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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

DOD urged to invest in 'high-low' mix

The Washington Post

The U.S. military is at an inflection point. Unable to remove itself completely from two protracted wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Pentagon has been forced to respond to a resurgent Russia and a rising China, while remaining ready to combat myriad terrorist threats around the world.

The Pentagon's \$582.7 billion 2017 budget has attempted to put in place an architecture for these new challenges, but, according to a group of experts from the Washington-based think tank the Center for New American Security, the Pentagon will have to make some hard decisions if it wants to effectively combat the threats of the future.

The three experts, Jerry Hendrix, Paul Scharre and Elbridge Colby, have instead put together a report that uses a notional budget that implements a 2 percent increase over the 2017 budget to shape the U.S. military for the next 10 years.

"We have a military that's in great shape to defeat Saddam Hussein's army from the first Gulf War," Colby said, adding that the Pentagon has focused on smaller numbers but invested in more high-tech pieces of equipment to mixed degree of success. Under the proposed budget, the Navy would increase from 272 to 345 ships over 10 years, and the Air Force would gain more than 120 aircraft.

"Numbers matter," Colby added.

To fix the current balance, Hendrix, Scharre and Colby's report suggests that the Pentagon invest in what they call a "high-low mix." This means that the Pentagon invests in both high-tech pieces of equipment, such as the yet-to-be built B-21 long-range bomber, but also buys low-cost singleengine prop planes such as the A-29 Super Tucano to deal with threats in places like Afghanistan and Iraq.

To pay for this rebalancing, the report proposes slashing the Gerald Ford aircraft carrier and America-class amphibious assault ship production lines. The Ford line is estimated to cost more than \$40 billion for the three proposed carriers, and the first ship in the class has already suffered numerous construction delays. Also proposed in the report is a projected \$55 billion in savings over 10 years by cutting 5 percent of the Pentagon's civilian workforce and 8,000 contractors.

According to the three experts, their proposed budget ensures that the U.S. Navy would still have 10 carriers by the end of the decade, just that the ships' role will change by acting more as prepositioned operating bases around the world. The shuttering of the Ford and America classes and the repurposing of the remaining U.S. carriers is a result, in part, of "anti-area, access denial." Known as A2/AD in defense circles, the acronym is the latest buzzword for the threat posed by Russia and China's militaries in the form of anti-ship ballistic missiles and advanced anti-air weapons that will effectively be able to keep U.S. forces from operating unhindered in large swaths of territory. For Russia, this could be in the Baltic Sea and for China, the South China Sea.

Iraq pace of operations to retake Mosul slows

Associated Press

GWER, Iraq — The pace of operations slowed Tuesday in the fight to retake Mosul from the Islamic State group as Iraqi forces advancing to the east and south of the city began pushing toward larger villages and encountering civilian populations.

Iraq's Kurdish fighters, also known as the peshmerga, largely paused their advance, according to commanders stationed along the front to Mosul's east, consolidating gains from the previous day. Iraqi army forces advanced to the south and east of Mosul, reaching the outskirts of the town of al-Hamdaniyah — a historically Christian town also known as Bakhdida and Qaraqosh that was once home

to tens of thousands — east of Mosul. On the southern front, Iraq's federal police pushed toward the town of al-Houd, still home to hundreds of people, according to estimates from the United Nations.

Iraqi army Lt. Col. Mohammed Shaker said al-Hamdaniyah has been surrounded, and his forces have retaken six other villages over the past two days.

More than 25,000 troops have mobilized for the Mosul fight, a massive operation that's expected to take weeks, if not months. Iraq's second-largest city is still home to more than 1 million people, and humanitarian groups have warned that up to a million could be forced to flee, unleashing a large-scale humanitarian crisis. cording to schedule, and we have been very successful," said Iraqi army Maj. Gen. Qassim al-Maliki. "The enemy is pulling back, but they are leaving small mobile units behind, each composed of three to four persons, and we are mopping them up."

Monday, Kurdish forces had retaken some 80 square miles, according to Massoud Barzani, the president of Iraq's largely autonomous Kurdish region. Peshmerga commanders on the ground estimated they retook nine villages and pushed the front line with Islamic State fighters back 5 miles. The front line east of Mosul is now some 20 miles from the city. Tuesday morning, those front lines were largely quiet, a day after Iraqi-Kurdish forces advanced amid a barrage of U.S.-led airstrikes and heavy artillery.

"We are just holding our positions," said Col. Khathar Sheikhan, of the peshmerga. "The Iraqi army will now advance past our arenas of control. ... We have achieved our objectives," he said.

A spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition said the operation was proceeding as planned and that Iraqi forces were making "ex-

"The operation is going ac-

cellent progress."

"There's no pause in efforts to liberate Mosul. Troops are on the move on various axes of advance toward the city," said Col. John Dorrian. "Some commanders have reached their objectives ahead of schedule after encountering light to moderate resistance."

Duterte could alter US-China balance

BY ERIK SLAVIN

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO—Washington's goals for free movement in the South China Sea were never simple. They got even more complicated when a man nicknamed "Duterte Harry" was elected president of the Philippines.

President Rodrigo Duterte, whose moniker is a reference to Clint Eastwood's throw-thebook-away cop in the "Dirty Harry" movie series, does not appear to share his country's generally positive attitude toward the United States.

He made that clear when he told a news conference that President

ANALYSIS Barack Obama could "go to hell," among

other, unprintable things.

Duterte's openness to curtailing U.S.-Philippine military ties in favor of closer links with China — even after China muscled the Philippines away from territory it claims — could potentially alter the region's security balance.

Duterte headed Tuesday to China, where he will discuss economics, security and what is arguably the world's most contentious, uninhabitable lump of rock.

He will then go to Japan, where analysts say Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government will try to keep Duterte from lurching too far toward China's vision of South China Sea ownership.

Returning to Scarborough

Scarborough Shoal's outcropping protrudes about nine feet above water at low tide, roughly 120 miles off the Philippine coast.

It was a popular commercial

brother Filipino fishermen go back there to fish,' then we can talk," Duterte, in a recent speech, said he would tell Chinese leaders.

Duterte said there is simply no way the Philippines can remove China from Scarborough militarily. However, by adding he wouldn't bring up a recent international ruling that China acted illegally at the shoal, he implicitly acquiesced to Chinese control.

Duterte partially backtracked Sunday after a Philippine Supreme Court justice warned last week that conceding territory would be an impeachable offense.

He will now talk about Scarborough with China, but "there will be no hard impositions," Duterte told reporters.

This is a major turnaround from Duterte's predecessor, who asked for U.S. help in defending Philippine territory and forged an agreement that gave U.S. troops access to the Southeast Asian archipelago's military bases.

Washington's concern over Scarborough Shoal isn't about fishing rights; it's about Chinese military expansion and U.S. access to a vital region.

In March, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson told Reuters that Chinese ships looked as if they were preparing for construction at the shoal.

China has already built multiple artificial islands atop submerged reefs claimed by other countries in the South China Sea, and then added self-propelled artillery, radar and airstrips capable of supporting fighter jets and bombers.

Scarborough Shoal has been discussed as a potential line in the sand, where China's growing military presence in the sea would halt. In July, the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague found no legal basis for China's "historical claim" to 90 percent of the South China Sea, citing international law ratified by China.

It also ruled China had "violated the Philippines' sovereign rights" and "unlawfully created a serious risk of collision" by obstructing Philippine vessels at Scarborough.

China dismissed the ruling, but it bolstered arguments made by the U.S. and others in Southeast Asia.

Courting China

China's ambiguous claims to the South China Sea as its territory, along with its disagreement over where U.S. Navy ships should be allowed to go, have created tensions between the two powers.

Duterte doesn't see that as his problem.

He has canceled preparations for joint exercises with U.S. troops next year and ruled out joint patrols with the Navy in the South China Sea. He has also called for U.S. special operations troops to end a 14year-old assistance program with the Philippine military, a mission generally seen by U.S. analysts as productive in minimizing terrorist groups.

Analysts say these moves away from the U.S. haven't necessarily reassured China.

Duterte is looking first to see what China can provide economically, said Renato Cruz De Castro, a researcher at the East-West Center in Washington and professor at De La Salle University in the Philippines.

Beijing's desire for the Philippines' natural resources makes an economic deal a possibility.

Mindanao, Southern Duterte's power base, is home to influential families of Chinese origin, and Duterte has repeatedly touted his nation's shared ancestry.

Duterte's apparent warmth for China coincides with resentment of the U.S. as a former colonial power, despite polls reflecting broad U.S. popularity among Filipinos.

Former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo tried pulling back from the George W. Bush administration while drawing closer to China, and ended up being trusted by neither, De Castro said.

Trip to Tokyo

Meanwhile, Duterte's trip to Tokyo after Beijing could stir debate among Chinese officials over how to treat the Philippines.

Japan has already agreed to give the Philippines 10 coast guard vessels and has participated in development projects in Davao City, where Duterte previously was mayor.

Japan is deeply unpopular with the Chinese and is embroiled in a territorial dispute over the Japan-administered Senkaku islands. China's claim there has spurred numerous incidents of opposing jets scrambled over the islands, as well as tense situations at sea.

Japan is keenly aware of Duterte's personal feelings toward the U.S. and will try to keep him close, said Tetsuo Kotani, senior research fellow at The Japan Institute of International Affairs.

"The general sense in Tokyo is that the U.S. should not deal with Duterte directly, because that could just make the situation more complicated," Kotani said. "My sense is the Japanese government is determined to work with Duterte to keep him on our side, otherwise we may push him toward China."

With the Philippines poised to take the chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations next year, neither the U.S. nor Japan wants Duterte to shelve The Hague ruling that invalidated several of China's positions, Kotani added.

fishing area for Philippine sailors until 2012, when a standoff between ships over claims of illegal Chinese fishing led China to take control of the surrounding area. It has barred Philippine ships ever since. "I will just say, 'Just let my

This isn't the first time China has seen a Philippine president try to balance relations between Washington and Beijing.

For the most part, neither China nor the U.S. has reacted strongly to Duterte's inflammatory words thus far.

U.S. officials are instead waiting to see how Duterte's actions unfold.

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Retired general pleads guilty in leaks probe

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A former vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff pleaded guilty Monday to making false statements during an investigation into a leak of classified information about a covert cyberattack on Iran's nuclear facilities.

Retired Marine Gen. James Cartwright entered the plea at a hearing before U.S. District Judge Richard Leon, convened just a few hours after the Justice Department announced the charges.

The plea ends a Justice Department investigation that began after the 2012 leak to reporters of information about use of a computer virus called Stuxnet that disabled equipment the Iranians were using to enrich uranium.

The offense carries a maximum of five years in prison, but under a plea agreement, the government is recommending a sentence in the range of zero to six months. Cartwright is scheduled to be sentenced on Jan. 17, and it will be up to Leon to decide the sentence.

Cartwright, 67, falsely told investigators that he did not provide or confirm classified information contained in a news article and in a book by New York Times journalist David Sanger, according to charging documents unsealed by prosecutors. Neither the book nor the classified subject is identified in court papers. But Sanger wrote in his 2012 book "Confront and Conceal" about the classified operation to attack Iran's nuclear facilities.

The charging documents also say Cartwright misled prosecutors about classified information shared with another journalist, Daniel Klaidman.

In a written statement released to reporters after the hearing, Cartwright stressed that he was not the initial source of the leak about Stuxnet but spoke to reporters about material they already knew.

"It was wrong for me to mislead the FBI on Nov. 2, 2012, and I accept full responsibility for this," Cartwright said. He added that his only goal in talking to reporters was "to protect American interests and lives."

Cartwright's attorney, Gregory Craig, said in a statement that his client had spent "his whole life putting the national interest first."

The plea agreement said that between January and June of 2012, Cartwright "provided and confirmed classified information" to Sanger. Cartwright also confirmed classified information in February 2012 to Klaidman that was included in an article for Newsweek magazine, the agreement said.

Russia air defense raises risk of conflict in Syria

The Washington Post

Russia's completion this month of an integrated air defense system in Syria has made an Obama administration decision to strike Syrian government installations from the air even less likely than it has been for years, and has created a substantial obstacle to the Syrian safe zones presidential nominees Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump have advocated.

Deployment of mobile and in-

terchangeable S-400 and S-300 missile batteries, along with other short-range systems, now gives Russia the ability to shoot down planes and cruise missiles over at least 250 miles in all directions from western Syria, covering virtually all of that country as well as significant portions of Turkey, Israel, Jordan and the eastern Mediterranean.

By placing the missiles as a threat "against military action" by other countries in Syria, Russia has raised "the stakes of confrontation," Secretary of State John Kerry said Sunday.

While there is some disagreement among military experts as to the capability of the Russian systems, "the reality is, we're very concerned anytime those are emplaced," a U.S. defense official said. Neither its touted ability to counter U.S. stealth technology, or to target lowflying aircraft, has ever been tested by the United States. the Islamic State group, in areas relatively far afield from where the civil war is being fought. An agreement signed by Moscow and Washington last fall, after Russia sent its own air force to join that of Syrian President Bashar Assad, is designed to ensure that U.S. and Russian planes stay away from each other.

Syria has tacitly accepted U.S.

and coalition airstrikes against

For more than two years,

N. Korean missile could be ready as early as next year

By AARON KIDD Stars and Stripes

North Korea is on track to perfect its Musudan intermediate-range ballistic missile — capable of reaching U.S. bases in Japan and Guam — much earlier than expected, a Washington-based think tank says. An aggressive schedule that has seen multiple tests, coupled with the communist nation carrying out launches near Kusong on its west coast, suggest the missiles could enter service as early as next year, says an analysis published Monday by 38 North, a website run by Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies that monitors North Korean activities.

new operational capabilities."

North Korea successfully launched a Musudan missile earlier this year that reached an altitude of about 620 miles before crashing into the sea. That followed several failed attempts. Such frequent launches increase the probability of failures, but "it means they will learn more with each test," the think tank said. A noteworthy difference between a launch failure that occurred Saturday and previous tests is the location. In the past, the missiles were launched from

sites around the North's Musudan-ri test facility on the northeast coast, where 38 North says the country keeps its Musudan engineers and technicians.

Launching from the west

"The North Koreans aren't simply repeating old failures," the analysis said. "And they aren't taking the slow path to developing a reliable system, with a year or so between each test to analyze the data and make improvements. ... Instead, they are continuing with an aggressive test schedule that involves, at least this time, demonstrating

coast allows the North to achieve a longer range without flying over neighboring countries, 38 North said.

The U.N. Security Council strongly condemned the latest launch, calling it a "grave violation" of resolutions banning North Korea from using ballistic missile technology.

UN announces 72-hour Yemen cease-fire deal

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — The warring parties in Yemen have agreed to a 72-hour cease-fire that will take effect shortly before midnight Wednesday, the U.N. special envoy to Yemen said.

Special Envoy Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed said he hopes the temporary truce can lead to a "permanent and lasting end to the conflict."

Ahmed said in a statement Monday that he received assurances from all parties to the conflict they would cease hostilities at 11:59 p.m. local time Wednesday for an initial period of 72 hours that is subject to renewal.

The warring factions agreed to follow the conditions of a temporary April cease-fire agreement, he said. The agreement requires them "to allow free and unhindered access for humanitarian supplies and personnel" to all parts of Yemen, he said.

The war in Yemen began in 2014 when Shiite rebels known as Houthis based in the north seized the capital, Sanaa.

In March 2015, Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies launched a campaign of airstrikes against the rebels. The Saudi-led coalition and the United States are backing the internationally recognized government of Yemen's president, Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi.

More than 4,000 civilians have been killed and 3 million of the country's 26 million people have been driven from their homes by the fighting. Hunger has become widespread in the Arab world's poorest country.

The cease-fire agreement vas announced late Monday, a day after Ahmed, the U.N. envoy, met in London with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson. "This is the time to implement a cease-fire unconditionally and then move to the negotiating table," Kerry said after Sunday's meeting.

VA OKs 5th deadline extension for Gulf War illness claimants

By Nikki Wentling Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — For the next five years, veterans will have an easier time seeking benefits for illnesses linked to service in the Gulf War because of an extension issued Monday by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Since 1994, the VA has automatically presumed a connection from Gulf War service, which included a toxic environment of oil fires and chemical weapons, to an increased risk for several illnesses.

The connection enables veterans to receive a disability rating and benefits more quickly.

But the presumed connection and the ability to seek benefits was set to expire at the end of this year after being extended four times previously.

Effective Monday, the VA extended it a fifth time, to Dec. 31, 2021.

"This end date creates such an anxiety among the Gulf War veterans that gets so high

as that deadline approaches," said James Bunker, the executive director of the National Gulf War Resource Center in Topeka, Kan. "[Secretary Bob] McDonald promised us the beginning of this year that this extension would happen."

As justification for the extension, the VA cited a report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in February that found veterans deployed to the Gulf War have an increased risk for chronic fatigue syndrome, gastrointestinal functional conditions and mental health disorders, as well as myriad symptoms including headaches, joint pain, insomnia and respiratory issues that make up Gulf War illness.

In the extension filed with the Federal Register on Monday, the VA wrote symptoms could manifest in Gulf War veterans at any point, and there was "no medical or scientific basis" for stopping veterans from seeking benefits at the end of year.

The rule applies to veterans

who served in Southwest Asia from 1990 to now, including those who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn.

"Currently, military operations in the Southwest Asia theater continue," the extension read. "No end date for the Gulf War has been established. ... If extension of the current presumptive period is not implemented, servicemembers whose conditions manifest after Dec. 31, 2016, would be substantially disadvantaged."

The VA is accepting comments about the extension through Dec. 16.

Bunker has a 100 percent service-connected disability rating from his time in the Gulf War, he said.

He deployed with the 1st Infantry Division out of Fort Riley, Kan., and was medically evacuated in 1991 after struggling with respiratory and muscle problems. The VA granted Bunker service connection in 1992 for symptoms included in Gulf War illness.

Effort to reclassify Clinton email revealed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A senior State Department official asked the FBI last year to help reduce the classification of an email from Hillary Clinton's private server, according to FBI investigative files that have been made public. It was to be part of a bargain that would have allowed the FBI to deploy more agents in foreign countries, according to the files.

sistance in exchange for a "quid pro quo."

But the FBI said Monday, as the documents were released, that it was the now-retired FBI official who first asked Kennedy about deploying more agents overseas. The State Department said the same.

"This allegation is inaccurate and does not align with the facts," State Department spokesman Mark Toner said. He said Kennedy had been trying to understand the FBI's classification decisions, and added that there was never an increase in the number of FBI agents assigned to Iraq as a result of the conversations. The FBI ultimately rejected the idea, which would have allowed the State Department to archive a message related to the 2012 attacks on the U.S.

diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, in the basement of its Washington headquarters "never to be seen again," according to the FBI files.

The email described reports in November 2012 that Libyan police were arresting suspects in the attack. It had been forwarded to Clinton's private email address by Jake Sullivan, one of her top aides, who was using his government email account.

It was not immediately clear whether the State Department official or someone at the FBI first raised the prospect of a bargain over the email's classification.

The bureau records, citing an FBI official whose name was censored, said that Undersecretary for Management Patrick F. Kennedy sought as-

Republicans seized on the report as collusion within the Obama administration to protect Clinton, now the Democratic presidential nominee.

CON-"CORRUPTION FIRMED: FBI confirms State Dept. offered 'quid pro quo' to cover up classified emails," read a tweet from Team Trump, retweeted by the candidate.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Replica of historic slave ship Amistad reopens

CT NEW HAVEN — A replica of the historic slave ship Amistad has reopened in New Haven.

The 129-foot Baltimore clipper is the state's official flag ship. It's a replica of the Amistad, which was taken over by African captives being taken to Cuba in 1839.

The ship became a symbol of America's early anti-slavery movement.

The state spent \$2.5 million to build the ship in 1999 and 2000 and about \$400,000 a year for operating costs. The nonprofit group that operated the vessel went into receivership last year. A new group, Discovering Amistad, then bought the ship for \$315,000.

The ship is open for tours on Saturday and Sunday.

Rains bring chinook salmon to backyards

OR MEDFORD — Biologists say rains are encouraging spawning chinook salmon to spread across Oregon's Bear Creek Basin and even into backyard creeks.

The Mail Tribune reported that wild chinook have moved from the Rogue River into Bear Creek early and explored tributaries that haven't seen the fish in years.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife fish biologist Pete Samarin said a storm front expected this week will likely bring the salmon into Medford's Lazy and Larson creeks. Peak spawning isn't until Halloween, so the city's residents could see the large fish spawning for several weeks if the water flow remains cooperative.

Samarin says he hopes people who see the big fish in exasks onlookers to leave the fish alone.

Troopers to ride school buses in safety push

TX AUSTIN — Some Texas troopers will give up patrol cars and instead ride school buses in a child safety effort.

The Texas Department of Public Safety said the plan is part of National School Bus Safety Week, which began Monday and runs through Friday.

It's illegal in Texas to pass any school bus that is stopped and operating a visual signal — either flashing red lights or a stop sign. Troopers will be watching for drivers who violate the law, which could lead to fines of up to \$1,250.

A DPS statement said troopers in parts of Texas will be riding on or following school buses to catch violators.

Texas troopers, during 2015 and so far in 2016, have issued nearly 1,100 tickets for illegally passing a stopped school bus.

Police: Man slashes tires on 16 cars

PA PHILADELPHIA — Police said a man slashed the tires of 16 vehicles in Philadelphia, including five city-owned vehicles, and has been taken into custody.

Police said plainclothes officers in a vehicle saw a man standing next to a city-owned SUV late Friday, stabbing a rear tire with a knife.

Police said he then stabbed another tire at the front of the vehicle. The officers then placed the man in custody.

Police said a witness told them the same man had slashed the tires of two other parked, city-owned SUVs.

Divers gather for underwater carving

MI OTTER LAKE — A group of scuba divers donned flippers and wetsuits to carve pumpkins underwater as part of a pre-Halloween tradition in Michigan.

Francis Carr, one of the participants in Sunday's 21st annual event at Otter Lake, said it's "taking pumpkin carving to the next level."

While still on land, MLive. com reported, the divers scraped the insides of their pumpkin and drew designs.

From there, they headed underwater to carve.

The event about 60 miles northwest of Detroit is sponsored by a dive shop.

Jordon Fundaro, who has participated in the carving for the last two years, said that "all you hear is yourself breathing and the knife carving through the pumpkin." He said the whole experience is "kind of surreal."

Man drowns hours after sister's wedding

ATLANTIC BEACH — An Illinois man in town over the weekend for his sister's wedding drowned in the ocean at Atlantic Beach.

Multiple news outlets reported police said Robert Hickman Jr., 38, of Champaign, Ill., died after being pulled under by a wave just hours after attending his younger sister's wedding in Jacksonville.

Police said the water was pretty rough, and a family friend tried to get out to Hickman but was not able to reach him.

Hickman was unconscious when lifeguards got him out of the water. He was taken to the hospital, where he was proRains, says she's grateful for the last moment she had with her brother before his death. A video of him speaking after Rains' wedding was posted online.

50-room mansion up for auction

TN KNOXVILLE — Officials say a 50-room waterfront mansion in East Tennessee will hit the auction block later this month.

Brad Pruitt, of Signatur Luxury Auctions, told WBIR-TV that Villa Collina in Knoxville will be auctioned on Oct. 26.

The 37,000-square-foot home in Knoxville is situated on 8.2 acres, overlooks the Tennessee River and has a view of the Smoky Mountains.

Other amenities include eight bedrooms, 16 baths, an indoor pool and a wine cellar that can accommodate 100,000 bottles.

Students get free condoms at high schools

KS LAWRENCE — Students at two high schools in Lawrence are being given access to free condoms at their school's health offices.

The Lawrence Journal-World reported that the dispensers could become available as early as this week at Lawrence High School and Free State High School.

Students will be able to get the condoms without parental permission as part of a partnership between the school district and the county health department.

The dispensers will be installed in the bathrooms of each school's health office, and students also will be taught how to safely and effectively use the condoms with this fall's sexual-

pected streams call his office The 28-year-old suspect nounced dead. Ity education curriculum. to report the findings. He also hasn't been publicly identified. Hickman's sister, Teleauba



Bullpen gives Tribe 3-0 lead

Associated Press

TORONTO — Before the Cleveland Indians could even consider giving the ball to Andrew Miller, their bullpen faced a daunting task in the first inning.

After Trevor Bauer's bloody exit, these remarkable relievers had to stitch together almost an entire game against the Toronto Blue Jays.

Four outs apiece for Dan Otero and Jeff Manship. Three for Zach McAllister. Five each for winner Bryan Shaw and Cody Allen.

After all that, Cleveland finally turned to Miller, who was overpowering again in closing out a 4-2 victory that moved the Indians within one win of their first pennant since 1997.

"If anybody has a hiccup, we probably lose," manager Terry Francona said Monday night after his team took a 3-0 lead in the AL Championship Series. "They all made pitches against some really good hitters."

Jason Kipnis and Mike Napoli homered for the Indians, unbeaten in six playoff games this year. They can complete their second consecutive series sweep on Tuesday.

In the bullpen's most impressive feat yet this October, six relievers combined for 25 outs and 128 pitches while limiting Toronto to two runs and seven hits. Miller got four outs for the save.

"The bullpen was unbelievable," Bauer said. "Co-MVP to everybody."

Indians ace Corey Kluber is scheduled to start Game 4 on short rest after Bauer's dronerelated finger injury created more upheaval in a rotation that's been short-handed all postseason. Bauer faced four batters before getting pulled when his stitched-up right pinkie began dripping blood. Enter those stingy relievers, who pitched the Indians to a Division Series sweep over Boston and have them on the verge of another. Cleveland is one win from its sixth World Series appearance.

have mustered only three runs in the series and have never led.

"We felt like we had an opportunity with some of their lower-leverage guys coming out of the bullpen, but they've got good arms," Toronto outfielder Kevin Pillar said. "It makes it tough when you're facing a different guy every inning, every at-bat."

Kipnis led off the sixth with a home run to right-center field for a 3-2 edge, and Jose Ramirez added an RBI single. Suddenly, the Indians were just a few outs from being able to turn the game over to Allen and Miller.

They appeared in that order, yet another instance in which Francona maneuvered his bullpen unencumbered by rigid roles.

"It was all hands on deck," Miller said.

Allen, who usually closes, entered in the seventh with a runner on and nobody out. A two-out walk to Jose Bautista put the potential tying run on, but Josh Donaldson's liner to left field stayed up long enough for Coco Crisp to make a sliding catch.

Miller fanned three of five batters, giving him 20 strikeouts in nine playoff innings this year. The lanky lefty has allowed five hits over $17^{1/3}$ scoreless innings in his postseason career.

"Tito did a masterful job running that bullpen today," Blue Jays manager John Gibbons said. "They shut us down."

Cleveland has won nine straight dating to the regular season.

Napoli entered 2 for 18 this postseason and in an 0-for-25 slump against right-handers dating to the regular season. He opened the scoring with an RBI double off righty Marcus Stroman in the first — Napoli's long fly popped out of Bautista's glove before both the ball and Bautista bounced off the rightfield wall. cutting his finger last week repairing one of the drones he enjoys flying as a hobby. He received 10 stitches and tried to pitch, but couldn't make it far without blood dripping from his hand.

"Trevor got a little leak," Kipnis said. "A couple of us had seen the wound kind of inside and knew it was a possibility of happening. He can deal with the pain, but it's getting something like that to close up. It's hard to do in a short amount of time."

It's yet another injury problem for a Cleveland team that couldn't include ailing starting pitchers Carlos Carrasco and Danny Salazar on its ALCS roster.

Even with the Indians up 3-0, their rotation for the rest of this series isn't a sure thing. Kluber is set to come back for Game 4 (and presumably a potential Game 7) on short rest, and lightly used rookie Ryan Merritt is lined up for Game 5.

Michael Saunders homered early for Toronto. Ezequiel Carrera tripled leading off the fifth and scored on Ryan Goins' grounder to tie it 2-all.

Kipnis answered with a home run, his first hit of the series.

Stroman took the loss after allowing four runs in $5^{1/3}$ innings.

"We've still got one more to get there, and it's going to be tough," Kipnis said. "We know these guys. Just kind of like the Boston series — we don't want to wait around for them to figure it out. We want to get to them now."

Blood work: Francona was Curt Schilling's manager with Boston during the famous bloody-sock game against the New York Yankees in the 2004 ALCS.

Jays still waiting for bats

Associated Press

TORONTO — The Blue Jays are running out of time to fix their startling power outage in the AL Championship Series.

A trip home to hitter-friendly Rogers Centre for Game 3 was expected to produce a revival against the Indians on Monday night. Instead, it was more of the same for the run-starved Blue Jays, who scratched out seven hits against seven Cleveland pitchers in a 4-2 loss that put Toronto in a 3-0 series hole.

Even a starting pitching disaster for Cleveland in front of a raucous Toronto crowd couldn't jump-start the Jays. Trevor Bauer left after four batters and two outs when a stitched-up cut on his right pinkie finger began to bleed, so the Indians' bullpen pulled off its most impressive October feat yet — getting 25 outs against one of the AL's most feared lineups.

"Today was a bullpen day for them and they came through," said Russell Martin, who went 0-for-4 and struck out three times.

The Blue Jays have yet to lead in the series. Game 4 was Tuesday afternoon, and the test only gets tougher with Cy Young Award candidate Corey Kluber scheduled to start for Cleveland.

"We've got our work cut out for us," Toronto manager John Gibbons said. "That's an understatement."

Martin's slump began during the regular season — the four-time All-Star catcher is 5for-54 with two RBIs dating to Sept. 25. He's not alone in his struggles this series. Jose Bautista is 1-for-9, Edwin Encarnacion 2-for-11 and Troy Tulowitzki 1-for-11. That trio combined for 88 homers in the regular season but hasn't gotten one yet in the ALCS.

The hard-hitting Blue Jays

Bauer made it through only 21 pitches. He'd been pushed back two days to Game 3 after **Miller time:** Miller has struck out 20 of 33 batters in these playoffs and 30 of 60 in his postseason career.

Extra effort: Cleveland relievers have pitched at least $7^{1/3}$ innings five times since Aug. 18, with the Indians winning four of those games.

The Blue Jays have 17 hits in the series, 13 of them singles.

Johnson, Cards race past Jets to .500

Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Stopping the run was one of the few things the New York Jets had done well this season.

Until they faced David Johnson and the Arizona Cardinals.

Johnson rushed for 111 yards and three touchdowns, and the Cardinals shut down the listless Jets 28-3 on Monday night.

Johnson scored on runs of 58, 2 and 2 yards while becoming the first player to rush for three scores against the Jets since LeSean McCoy did it five years ago.

"I say it each and every week. David's special," Arizona cornerback Patrick Peterson said. "I mean very, very, very special. We got us one in (No.) 31."

The Cardinals (3-3) won their second in a row to climb back to .500. New York (1-5) lost its fourth straight in a rough return to Arizona for Todd Bowles, who was defensive coordinator for the Cardinals for two seasons before getting the Jets head coaching job two years ago. "We've won two in a row," Arizona coach Bruce Arians said. "We're still just a .500 ballclub, but I like the way we look right now."

Arians took no great joy in beating Bowles. Their connection goes back to their days together at Temple three decades ago.

"I'm glad it's over," Arians said.

The Jets' Ryan Fitzpatrick was 16-for-31 for 174 yards and was benched after New York's longest drive of the night ended in an interception in the end zone late in the third quarter.

"As an offense we are just not consistent right now and the offense goes as the quarterback goes," Fitzpatrick said. "I have got to play better."

Geno Smith's lone series at quarterback ended when he was intercepted by Tyrann Mathieu with 4:20 to play.

"The game was 28-3 with eight minutes left in the game," Bowles said. "We weren't doing anything else. I just wanted to give him some reps. Like a relief pitcher, a starting pitcher, on this day you put in the relief pitcher. Fitz will be [the starter] next week."

"You never want to be pulled out of a game in that situation," Fitzpatrick said. "But it's not something I can sit and hang my head. I have to keep a positive outlook, but not in a situation you want to be in."

Arizona's Carson Palmer, back after missing a 33-21 win at San Francisco with a concussion, completed 23 of 34 passes for 213 yards before leaving with a hamstring strain after throwing a 9-yard TD pass to Michael Floyd with 8:20 remaining.

Arizona scored in the first quarter for the first time this season on the second time Johnson touched the ball.

"Our coach has been harping on us about that," Johnson said. "It felt good to get in the end zone. I felt like that's actually what started everyone getting hyped, everyone getting into the game." back dodged a pair of defenders near the line of scrimmage, and then raced to the end zone on his longest run of the season.

"An unbelievable job up front," Palmer said. "I had a really good view of it. We were man-to-man. We had everybody blocked. He did a great job of setting up his second level blocks, and then he showed that explosion and that speed down the sideline."

The Jets entered the game second in the NFL in rushing defense at 68 yards per game. They were outgained on the ground 171-33.

New York had 130 yards in the first half, 70 on three receptions by Brandon Marshall. Marshall's 36-yard catch over the middle set up New York's only score, Nick Folk's' 39-yard field goal.

Arizona scored on a pair of 14-play drives in the second half. Johnson got his second 2-yard TD run up the middle, and Palmer passed to Floyd for another TD.

The second-year running

Big 12 to remain 10-team league, not expand

Associated Press

GRAPEVINE, Texas — The smallest Power Five conference is not getting any larger. The Big 12 is staying at 10 schools.

After three months of analyzing, vetting and interviewing possible new members, Big 12 leaders on Monday took expansion off their agenda.

"This was not a decision to not expand," Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said. "This was an endorsement and reinvestment in the 10 that we had." Oklahoma President David Boren said the decision was unanimous and no specific schools were discussed or voted on during five hours or so of expansion talk while Big 12 presidents and chancellors met Sunday night and Monday. Boren, the chairman of the Big 12 board of directors and

the only president who has been in the league since its inception in 1996, insisted he has never seen "such a unified sense of purpose on the board."

Texas President Greg Fenves said 10 is the right number for the league.

"It promotes a competitive balance and allows for a roundrobin schedule in the different sports, which is best for our student-athletes," Fenves said. "This is the right way to ensure a strong conference moving forward."

Conference officials held interviews in September with Air Force and Colorado State from the Mountain West; Central Florida, Cincinnati, Connecticut, Houston, South Florida, SMU and Tulane from the American Athletic Conference; Rice from Conference USA; and BYU, an independent in football and in the West Coast Conference for other sports.

Moving into a Power Five conference for those schools would mean tens of millions of dollars more revenue per year, along with greater exposure and prestige.

Houston athletic director Hunter Yurachek said the Big 12's decision "is not just about the University of Houston and the Big 12 Conference, it's about the evolving landscape of collegiate athletics. It does not, and will not, deter our mission of building champions for life."

UConn Drogidont Sugar

their level and are athletically and academically appropriate to be a Power Five."

Boren once called the Big 12 "psychologically disadvantaged" as the smallest Power Five league and the only one without a football championship game.

"The circumstances have radically changed," Boren explained Monday when asked about the comment he first made in June 2015.

Boren said his interest in expansion was tied to his desire for the Big 12 to start a television network like the ones the Big Ten, Southeastern Conference and Pac-12 have and the one the Atlantic Coast Conference is on target to start with ESPN in 2019. Once it was determined that the market was not there for a network, his interest in expansion cooled.

UConn President Susan Herbst said going through the process was a positive experience and it gave her a better understanding of where UConn stands and what it has to offer.

"Most of the schools they were talking to were in our conference," she said. "I think that shows, without question, that our conference plays at

Landeskog's goal in OT lifts Avalanche

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Gabriel Landeskog redirected a shot by Nathan MacKinnon past Marc-Andre Fleury 22 seconds into overtime to lift Colorado by Pittsburgh 4-3 on Monday night.

Landeskog tied the game with 6:32 left in regulation with a power-play goal and his second of the night handed the defending Stanley Cup champions their first loss of the season.

"It was a lucky bounce in overtime," Landeskog said. "I think I just took a swing at it."

Jarome Iginla and Patrick Wiercioch also scored for the Avalanche, who never led until Landeskog's game-winner. MacKinnon had two assists and Calvin Pickard stopped 28 shots for Colorado.

"I think they outplayed us for the bulk of the game, but we

found a way to create enough chances to kind of fight back after a slow start," Colorado coach Jared Bednar said.

Matt Cullen had a goal and an assist for the Penguins while Phil Kessel and Trevor Daley also scored. Fleury made 27 saves.

The Penguins have still picked up a point in each of their first three games and are surviving just fine without captain Sidney Crosby, who remains out indefinitely while recovering from a concussion.

Rangers 7, Sharks 4: For the third straight game, Chris Kreider had a goal and an assist for host New York.

Kreider, who signed a fouryear, \$18.5 million contract on July 22, has three goals and three assists in New York's first three games. According to the team, he is the first Ranger since Brian Leetch in 1992-93 to tally six points in New York's first three games.

Marc Staal, Rick Nash, Kevin Hayes, rookie Jimmy Vesey, Mats Zuccarello and Michael Grabner also scored for the Rangers, who have won two of their first three games this season.

Martin Jones finished with 22 saves for San Jose.

New York goaltender Antti Raanta made 26 saves on 30 shots.

Red Wings 5, Senators 1: Mike Green scored three times for his first hat trick and Darren Helm had two goals to help Detroit win in their last home opener at Joe Louis Arena.

Green scored twice in the first period and his third goal restored a three-goal lead with 6:36 left in the game. Helm scored on a breakaway in between Green's goals in the first period and added a second goal with 2:56 left in the third.

Ryan Dzingel's short-handed goal midway through the second period pulled the Senators within two goals.

The Red Wings are leaving the venue they have called home since the 1979-80 season next year for a new arena nearby.

Bruins 4, Jets 1: David Pastrnak scored his team-leading fourth goal of the season for visiting Boston.

The 20-year-old Pastrnak extended his point streak to three games while suiting up in his 100th career game.

Winnipeg captain Blake Wheeler opened the scoring 10 minutes into the game.

Boston trailed for all of 19 seconds, however, as Dominic Moore tied things up at 10:19 of the first period.

Roethlisberger officially ruled out for Pats

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger might be a fast healer, but his aching left knee won't be ready in time to face the New England Patriots.

Steelers coach Mike Tomlin officially ruled out Roethlisberger for Sunday's showdown with the Patriots. Roethlisberger underwent arthroscopic surgery on Monday to repair cartilage in his knee suffered in a miserable loss to Miami last weekend.

Landry Jones will make the third start of his career for Pittsburgh (4-2). Jones went 1-1 last season, though he was injured early in the one victory and Roethlisberger came on in relief.

The Steelers will also be without defensive end Cam Heyward for a third straight week. Tomlin said there's a chance linebacker Ryan Shazier could return to the lineup for the first time since Week 3. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal has not been announced.

The Packers were desperate for running back depth with Eddie Lacy nursing a bothersome ankle and James Starks undergoing knee surgery. Lacy was their only active running back against Dallas on Sunday, and he was held to just 65 yards on 17 carries in a 30-16 loss.

Davis had been passed over by Spencer Ware and Charcandrick West on the Chiefs' depth chart, and the return of Jamaal Charles from his knee injury made him expendable.

The Packers' loss to the Cowboys was just the latest example of their offensive struggles this season, and now they have a short week before facing the Bears on Thursday night. That also makes it unlikely Davis will be ready to assume much of a role given so little practice time. His best season was 2014, when he ran for 463 yards and six touchdowns. But he's only carried 29 times for 70 yards and a touchdown the past two seasons combined.

day's loss.

Poyer has been hospitalized in Nashville, Tenn., since getting hurt. He was injured on a vicious blindside hit by Titans running back Antonio Andrews while covering a punt in the second quarter. The Browns expected him to be discharged on Tuesday and return to Cleveland.

Poyer's serious injury is the latest for the Browns, who have placed 12 players — including quarterback Robert Griffin III — on IR this season. The team can bring one player off IR after eight games.

Romanian lifter fails Rio test

BUDAPEST, Hungary — A Romanian weightlifter who won a bronze medal at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics could lose his medal after failing a doping test.

Gabriel Sincraian, who won bronze in

Chiefs trade Davis to Packers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Chiefs traded backup running back Knile Davis to the Green Bay Packers for a conditional draft pick Tuesday, a person familiar with the trade told The Associated Press.

Poyer on IR with kidney injury

CLEVELAND — Browns safety Jordan Poyer has been placed on injured reserve after sustaining a lacerated kidney in Sunthe men's 85-kilogram category in Rio, tested positive for excess testosterone, the International Weightlifting Federation said Thursday. The test was connected to the Olympics, the IWF said without specifying exactly when it was taken.

An IWF statement originally listed Sincraian among a group of lifters who had been "disqualified" from the Olympics, but later clarified his case was not yet closed.