at a fertility clinic and spent months raising children that weren't theirs before swapping the infants, according to a lawsuit filed Monday in Los Angeles.

Daphna Cardinale said she and her husband, Alexander, had immediate suspicions that the girl she gave birth to in late 2019 wasn't theirs because the child had a darker complexion than they do.

They suppressed their doubts because they fell in love with the baby and trusted the in vitro fertilization process and their doctors, Daphna said. Learning months later that she had been pregnant with another couple's baby, and that another woman had been carrying her child, caused enduring trauma, she said.

"I was overwhelmed by feelings of fear, betrayal, anger and heartbreak," Daphna said during a news conference with her husband announcing the lawsuit. "I was robbed of the ability to carry my own child. I never had the opportunity to grow and bond with her during pregnancy, to feel her kick."

The Cardinales' complaint accuses the Los Angeles-based

California Center for Reproductive Health and its owner, Dr. Eliran Mor, of medical malpractice, breach of contract, negligence and fraud. It demands a jury trial and seeks unspecified damages.

Yvonne Telles, the office administrator for the center, declined to comment on Monday. Mor could not be reached for comment.

The two other parents involved in the alleged mix-up wish to remain anonymous and plan a similar lawsuit in the coming days, according to attorney Adam Wolf, who represents all four parents.

The lawsuit claims CCRH mistakenly implanted the other couple's embryo into Daphna and transferred the Cardinales' embryo — made from Daphna's egg and Alexander's sperm — into the other woman.

The babies, both girls, were born a week apart in September 2019. Both couples unwittingly raised the wrong child for nearly three months before DNA tests confirmed that the embryos were swapped, according to the filing.

"The Cardinales, including their young daughter, fell in love with this child, and were terrified she would be taken away from them," the complaint says.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

**Man rescued from inside theater wall**

**NY** SYRACUSE — A naked man was rescued from inside a wall of a historic theater after hiding in the building for several days, authorities said.

Syracuse firefighters responded to the Landmark Theatre after an employee heard the man yelling for help and called 911, Syracuse Fire Deputy Chief John Kane told Syracuse.com.

The unidentified 39-year-old man got into the building and managed to get into a crawl space, authorities said. He stayed there for two days before he fell into a space in the wall of the men's bathroom and became trapped, Kane said.

Firefighters drilled a hole in the wall and used a fiber-optic camera to find his location. They cut through several layers of drywall and structural clay tile to free the man, according to Kane.

The man had been seen wandering around the theater, its executive director Mike Intaglietta told the news site. He said employees lost track of the man and thought he had left the building.

**Town to destroy seized firearms, not sell them**

**CA** RIO DELL — Leaders of a small Northern California city voted to destroy about 200 guns that have accumulated in a police evidence locker rather than sell any of them at auction.

The Rio Dell City Council approved destruction of the firearms in a 3-2 vote, the Eureka Times-Standard reported.

"I am good with the idea of guns. I am not good with the idea of the city being in the business of selling guns," said Mayor Debra Barnes, who voted for the motion.

Destroying the guns will cost the city \$2,500. About 100 guns could have been sold, netting the city about \$15,000, the Times-Standard said.

The guns have accumulated since 1994. About half would have been destroyed regardless of the council action because they are rusted, incomplete or illegal to own in California.

**Rockefeller Center tree selection first for state**

**MD** ELKTON — The Christmas tree that will light up Rockefeller Center this holiday season is coming from Maryland for the first time in the nearly nine decades of the annual tradition.

A 79-foot-tall Norway spruce will be cut down in Elkton on Thursday and arrive in New York City on Saturday.

Rockefeller Center's website said the 85-year-old tree will be covered with about 5 miles of wire holding more than 50,000 multi-colored lights and topped with a 900-pound star covered in 3 million Swarovski crystals.

The lighting ceremony is scheduled for Dec. 1 and will be televised on NBC.

**Man weds in hospital after long COVID fight**

**IA** COUNCIL BLUFFS — Jonathan Johnson spent weeks on a ventilator battling COVID-19, then decided to get married — in the hospital.

The 28-year-old man surprised his fiancée with the help of hospital staff and arranged a wedding in the intensive care unit of the hospital in Council Bluffs, tying the knot with Maria Copeland, 28, from his bed, the Omaha World-Herald reported.

"I didn't want any regrets," Johnson said. "After coming off the ventilator, you view a lot of things differently in life."

Family, friends and an officiant were looped in and persuaded Copeland to do her hair and makeup and head up to the hospital for a visit on Oct. 14.

When she got to Johnson's room — where he was no longer in isolation or contagious — he told her that she was there for a wedding.

Johnson is on the mend at home, and still uses oxygen. The couple hope to have another ceremony after he recovers.

**Surfboard storage fire is 2nd in recent weeks**

**HI** HONOLULU — Fire officials are investigating another blaze at a surfboard rack in Hawaii's tourist mecca, Waikiki.

The Honolulu Fire Department said crews were extinguishing a fire at a magazine rack when police alerted them there were surfboards on fire in a nearby alleyway between a shopping center and a hotel.

It was the second time in recent weeks that a Waikiki surfboard rack has burned. A suspect was arrested for arson after last month's fire burned surfboards stored in racks between a police station and a historic hotel. There was also a fire there less than two years ago.

The October fire destroyed

about 500 surfboards and left behind an estimated \$650,000 in damage, the fire department said.

**6 arrested after brawl at Wichita high school**

**KS** WICHITA — Six people have been arrested after a brawl outside of South High School in Wichita — the second big fight there in nine days.

KAKE-TV reported that four juveniles and two adults were arrested. Nine days earlier, three students were arrested after a fight.

In the latest incident, a school district spokeswoman said two students were in a fight that was broken up, but relatives of the students went to the school and began fighting in the parking lot, and their students joined in.

Police said those arrested are accused of disorderly conduct, battery of a law enforcement officer and interference with law enforcement.

No one was seriously hurt.

**State Fair has record turnout, nearly 1.6M**

**AZ** PHOENIX — After a one-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the Arizona State Fair has posted a record turnout with nearly 1.6 million visitors.

The 116-year-old event ran from Oct. 1-30 this year at the state fairgrounds in Phoenix.

The previous record of 1.3 million fairgoers was set in 2019.

Fair officials said this year's event spanned 22 days compared to 18 in 2019 and in previous years.

— From Associated Press

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# Big 12 may be better off in basketball

*Associated Press*

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Kansas basketball coach Bill Self was so disgusted by the last round of conference realignment — when Missouri and Texas A&M bolted the Big 12 for the SEC — that he vowed never to play the Tigers again.

It didn't matter that the Border War had been one of the best rivalries in college sports.

Self's reason was simple: The departures, along with Nebraska's move to the Big Ten and Colorado's to the Pac-12, had left the Big 12 on precarious footing. Why continue with a treasured series with the league's very existence on shaky ground?

The most recent round of conference realignment didn't strike in Self nearly the same nerves. Perhaps because the Big 12 may have come out ahead — at least, when it comes to basketball. Sure, the league will lose marquee names when Texas and Oklahoma leave for the SEC, but the football prowess of those two schools has historically

outpaced their basketball pedigree.

Despite stars such as Kevin Durant and Buddy Hield over the years, the Longhorns haven't won a Big 12 title outright since 1999 (though they shared the title with Kansas in 2006 and 2008), and the Sooners haven't won it since 2005. In fact, the two schools have only appeared in two national title games and never brought home a championship.

To replace them, the Big 12 is adding Houston, Cincinnati and Central Florida from the American Athletic Conference and BYU from the West Coast. The Bearcats have been to six Final Fours and delivered two national titles, Houston's been to two title games and just went to the Final Four last season, and the Cougars are now a perennial NCAA tourney team.

"I think there was more concern in 2011, maybe because it was new, maybe because I was more involved," said Self, who finally relented and allowed the Jayhawks to schedule a game against Missouri this

season. "This time I wasn't. I kind of felt like this time somehow it'd work out, it'd be figured out."

It's unclear exactly when the realignment will shake out. BYU has indicated it wants to begin play in the Big 12 in the fall of 2023 with the other three schools joining the following year, and Texas and Oklahoma are tied to their old league until 2025.

For a while, the Big 12 might balloon from 10 teams to 14 before settling back at ... well, the Big 12. Even Commissioner Bob Bowlsby feels good about where the league stands, and that's a pleasant change.

"Nobody has a better basketball tradition than Cincinnati. BYU has traditionally played in the Top 25, doing it coming out of a relatively mid-major league," Bowlsby said. "I think in Houston's case, their strength is self-evident. They were in the Final Four last year. UCF has had good teams as well, coached by my dear friend Johnny Dawkins.

"I think you don't ever re-

place truly an Oklahoma and a Texas," Bowlsby added, "but in the sport of basketball, I don't think there's any question that we don't fall off much and we may gain."

College basketball fans may ultimately gain, too.

Those in the SEC will enjoy the renewal of some old Southwestern Conference rivalries — Texas will face Arkansas and Texas A&M again — and Oklahoma will face old Big Eight foe Missouri again. The league also will become the new home of the Red River Rivalry, which means a whole lot more in football but still has plenty of pizzazz on the hardwood.

The biggest loser might be Oklahoma State, which could lose its annual Bedlam rivalry with the Sooners. But there are major benefits for other schools in the Big 12: West Virginia finally gets a natural and geographic rival in Cincinnati, Texas schools get another in-state rival in Houston while Central Florida allows the league to expand its footprint into new television markets.

## NCAA restructuring to give divisions more power

*Associated Press*

The NCAA is setting the stage for a dramatic restructuring of college sports that will give each of its three divisions the power to govern itself.

Approval of a new, streamlined constitution is expected in January with minimal consternation or conflict.

The next phase of the NCAA's transformation figures to be more difficult: A reshaping of Division I that will tackle revenue distribution, how rules are made and enforced, access to the most-high profile and lucrative NCAA events — such as the men's basketball tournament — and just how big the tent should be at the top of college sports.

"So those are the things that we're really going to have to get to the granular spot, and some of those are going to be very difficult conversations to have," said West Virginia athletic director Shane Lyons, who is the chairman of the Division I Council and a member of the committee that trimmed the bedrock constitution of the 115-year-old organization.

The NCAA released on Monday a draft of an 18½-page constitution, cut down from 43 pages over the last three months at the direction of President Mark Emmert.

The cutting of NCAA red tape comes in a year that has brought a tempest of change to college

sports. Athletes have more financial freedom than ever before. Conference realignment has swept through the most powerful leagues while also shuffling lineups deep into Division I. Meanwhile, the expansion of the College Football Playoff promises to bring yet another revenue windfall to those at the top of the NCAA food chain.

Changing the constitution is the first step in determining the NCAA's ultimate role in the changing landscape.

"This constitution is not for today and tomorrow," Lyons said. "It's for 10 years from now, 20 years from now. What's, potentially, the association going to

look like?"

The rewritten constitution focuses more on the NCAA's broad goals of athlete welfare and athletics as part of an academic experience instead of governing procedures and operations, both of which have come under increasing criticism.

The proposal specifically notes that athletes should be allowed to be compensated for the use of their name, image and likeness — something in place only since July — but stands fast on barring schools from paying athletes to play.

The document still needs to go to the membership for feedback after next week's constitutional convention.



# Boswell's late FG lifts Steelers

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Mike Tomlin sat down, smiled and let out a sarcastic laugh.

"Had 'em all the way, right?" the longtime Pittsburgh Steelers coach said after his team slipped past Chicago 29-27 on Monday night.

Not exactly.

Not after a 10-point fourth-quarter lead turned into a one-point deficit following a fumble by punt returner Ray-Ray McCloud and a flash of brilliance by Bears rookie quarterback Justin Fields, who put Chicago in front with a 16-yard strike to Darnell Mooney with 1:46 to go.

Steelers rookie tight end Pat Freiermuth hardly seemed rattled. Sure, the Bears had the lead. But the Steelers had Ben Roethlisberger.

"I wasn't nervous at all," said Freiermuth, who caught a pair of touchdown passes. "Ben's been doing this for a long time. We're all confident in each other. I was thinking in my mind when they scored, 'It's too much

time (left).'"

And there was.

Roethlisberger guided the Steelers 52 yards in seven plays — abetted by Chicago's 12th penalty of the night — to set up Chris Boswell's 40-yard field goal with 26 seconds left, and Pittsburgh won its fourth straight after a 1-3 start.

"We're finding ways to win the game," Roethlisberger said. "Played well enough. Not great. But offensively speaking, we're just doing enough right now."

Roethlisberger completed 21 of 30 passes for 205 yards and the two scores to Freiermuth while pulling off the 50th game-winning drive and 38th fourth-quarter comeback of his 18-year career. Rookie running back Najee Harris found the end zone for the fifth straight game and Boswell made three field goals — including two from over 50 yards — into the open end at perpetually windy Heinz Field.

"Boz is a serial killer," Steelers defensive

end Cam Heyward said. "He's too calm."

Boswell might have been the only one relaxed after the Steelers frittered away a seemingly comfortable lead when McCloud gave the ball up on a punt return midway through the fourth quarter that DeAndre Houston-Carson returned 25 yards for a touchdown to pull the Bears within three.

Things got weird from there. Chicago appeared to get a stop on Pittsburgh's ensuing possession only to have linebacker Cassius Marsh — who spent training camp with the Steelers — get flagged for taunting after sacking Roethlisberger on third down.

Marsh's celebration looked relatively innocuous, though the league has cracked down on any semblance of taunting this season.

"I saw the player, after he made a big play, run toward the bench area of the Pittsburgh Steelers and posture in such a way that I felt he was taunting them," referee Tony Corrente said.

# Curry's 50 points, 10 assists leads Warriors by Hawks

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Stephen Curry scored an NBA season-high 50 points with nine three-pointers, 10 assists and seven rebounds, almost single-handedly leading the Golden State Warriors past the Atlanta Hawks 127-113 on Monday night.

Only Hall of Famers Wilt Chamberlain and Rick Barry had registered a game with 50 points and 10 assists in Warriors franchise history.

Curry notched his 10th career 50-point game and already had 24 points on 7-for-12 shooting by halftime with five three-pointers.

He wound up 14-for-28 from the floor and made all 13 of his free throws as Golden State won its fifth straight. It is holding opponents to 95.8 points during the unbeaten stretch.

Trae Young had 28 points and nine assists in the Hawks' fourth straight loss and sixth in seven.

Curry dominated for long stretches and danced in delight,

repeatedly raising his arms in the air to encourage everyone fortunate enough to witness another of his brilliant performances.

He scored Golden State's first 13 points, then 10 straight down the stretch in the third before dishing off for Juan Toscano-Anderson's three-pointer that made it 102-85 following the Warriors' spectacular, 41-point quarter.

**Nuggets 113, Heat 96:** Nikola Jokic had 25 points, 15 rebounds and 10 assists before the NBA MVP was ejected for violently slamming his shoulder into Markieff Morris, and host Denver beat Miami.

Will Barton scored 25 points and Jeff Green, who started in place of an injured Michael Porter Jr., added 13 points for the Nuggets, who held the opposition to under 100 points for the seventh time this season.

**Lakers 126, Hornets 123 (OT):** Anthony Davis scored 32 points, Russell Westbrook had his first triple-double with the

Lakers and Carmelo Anthony had a season-high 29 points off the bench as host Los Angeles defeated Charlotte.

Westbrook notched his 185th career triple-double. Finishing with 17 points and 14 assists, six of his 12 rebounds came in the fourth quarter and overtime.

**Knicks 103, 76ers 96:** Julius Randle scored 31 points, including eight straight during a key fourth-quarter stretch, to lead New York to a win at short-handed Philadelphia.

The 76ers were without four-time All-Star Joel Embiid and three others due to the NBA's health and safety protocols.

**Mavericks 108, Pelicans 92:** Luka Doncic scored 25 points, Tim Hardaway Jr. and Jalen Brunson added 17 apiece and Dallas overcame a sluggish start to beat visiting New Orleans.

**Bulls 118, Nets 95:** DeMar DeRozan scored 28 points, Zach LaVine added 24 and host Chicago used a 42-point fourth quarter to pull away from

Brooklyn.

Rookie Ayo Dosumnu had 15 points and played a key role in the late rally as the Bulls snapped a two-game losing streak.

**Grizzlies 125, Timberwolves 118 (OT):** Ja Morant scored 33 points and Brandon Clarke had 20 points and nine rebounds as host Memphis put together a furious fourth-quarter rally before defeating Minnesota in overtime.

The Grizzlies trailed by as many as 16 with 7:30 left in regulation, but a 21-4 rally erased the Timberwolves' advantage. Minnesota forced OT with a 39-foot three-pointer banked in by Karl-Anthony Towns as regulation expired.

**Suns 109, Kings 104:** Cameron Payne scored a season-high 24 points in 22 minutes off the bench and Phoenix got help from an overturned call to win its fifth straight game, winning at Sacramento. Devin Booker had 18 points, nine rebounds and six assists for the Suns.

# Ovechkin reaches No. 4 on goals list

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Alex Ovechkin scored his 741st career goal to tie Brett Hull for fourth on the NHL's all-time list, and helped the Washington Capitals beat the Buffalo Sabres 5-3 on Monday night.

"I just take it day by day," said the 36-year-old Ovechkin, who has 11 goals this season after entering Monday tied for the league lead. "You know it's nice to be in that company. It's pretty big numbers, so just move on. Obviously, it's nice to be tied but I still have a couple games left."

Tom Wilson added two goals and Evgeny Kuznetsov contributed his ninth, 10th and 11th assists as the Capitals snapped a three-game losing streak.

"The last couple games we wanted to be better," Wilson said of his line that includes Kuznetsov and Ovechkin. "I think we really needed to step

up tonight and lead by example and drive the bus a little bit."

Ovechkin also assisted on two goals, including Wilson's first that gave Washington an early lead it never relinquished. Connor McMichael and John Carlson also scored, and Vitek Vanecek made 25 saves for the Capitals.

Cody Eakin, Anders Bjork and Colin Miller scored for the Sabres, who suffered a fifth consecutive defeat, with four of those coming in regulation. Dustin Tokarski had 25 saves.

"I liked the fight all the way through to the end," said Sabres coach Don Granato, whose team twice cut two-goal deficits in half. "I think there were opportunities in the game that were created and generated and it's the way we need to play. We need to play aggressive."

**Rangers 4, Panthers 3:** Igor Shesterkin made a season-high 42 saves to help New York hold

off visiting Florida, which saw its first loss in regulation this season.

Chris Kreider and Adam Fox each had a goal in the first period before K'Andre Miller and Ryan Strome scored 30 seconds apart in the second as the Rangers built a 4-0 lead after two.

Eetu Luostarinen scored 20 seconds into the third for the Panthers, poking in the puck for his fourth goal of the season. Sam Reinhart made it 4-2 at 18:34 with this third before Patric Hornqvist scored at 19:20 to make it a one-goal game.

Florida tried for the tying goal with goalie Spencer Knight pulled for an extra skater, but Shesterkin made one more key save in the waning seconds.

Shesterkin, facing the Panthers for the first time in his career, earned his sixth win this season and second straight at home. He is 8-0-0 in his career

when making at least 40 saves.

Florida entered 10-0-1, its only blemish a shootout loss at Boston on Oct. 30. The Panthers were coming off a 5-2 win over the previously undefeated Carolina Hurricanes on Saturday.

**Kings 5, Maple Leafs 1:** Jonathan Quick made 33 saves in Los Angeles' win at Toronto that snapped its five-game win streak.

Phillip Danault had two goals and an assist for the Kings, who won their fifth straight. Andreas Athanasiou added a goal and assist, former Leafs forward Trevor Moore scored and Adrian Kempe chipped in with an empty-netter. Alex Iafallo had two assists.

John Tavares scored for Toronto. Jack Campbell, who was Quick's understudy with the Kings for parts of two seasons, made 24 stops in his first career start against his former team.

## Baseball writers association reveals awards finalists

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Two-way sensation Shohei Ohtani of the Los Angeles Angels is a finalist for American League MVP in voting by the Baseball Writers Association of America.

The BBWAA revealed finalists for AL and NL MVPs, Cy Young Awards, Rookies of the Year and Managers of the Year on Monday night. The winners — decided on ballots sent at the end of the regular season — will be revealed next week.

Ohtani is in the final three of AL voting along with two Toronto players, Vladimir Guerrero Jr. and Marcus Semien.

The 27-year-old Ohtani hit .257 with 46 homers, 100 RBIs and a .965 OPS as the Angels' full-time designated hitter, while also going 9-2 with a 3.18 ERA in 23 starts on the mound. It was his first full season in

both roles — he won Rookie of the Year in 2018 even after an elbow injury shut him down as a pitcher after 10 starts.

Ex-St. Louis Cardinals skipper Mike Shildt was nominated for NL Manager of the Year less than a month after he was fired. The other finalists are Milwaukee's Craig Counsell and San Francisco's Gabe Kapler.

The Cardinals won 17 straight games down the stretch and made the postseason for the third time in four years under Shildt, but the 2018 Manager of the Year was cut loose because of what general manager John Mozeliak termed "philosophical differences." Oliver Marmol was promoted from bench coach to replace Shildt.

The NL MVP race is down to Philadelphia's Bryce Harper, Washington's Juan Soto and

San Diego's Fernando Tatis Jr. Harper is the only former MVP of that trio, earning the honor in 2015 with the Nationals.

In a sign of how voters' priorities have changed, none of the six MVP finalists played for teams that made the postseason.

Soto, Tatis and Guerrero were all 22 on the final day of the season, and this is the first time a trio of players younger than 23 was among the finalists. The last time even two players that young were finalists was 1956, when Hank Aaron finished third in NL voting and Al Kaline was third in the AL.

Max Scherzer is a finalist for a fourth Cy Young Award after splitting the season between the Nationals and Dodgers, but all the other finalists would be first-time winners.

Milwaukee's Corbin Burnes

and Philadelphia's Zack Wheeler are finalists in the NL, while the AL honor is down to the Yankees' Gerrit Cole, the White Sox's Lance Lynn and the Blue Jays' Robbie Ray, who is now a free agent.

Postseason star Randy Arozarena and teammate Wander Franco of the Tampa Bay Rays are finalists for AL Rookie of the Year along with Astros right-hander Luis Garcia. Franco appeared in just 70 games but still got attention after reaching base in 43 consecutive games, matching Frank Robinson's record from 1956 for longest by a player age 20 or younger.

Cardinals outfielder Dylan Carlson, Reds second baseman Jonathan India and Marlins left-hander Trevor Rogers are finalists for NL Rookie of the Year.