

## Syrian insurgents' offensive enters Aleppo

*Associated Press*

BEIRUT — Insurgents entered Syria's second-largest city Aleppo after blowing up two car bombs on Friday and were clashing with government forces on the city's western edge, according to a Syria war monitor and fighters.

It was the first time the city has been attacked by opposition forces since 2016, when they were ousted from Aleppo's eastern neighborhoods following a grueling military campaign in which Syrian government forces were backed by Russia, Iran and its allied groups.

Witnesses in Aleppo city said residents have been fleeing neighborhoods on the western edge of the city because of missiles and exchanges of fire. The government did not comment on insurgents breaching city limits.

Syria's armed forces said in a statement Friday it has been

clashing with insurgents in the countryside around Aleppo and Idlib, destroying several of their drones and heavy weapons. It vowed to repel the attack and accused the insurgents of spreading false information about their advances.

Thousands of insurgents have been advancing toward Aleppo city since a shock offensive they launched on Wednesday, seizing several towns and villages along the way.

The offensive came as Iran-linked groups, who had backed Syrian government forces since 2015, have been preoccupied with their own battle at home.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitor, said the insurgents blew up two car bombs at the city's western edge on Friday.

An insurgent commander issued a recorded message posted on social media calling on the city's residents to cooperate

with the advancing forces.

Turkey state-run Anadolu Agency reported that the opposition insurgents entered Aleppo city center Friday. It said the insurgents "broke through the defense lines of the regime forces along the Hamdaniyya, New Aleppo, and Zahra axis on the outskirts of the city."

It added the insurgents now control approximately 70 locations in Aleppo and Idlib provinces.

Syria's state media reported earlier Friday that projectiles from insurgents landed in the student accommodations at Aleppo's university in the city center, killing four people, including two students. Public transportation to the city had also been diverted from the main highway linking Aleppo to the capital Damascus to avoid clashes, the report said.

Fighters also advanced on the town of Saraqab, in northwest-

ern Idlib province, a strategic area that would secure supply lines to Aleppo.

This week's advances were one of the largest by opposition factions, led by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS, and comes after weeks of low simmering violence. It is most intense fighting in northwestern Syria since 2020, when government forces seized areas previously controlled by opposition fighters.

Syria's Armed Forces said the insurgents are violating a 2019 agreement that de-escalated fighting in the area, which has been the last remaining opposition stronghold for years.

The war monitor Observatory said dozens of fighters from both sides have been killed in the battles that started Wednesday. The insurgents have seized control of more than 50 villages in their advance, which seem to have caught the government forces unprepared.

## UK intel chief accuses Russia of sabotage campaign

*Associated Press*

PARIS — The head of Britain's foreign intelligence service said Friday that Russia is conducting a "staggeringly reckless" sabotage campaign against Ukraine's Western allies, and that his spies are working to stop the consequences from spiraling out of control.

And in a message aimed in part at U.S. President-Elect Donald Trump, MI6 chief Richard Moore said that Russian victory in Ukraine would threaten American, as well as European, security.

Moore said his agency and its French counterpart were working together to a dangerous es-

calation by "calibrating the risk and informing the decisions of our respective governments" in response to President Vladimir Putin's "mix of bluster and aggression."

"We have recently uncovered a staggeringly reckless campaign of Russian sabotage in Europe, even as Putin and his acolytes resort to nuclear saber-rattling, to sow fear about the consequences of aiding Ukraine," Moore said during a speech to diplomats and intelligence officials in France.

"Such activity and rhetoric is dangerous and beyond irresponsible," he said.

Moore spoke alongside Nico-

las Lerner, head of France's external intelligence agency, the DGSE at an event marking 120 years of the Entente Cordiale, a pact between Britain and France that bound the age-old rivals together as military and diplomatic allies.

Western security officials suspect that Russian intelligence is trying to destabilize Ukraine's allies through disinformation, sabotage and arson.

Moscow has been linked by Western officials to several planned attacks in Europe, including an alleged plot to burn down Ukrainian-owned businesses in London, and to incendiary devices in packages on

cargo planes. In July one caught fire at a courier hub in Germany and another ignited in a warehouse in England.

Lerner agreed that "the collective security of the whole of Europe is at stake" in Ukraine. He said Britain's experience tackling Russia in the wake of recent attacks like the 2018 Salisbury Novichok poisoning of a former Russian spy, was invaluable to French intelligence seeking to defuse Russian actions.

Britain and France have been among Ukrainian allies most willing to allow Kyiv to use weapons they supply to hit targets inside Russia.

# Iran to enrich uranium with advanced centrifuges, UN says

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran will begin enriching uranium with thousands of advanced centrifuges at its two main nuclear facilities at Fordo and Natanz, the United Nations' nuclear watchdog said Friday, further raising tensions over Tehran's program as it enriches at near weapons-grade levels.

The notice from the International Atomic Energy Agency only mentioned Iran enriching uranium with new centrifuges to 5% purity, far lower than the 60% it currently does — likely signaling that it still wants to negotiate with the West and the incoming administration of President-elect Donald Trump.

However, it remains unclear how Trump will approach Iran once he enters office, particularly as it continues to threaten to attack Israel amid its war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip and just after a ceasefire started in

its campaign in Lebanon. Trump withdrew America from the accord in 2018, setting in motion a series of attacks and incidents across the wider Middle East.

Iran's mission to the United Nations did not respond to a request for comment over the IAEA's report. Tehran had threatened to rapidly advance its program after the Board of Governors at the IAEA condemned Iran at a meeting in November for failing to cooperate fully with the agency.

In a statement, the IAEA outlined the plans Iran informed it of, which include feeding uranium into some 45 cascades of its advanced IR-2M, IR-4 and IR-6 centrifuges.

Cascades are a group of centrifuges that spin uranium gas together to more quickly enrich the uranium. Each of these advanced classes of centrifuges enrich uranium faster than

Iran's baseline IR-1 centrifuges. The IAEA did not elaborate on how many machines would be in each cascade but Iran has put around 160 centrifuges into a single cascade in the past.

It's unclear if Iran has begun feeding the uranium yet into the centrifuges. Tehran so far has been vague about its plans.

But starting the enrichment at 5% gives Tehran both leverage at negotiations with the West and another way to dial up the pressure if it doesn't like what it hears. Weapons-grade levels of enrichment are around 90%.

Since the collapse of Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers following the U.S.' unilateral withdrawal from the accord in 2018, it has pursued nuclear enrichment just below weapons-grade levels.

U.S. intelligence agencies and others assess that Iran has yet to begin a weapons program.

# Airstrike, scattered attacks hit Lebanon

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Israel on Thursday carried out its first airstrike on Lebanon since a truce with Hezbollah announced this week, saying it targeted the militant group's activity at a rocket storage facility in southern Lebanon that breached the ceasefire.

Lebanese authorities reported scattered incidents of Israeli mortar attacks, strikes and shots fired that wounded two people trying to return to southern Lebanon. Lebanon's state-run media said the wounded were civilians, while the Israeli military described them as suspects who violated the terms of the truce that ended more than a year of conflict between Israel and Hezbollah.

The bursts of violence — with no reports of serious casualties — reflected the uneasy nature of the ceasefire that otherwise appeared to hold Thursday as Lebanese troops began to deploy in parts of southern Lebanon, the eastern Bekaa Valley and the southern suburbs of Beirut, where Hezbollah has based its operations.

The Lebanese military said it was setting up temporary checkpoints and detonating unexploded ordnance in hopes of helping displaced civilians return to their homes.

Some 1.2 million people were displaced in Lebanon during the country's deadliest war in decades. Thousands of residents, their cars stacked high with mattresses and full of belongings, began to make the odyssey back to their war-ravaged towns on Wednesday, after the ceasefire took effect.

# Sinking of New Zealand navy ship off Samoa coast blamed on crew mistakes

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — Mistakes by members of the crew caused a New Zealand navy ship to plow into a reef off the coast of Samoa, where it caught fire and sank, according to the preliminary findings of a military Court of Inquiry released Friday.

The ship's crew did not realize autopilot was engaged, believed something else had gone wrong with the ship and did not check the HMNZS Manawanui was under manual control as it maintained course toward land, a summary of the inquiry's first

report said. The full report has not been made public.

All 75 people on board the vessel evacuated safely as the boat foundered about a mile off the coast of Upolu, Samoa, in October. The ship was one of only nine in New Zealand's navy and was the first the country lost at sea since World War II.

Officials did not know the cause of the sinking at the time, and Chief of Navy Rear Admiral Garin Golding ordered a Court of Inquiry to investigate.

"The direct cause of the grounding has been determined as a series of human errors

which meant the ship's autopilot was not disengaged when it should have been," Golding told reporters in Auckland on Friday. "Muscle memory from the person in control should have leaned over to that panel and checked whether the screen said autopilot or not."

The crew "mistakenly believed its failure to respond to direction changes was the result of a thruster control failure," he said. A number of contributing factors were identified, Golding said, including training, planning, supervision, readiness and risk assessment.

# Retailers bank on Black Friday to energize holiday shoppers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — After weeks of pushing early deals, retailers in the United States and some other countries tried to seduce customers with promises of bigger discounts on Black Friday, the sales event that still reigns as the unofficial kickoff of the holiday shopping season even if it's lost some luster.

Department stores, shopping malls and merchants see the day after Thanksgiving as a way to energize shoppers and to get them into physical stores at a time when many gift-seekers do the bulk of their browsing and buying online.

Enough traditionalists must still be around, because Black Friday remains the biggest day of the year for retail foot traffic in the U.S., according to retail technology company Sensoromatic Solutions.

"Black Friday is still an incredibly important day for retailers," Grant Gustafson, head of retail consulting and analytics at Sensoromatic, said. "It's important for them to be able to get shoppers into their store to show them that experience of

what it's like to browse and touch and feel items. It also can be a bellwether for retailers on what to expect for the rest of the holiday season."

At Macy's Herald Square in Manhattan, there was a steady stream of shoppers as of 7:30 a.m. on Friday, an hour and a half after the flagship store opened. Discounts included 40% to 50% off most boots and shoes. The prices of many handbags also were listed as half off.

Keressa Clark, 50, and her daughter Morghan, 27, were visiting New York from Wilmington, N.C., and arrived at the store at 6:15 a.m. "We set the alarm for 5 and got out the door by 6," Morghan Clark said. "We don't have a Macy's where we are from. I am actually shocked to see so many Black Friday deals because so many things are online."

Clark, who works as a nurse practitioner, said she was feeling better about the economy because of President-elect Donald Trump's pending return to the White House and plans to spend \$2,000 this holiday season, about \$500 more than a

year ago because of her improved optimism.

In the U.S., analysts envision a solid holiday shopping season, though perhaps not as robust as last year's, with many shoppers under financial pressure and cautious with their discretionary spending despite the easing of inflation.

Retailers are even more under the gun since there are five fewer days between Thanksgiving and Christmas this year.

Mall of America, in Bloomington, Minn., hoped to surpass the 12,000 shoppers who arrived last year within the first hour of the giant shopping center's 7 a.m. opening.

This year, the mall is giving the first 200 people in line at the center's north entrance a \$25 gift card.

Best Buy has introduced an extended-release version of the doorbuster, the limited-time daily discounts that for years were all the rage — and sometimes the spark for actual brawls. The nation's largest consumer electronics chain has released doorbuster deals every Friday since Nov. 8.

## Trump holiday greetings include 'Radical Left Lunatics'

Boston Herald

It wouldn't be a modern U.S. holiday without social media shared messages and greetings, and it's fair to say that President-elect Donald Trump's unorthodox approach to holiday well-wishing has itself become something of a tradition.

This Thanksgiving Day was no exception, with President Joe Biden and other leading lawmakers offering holiday proclamations and thoughts of thankfulness and family, and Trump making clear once again that he isn't inclined to stick with a seasonal script.

"Happy Thanksgiving to all, including to the Radical Left Lunatics who have worked so hard to destroy our Country, but who have miserably failed, and will always fail, because their ideas and policies are so hopelessly bad that the great people of our Nation just gave a landslide victory to those who want to MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN," the President-elect declared via his Truth Social media platform.

Biden struck a more gracious note, observing that Thanksgiving is meant to be a time for family, when we "celebrate the many blessings of our great nation," and that it's a tradition started when the "the Pilgrims celebrated the first Thanksgiving to honor a successful harvest, made possible by the generosity and kindness of the Wampanoag people."

"Thanksgiving is at the heart of America's spirit of gratitude — of finding light in times of both joy and strife," the President wrote in his proclamation.

"This Thanksgiving — the last one I will declare as President — I express my gratitude to the American people. Serving as President has been the honor of a lifetime."

## Amazon workers in India join Black Friday strike for better wages, working conditions

Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Amazon staff in India have joined strike action calling for better wages and working conditions as the company prepares for one of the busiest shopping periods of the year.

About 200 warehouse workers and delivery drivers rallied in the capital, New Delhi, under a "Make Amazon Pay" banner. Some donned masks of Amazon chief Jeff Bezos and joined hands against the Seat-

tle-based company's practices.

The walkout on Black Friday, which starts one of the biggest shopping weekends of the year, was repeated at Amazon warehouses in other countries as workers called for higher wages, better working conditions and union rights.

"Our basic salary is 10,000 rupees (\$120), which should be at least 25,000 rupees (\$295)," said Manish Kumar, 25, a warehouse worker who joined the New Delhi protest. "And

the environment there is to work under pressure," he added.

A statement from the Amazon India Workers Union said similar protests are planned in other parts of India and in other countries, including the United States, Germany, Japan and Brazil. The demonstrations will call on Amazon to pay its workers fairly, respect their right to join unions and commit to environmental sustainability, it said.



# 'Crazy busy' Atlantic hurricane season ends

*Associated Press*

The 2024 Atlantic hurricane season comes to a close Saturday, bringing to an end a season that saw 11 hurricanes compared to the average seven, and death and destruction hundreds of miles from where storms came ashore on the U.S. Gulf Coast.

Meteorologists called it a "crazy busy" season, due in part to unusually warm ocean temperatures. Eight hurricanes made landfall, in the U.S., Bermuda, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Grenada.

Many things made the 2024 season stand out.

Hurricane Beryl became the first Category 4 hurricane on record to form in the month of June, slamming into the island of Carriacou in Grenada. In Jamaica it went on to destroy crops and houses and left two dead.

The last time the island was

scraped by a Category 4 hurricane was Dean in 2007, making it "pretty rare," said Brian McNoldy, a hurricane researcher at the University of Miami.

The storm then intensified into the earliest Category 5 hurricane ever in the Atlantic on July 1. Major hurricanes — Category 3 and above — are not usually seen until September 1, according to the National Hurricane Center.

In September, Hurricane Helene caused catastrophic damage across the southeastern U.S. and was the deadliest storm to hit the U.S. mainland since Katrina in 2005. More than 200 people died.

North Carolina estimates the storm caused at least \$48.8 billion in direct or indirect damages with houses, drinking water systems and farms and forests destroyed.

Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia

also sustained extensive damage.

In October, Hurricane Milton rapidly intensified and the storm's maximum wind speeds hit a screaming 180 mph, making it one of the strongest hurricanes by wind speed ever recorded in the Gulf of Mexico. The only one stronger by that measure was Hurricane Rita in 2005.

The areas where Helene and Milton struck saw as much as three times their usual rainfall for September and October, the heart of the Atlantic hurricane season. For Asheville, Tampa and Orlando, the two-month period was the wettest on record.

In November, Hurricane Rafael reached 120 mph and was nearly the strongest November hurricane on record in the Gulf of Mexico, tying with Hurricane Kate in 1985. Rafael made landfall in Cuba and battered the island as it was trying to recover

from widespread blackouts caused by Hurricane Oscar in October.

Planet-warming gases like carbon dioxide and methane released by transportation and industry are causing oceans to rapidly warm. Several factors contribute to the formation of hurricanes, but unusually warm oceans allow hurricanes to form and intensify in places and times we don't normally anticipate, McNoldy said.

"In other words, we never had a storm as strong as Beryl so early in the season anywhere in the Atlantic and we never had a storm as strong as Milton so late in the season in the Gulf of Mexico," he said.

"I don't ever point to climate change as causing a specific weather event, but it certainly has its finger on the scale and makes these extreme storms more likely to occur," McNoldy said.

## FBI busts man accused of stock exchange bomb plot

*Miami Herald*

MIAMI — In June, an FBI informant met with a South Florida man who expressed his desire to join an anti-government militia and build a bomb targeting a New York City landmark, authorities say.

His plan: to plant an improvised explosive device outside the New York Stock Exchange the week before Thanksgiving, according to the FBI.

Federal agents, who had been on to the suspect for months, thwarted his planned bombing before the target date. Harun Abdul-Malik Yener, 30, of Coral Springs, now faces an arraignment on Dec. 4 in Miami federal court on charges of attempting to use an explosive device to damage or destroy a building used in interstate commerce.

Since Nov. 20, Yener has been

detained at a federal lockup in Miami after his public defender and prosecutors agreed to his detention before trial.

According to a criminal complaint, the FBI received a tip that Yener was storing bomb-making designs in an unlocked storage unit.

FBI agents contacted Yener. With his consent and a warrant, they searched the unit and found spiral notebooks, bomb-making sketches, watches with timers, circuit boards and other electronics for creating explosive devices, according to an affidavit filed with the complaint.

Among the writings in his notebook: "Be prepared brothers. The day for battle is near, many of our enemies are arming themselves. Soon the United States and her allies will attack."

## Tycoon eats banana art he had bought for \$6.2M

*Associated Press*

HONG KONG — A cryptocurrency entrepreneur who bought a piece of conceptual art consisting of a simple banana, duct-taped to a wall, for \$6.2 million last week ate the fruit in Hong Kong on Friday.

Chinese-born Justin Sun peeled off the duct tape and enjoyed the banana in a press conference held in The Peninsula Hong Kong, one of the city's priciest hotels.

"It tastes much better than other bananas. Indeed, quite good," he said.

"Comedian," by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan, was a phenomenon when it debuted in 2019 at Art Basel Miami Beach, as festivalgoers tried to make out whether the single yellow piece of fruit affixed to a white wall with silver duct tape was a joke

or a cheeky commentary on questionable standards among art collectors. At one point, another artist took the banana off the wall and ate it.

The piece attracted so much attention that it had to be withdrawn from view. But three editions sold for between \$120,000 and \$150,000, according to the gallery handling sales.

Last week, Sun, founder of cryptocurrency platform TRON, made the winning bid at the Sotheby's auction in New York. Or, more accurately, Sun purchased a certificate of authenticity that gives him the authority to duct-tape a banana to a wall and call it "Comedian."

At the time, Sun said the piece "represents a cultural phenomenon that bridges the worlds of art, memes and the cryptocurrency community."

# Lions extend win streak to 10 games

*Associated Press*

DETROIT — The Detroit Lions have been dominant for much of the season, leading the league in point differential after routinely routing opponents.

Against Chicago, the Lions were good enough to extend their winning streak to 10 games.

Barely.

Jared Goff threw two touchdown passes to Sam LaPorta, Jake Bates made three field goals in the first half and Detroit held off the Bears 23-20 on Thursday.

"It was a crazy ending, right?" Goff asked.

The Bears had the ball in Lions territory late in the game with a chance to drive for a game-tying field goal or go-ahead touchdown, but they blew the opportunity.

Caleb Williams threw an incomplete pass as time expired from the Detroit 41 after being sacked with about 30 seconds left, allowing time to run off the

clock even though Chicago had one more timeout.

"I'm focused on getting everyone back and getting everyone lined up," Williams said. "I don't have a microphone, so there is no communication with coach there. We could have taken a timeout, but if we hit that play, no one would be worried about it."

The NFC-leading Lions (11-1) have their best record after 12 games in team history and their 10-game winning streak ties a franchise record with the 1934 squad.

The Bears (4-8) have lost six straight, including four by a total of 10 points.

Chicago coach Matt Eberflus dropped to 5-17 in games decided by seven or fewer points, winning 22.7% of those games to rank 221st and last among coaches with at least 20 games that close.

"We're right there," he said.

Detroit led 16-0 at halftime and 23-7 after three quarters

and Williams led a comeback that came up short for the second straight week. Williams helped the Bears rally from an 11-point deficit in the final 22 seconds of regulation against Minnesota before losing in overtime.

Detroit opened the game with four straight scoring drives, going ahead 16-0 on Goff's 3-yard touchdown pass to LaPorta in the second quarter and Bates' field goals.

Chicago, meanwhile, failed to pick up a first down on its first four drives and gained a total of 32 yards on those possessions.

"We started off pretty hot offensively and defensively," Lions coach Dan Campbell said.

Goff's second touchdown pass to LaPorta, a 1-yard toss, gave Detroit a 23-7 lead late in the third quarter. The score was set up by Jameson Williams' 15-yard reverse, which included him hurdling Kevin Byard to gain several extra yards.

Caleb Williams, the No. 1 pick

overall in the draft, was 20 of 39 for 256 yards with two touchdown passes to Keenan Allen and one to DJ Moore.

Williams seemed to make his first rookie mistake of the game in the third quarter on a run, pulling up instead of going out of bounds and taking a low hit from linebacker Jack Campbell.

"Knee is fine, but that play was kind of funky," Williams said. "I didn't appreciate him diving right at my knee, but it is good."

The former USC star shook it off and on the next snap, threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to Allen. William connected with Allen for another score, throwing a 9-yarder to him with 5:36 left.

Detroit had a chance to add to its cushion, but Bates missed a 45-yard kick after starting his NFL career 19 of 19 on field goals on a drive that was stunted by Jameson Williams' 15-yard penalty for tossing the football at a Bears player on the sideline.

## Hutchinson surprises Marine with 4 tickets to game

*Associated Press*

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, Mich. — Detroit Lions defensive end Aidan Hutchinson knocked on Jacob Rinehart's front door.

"Come in!" his stepmother Audrey Cox shouted from the nearby kitchen.

Hutchinson entered the home in suburban Detroit, using crutches to protect his surgically repaired left leg that was broken in two places last month.

"What's up, guys?" Hutchinson asked with a grin. "How we

doing?"

The wide-eyed and awe-struck Rinehart was simply stunned.

"I'm sitting here and Aidan Hutchinson walks in the door," he said later that night. "And, I about dropped dead."

The Marine was told he wouldn't walk again after a training accident.

Cox shared her stepson's story with the Lions through the team's website, not expecting a response.

The Lions read what she

wrote and reached out to Verizon, an NFL corporate sponsor, about Rinehart. The team and cellular provider orchestrated a series of surprises for him as part of Verizon Access, which creates opportunities for behind-the-scenes experiences at events such as NFL games.

Hutchinson drove about an hour to hand Rinehart four tickets to Detroit's home game against Chicago on Thanksgiving, one of his autographed No. 97 jerseys and an Amon-Ra St. Brown No. 14 jersey.

In the fall of 2023, he was two-plus months into training in South Carolina and a week away from the Marines' strenuous exercise known as "The Crucible" that caps a 13-week course when an accident left him with a spinal cord injury that paralyzed him from the neck down.

Rinehart was able to walk with assistance a few months into a four-month hospital stay. After more than a year of rehab back in Michigan, he can walk on his own.

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# Packers use fast start to beat Dolphins

Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Jordan Love celebrated the Green Bay Packers' victory on Thanksgiving by taking a bite out of a turkey leg and raising it in the air.

His feast was a long time coming.

Love led the Packers to a Thanksgiving Day triumph in Detroit last year but wasn't given a turkey leg afterward, as is customary in these televised postgame interviews. His teammates vowed to make sure Love got a turkey leg this time, and he earned it by throwing two touchdown passes to Jayden Reed in a 30-17 win over the Miami Dolphins on Thursday night.

"To be able to come in here, get the win, get the turkey leg after, it was very delicious," said Love, who went 21 of 28 for 274 yards. "Just a little something to celebrate."

Miami (5-7) continued its recent history of struggling in cold weather. The kickoff temperature at Lambeau Field was 27 degrees with 10 mph winds,

light flurries and a wind chill of 18.

"I would say, from my standpoint and our team's standpoint, we're not going to use any of that as an excuse for why we didn't get the start that we wanted," said Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa, who was 37 of 46 for 365 yards with two touchdowns despite getting sacked five times.

Green Bay is playing three games in a 12-day stretch. The Packers beat the San Francisco 49ers 38-10 on Sunday and will visit the NFC North-leading Detroit Lions next Thursday night.

"I thought we played well for it being a short week," Packers safety Xavier McKinney said. "I thought we came out there and had the right mindset. And we started fast, and that was the key to today's win."

Love and Reed connected on touchdown completions of 3 and 12 yards, Jacobs scored from 1 yard out and Brandon McManus kicked two field goals as Green Bay led 27-3 midway through the third quar-

ter.

Miami tried to rally.

Tagovailoa's 14-yard pass to De'Von Achane — and a 2-point conversion pass to Jaylen Waddle — cut Green Bay's lead to 27-11 with 2:43 left in third. After Miami stopped Jacobs for a 2-yard loss on third-and-1 to force a punt, the Dolphins drove again and had second-and-goal at the 1 early in the fourth quarter.

Green Bay's goal-line defense vanquished those hopes.

A 49-yard completion from Love to Jacobs then set up McManus' 33-yard field goal with 5:02 left. Miami completed the scoring on a deflected 12-yard touchdown pass from Tagovailoa to Tyreek Hill with 3:04 remaining.

Miami's slow start enabled the Packers to take command.

After forcing a three-and-out on the opening possession, the Dolphins gave Green Bay a first-and-goal opportunity when Malik Washington muffed a punt and Robert Rochell recovered at the 9.

The turnover set up Love's 3-yard touchdown pass to Reed on third-and-goal.

Green Bay reached the end zone again on its next series as Jacobs' touchdown capped a 12-play, 76-yard drive that lasted nearly seven minutes.

The Dolphins had first-and-goal at the 9 in the second quarter but settled for Jason Sanders' 33-yard field goal.

Green Bay then scored 10 points in the final 96 seconds of the half to make it 24-3.

On third-and-2 from the 12, Reed caught a pass around the line of scrimmage and used a downfield block from Dontayvion Wicks to reach the end zone. After Tagovailoa overthrew Achane on fourth-and-5 from the Green Bay 38 with 22 seconds left, a couple of completions from Love to Tucker Kraft helped the Packers get into position for McManus' 46-yard field goal as time expired.

From that point on, it was pretty much just a matter of making sure Love didn't go hungry.

## Overshown's flashy pick-6 boosts Cowboys over Giants

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — DeMarvion Overshown wasn't sure he could run down the pass he tipped and turn it into an interception for a touchdown.

The Dallas linebacker pulled it off, and now the chase is on for the Cowboys to try to dig out of a deep hole in pursuit of a fourth consecutive playoff trip, this time without franchise quarterback Dak Prescott.

Overshown's dynamic pick-6 from 23 yards put Dallas in front for good, Rico Dowdle ran for a score in his first career 100-yard game and the Cowboys held on for a 27-20 Thanksgiving Day victory over the New York Giants.

Cooper Rush threw a TD pass, and Dowdle finished with

112 yards Thursday as the Cowboys (5-7) ended a six-game home losing streak going back to a wild-card playoff loss to Green Bay last season.

Dallas has consecutive victories coming off a five-game losing streak but still plenty of work ahead to get back in the postseason picture. Prescott tore a hamstring in Week 9 of what was already a reeling season.

"We just needed that one last week, kind of get the ball rolling, felt that victory feeling in the locker postgame last week," Rush said of the wild 34-26 victory at Washington. "Everything's kind of coming together, feeling good about it."

Drew Lock, who started in place of the injured Tommy De-

Vito a week after the benching and subsequent release of Daniel Jones, lost a fumble following Overshown's pick-6 in a seventh consecutive loss for the Giants (2-10).

Lock ran for 57 yards and a touchdown that ended up being too late to avoid New York's eighth consecutive loss to its NFC East rival as the Giants were eliminated from playoff contention.

"This is one of my first times to be able to come in and play a full game with these guys and show them what I can do," Lock said. "Minus the turnovers and a few things, it was up and down. Some good. Some bad."

The Giants had their first lead since Week 5 before Overshown put the Cowboys back in front

after they had led for just 2 minutes, 15 seconds during their six-game skid at AT&T Stadium.

Leading 7-6, Lock tried to flip a screen pass to Devin Singletary after the running back had been overpowered trying to block Overshown.

The second-year linebacker ended up between Lock and Singletary, tipped the pass into the air toward the end zone, used his speed to run it down and scored untouched.

"I was thinking, 'Hey, this is a good time to have those afterburners going,'" said Overshown, who missed his rookie season with a knee injury. "I was able to kick in some nitrous, and we were dancing in the end zone after that."



# No. 3 Gonzaga beats No. 14 Indiana, 89-73

Associated Press

NASSAU, Bahamas — Khalif Battle led a balanced attack with 16 points, Ryan Nembhard had a double-double and No. 3 Gonzaga used a first-half blitz to beat No. 14 Indiana 89-73 in the consolation round of the Battle 4 Atlantis on Thursday.

The Bulldogs led 33-31 with under eight minutes to go in the first half when five players scored in a 16-0 run in less than 4½ minutes and the Hoosiers never got closer than 15 points the rest of the way.

Nembhard had 11 points and a career-high 13 assists for the Bulldogs (6-1). Michael Ajayi and Nolan Hickman added 15 points and Ben Gregg 13. Ajayi had nine rebounds as Gonzaga outrebounded Indiana 42-27.

Omar Ballo had 25 points for Indiana (4-2), which lost its second straight. Mackenzie Mgbako scored 13.

■ **No. 13 Purdue 71, NC State 61:** Trey Kaufman-Renn scored 15 of his 22 points in the second half and Camden Heide added 15 for No. 13 Purdue, which beat N.C. State in the opening game of the Rady Children's Invitational.

Braden Smith had 11 points and Fletcher Loyer 10 for Purdue (6-1).

Jayden Taylor scored 15 and Brandon Huntley-Hatfield 13 for N.C. State (5-1).

■ **No. 18 Florida 75, Wake Forest 58:** Walter Clayton Jr.

scored 21 points and Alijah Martin added 16 as No. 18 Florida beat Wake Forest in the ESPN Events Invitational.

Florida (7-0) opened the second half with a 10-0 run to add to its 32-28 halftime lead. Cayton scored six points in the first half and 15 in the second half.

The Gators trailed by as many as nine points in the first half before going on a 12-2 run and taking a 23-22 lead with 4:46 remaining in the half. Florida's charge was led by Will Richard, who had 10 points in the half and finished with 14.

■ **Illinois 90, No. 19 Arkansas 77:** Freshman Kasparas Jakucionis scored a season-high 23 points, Tomislav Ivisic had 21 points and 10 rebounds and Illinois beat No. 19 Arkansas in the Thanksgiving Hoops Showcase.

Jakucionis hit two free throws to give Illinois a double-digit lead with 3:49 remaining in the game. Arkansas had a turnover and a missed jumper on its next two possessions and Jakucionis hit an open 3-pointer to make it 85-71 at 2:42.

Kylan Boswell added 18 points for Illinois (6-1). Head coach Brad Underwood broke a tie with J. Craig Ruby (1922-'36) for fifth place in program history with 149 wins.

Adou Thiero went 12 of 21 from the line and scored 26 points for Arkansas (5-2). Zvonimir Ivisic had 13 points, six rebounds and two blocks.

■ **No. 23 Mississippi 96, BYU 85, OT:** Jaylen Murray scored nine of his career-high 28 points in overtime and No. 23 Mississippi beat BYU in the Rady Children's Invitational to extend its nonconference winning streak to 19 games, the longest in the country.

Murray hit a jumper 1:17 into OT to give the Rebels the lead for good. He added two free throws, a three-point play and two more free throws to help put the game out of reach.

Dre Davis and Matthew Murrell added 18 points apiece for the Rebels (6-0) in a fast-paced, sometimes-chippy game, while Sean Pedulla had 13.

Kanon Catchings scored 17 points to lead five players in double figures for the Cougars (5-1). Egor Demin, Richie Saunders and Fousseyni Traore added 16 apiece, and Mihailo Boskovic had 10.

■ **Oklahoma 82, No. 24 Arizona 77:** Freshman Jeremiah Fears scored a season-high 26 points, Jalon Moore added 24 and Oklahoma held off No. 24 Arizona in the semifinals of the Battle 4 Atlantis.

Duke Miles made a high-arching floater in the lane with 2:55 remaining for a 78-69 lead, but Oklahoma failed to make another field goal the rest of the game.

Trailing 78-75 with under a minute left, Arizona had three chances at a basket, but Caleb

Love and Jaden Bradley missed 3-pointers and KJ Lewis had a shot blocked. Fears finally grabbed a defensive rebound before making two free throws for a four-point lead.

Miles finished with 11 points and Luke Northweather scored 10 for Oklahoma (6-0).

Love scored 17 points on 7-of-18 shooting for Arizona (3-3). Bradley added 16 points.

■ **No. 25 Mississippi State 80, UNLV 58:** KeShawn Murphy had 14 points and 13 rebounds, Josh Hubbard scored 11 and No. 25 Mississippi State overpowered UNLV in the Arizona Tip-Off.

The Bulldogs (6-0) used a pair of runs to build a 13-point halftime lead and blew it wide open early in the second half to move into the championship game Friday night against Butler.

Mississippi State had a 46-29 rebounding advantage and scored 30 second-chance points off 19 offensive rebounds.

Jailen Bedford had 13 points and Jalen Hill added 11 to lead the Runnin' Rebels (4-2).

The Bulldogs dominated after the opening six minutes, using runs of 7-0 and 12-2 to build a 39-21 lead. UNLV used a 6-0 spurt to cut it to 45-32 at halftime.

The Runnin' Rebels shot better overall in the first half at 14 of 25, but the Bulldogs went 7 for 14 from 3-point range and had 16 second-chance points off of nine offensive rebounds.

# No. 4 South Carolina defeats No. 15 Iowa State, 76-36

Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — No. 4 South Carolina went on a 32-0 run in the first half and beat No. 15 Iowa State 76-36 in the Fort Myers Tip-Off on Thursday.

The Gamecocks held the Cyclones scoreless for nearly 15 straight minutes. Joyce Edwards had 13 points and 11 rebounds for South Carolina (6-1), and Sania Feagin scored 13.

Audi Crooks had 13 points and nine rebounds for Iowa State (5-2), and Mackenzie Hare scored 12 for the Cyclones.

South Carolina missed 13 consecutive shots after the 32-0 run ended and saw its lead cut to 37-20. But the Gamecocks made seven of their next eight shots and pulled away.

■ **No. 11 Ohio State 70, Old Dominion 47:** Ajae Petty

scored 24 points on 11-of-13 shooting and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead No. 11 Ohio State to a win over Old Dominion in the Daytona Beach Classic.

Petty scored the first four points of the game and the Buckeyes never trailed.

Jaloni Cambridge added 15 points and six assists for Ohio State (5-0), which plays Utah State on Friday. Taylor Thierry

had seven points to reach 1,000 for her career.

Simaru Fields and Brenda Fontana both had 11 points for the Monarchs (4-2), who play Oakland on Saturday.

The Buckeyes went 4 of 16 in the first quarter but held the Monarchs to 2 of 10. The teams combined for 23 turnovers.

Old Dominion finished at 34% with 28 turnovers.

# Memphis ends No. 18 Tulane's CFP hopes

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — When three deep passes by Darian Mensah resulted in turnovers, Tulane's long-shot hopes of sneaking into the College Football Playoff slipped away.

Greg Desrosiers Jr. caught two scoring passes and ran for a touchdown, and Memphis defeated No. 18 Tulane 34-24 on Thursday night to end the Green Wave's eight-game winning streak.

"You can't have the critical mistakes we had," said Tulane coach Jon Sumrall, whose team needed to win its regular-season finale and the American Athletic Conference title game to have any realistic chance at making the new 12-team CFP.

"There's a lot of stuff we didn't execute to our standard that we have for several games in a row now," he added. "It's very frustrating. We're all hurting, and it should hurt when you play a game like that."

Two turnovers by Tulane (9-3, 7-1 AAC, No. 17 CFP) came

on fumbles after long receptions at or inside the Memphis 10-yard line. Another came on a long pass by Mensah that was intercepted at the 2-yard line by Davion Ross, and the Tigers responded with a drive capped by Mario Anderson Jr.'s 47-yard touchdown run.

"We could have easily held our heads down," Desrosiers said, referring to a pair of conference losses that dropped Memphis (10-2, 6-2) out of the AAC title picture. "Obviously, the season didn't go as planned ... but we know what we deserve. We know what we're capable of. So, we came out here and we wanted to dominate."

Tigers defensive back Kourtlan Marsh caused both momentum-turning fumbles, the first when he leveled Yulkeith Brown after the receiver's 40-yard catch. AJ Watts recovered at the 10 and returned it 37 yards, initiating a drive that ended with Desrosiers' 29-yard touchdown run on third-and-4 to give Memphis a 27-10 lead.

In the fourth quarter, with Tulane trailing 27-17, Mario Williams fumbled at the Tigers 9 after hauling in a 55-yard pass. Marsh recovered.

"If those three turnovers don't happen, we're probably talking about a final play to figure out who the winner is," Sumrall said.

Seth Henigan completed 22 of 29 passes for 218 yards and two TDs without a turnover for Memphis, which totaled 454 yards against a Tulane defense that had allowed just nine points in its previous three games combined. Anderson rushed for 177 yards on 24 carries.

"When you can't win the conference championship, all you can do is win the play that you're in and the game that you're in," Henigan said. "Our guys came together and played for each other."

Mensah passed for 317 yards and two TDs, and Arnold Barnes ran for a 2-yard score — not enough for Tulane to prolong its 17-game streak of regu-

lar-season conference wins.

"I didn't see that performance coming," Sumrall said. "I thought we'd play better than we did. Memphis played good, but we didn't play to our standard. We didn't help ourselves a whole lot."

Tulane gave up a touchdown on Memphis' opening drive when Henigan hit Desrosiers for the first of his two touchdown catches — a leaping 17-yard grab in tight coverage.

"To come out on the opening possession and score, that was big for our offense and maybe our confidence as well, just to know we could execute on these guys," Henigan said. "Playing against a great opponent, that's an opportunity. So we had to make sure that opportunity wasn't wasted."

Tulane's only lead came when Williams' 7-yard TD catch made it 10-7 late in the first quarter. Desrosier's 25-yard catch and run put the Tigers back in front for good in the second.

## San Jose State moves to volleyball final after forfeits

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — San Jose State said Thursday it was disappointed Boise State forfeited its semifinal match in the Mountain West women's volleyball tournament but that the Spartans were focused on the future.

Boise State, which twice boycotted regular-season matches with San Jose State, pulled out of the conference tournament Wednesday night, hours after securing a spot against the Spartans in Friday's semifinals. With Boise State's withdrawal, San Jose State advanced to Saturday's championship match.

While the Broncos didn't announce explicitly why they withdrew, a lawsuit was recently filed in Colorado by players from various schools against the conference and San Jose State

officials calling for a Spartans player not to be allowed to participate in the tournament. They cited unspecified reports asserting there was a transgender player on the San Jose State volleyball team, even naming her.

U.S. Magistrate Judge S. Kato Crews in Denver ruled Monday that the player was allowed to play, and a federal appeals court upheld the decision the following day.

San Jose State, which received six forfeit victories because of boycotts from Mountain West opponents during the regular season, is seeded second in the tournament and received a first-round bye. Now the Spartans will play No. 1 Colorado State or No. 5 San Diego State in the championship.

Both teams, which meet in a

semifinal on Friday, played the Spartans this season rather than sit out.

The Broncos' athletic department released a statement that night that read in part: "Our team overcame forfeitures to earn a spot in the tournament field and fought for the win over Utah State in the first round on Wednesday. They should not have to forgo this opportunity while waiting for a more thoughtful and better system that serves all athletes."

Mountain West members Boise State, Wyoming, Utah State and Nevada as well as Southern Utah canceled matches this season against the Spartans. Nevada's players said they "refuse to participate in any match that advances injustice against female athletes," with-

out providing further details.

Idaho Gov. Brad Little signed an executive order Aug. 28 called the Defending Women's Sports Act that challenges how Title IX rules are interpreted in that state.

"Biological males — men and boys — have physical differences that give them an unfair advantage when competing with women and girls in athletics," Little said at the time.

While some media have reported those and other details, San Jose State has not confirmed the school has a trans women's volleyball player. The Associated Press is withholding the player's name because she has not publicly commented on her gender identity and through school officials has declined an interview request.