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Afghan voting enters a second day

BY PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Voting in Afghanistan's parliamentary elections extended into Sunday after the ballot's initial day was plagued by violence and various technical and organizational problems. However, more than 100 polling centers were still unable to open because of security threats, officials said.

Nationwide, 401 polling centers were due to operate on Sunday after running into problems the day before. The Independent Election Commission said only 253 were able to, and that voters registered at the remaining 148 centers would not be able to cast their ballots in the election.

Delayed opening times, absent election officials, confusion over biometric voter registration and missing registration lists led to scenes of chaos at many of the roughly 5,000 polling centers that were supposed to be functioning on Election Day.

Militants also attempted to obstruct the vote, widely regarded as a test of the U.S.-led coalition's 17-year effort to build a stable democracy. Nearly 200 security incidents were reported Saturday, resulting in at least 36 deaths and dozens of injuries, Deputy Interior Minister Akhtar Mohammed Ibrahim said.

The setbacks, however, did not deter voters

— many of whom see the elections as a way to improve the dire economic and security situations in the country — from returning to the polls Sunday.

"Yesterday, I was really disappointed that I couldn't vote. But I'm very happy I was able to vote today and that they gave us the chance to exercise our right," Kabul resident Ahmad Samir said at a polling center in the capital's Taimani neighborhood.

The center, inside a mosque, was open Saturday. But frequent glitches with biometric machines — which arrived just a month before the elections and were aimed at stemming fraud — contributed to a backup, which meant voting had to resume Sunday.

Eight boxes filled with ballots from the first day of voting were kept in a corner overnight.

Samir said that while he trusted no one tampered with the ballots, he could understand how the situation — repeated at hundreds of polling centers in all corners of Afghanistan — could raise doubts about the election's legitimacy.

Ahmad Rasouli, an election observer, was one of a dozen men who spent the night inside the mosque and "only slept for about one or two hours" to ensure there was no wrongdoing.

"It's been very good," he said. "There's been no fraud."

Over 3 million Afghans risked militant at-

tacks and voted Saturday; 8.8 million were registered to vote, the election commission said. It said around 4 million cast their ballots over both days.

Voting was postponed in the southern provinces of Ghazni and Kandahar. Ghazni faced complications, including security concerns, according to the commission. Kandahar delayed its ballot after a deadly attack earlier in the week that killed the provincial police chief.

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan said it was encouraged by the number of Afghans who turned out to vote.

"Millions of Afghan citizens braved security threats and, due to technical electoral management issues, waited long hours to cast their votes today for a better future," the UNAMA said in a statement Saturday evening. "Those eligible voters who were not able to cast their vote due to technical issues deserve the right to vote," the statement added.

Jahed Qayoumi, a master's student in the capital who voted Sunday, agreed with the UNAMA but was wary about the situation.

"I believe it is my responsibility to vote, so I came today," Qayoumi said.

"But I don't believe the government will count the votes accurately. In the past, we have had bad elections. We have reason to believe it will be the same."

Major voting pattern divide seen in rural, urban areas

BY J.P. LAWRENCE

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — On the first day of Afghanistan's long-delayed parliamentary elections, Bashir stayed home with his family in Logar province.

Bashir, who wanted to be known by his first name for security reasons, did not vote. Nor did anyone in his village, he said. Asked why, Bashir cited the words written on the walls in his village of Muhammad Agha: "If you vote, we will

cut your hands."

Scenes of crowds of voters in Kabul clashed with empty polling places in more rural areas, according to election observers and analysts.

When combined with registration issues and potential fraud, the divide between urban and rural voting patterns in a country that is 70 percent rural may hamper whether the election is seen as legitimate by the Afghan people.

In Logar, the network found the Taliban were not allowing anyone into polling centers in

Bashir's village of Muhammad Agha. Locals shared photos of Taliban in camouflage uniforms on motorbikes. In another village, Afghanistan Analysts Network found that people arrived to vote but encountered no election workers, no ballots, no voter lists. So they left.

In total, about 3 million people voted Saturday, said Independent Elections Commission Chairman Abdul Badi Sayat. About 8.8 million of the country's estimated population of 33 million are registered

voters.

The Taliban vowed to attack elections and conducted nearly 200 attacks across the nation on Saturday, according to Deputy Interior Minister Akhtar Mohammed Ibrahim.

In Zabul province, ongoing fighting prevented voters from coming to polls.

The government conducted airstrikes Saturday afternoon in three districts in Zabul, killing 25 Taliban, according to Gov. Rahmatullah Yarmal.

Russia says it will block Ukraine drills in sea

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

Russia says it will block any attempt by Ukraine to host military drills in the Sea of Azov, a strategic waterway where Kiev could soon be operating two newly acquired American warships.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said a bilateral treaty with Ukraine prohibits its military drills in the area around Azov without a green-light from Moscow.

“Now Ukraine wants to hold NATO drills in the Sea of Azov but it will be impossible to go there because our treaty with Ukraine requires mutual consent for the passage of warships into the Sea of Azov,” Lavrov told French media on Thursday. “But they want this and they are being actively goaded into this.”

So far, NATO allies haven’t signaled any intention of sending ships into Azov or joining possible Ukrainian exercises there.

In recent months, tensions have ratcheted up between Russia and Ukraine over Moscow’s grip on the Kerch Strait, a passage that connects Ukraine’s ports to the Black Sea. Russia has delayed the transit of hundreds of commercial ships bound for Ukraine, which some security analysts say has put a strain on the country’s struggling economy. The U.S. has denounced Russia’s stepped-up patrols and taken steps to boost Ukraine’s military.

It remains unresolved under international law what parts of the sea belong to Ukraine and Russia as an internal sea, or if parts of the sea qualify as international waters. Last month, the U.S. Coast Guard transferred two Island-class cutters, armed with .50-caliber machine guns and 25 mm deck guns, to Ukraine as part of an effort to bolster the country’s small and outgunned navy.

13 Marines killed in '79 fire memorialized at Camp Fuji

By CHRISTIAN LOPEZ
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FUJI, Japan — Marines and Japanese citizens observed a moment of silence Friday for 13 Marines killed in a blaze nearly four decades ago at Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji.

The annual ceremony remembers a night in October 1979 when Typhoon Tip — the largest tropical cyclone recorded, according to The Weather Channel — created a living nightmare for nearly 1,200 Marines and sailors bunkered down in Quonset huts on base.

During those days, Camp Fuji hosted a farm that stored 5,000 gallons of fuel in rubber bladders behind the huts on higher

ground, according to a speaker at Friday’s ceremony. Tip’s destructive winds, which reached up to 190 mph, ruptured one of the containers, causing fuel to gush down the hill and into the huts. A kerosene heater inside one of the huts then ignited the river of gasoline.

Then-Lance Cpl. Donald Fox said he saw the fire overtake the camp. “I felt something like a hand of heat pick me up and push me out the door,” he said at the ceremony, during which each fallen Marine’s name was read followed by the ring of a bell. “All I saw inside was fire and darkness.”

American and Japanese firefighters worked together as the blaze raged for two hours, only

to contain it and watch the fire burn itself out.

The injured were taken to local hospitals in Gotemba; the medical center at Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo; and flown to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, the speaker said. In all, 81 people were hurt and 13 Marines died in the incident.

“In the days after the fire, with little billeting left for Marines on base, many local residents of Gotemba opened their homes, and (Japan’s) Takigahara Garrison opened its gate to the U.S. Marines,” Col. Michael Reilly, Camp Fuji’s commander, said at the ceremony. “These acts of kindness and humanity should never be forgotten.”

Battle over Futenma relocation continues

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The latest battle between Tokyo and Okinawa over a new U.S. military runway to one day facilitate the relocation and closure of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma has taken another step toward a legal showdown.

The Okinawa Defense Bureau — representing Japan’s Ministry of Defense on the island — requested an official examination Wednesday of a landfill permit revocation made by local officials on Aug. 30, an ODB spokesman said.

The examination will be conducted by Japan’s Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism under the country’s Administrative Complaint Review Act.

Landfill permitting for the runway into Oura Bay at the U.S. Marine base Camp Schwab in Henoko was revoked by the previous administration because of

environmental concerns.

If the agency sides with Tokyo and Okinawan officials then decline to cancel the permit revocation, Japan’s central government will likely be forced to take the prefectural government to court to overturn the action.

“The bottom line regarding the relocation to Henoko is to remove the danger of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma from the crowded area surrounded by schools and residential areas,” recently appointed Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya told reporters Wednesday.

He called Futenma “the most dangerous air base in the world” and said he would like to return the land to Okinawa “as soon as possible.”

Newly elected Okinawa Gov. Denny Tamaki blasted the move, accusing Tokyo of disregarding public opinion on the matter.

“The act should only be applied to protect the right of an individual, not a government entity,” Tamaki said, according

to the Okinawa Times newspaper. “This is an illegal action to twist the system.”

A Tamaki spokesman told Stars and Stripes on Thursday the new governor hopes to resolve the matter through discussion, not by legal battle.

It’s the third time Okinawa officials have either revoked permitting for the project or sued to stop it. It is largely seen as a last-ditch effort after two previous attempts were struck down in Japanese courts.

Tamaki — the son of a Japanese mother and a U.S. Marine — was elected Sept. 30 after defeating Atsushi Sakima, who was backed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, by about 80,000 votes. Tamaki ran as the heir apparent to former Gov. Takeshi Onaga, who had long opposed the relocation of Marine air operations within Okinawa prefecture and tried everything in his power to halt the move to Schwab before dying of pancreatic cancer on Aug. 8.

COLA rates changing for US military paychecks in Japan

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Military personnel and their families across Japan will notice a change in their paychecks as soon as next month reflecting results from the 2018 living pattern survey administered last spring.

Chief Master Sgt. Terrence Greene, of U.S. Forces Japan, announced the new cost-of-living allowance rates for servicemembers in Japan on AFN Tokyo radio Friday — about two weeks ahead of when the numbers are to be published by the Defense Travel Management Office on Nov. 1.

COLA rates indicate how much more expensive it is to live in an area as compared with the United States.

A baseline of 100 represents the cost of living in the U.S., so a COLA rate of 122 means an area's cost of living is 22 percent higher than it is back home.

Servicemembers at four installations — Marine Corps

Air Station Iwakuni, Yokota Air Base, Misawa Air Base and Sasebo Naval Base — will see their COLA rates increase, Greene told listeners.

Iwakuni is seeing the greatest boost, up 6 points from 122 to 128. Yokota and Misawa's rates increased by 4 points from 118 to 122 and 124 to 128, respectively; and Sasebo increased by 2 points from 122 to 124.

Other bases saw a drop in COLA, with Camp Fuji's rate decreasing by 6 points from 124 to 118; Camp Zama by 4 points from 130 to 126; and Naval Air Facility Atsugi by 2 points from 124 to 122, Greene said. Those assigned to bases on Okinawa will see a 2-point decrease, from 120 to 118.

COLA rates remain unchanged for those at Yokosuka Naval Base and Yokohama North Dock, he said.

The new rates will be implemented for all bases by the end of the year, Greene told AFN's listeners.

"For those areas that will see an increase, it will be effective

in your November paychecks," he said, adding that those experiencing a decrease will notice the changes in their December pay.

To help families find out what the new COLA rates will look like in dollar amounts, the Defense Travel Agency offers an online tool to calculate COLA based on pay grade, years of service, number of dependents and type of housing. It can be found at www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/colaCalc.cfm.

The changes in rates were the result of responses to the living patterns survey offered in April and May to military bases in Japan.

The survey — which is offered every three years — asks servicemembers how and where they shop for goods and services, according to the DTA.

The responses are then used to determine how much military families overseas are paying for products compared with what they would pay if they lived stateside.

THAAD presence in S. Korea formalized

BY MARCUS FICHTL
Stars and Stripes

CAMP CARROLL, South Korea — The administrative offices for the U.S. military's most advanced anti-ballistic missile system in South Korea have finally found a permanent home nearly two years after a midnight run brought the first pair of launchers to the peninsula.

The controversial Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, battery — on a former golf course in the melon-farming area of Seongju, 190 miles south of Seoul — is manned by a unit known as Combined Task Force Defender.

The Delta Battery, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, which oversees the operation from nearby Camp Carroll, cut the ribbon Friday for its newly refurbished headquarters building.

"This ceremony today is the final step to formalize the presence of Delta-2 on the Korean Peninsula," said the battery's commander, Capt. Kate Theilacker, 29.

Theilacker, from New Richmond, Wis., later told Stars and Stripes she was "honored" to be part of the "historic moment."

"We're here for the long haul to support the Korean people. We're here as a permanent fixture in the ballistic missile defense of the peninsula," she said.

The United States and South Korea agreed to deploy THAAD to the peninsula in 2016 to counter a growing threat from North Korea.

The transition from a temporary to a permanent unit began about a year ago when the unit flagged to the 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade and its soldiers became permanently assigned rather than rotated in from the United States.

Russia: US treaty pullout a 'dangerous step'

Associated Press

ELKO, Nev. — President Donald Trump said his intention to scrap a landmark arms control agreement with Russia follows years of violations by Moscow in developing prohibited weapons, and "we're not going to be the only one to adhere to it." The Kremlin said the pullout "would be a very dangerous step."

Britain said it stood "absolutely resolute" with the U.S., while Germany called Trump's move "regrettable."

Germany Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said in a statement Sunday that the 3-decades-old Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty is "an important pillar of our European security architecture" and Trump's announcement "raises difficult questions for us and Europe."

Maas said Germany has repeatedly urged Moscow to "clear up the serious allegations of breaching the INF treaty, which Russia has so far not done."

He said Germany is urging Washington to

"consider the possible consequences" of its decision, including for a U.S.-Russian nuclear disarmament treaty beyond 2021.

The 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty helps protect the security of the U.S. and its allies in Europe and the Far East. It bars the United States and Russia from possessing, producing or test-flying a ground-launched cruise missile with a range of 300 to 3,400 miles.

Trump is sending his national security adviser, John Bolton, to Moscow for meetings with Russian leaders, including Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Security Council Secretary Nikolai Patrushev, and Bolton was expected to relay the news about Trump's decision.

"This would be a very dangerous step," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov, was quoted as telling state news agency Tass on Sunday. He said a U.S. withdrawal "will cause the most serious condemnation from all members of the international community who are committed to security and stability."

Migrant caravan swells to 5K

Associated Press

CIUDAD HIDALGO, Mexico — Despite Mexican efforts to stop them at the border, a growing throng of Central American migrants resumed their advance toward the U.S. border early Sunday in southern Mexico.

Their numbers swelled to about 5,000 overnight, and at first light they set out walking toward the Mexican town of Tapachula, 10 abreast in a line stretching approximately a mile.

It was not immediately clear from where the additional travelers had materialized since about 2,000 gathered on the Mexican side Saturday night. They seemed likely to be people who had been waiting on the bridge over the Suchiate River or in the Guatemalan town of Tecun Uman and who decided to cross during the night.

At dawn, there were still an estimated 1,500 migrants on the Guatemalan side hoping to enter legally. They marched on through Mexico like a ragtag army of the poor, shouting triumphantly slogans like “Si se pudo!” or “Yes, we could!”

As they passed through Mex-

ican villages on the outskirts of Ciudad Hidalgo, they drew applause, cheers and donations of food and clothing from Mexicans.

Maria Teresa Orellana, a resident of the neighborhood of Lorenzo, handed out free sandals to the migrants as they passed. “It’s solidarity,” she said. “They’re our brothers.”

Olivin Castellanos, 58, a truck driver and mason from Villanueva, Honduras, said he took a raft across the river after Mexico blocked the bridge. “No one will stop us, only God,” he said. “We knocked down the door and we continue walking.”

He wants to reach the U.S. to work. “I can do this,” he said, pointing to the asphalt under his feet. “I’ve made highways.”

The migrants who said they gave up trying to enter Mexico legally because the asylum application process was too slow gathered Saturday at a park in the border city of Ciudad Hidalgo. They voted by a show of hands to continue north en masse, then marched to the bridge crossing the Suchiate River and urged those still on it to come join them.

The decision to re-form the migrant caravan capped a day

in which Mexican authorities again refused mass entry to migrants on the bridge, instead accepting small groups for asylum processing and giving out 45-day visitor permits to some. Authorities handed out numbers for people to be processed in a strategy seen before at U.S. border posts when dealing with large numbers of migrants.

But many became impatient and circumvented the border gate and crossed the river on rafts, swimming or wading in full view of the hundreds of Mexican police manning the blockade on the bridge. Some paid locals the equivalent of \$1.25 to ferry them across the muddy waters. They were not detained upon reaching the Mexican bank.

Sairy Bueso, 24, a Honduran mother of two, was another migrant who abandoned the bridge and crossed into Mexico via the river. She clutched her daughter, Dayani, 2, who had recently had a heart operation, as she got off a raft.

“The girl suffered greatly because of all the people crowded” on the bridge, Bueso said. “There are risks that we must take for the good of our children.”

Lottery sales brisk; jackpot hits a record

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Mega Millions lottery may see a streak of jackpot rollovers end as it heads toward a record \$1.6 billion drawing on Tuesday.

As more tickets sell, chances grow that at least one buyer will pick all six winning numbers. That would stop the streak of 25 rollovers, most recently on Friday night.

Based on sales projections, 75 percent of the 302 million possible combinations will be chosen for Tuesday’s drawing, up from 59.1 percent in Friday’s, said Carole Gentry, spokeswoman for Maryland Lottery and Gaming.

“It’s possible that nobody wins again. But it’s hard to fathom,” Gentry said.

About 280 million tickets sold in Friday’s drawing, none matching the winning mix of 7, 15, 23, 53, 65 and 70 to claim an estimated prize of \$1 billion. Fifteen tickets matched five numbers for second-tier prizes of at least \$1 million.

The \$1.6 billion estimated jackpot would be the largest prize in U.S. history. The second-largest jackpot was a \$1.586 billion Powerball drawing on Jan. 13, 2016.

Russ Lopez, spokesman for the California Lottery, said tickets were going “very, very quickly” on Saturday.

Tonya Jimenez, assistant manager at Beavers Market in Fort Collins, Colo., said all three registers were going Saturday, a day after the store sold 220 tickets. Many hopefuls haven’t played before.

“We tell them how to play it,” she said. “They don’t know what to do. We’re doing a lot of explaining.”

The Mega Millions jackpot has been growing since July, when a group of 11 California office workers won \$543 million.

It costs \$2 to play the game. The odds of winning the jackpot are about 1 in 302 million, but with so many tickets being purchased, the likelihood of rollover becomes increasingly slim.

Trump promises major middle-class tax cuts

The Washington Post

ELKO, Nev. — President Donald Trump said Saturday that Republicans are planning to implement a “very major tax cut” for middle-income earners before next month, even though Congress is out of session until after November’s midterm elections.

After his campaign rally in this northeastern Nevada town, Trump talked up the new round of tax cuts but did not go into specifics. He said the cuts would be done “some-time just prior, I would say, to November.”

“We are going to be putting in and are studying very deeply right now around the clock a

major tax cut for middle-income people,” Trump said shortly before his departure back to Washington. “Not for business at all. For middle-income people.”

It was not precisely clear what Trump was referring to, and the White House did not immediately respond to a request for clarification. One official familiar with the discussions said Trump has pushed congressional leaders to introduce another tax cut package before the Nov. 6 election.

But that appears highly unlikely as lawmakers are out of Washington, and there are no plans for either chamber to reconvene before their regularly scheduled return on Nov. 13.

Rob Damschen, a spokesman for House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, deferred to the White House for specifics on a new tax proposal.

“There is continued interest in building on the success of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and constantly improving the tax code for hard-working families and America’s small businesses,” Damschen said.

The House in late September passed a second round of tax cuts that would permanently extend rates for individual earners. Under the new GOP law, those cuts expire after a decade.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man stuck in muddy hole is rescued

NY DIX HILLS — A waterproofing worker who got mired in mud in an 8-foot-deep hole is safe after rescue workers used a harness-and-pulley system to rescue him.

Authorities said Trevor Borders, 22, got trapped about 10:30 a.m. Friday at a residential property in Dix Hills, on Long Island.

Borders dug the hole to get access to the home's basement. Then he started to sink. Authorities said he tried to free himself but couldn't and found himself trapped in mud up to his waist.

About 50 rescuers from local fire departments and emergency agencies came to Borders' aid. He was freed about 1 p.m.

Giant inflatable colon stolen from pickup

KS KANSAS CITY — Someone has snatched a giant, inflatable colon used to teach about the dangers of colon cancer.

The University of Kansas Cancer Center said Friday in a news release that it was stolen from a pickup bed in Brookside.

The inflatable colon is 10 feet long, weighs 150 pounds and is valued at \$4,000. It is owned by the Cancer Coalition.

Jury rules woman kept food from young son

TX FORT WORTH — A jury convicted a North Texas woman of attempted murder for withholding food and nutrients from her young son in a case prosecutors say included subjecting the child to needless surgeries.

The Tarrant County jury Friday also found Danita Tutt, 42, of Cleburne, guilty of causing

injury to a child. She was acquitted on two other counts of injury to a child.

Prosecutors say Tutt lied to doctors about her son's symptoms, resulting in the boy, now 13, undergoing unnecessary gastrostomy surgery and other procedures. Child Protective Services removed the boy and his younger brother from their home in 2016.

Suit: Worker fired following an injury

OR PORTLAND — A Portland cremation worker who says she was sexually harassed and fired after reporting she sustained a back injury when a heavy corpse fell on her has filed a lawsuit seeking \$900,000.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported that the sex discrimination and workers compensation discrimination lawsuit was filed Thursday in Multnomah County Circuit Court against Portland Cremation Center.

Court documents say the woman and a co-worker in August were carrying a heavy corpse up a narrow flight of stairs when the corpse fell and pinned the woman against a wall. The lawsuit says she reported the injury and was fired the next day.

The lawsuit also says the woman's supervisors created a sexually hostile workplace that included grabbing her breasts.

Workers take deep dive in doo to fix clog

SC CHARLESTON — Divers spent two days deep inside a South Carolina sewer, pulling out huge balls of oily, black, used wet wipes and baby wipes that had clogged intake pumps.

The Charleston Water System posted pictures of the masses of wipes on its Twitter account.

It reminded people that only human waste and toilet tissue should be flushed. The cloth wipes need to be thrown away because they don't break down in water.

The system had to send the divers nearly 100 feet into a sewer well after the wipes, congealed by grease and other items sent into the pipes, clogged the suction intake pumps to the Plum Island Wastewater Treatment Center on James Island.

Woman hopes to solve mystery of class ring

MN ROCHESTER — A Minnesota woman is trying to solve the mystery of a 1955 class ring found along a gravel road near Sargeant in Mower County.

The Post Bulletin reported that Barb Nelson spotted the ring in 1973 while riding a horse over to her neighbor's house. After initially failing to track down the ring's owner, she set it aside in a jewelry box. Nelson recently came across the ring again and is hoping to find answers.

Nelson said the ring is made for a woman and is about a size 6. She said the ring includes the initials G.S. It is from Hammond High School and dated 1955.

While there's a town named Hammond in Minnesota, there's no Hammond High School in the state.

Female lion kills her longtime mate at zoo

IN INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Zoo said a lion died in a fight with another lion.

The zoo said Friday that an adult female, Zuri, attacked 10-year-old male Nyack in their outdoor yard Oct. 15 before the zoo opened for the day.

The zoo said the two had been

housed together for eight years and produced three cubs in 2015. Nyack was on loan from the San Diego Zoo.

It said staff heard an unusual amount of roaring from the yard and tried to separate the two, but Zuri held Nyack by the neck until he stopped moving. The zoo said daily logs kept by staff showed no unusual aggression, injuries or wounds between the two.

Plane makes safe landing on freeway

CA EL CAJON — A small plane with a student pilot on board made an emergency landing in the middle of traffic on a Southern California freeway.

The California Highway Patrol said the plane landed safely in the westbound lanes of Interstate 8 in El Cajon on Friday morning after reporting engine trouble.

Authorities said the single-engine Piper was carrying a pilot, 25, and a student, 36. The CHP said the instructor landed the plane. Video taken by a motorist on the freeway shows the plane gliding down between cars and rolling along two lanes.

Debris on beach from SpaceX rocket

NC OCRACOKE ISLAND — A large sheet of metal found on a North Carolina beach has been identified as debris from a SpaceX rocket.

The National Park Service told The Charlotte Observer that Elon Musk's rocket building company confirmed the 10-foot by 6-foot debris found Oct. 14 was "rocket hardware." Chief Ranger Boone Vandzura, of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, said "it's being handled appropriately."

From wire reports

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Bellinger, Puig lift LA to World Series

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Yasiel Puig and Cody Bellinger flexed their muscles. Chris Taylor flashed some leather.

Then the Los Angeles Dodgers got a lift from ace Clayton Kershaw out of the bullpen to finish off the Milwaukee Brewers and return to the World Series.

Puig broke open a tight contest with a three-run homer in the sixth inning, Taylor robbed Christian Yelich with a super catch and the Dodgers took Game 7 of the NL Championship Series with a 5-1 win on Saturday night.

It's off to Fenway Park for a showdown against the Boston Red Sox in Game 1 of the World Series on Tuesday.

"It's pretty cool. It's going to be a pretty special series," said Bellinger, chosen as the NLCS MVP.

Los Angeles hasn't won the World Series since 1988. The Dodgers and Red Sox have met once before in the World Series, back in 1916 with Boston beating Brooklyn behind a big game from pitcher Babe Ruth.

Kenley Jansen tossed 1¹/₃ scoreless innings before yielding to Kershaw in the ninth. The three-time Cy Young Award winner, pitching on two days of rest after starting Game 5, finished off the Brewers by striking out Mike Moustakas in a perfect ninth.

Kershaw's teammates mobbed the lefty near the mound after the final out, and

the celebration was just beginning for the Dodgers.

"I'm just so proud of our guys for enduring this roller coaster of a season," manager Dave Roberts said.

What a surge for a team that was 10 games under .500 on May 16.

The Dodgers have talked about having unfinished business after losing Game 7 of the World Series last year to the Houston Astros.

Now they've made baseball's final series of the year in back-to-back seasons for the first time since 1977-78.

"I know how lucky I am to be a part of it two years in a row," Bellinger said.

The Brewers had their chances against rookie starter Walker Buehler, a 24-year-old right-hander who navigated through trouble over 4²/₃ innings. He allowed six hits, including a home run in the first by Yelich that made it 1-0.

Yelich looked like he would hurt the Dodgers again in the fifth with Lorenzo Cain on second with two outs. The NL MVP candidate hit a high, hard liner to left that seemed destined to fall in for a double.

Running at full speed to his left, Taylor extended his glove high in the air just as the ball settled into the mitt to end the inning.

"They made the plays, they made the pitches when they had to to win," Yelich said.

After Hader: The Dodgers waited for lights-out lefty Josh Hader to leave the

game to get their bats going again.

Brewers manager Craig Counsell brought in Hader in the third after starter Jhoulys Chacin allowed a two-run homer to Bellinger in the second for a 2-1 lead for the Dodgers. Hader tossed three shut-out innings, striking out four before being pulled after 31 pitches.

Milwaukee's vaunted bullpen then scuffled in the sixth.

Puig's three-run shot off reliever Jeremy Jeffress quieted the breathless, screaming Brewers fans at Miller Park. Puig had been hitless in his previous five at-bats against Jeffress, striking out each time.

Power packed: The excitable Puig raised both arms as he rounded second, wiggling his fingers skyward to mimic the Brewers' trademark celebration move. Manny Machado, the object of nonstop boos from Milwaukee fans, obliged with the same gesture as he watched from the dugout steps.

Bellinger raised his right arm and pointed to his biceps as he rounded third after his homer.

The mighty Dodgers, who hit an NL-best 235 homers, outslugged the Brewers, who were second in the league with 218.

Looking forward: The loss ended a remarkable year for the Brewers. A late surge led by Yelich lifted Milwaukee from 5¹/₂ games out of the NL Central lead on Aug. 28 to one win short of the franchise's second World Series appearance.

Chargers hold off Titans' late rally in London

Associated Press

LONDON — Philip Rivers threw for 306 yards with two touchdown passes and the Los Angeles Chargers held on for a 20-19 victory on Sunday in London after the Tennessee Titans failed twice on a go-ahead 2-point conversion with 31 seconds remaining.

Marcus Mariota completed 24 of 32 passes for 237 yards and a touchdown for the Titans (3-4), throwing a 1-yard completion to tight end Luke Stocker on fourth down to pull within one after a review determined the quarterback was down as he ran for the end zone on the previous play.

The Titans then twice tried to go for the 2-pointer and the win, with Mariota's first at-

tempt, a pass intended for Tajae Sharp, negated by a defensive holding call on the Chargers' Casey Hayward and his second, to Taywan Taylor, tipped by safety Anthony Phillips.

The Chargers (5-2) won their fourth consecutive game despite the absence of Melvin Gordon, their starting running back, because of a hamstring injury.

Gordon, who entered the game third in the NFL in rushing with 466 yards and had scored a total of nine touchdowns this season.

Austin Ekeler, in his second season, earned his first start in Gordon's place and ran for 42 yards on 12 carries, but it was Rivers who shouldered the burden for the Chargers.

He answered Ryan Succop's

opening 28-yard field goal with a 75-yard touchdown pass to Tyrell Williams on Los Angeles' first play from scrimmage — the longest touchdown scored in the NFL's 11-year history of holding games in London.

Michael Badgley made it 10-3 with a 29-yard field goal before Succop responded by making one from 33 yards in the second quarter.

The Titans appeared poised to head into halftime with the lead before Mariota was intercepted by the Chargers' Denzel Perryman at their 4-yard line when his pass was tipped at the line of scrimmage.

Rivers, who completed 19 of 26 passes, then extended the advantage to 17-6 just over a minute into the second half when he

found Michael Williams on a 55-yard touchdown pass.

The Titans, who entered having lost their past two games, responded on the next possession when Derrick Henry had a 1-yard score to end a 10-quarter skid without a touchdown to climb back to 17-13.

Succop missed a field-goal attempt from 51 yards — only his second miss of the season — and after stopping Los Angeles, the Titans took over at their 11-yard line with 4:55 remaining, driving the length of the field on the final drive.

The Titans made their first appearance in England, while the Chargers played at Wembley for the first time since Oct. 26, 2008, when they lost 37-32 to the New Orleans Saints.

Top 25 roundup

Purdue routs No. 2 Ohio State

The Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — D.J. Knox rushed for 128 yards and three touchdowns, David Blough threw for three more scores and Purdue shook up the College Football Playoff chase with a 49-20 blowout of No. 2 Ohio State on Saturday night.

The Boilermakers (4-3, 3-1 Big Ten) won their fourth straight, their second in a row over a ranked team and pulled off their biggest upset since taking down then-No. 2 Ohio State 28-23 on Oct. 6, 1984. Purdue set a school record for points scored against the Buckeyes, besting the mark of 41 in 1967.

Mistake-prone Ohio State (7-1, 4-1) had its 12-game winning streak snapped, fell out of the Big Ten East lead behind rival Michigan and must fight away its way back into playoff position.

Blough outplayed Heisman Trophy candidate Dwayne Haskins Jr. on a night the Buckeyes didn't reach the end zone until early in the fourth quarter.

No. 1 Alabama 58, Tennessee 21: Tua Tagovailoa threw touchdown passes to four receivers and the Crimson Tide started fast again to overpower the host Vols. Alabama had touchdowns on its first four possessions while outscoring Tennessee 28-0 and outgaining the Volunteers 217-6 in the opening period.

No. 3 Clemson 41, No. 16 North Carolina State 7: Trevor Lawrence threw for a career-high 308 yards, Travis Etienne rushed for three touchdowns and the Tigers turned an expected Atlantic Coast Conference showdown into a rout at home.

No. 5 LSU 19, No. 22 Mississippi State 3: Michael Divinity Jr.'s interception set up Nick Brossette's short touchdown run, Cole Tracy kicked four field goals, and the Tigers beat the visiting Bulldogs. Still, the Tiger Stadium crowd left angry after LSU's top lineback-

er, Devin White, was ejected for targeting in the fourth quarter, meaning he will not be eligible to play in the first half of the Tigers' upcoming showdown with unbeaten and top-ranked Alabama.

No. 6 Michigan 21, No. 24 Michigan State 7: Shea Patterson threw two touchdown passes and the Wolverines snapped a streak of 17 consecutive losses to ranked teams on the road.

No. 9 Oklahoma 52, TCU 27: Kyler Murray threw four touchdown passes, Kennedy Brooks and Trey Sermon had 100-yard rushing games with scores and the visiting Sooners rebounded from their only loss this season to beat TCU for the third time in 11 months.

The Sooners (6-1, 3-1 Big 12) won their 18th consecutive true road game, never trailing after scoring touchdowns on each of their first four drives in their first game since losing to Texas two weeks ago.

No. 10 UCF 37, East Carolina 10: Darriel Mack Jr. stepped in for Heisman Trophy hopeful McKenzie Milton and rushed for 120 yards and a touchdown, and the visiting Knights forced five turnovers en route to their 20th straight victory.

No. 25 Washington State 34, No. 12 Oregon 20: Gardner Minshew threw a 22-yard touchdown pass to Dezmon Patmon in the back of the end zone with 3:40 left and the Cougars beat the visiting Ducks. Washington State (6-1, 3-1 Pac-12) capped one of the biggest days in program history by taking control of the North Division race.

No. 14 Kentucky 14, Vanderbilt 7: Benny Snell Jr. rushed for 169 yards, including the go-ahead 7-yard run with 8:04 remaining that helped the Wildcats (6-1, 4-1 Southeastern Conference) clinch bowl eligibility for a third consecutive season and stay in contention in the East division with their third straight victory over the Commodores (3-5, 0-4).

No. 15 Washington 27, Colo-

rado 13: Jake Browning threw a 26-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Fuller on fourth down with less than four minutes remaining, and Washington held off the visiting Buffaloes.

Rather than trying for a long field goal, Browning and the offense stayed on the field. Facing a blitz, Browning found Fuller on a quick slant with nothing but the end zone ahead.

No. 18 Penn State 33, Indiana 28: Trace McSorley passed for 220 yards, ran for 107 and had a hand in three touchdowns in the Nittany Lions' win in Bloomington.

Penn State (5-2, 2-2 Big Ten) rallied to snap a two-game losing streak after Indiana (4-4, 1-4) took a 21-20 lead in the third quarter on Steve Scott's 3-yard touchdown run.

No. 19 Iowa 23, Maryland 0: Nate Stanley threw for 86 yards and a touchdown for the host Hawkeyes. Anthony Nelson added a TD on a fumble recovery for the Hawkeyes (6-1, 3-1 Big Ten). They held the Terrapins (4-3, 2-2) to 115 yards and seven first downs on a day when wind gusts topped 40 mph.

Temple 24, No. 20 Cincinnati 17 (OT): Anthony Russo threw a tying 20-yard touchdown pass with 49 seconds left to Brandon Mack, and then a 25-yarder to Isaiah Wright in overtime for the host Owls. Russo was 20 for 41 for 237 yards and three touchdowns for Temple (5-3, 4-0 American).

No. 21 South Florida 38, UConn 30: Johnny Ford rushed for 164 yards and three touchdowns to help the Bulls shrug off the visiting Huskies and remain unbeaten. Ford scored on runs of 15, 15 and 43 yards.

No. 23 Wisconsin 49, Illinois 20: Jonathan Taylor rushed for 159 yards and Taiwan Deal ran for 111 yards and two touchdowns and the host Badgers took advantage of the Fighting Illini's five first-half turnovers. Wisconsin (5-2, 3-1 Big Ten) has won nine straight against Illinois (3-4, 1-3).

Academies

Army needs 2 OTs to keep home streak

Associated Press

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Reeling after a late charge by Miami of Ohio forced overtime, Army regrouped and won again at Michie Stadium.

Darnell Woolfolk scored on a bruising 7-yard run up the middle in the second overtime, sophomore quarterback Cam Thomas rushed for 137 yards and one touchdown in his first career start, and Army survived 31-30 on Saturday to the delight of a sellout homecoming crowd.

Army (5-2) remained unbeaten at home this season and extended its home winning streak to 10 games. Miami (3-5) had won two in a row and three of four after beginning the season with three straight losses.

"The support is growing," Woolfolk said. "It's unbelievable. It motivates the guys. It's a great thing we have going."

The teams each kicked a field goal in the first overtime and the RedHawks scored a touchdown in the second — on Gus Ragland's 18-yard, fourth-down completion to a diving Luke Mayock on the left side. Trailing by a point, coach Chuck Martin elected to go for the victory and Ragland nearly stunned the Black Knights. Hit and falling to the turf, he somehow completed a sidearmed pass to Kenny Young on the right as Army fired its victory cannon prematurely, but Young was stopped at the 2 by Elijah Riley to end it.

Houston 49, Navy 36: For 30 minutes, the Midshipmen went touchdown for touchdown with the high-powered Cougars. Navy went into the locker room at halftime poised to pull off a huge upset at home over Houston.

Few teams, however, can keep up with D'Eriq King and the mighty Cougars offense. Certainly not the Midshipmen, who were buried under a barrage of big plays and TDs in Houston's victory Saturday.

NBA roundup

Fisticuffs spoil LeBron's home debut

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Once the fists started flying late in the fourth quarter, LeBron James' home debut with the Los Angeles Lakers was relegated to the undercard.

A wild multiplayer fight that included the normally mild-mannered Chris Paul and Brandon Ingram stole part of the spotlight shining on LeBron's official landing on the West Coast.

The Houston Rockets stole the rest with a gritty victory.

James scored 24 points, but Paul, Ingram and Rajon Rondo all were ejected after trading blows late in the Rockets' 124-115 win Saturday night.

Before the late drama overshadowed everything, James got several big ovations from a tremendously lively sellout crowd in his first home game

since joining the Lakers as a free agent.

Celtics 103, Knicks 101: Jayson Tatum had 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Boston withstood his careless foul with 1.9 seconds left to beat New York on Saturday night.

Tatum had just given the Celtics a three-point lead with two free throws with 7.9 seconds left and the Knicks called their final timeout.

They had trouble getting the ball inbounded from the sideline, and Knicks guard Trey Burke had to race into the backcourt to retrieve it as the clocked ran down. He pulled up for a three-pointer from well beyond the arc and Tatum jumped to contest it, fouling Burke for three free throws that could have tied it.

But he missed the first and the Knicks couldn't grab the

rebound when he intentionally missed the third.

76ers 116, Magic 115: JJ Redick hit a three-pointer with 17 seconds left to lift host Philadelphia over Orlando.

Raptors 117, Wizards 113: Taking over with Kawhi Leonard getting a night off, Kyle Lowry delivered 28 points and 12 assists to help visiting Toronto improve to 3-0 with a victory over Washington.

Pacers 132, Nets 112: Victor Oladipo had 25 points and seven rebounds to lead host Indiana to a victory over Brooklyn.

Hornets 113, Heat 112: Kemba Walker scored 39 points, including the game-winning free throw with a half-second left, and Charlotte spoiled Dwyane Wade's final home opener by topping the Heat.

Pistons 118, Bulls 116:

Blake Griffin had 33 points and 12 rebounds, Ish Smith scored all 15 of his points in the second half, including the game-winning basket, and Detroit beat host Chicago.

Mavericks 140, Timberwolves 136: Luka Doncic scored 26 points in the teenager's home debut, Dennis Smith Jr. converted a tiebreaking three-point play with six seconds left and Dallas beat visiting Minnesota in a wild offensive game.

Nuggets 119, Suns 91: Nikola Jokic scored 35 points, posted a triple-double and didn't miss a field goal in leading host Denver.

Trail Blazers 121, Spurs 108: Damian Lillard had 29 points and CJ McCollum added 24 as Portland opened the season with a pair of home wins.

NHL roundup

Skinner's hat trick lifts Sabres over Kings

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jeff Skinner scored three goals for his fifth career hat trick and the Buffalo Sabres' reconfigured top line keyed a 5-1 win over the Los Angeles Kings on Saturday.

Jason Pominville had a goal and two assists for his 700th career point, and Jack Eichel added three assists after Sabres coach Phil Housley shuffled his lines in an effort to revive an offense that was held to one goal in three of the past four games.

Zach Bogosian also scored and Linus Ullmark made 19 saves for Buffalo.

Drew Doughty had a goal and Jonathan Quick made 21 saves for the Kings, who lost their fourth straight game. Quick has allowed 10 goals on 54 shots in two starts since returning from

a lower-body injury.

Avalanche 3, Hurricanes 1: Gabriel Landeskog scored twice to give him six goals in three games, Nathan MacKinnon added a goal and two assists and Colorado won at Carolina.

Flyers 5, Devils 2: Jake Voracek had a goal and had two assists, and Philadelphia played some solid defense to beat visiting New Jersey.

Jets 5, Coyotes 3: Three Jets scored their first goals of the season, defenseman Jacob Trouba had three assists and Winnipeg beat visiting Arizona.

Blackhawks 4, Blue Jackets 1: Patrick Kane had two goals and an assist, Corey Crawford stopped 37 shots to get his first win in nearly 10 months, and Chicago won at Columbus. Alex DeBrincat and Marcus Kruger

also scored for the Blackhawks, who earned a point for the sixth time in seven games (4-1-2).

Blues 4, Maple Leafs 1: Ryan O'Reilly scored his first goal with St. Louis, and Jake Allen made 22 saves to lead the Blues over visiting Toronto.

Red Wings 4, Panthers 3: Gustav Nyquist scored 3:44 into overtime to lift visiting Detroit to its first win of the season.

Senators 4, Canadiens 3 (OT): Mark Stone scored his second goal of the game 2:30 into overtime and Ottawa rallied from a two-goal deficit over visiting Montreal.

Wild 5, Lightning 4 (OT): Mikael Granlund scored 3:43 into overtime to lead host Minnesota.

Canucks 2, Bruins 1 (OT): Bo Horvat scored at 3:12 of overtime and Vancouver edged visiting Boston. Brandon Sutter

scored for the Canucks in regulation, and Joakim Nordstrom scored for the Bruins.

Predators 3, Oilers 0: Juuse Saros made 31 saves in the shutout and Nashville ran its winning streak to five games over visiting Edmonton. P.K. Subban, Viktor Arvidsson and Roman Josi scored for the Predators.

Golden Knights 3, Ducks 1: Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 17 shots to lead the host Golden Knights to their third consecutive win. Fleury got his 408th career win to move into sole possession of 10th place on the NHL's all-time wins list.

Sharks 4, Islanders 1: Brent Burns scored San Jose's first goal from a defenseman this season and Logan Couture scored his fourth goal in two games to lead the host Sharks.