

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Mailed bombs target Democrats, CNN

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Crude pipe bombs targeting Hillary Clinton, former President Barack Obama, CNN and others were intercepted Tuesday night and Wednesday in a rash of attacks aimed at prominent Democrats.

The FBI said Florida Rep. Deborah Wasserman Schultz received a package, possibly addressed incorrectly, and then sent to her as the return addressee. A similar device was found Monday at the New York compound of liberal billionaire George Soros, a major contributor to Democratic causes.

There were no explosions and no reports of injuries.

The bombs were intercepted two weeks before nationwide elections that could reshape Congress and serve as a referendum on the first two years of Donald Trump's presidency.

The events quickly overtook other campaign news in an already tense political season.

The White House quickly condemned the attacks aimed at Democrats and perceived foes of the administration. Republican Vice President Mike Pence said they "have no place in this country," and Trump tweeted, "I agree wholeheartedly."

All the confirmed bombs appeared to come from the same person or persons, said John Miller, the New York Police Department's head of intelligence and counterterrorism, who briefed reporters in New York.

The U.S. Secret Service intercepted a bomb that was addressed to Hillary Clinton at the Chappaqua, N.Y., home she shares with former President Bill Clinton, and another that was sent to former President Obama at his home with Michelle Obama in Washington. A police bomb squad removed

still another from CNN's New York headquarters, which was evacuated. Its package was addressed to former CIA Director John Brennan, who appears on air on other broadcast and cable outlets.

Overhead TV shots showed a truck carrying that device, which law enforcement officials said was linked to the other explosives, being driven away.

The package sent to CNN contained a live explosive and an envelope with white powder, and officials said the substance was being tested to see if it was dangerous.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said at a briefing that "we will not allow these terrorist thugs to change the way we live our lives."

A U.S. official told The Associated Press that investigators believe the explosive that was discovered near the Clintons' home was linked to one found

Monday at the Soros compound.

The official noted that one of the packages had the return address of Schultz, an ironic reference to the former chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee who was accused by Clinton rivals of secretly helping the party's eventual presidential nominee.

In Florida, the Broward Sheriff's Office used a bomb squad robot in the investigation of a suspicious package at Schultz's office. Neither Clinton nor Obama received the packages, and neither was at risk of receiving them because of screening procedures, the Secret Service said.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said in a statement, "These terrorizing acts are despicable, and anyone responsible will be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law."

Report: PCS resources not always effective

BY BRIAN FERGUSON

Stars and Stripes

Servicemembers and families have enough existing resources available for permanent change of station moves but their effectiveness is questionable, according to a recent report.

The Rand Corp. report released this month analyzed the impact of moves on military families, concluding there were no obvious gaps in policies and programs.

However, the report recommended that the military increase notice to servicemembers prior to a move, get moving logistics started earlier and better coordinate the systems that

handle assignments and PCS moves.

Resources available to military families range from move.mil, for scheduling household goods moves, to military and family readiness centers, which handle youth programs, financial counseling and relocation assistance.

The online Military OneSource can also help find the right programs.

How well the resources named in the study work remains unknown, as well as why some resources were used and others were not.

"We do not yet know the effectiveness of the existing resources in alleviating PCS-

related disruptions," the report stated. "Therefore, we recommend that future research be pursued to better understand the effectiveness of different access points to these services ... and to determine why families choose to participate in programs," the report stated.

Finding the programs and services needed when moving did not seem to be a problem, as servicemembers and families reported getting information through face-to-face contact, websites, call centers and social media.

The Rand report also stressed the importance of gathering information first before changing a policy, to avoid unintended

consequences.

The study, ordered by Congress as part of the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act, required the secretary of defense to submit a report to the Senate and House Armed Services Committees discussing actions taken by the Defense Department to enhance stability for families going through a PCS move.

The top four frequently mentioned negative aspects of PCS moves in the report were needs related to having someone in the Exceptional Family Member Program, spouse employment problems, children and school disruption, and family stability and cohesiveness.

USS Truman sailors keep planes flying in Arctic Circle

BY JOSHUA KARSTEN
Stars and Stripes

A choppy ocean won't normally rock a loaded, 100,000-ton aircraft carrier very much.

But the stormy waters of the Norwegian Sea inside the Arctic Circle, where the USS Harry S. Truman has become the first U.S. carrier to train in decades, are keeping the ship rocking and adding rare challenges to flight operations.

The move north comes ahead of the NATO Trident Juncture exercise, which begins Thursday and will include about 50,000 allied servicemembers over the next month. The Truman's arrival last week is also part of the Navy's push to be less tactically predictable, which means showing up in different places and varying the length of its deployments.

At deck level this week, that means freezing temperatures and winds of 58 mph.

"It's a lot windier than I'm used to. But, it's about as cold

as the winters are in Michigan," said Seaman Kodie Rippee, an aircraft handler from Jackson, Mich., according to a Navy statement provided to Stars and Stripes.

Rippee had no complaints about his gear or his workload but said the wind and rain cause limits on flight cycles and require changing gear frequently.

"Then, of course, there is the rocking," Rippee said Tuesday. "The ship can move a lot sometimes, which we're not used to seeing. When you combine that with the wind and jet blast, it can get pretty rough up there.

"We've been training for this, so as a unit we feel comfortable handling aircraft in this weather."

The weather is a more unusual experience for sailors from warm weather climates, like Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan Janis, of Silvester, Texas.

"So this weather is kind of a shock to me," Janis said in a statement. "It's really, really

cold. But luckily, I have plenty of cold weather gear to stay warm.

"The disadvantage of the coldness, wetness and the weather is we have the waves rocking the ship, which on a carrier isn't normal," Janis said. "So we have to be extra vigilant while we're out there and not get too distracted by the weather conditions.

"Other than that, the job is the same."

Truman and its attached strike group ships will join the USS Iwo Jima Expeditionary Strike Group, USS Mount Whitney, USS Gunston Hall, USS New York and 2,000 Marines from 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit for Trident Juncture.

Combined NATO participants and partner nations Finland and Sweden will bring 250 aircraft, 65 ships and 10,000 combat vehicles to the simulated fight, NATO officials said Wednesday. Participants will split into two forces and take turns acting as aggressors.

24-hour food court opens near Yokosuka waterfront

BY CHRISTIAN LOPEZ
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Ship crews and waterfront workers at the home of the 7th Fleet can get a fast-food fix 24/7 at a renovated food court that opened this week at the Fleet Recreation Center.

"It is the only food court open all day and night," Yokosuka commander Capt. Jeffrey Kim told Stars and Stripes after cutting a ribbon Monday to reopen the third-floor facility near the Yokosuka waterfront. "It really offers one place where our sailors in our community can come on down and grab something prepared hot."

Only a short walk from where ships like the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan dock, the updated facility includes Better Burger, Uptown Pizza and Bombers Fresh Mex.

"I'm glad it's opening because it's so close to the ships and a lot of people don't have any transportation," said Navy spouse Brenda Walker, who works as a personal trainer on Yokosuka.

50K troops joining Trident Juncture war games

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — The U.S.-led NATO alliance will launch its largest war games since the end of the Cold War on Thursday, pulling together 50,000 troops, 65 warships and 250 planes for a mission that will test the ability of allies to free a member state.

"The exercise will test our readiness to restore the sovereignty of an ally — in this case, Norway — after an act of armed aggression," NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said Wednesday ahead of the launch of this year's Trident Juncture exercise.

The drills amount to launching a liberation campaign — a worst-case scenario for NATO.

Stoltenberg said the exercise is against a "fictitious aggressor." But Trident Juncture was designed to simulate a "near-peer" adversary, and the only one in the neighborhood is Russia.

Since 2014, NATO and U.S. forces in Europe have steadily increased the size and complexity of military drills as the alliance adapts to what they've deemed a "new security environment" on the Continent.

For NATO, Russia's intervention and annexation of territory in Ukraine more than four years ago triggered an overhaul in how allies operate in Europe. Since then, every year has marked expanded drills, troops rotations into central and Eastern Europe, and frequent declarations about the U.S. and allies involved in some form of post-Cold War first.

Trident Juncture participants will split

into "south" and "north" forces, taking turns in the role of aggressor against NATO defending forces.

The drills also will test the ability of allies to reinforce an allied country with troops and equipment from the U.S. and Europe as well as certify the readiness of NATO quick-reaction forces.

Moscow, meanwhile, has complained about the exercise, which it regards as a provocation. Such criticisms are nothing new. Nearly every NATO troop rotation in Eastern Europe or war game in a state that borders Russia is met with criticism from Russian officials.

At the same time, Russia also has carried out large war games near NATO territory in recent years and built up forces in border areas like the military enclave of Kaliningrad, which borders Poland and Lithuania.

Pence leaves open option for nukes in space

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Vice President Mike Pence on Tuesday declined to rule out the idea of deploying nuclear weapons in space, saying the current ban on their use is “in the interest of every nation” but the issue should be decided on “the principle that peace comes through strength.”

“What we need to do is make sure that we provide for the common defense of the people of the United States of America, and that’s the president’s determination here,” Pence said in an interview with *The Washington Post* when asked if nuclear weapons should be banned from orbit.

Pence added, “What we want to do is continue to advance the principle that peace comes through strength.”

The new positioning comes as the Trump administration moves to potentially exit a major nuclear weapons pact with Russia and possibly bolster U.S. military operations in the heavens by forming a Space Force.

The 1967 Outer Space Treaty outlawed weapons of mass destruction from space, including nuclear weapons, and stopped the arms race between the U.S. and the former Soviet Union from entering space.

Pence said the 1967 treaty “does ban weapons of mass destruction in space, but it doesn’t ban military activity. It actually is — it gives nations a fair amount of flexibility in operating for their security interests in space. And at this time, we don’t see any need to amend the treaty.”

In recent days, President Donald Trump has signaled a willingness to withdraw

from or renegotiate long-standing treaties. Trump told reporters Saturday in Nevada that the U.S. would exit a landmark 1987 arms control agreement with the former Soviet Union, due to his belief that it constrains the U.S. from developing its own weapons and that Russia has violated the pact.

Pence’s remarks on Tuesday came during a “Transformers: Space” policy summit hosted by *The Post* at its Washington headquarters, where he provided an outline of the Trump administration’s plans for space in the coming year. Pence announced in August that the administration hopes to establish Space Force as the sixth branch of the U.S. military as soon as 2020, the first since the Air Force was formed after World War II.

Winning Mega Millions ticket sold in S. Carolina

Associated Press

SIMPSONVILLE, S.C. — A flimsy little piece of paper that crossed the counter of a convenience store on a country road in South Carolina is now worth \$1.537 billion, so lottery officials could hardly be blamed Wednesday if anxiety tinged their excitement.

They said a single ticket sold at the KC Mart in Simpsonville matched all six numbers to win the Mega Millions jackpot. And unless the winner chooses to come forward, the world may never know who won.

The prize is extraordinary by any measure, but particularly so for South Carolina, where it would be enough, if the winner was so generously inclined, to shower roughly

\$307 on each of the state’s five million people. It’s about as much as 20 percent of the \$8 billion that state lawmakers have to spend each year.

An earlier Mega Millions estimate of \$1.6 billion would have been a world record for lotteries, but actual sales came in below the \$1.586 billion Powerball jackpot prize shared by winners in California, Florida and Tennessee in January of 2016.

“The final total was less than the \$1.6 billion estimate,” confirmed Carol Gentry, a spokeswoman for the Maryland Lottery, which leads a consortium of state lotteries participating in the Mega Millions jackpot.

The ticket is worth about \$877.8 million in a lump-sum cash payment, which most

winners choose to take, rather than collect the full amount in annual payments over three decades.

South Carolina is one of eight states — along with Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Maryland, North Dakota, Ohio and Texas — where winners can remain anonymous. The winner also has up to 180 days to claim the prize.

Holli Armstrong, a state lottery spokeswoman, said the retailer will get a \$50,000 payout. TV trucks and gawkers flooded the parking lot ahead of a news conference at the KC Mart and Exxon station, which sits at the bend of a road where Greenville’s suburban sprawl gives way to farm fields.

The winning numbers were 5, 28, 62, 65, 70 and Mega Ball 5.

GAO probe finds feds blindsided by order on migrants

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal immigration and health officials were blindsided by President Donald Trump’s “zero tolerance” policy on migrants crossing the southwest border, triggering a cascade of problems as agencies struggled with the fallout from family separations, congressional investigators said in a critical report issued Wednesday.

The investigation by the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office dissects the consequences of launching a major policy change without consulting with the agencies that have to carry it out. The report makes no recommendations as

it reconstructs a turbulent episode for the Trump administration.

“Officials told us that the agencies did not take specific planning steps because they did not have advance notice,” the GAO found. “Officials we interviewed stated that they became aware of the April 2018 (‘zero-tolerance’) memo when it was announced publicly.”

On April 6, Trump issued an executive order directing an end to “catch and release” at the border, a practice whereby migrants could be admitted into the country temporarily while their immigration claims were pending. That day, Attorney General Jeff Sessions ordered federal prosecutors to adopt a “zero tolerance

policy” for border crossers. Parents placed into criminal custody could not keep their children with them, so families were split.

The report focuses on Homeland Security agencies such as Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Border Patrol, part of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, along with the Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement, which traditionally has had responsibility for providing shelter for unaccompanied minors detained at the border.

The HHS agency had a far different task this time because the children were deemed “unaccompanied minors” after the government had separated them from their parents.

Turkey keeps up pressure on Saudis

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Turkey's president kept up pressure on Saudi Arabia on Wednesday as the kingdom's powerful crown prince was to address an international investment summit in Riyadh, his first such remarks since global outcry over the killing earlier this month of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

Prince Mohammed bin Salman's anticipated remarks alongside other Arab leaders at the Future Investment Initiative summit in the Saudi capital come as the event, which debuted last year with global business titans in attendance, has been overshadowed by Khashoggi's slaying and the international outrage over it.

"We are determined not to allow the murder to be covered up and for those responsible — from the person who gave the order to those who executed it — not to escape justice," Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said in the capital, Ankara.

Erdogan has said that 15 Saudi officials arrived in Istanbul shortly before Khashoggi's death and that a man, apparently dressed in the writer's clothes, acted as a possible decoy by walking out of the consulate on the day of the disappearance.

US, Japan to hold talks about safety of aircraft on Okinawa

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The United States and Japan have renewed an agreement to discuss the possibility of allowing Japanese officials onto Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to verify the safety of U.S. military aircraft.

At the request of former Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera, U.S. Forces Japan officials had planned to host a Feb. 1 "information exchange" after a spate of emergency landings and other incidents involving Marine helicopters.

But the meeting was postponed by the U.S. over a need for more preparation time, according to a Kyodo News report that cited an unnamed senior Japanese Defense Ministry official. It was never rescheduled.

The issue has become amplified in Japan over the past few months because it is being billed as Japanese inspections of U.S. military aircraft, something USFJ officials have said will not happen.

Last week, new Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya — who replaced Onodera in a reshuffling of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet — met with USFJ's commander, Air Force Lt. Gen. Jerry Martinez, and the

pair agreed to hold talks in the future regarding the exchange, a Defense Ministry spokesman said.

"We both agreed that there should be a meeting between subject matter experts first, then ... we should find the best way [to conduct the safety inspections]," Iwaya told reporters Friday. He said the matter was under review by his staff.

USFJ officials said this week they are working diligently with Japan's Defense Ministry to finalize the exchange's "content, timing and location." They expect details to be finalized soon.

"USFJ and the Ministry of Defense have agreed to conduct a subject matter expert exchange between U.S. and Japan Self Defense Force experts to discuss aviation maintenance procedures of both sides," USFJ spokesman Air Force Col. John Hutcheson told Stars and Stripes in an email Wednesday. "These discussions are intended to share information and enhance the safety of both nations' flight operations. ... [T]o be clear, USFJ has not agreed and will not agree to any inspections of US military aircraft."

Hutcheson added the delay has not affected the U.S.-Japan alliance nor has it eroded trust or confidence between the

partner nations.

"We continue to have a strong relationship with our Japanese partners based on mutual trust and understanding," he said. "Discussions related to this issue haven't changed that."

The idea for verifying the safety of U.S. military aircraft on Okinawa was first broached by Onodera on Jan. 30 in the wake of a spate of aircraft mishaps and emergency landings.

In August 2017, three Marines were killed when an Okinawa-based MV-22 Osprey crashed off Australia's coast during a training exercise. Two months later, a fire forced a 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Super Stallion to land in a farmer's field outside Okinawa's Northern Training Area. The aircraft was an almost total loss.

On Dec. 7, a plastic part thought to belong to a U.S. military helicopter was found on the roof of an Okinawa day care center. On Dec. 13, a CH-53E Super Stallion's window fell from the aircraft and landed on an elementary school sports field adjacent to Futenma's fence line, narrowly missing playing children.

That incident was followed by three emergency landings by Marine helicopters in January.

More incidents have followed.

Thousands of migrants set out anew on quest to reach US

Associated Press

HUIXTLA, Mexico — Thousands of Central American migrants renewed their hoped-for march to the United States on Wednesday, setting out before dawn with plans to travel another 45 miles of the more than 1,000 miles that still lie before them.

The five days of walking in the southernmost reaches of Mexico — after seven days in Honduras and Guatemala —

were beginning to show. Mexican authorities said Wednesday that about 500 migrants had accepted an offer to be bused back to their countries. Many said they were sick or exhausted, especially the children who toddled or were carried along on the march.

Still, the size of the caravan — estimated by the United Nations at more than 7,000 strong — seemed basically undiminished as the throng set out in darkness cut by occasional

flashlights or the spotlights of municipal police who were escorting them.

Rosa Duvon, of Cofradia Cortes in Honduras, was pushing two baby boys, both named Daniel — a son and a nephew — in a rickety donated baby carriage over potholes on the road at 5 a.m.

"This thing is going to die," she said of the carriage, pointing to a wobbly back wheel. Still, she vowed to keep going.

While the group has been dis-

couraged by Mexico's government — and prompted threats of aid cutoffs for their homelands from President Donald Trump — they have received an outpouring of help from locals as they pass by. Neighbors have supplied the marchers — many of them largely penniless — with food and passers-by have stopped to give them rides in cars, pickups and even dump trucks.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Program would help 'squeegee kids'

MD BALTIMORE — Youngsters known as "squeegee kids" who wash car windows while darting in and out of traffic could go from street hustling to conventional employment under a privately funded program proposed by Baltimore's mayor.

Mayor Catherine Pugh said roughly \$2 million per year over the next two years can be raised to enroll 100 youngsters in a training program while providing stipends. In a Baltimore Sun op-ed Tuesday, Pugh wrote that she's "confident we can put forth a sustainable program."

Controversy is perennial over Baltimore's "squeegee kids." Some say cracking down on the youth would serve to discourage an entrepreneurial spirit. Others say their activity more accurately resembles extortion.

766 acres of woods on sale for \$9.95M

VT STOWE — A property with forests, meadows and beaver ponds in one of Vermont's most desirable towns can be yours for a cool \$9.95 million.

The 766-acre parcel in Stowe abuts more than 13,000 acres of the C.C. Putnam State Forest and the Worcester Mountains.

Rich Gardner, of RE/MAX North Professionals, told the Burlington Free Press that the property is owned by siblings living in Kentucky, Georgia and Florida. The property has been in the family for years, but the siblings are ready to sell.

Police: Man poured syrup on cruiser

NH RINDGE — Police in New Hampshire are seeking the public's help in

identifying a man who poured maple syrup on a police cruiser.

Rindge police said the maple syrup pourer may be connected to a string of other acts of vandalism that happened around town. WMUR-TV reported that police have said a couch was set on fire, trash cans were thrown around and a church sign was vandalized in recent weeks.

Police are seeking about 30 people in connection with all the acts.

Gassy suspect guilty of gun, drug charges

MO KANSAS CITY — A man whose excessive flatulence forced a police detective to cut an interrogation short has pleaded guilty to federal gun and drug charges.

The Kansas City Star reported that Sean Sykes Jr., 25, entered the plea Monday. The charges stem from a police traffic stop in September in Kansas City in which officers found a backpack with drugs and guns. Sykes was a passenger in the vehicle.

A detective reported that when asked for his address, Sykes "leaned to one side of his chair and released a loud fart before answering." Court documents say Sykes "continued to be flatulent," and the detective was forced to end the interview.

Man rescues kitten glued to busy road

OR SILVERTON — An Oregon man said he found a 5-week-old kitten glued to a busy road.

KPTV said Chuck Hawley rescued the kitten, which had some sort of glue on its paws, neck and tail.

Veterinarian Jenny Bate said it's clear the glue was intentionally put on the kitten's paws. She was able to remove the glue using mineral oil, and the kitten should fully recover.

Hawley said it's incredible the kitten wasn't hit by a car. He saw several vehicles drive over it before he could rescue it.

Hawley told KPTV he and his wife will adopt the kitten. They have named it Sticky.

Police: Boy, 14, stole Maserati from house

CT GREENWICH — Police have charged a boy, 14, with stealing a Maserati from a home in Connecticut in April.

Greenwich police arrested the teen Friday in Waterbury.

Police told the Greenwich Time the teen is accused of stealing the 2017 Maserati Levante from a home in the affluent town's Cos Cob neighborhood.

The teen has been charged with larceny and burglary.

Firefighters rescue pet in heating duct

VA WESTSPRINGFIELD — It wasn't a cat in a tree but a dog in a heating duct that took firefighters to a home in Virginia.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department arrived Friday night to find the small dog trapped in the HVAC system.

Video shows firefighter Mark Williams cutting a hole in the basement ceiling to retrieve the dog.

Police body camera explodes; no one hurt

NY NEW YORK — The New York City Police Department has suspended use of a model of body camera after one exploded.

The NYPD said an officer noticed smoke coming from the Viewu LE-5 body camera on Saturday night. The officer removed it, and the device ex-

ploded. No one was injured.

The NYPD said the explosion revealed a potential for the battery to ignite and that 2,990 LE-5 cameras are being removed out of an abundance of caution.

Snake named after professor, biologist

LA NEW ORLEANS — A Louisiana professor is in heady company, honored by having one of three newly identified species of snakes from the Galapagos Islands named after him.

"They named one after Charles Darwin — that's a no-brainer — and one after the Greek god of fire and one after me, of all people," said Robert A. Thomas, an environmental biologist and head of the Center for Environmental Communication at Loyola University New Orleans.

The snake in question, a handsome critter with lengthwise brown and creamy yellow stripes, is called *Pseudalsophis thomasi*.

Cocaine is found amid blackberries

MI PORT HURON — More than 280 pounds of cocaine was found in a truck hauling blackberries from Port Huron to Sarnia, Ontario, in Canada.

The Detroit News reported that the Canadian driver was charged Monday in a federal complaint after agents seized the drugs Sunday in a tractor-trailer at the Blue Water Bridge.

The complaint says the driver told U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers that the blackberries were from Mexico but he had picked them up in Texas. Investigators found 112 packages of cocaine in four boxes.

From wire reports

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Boston tops LA in World Series opener

Associated Press

BOSTON — The Fenway Funhouse proved too tricky, too cold and just too much for the beach boys.

Andrew Benintendi, J.D. Martinez and the Boston Red Sox came out swinging in the World Series opener, seizing every advantage in their quirky ballpark to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 8-4 on a chilly, windy Tuesday night.

Benintendi had four hits, Martinez drove in two early runs and pinch-hitter Eduardo Nunez golfed a three-run homer to seal it. The 108-win Red Sox got a solid effort from their bullpen after an expected duel between aces Chris Sale and Clayton Kershaw never developed.

From the get-go, old Fenway Park caused all sorts of problems for the Dodgers.

Mookie Betts led off for the Red Sox with a popup that twisted first baseman David Freese as he tried to navigate the tight foul space near the stands and gauge the gusts.

Lost, he overran the ball and it dropped behind him.

“You never really know,” Benintendi said. “The flag will be blowing one way, and the wind is actually blowing the other. You have to be on your toes pretty much.”

Given a second chance, Betts lined a single that set up a two-run first inning.

“It was important for us to score first and kind of put some pressure on them,” he said.

In the seventh, newly inserted left fielder Joc Pederson looked hesitant as he chased Benintendi’s soft fly, rushing toward the seats that jut out down the line. The ball ticked off his glove for a ground-rule double, and soon Nunez connected off Alex Wood to break open a 5-4 game.

“We didn’t play the defense that we typically do. I thought we left some outs out there,” Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. “And it didn’t make Clayton’s job any easier.”

The crowd and cold temperatures were no picnic for Los Angeles, either.

The oddly angled ballpark became an echo chamber even before the first pitch. Chants of “Beat LA!” began early, Kershaw got heckled with a sing-song serenade and Dodgers villain Manny Machado heard loud boos all evening.

Only one person wearing Dodger blue drew a cheer: Roberts, saluted in pregame introductions for the daring steal that turned the tide in Boston’s 2004 playoff comeback against the Yankees.

“I think we had the advantage tonight with the weather and stuff. We’ve been playing through it,” Red Sox pitcher Nathan Eovaldi said.

It was 53 degrees at first pitch and it dropped into the mid-40s by the end. That was the coldest game for Los Angeles this season and quite a contrast from last year’s World Series, when it was a record 103 degrees for the opener at Dodger Stadium against Houston.

“We won Game 1 last year and lost the Series, so maybe we’ll try it out this way. See if we can win one,” Kershaw

said.

Both teams rely heavily on analytics, and it showed: With each manager searching for the most beneficial matchup, the clubs combined to use 12 pitchers and six pinch-hitters.

Benintendi scored three times for Boston, trying for its fourth championship in 15 seasons.

Matt Kemp homered and Justin Turner had three hits for the Dodgers, aiming for their first crown since 1988. Machado drove in three runs, and his RBI grounder in the fifth inning made it 3-all.

Boston retook the lead in the bottom half when Xander Bogaerts hustled to beat out a potential inning-ending double play — Dodgers reliever Ryan Madson seemed to celebrate a little too early.

Rafael Devers followed with an RBI single, making it 5-3 and giving himself an early birthday present. He turned 22 at midnight, three minutes before the game ended.

Red Sox leave lefties in lineup to face lefty Kershaw

Associated Press

BOSTON — Red Sox manager Alex Cora didn’t want his lefties to feel left out.

Even as Los Angeles loaded its lineup with right-handed batters to face Boston lefty Chris Sale, Cora stayed with Andrew Benintendi and Rafael Devers against left-handed Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw in Game 1 of the World Series on Tuesday night.

Benintendi responded with four hits — going 3-for-3 against the three-time NL Cy Young Award winner — and three runs. Devers drove in one of them to lead the Red Sox to an 8-4 victory in a blustery Series opener.

“We’re facing a guy who’s one of the best of all time. And a lot of guys didn’t have a lot of experience off of him; the first

time a lot of us have faced him. Didn’t really know what to expect,” Benintendi said. “We had a good game plan. We stuck to it.”

Benintendi had one four-hit performance in the regular season but had never topped two in a postseason game during his career. The 24-year-old left fielder became just the second lefty ever to have three hits against Kershaw in a game.

“He hangs in there with lefties,” Cora said. “We do feel that he’s a good hitter against them. When he’s using the whole field, he becomes very dangerous.”

Benintendi had an RBI single and came around to score in the first, singled again in the third and singled a third time to chase Kershaw with nobody out in the fifth before scoring to give Boston a 5-3 lead.

In the seventh, Benintendi

sliced a double that handcuffed charging left fielder Joc Pederson and scored on Eduardo Nunez’s pinch-hit homer.

“He got lucky, too,” Cora said. “Twice, probably.”

Although Kershaw is tough on everybody, he’s not that much better against lefties (who have a .195 batting average against him over his career) than righties (.211). So Cora decided to stick with left-handed regulars Benintendi and Jackie Bradley Jr., as well as Devers, who has platooned with Nunez.

Leaving Nunez on the bench was a tough call for the manager, requiring a talk with the 31-year-old third baseman who had never played in the World Series before and had started against every lefty in the playoffs so far.

“We felt Raffi was going to hang in there with Kershaw,

and having (Nunez) on the bench, it was going to pay off,” Cora said. “So keeping him in the dugout and out of the lineup was going to probably give us a chance to win the game. And it worked out.”

“He was prepared. He wasn’t upset, actually, that he wasn’t playing. I told him, ‘Be ready, man. You might have a big at-bat tonight and do your thing.’ And he did.”

Kershaw and Sale were both chased in the fifth inning. With righty Pedro Baez on the mound in the seventh, Dodgers manager Dave Roberts brought in lefty Alex Wood to face Devers.

Cora countered with Nunez, and he hit a low breaking pitch into the first row of the Green Monster seats to give Boston an 8-4 lead.

Streaking Texans have fast turnaround

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Houston Texans have put their 0-3 start behind them, winning four straight games capped by Sunday's victory over the Jaguars to move into first place in the AFC South.

But they won't have much time to celebrate their recent success with the Dolphins coming to town on Thursday night.

"We got a lot to prove," safety Tyrann Mathieu said. "Any time you win four games in a row you set a standard for yourself. I think it's a standard that we'll have to live up to, especially since it's a short week."

"Miami is a hot team, so we have big challenge coming Thursday. We have to get over this game. It was a big game and a big win, but we have to get over it quickly."

Coach Bill O'Brien knows that most people wrote his team off after its terrible start, but he insists he never doubted that he had a good team which could turn things around.

"I knew that the team had the resolve to be able to really take the cliché of one day at a time, one play at a time, really take that to heart and make it work," he said. "Those are cliché unless you actually make them work, and this is the type of team we have. We have a mentally tough team."

Quarterback Deshaun Watson agreed with his coach, but was quick to point out that they still have a lot of work to do.

"We were down and out, and everybody was counting us out," Watson said. "The thing is we have guys on this team who understand that early on, it doesn't matter. We just put our heads down and kept working and now we have to continue to do the same thing."

Houston's first three wins in this streak were close games, with two of them coming in overtime. But on Sunday against the Jaguars, the Texans jumped out to a 20-0 lead and came away with a 20-7 win on a day they forced three

turnovers.

Another key to Houston's win over Jacksonville was success in the red zone. After struggling in the area all season, the Texans scored a touchdown on two of their three trips inside the 20-yard line on Sunday to roll to the easy win.

Despite Watson's solid play in the win on Sunday, the Texans faced more questions about his health after it was revealed that he made the 800-mile trip from Houston to Jacksonville by bus because they were worried about how air pressure from flying would affect his bruised lung and injured ribs.

O'Brien wouldn't provide any more details on Monday about why he took the bus, but said that he didn't expect his travel to be impacted by his injury in the future.

While Watson continues to grow into his position and hopefully become the franchise quarterback the Texans have long searched for, on Thursday they'll face the player they once

thought would fill that role in Brock Osweiler.

Signed before this season to be Ryan Tannehill's backup, Osweiler will start his third straight game on Thursday night with Tannehill still out with a shoulder injury.

It will be an interesting matchup considering Osweiler's history with the Texans. Houston signed him to a \$72 million contract before the 2016 season, but he was benched before the year was over and shipped to Cleveland before the next season.

Though he struggled during his time with the Texans, O'Brien has been impressed with his work in the past two weeks, where he's thrown for 619 yards with five touchdowns and two interceptions.

"They're doing a great job with him," O'Brien said. "Brock's a very talented player and he's having a really good year right now for them. He's doing a real good job."

Broncos release backup QB Kelly 1 day after his arrest

Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — Chad Kelly's short stint as the Denver Broncos' backup quarterback is over.

The Broncos waived the second-year pro Wednesday, a day after he was arrested on suspicion of criminal trespass.

General manager John Elway huddled with coach Vance Joseph and team President Joe Ellis and "we agreed that releasing Chad was the right thing to do," Elway said in a statement.

"Even though Chad's no longer part of our team, we've offered to help him however we can and are supportive of him in every possible way," Elway added.

Before a court appearance Wednesday, Kelly drove up to team headquarters in a white SUV and sprinted in and out of the building without stopping

to answer questions. He also declined to comment outside court.

He stood silently next to his lawyer, Harvey Steinberg, during his appearance at Arapahoe County District Court, where his next appearance was scheduled for Nov. 8.

Steinberg declined to comment on his way out of the courtroom and again when reached by the AP later Wednesday.

Kelly ignored questions on his way back to his SUV in the parking lot about half an hour before the Broncos announced they were waiving him.

Kelly attended a Halloween costume party hosted by Von Miller on Monday night that has long been a tradition for Broncos players and their significant others.

It was after the party that Kelly found himself in trouble.

According to court records, a couple reported that a stranger

entered their home in the Denver suburbs after 1 a.m. Tuesday, sat down on their couch and was "mumbling incoherently." Police say they found the 24-year-old Kelly afterward parked nearby. The man identified Kelly as the intruder and provided surveillance video to police.

Police and court records do not address Kelly's physical state at the time, and there is no mention of testing for alcohol or substance use. Police said officers made the arrest "without incident."

Kelly was released from jail Tuesday on \$2,500 bond.

If he gets another chance with another team, Kelly could still face discipline from the NFL, which said Tuesday that it is reviewing the matter.

The Broncos chose Kelly with the final pick of the 2017 NFL Draft. Although Kelly brought an attitude that had

often crossed the line in college at Ole Miss, Elway said fellow Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly personally vouched for his nephew, so Elway signed off on the selection.

Chad Kelly missed his rookie season while recovering from knee and wrist injuries, then beat out former first-round draft pick Paxton Lynch last summer to serve as the backup for starter Case Keenum.

Keenum signed a two-year, \$36 million deal in March but is off to a middling start for the Broncos. He has eight touchdown passes and nine interceptions after throwing for 22 TDs with just seven interceptions last season in Minnesota, where he led the Vikings to the NFC championship game.

Just 48 hours before the Broncos waived Kelly, Joseph said he'd be comfortable with Kelly at quarterback should anything happen to Keenum.

NBA roundup

Pistons' Griffin scores 50 in OT victory

Associated Press

DETROIT — Blake Griffin has heard the critics, but the veteran forward knows it'll take more nights like Tuesday to get where his team wants to go.

Griffin scored a career-high 50 points and had the game-winner after he was fouled on a driving layup with 1.8 seconds left as Detroit topped Philadelphia 133-132 in a wild overtime thriller.

Riddled with injuries during his last few years with the Los Angeles Clippers and then traded last season by his first pro team, Griffin has talked this offseason about proving something.

Point proven.

"The past two or three years, all I hear about is how bad I am," Griffin said. "It's a big win, but we've got to move on. This is game three and now

we've got to move on to game four."

The Pistons are 3-0 for the first time since 2015-16, the last time they made the playoffs, after topping the 76ers, who were without Ben Simmons, nursing back tightness.

JJ Redick's four-point play with 5.6 seconds left in overtime set up Griffin's dramatics, while Joel Embiid, who had 33 points and 11 rebounds, missed a potential game-winner at the buzzer after working a two-man game with Redick.

"We were trying to bait the switch, you know maybe slip Joel to the rim, maybe step him out," 76ers coach Brett Brown said. "Joel had an open look and just wasn't able to knock it down."

Griffin faked a handoff on the final play and drove the lane for the basket, getting fouled by Robert Covington. He made

the ensuing free throw.

"Out of all the great players I worked with, Dirk [Nowitzki], Kyle Lowry, Kevin Garnett, Shawn Kemp, all those guys, he's playing at that high a level right now," Pistons coach Dwane Casey said. "But again that is what we expect from Blake because he is that good of a player."

Griffin was 20-for-35 from the field, going 5-for-10 on three-pointers, scoring his most points as a member of the Pistons for the second straight game. He missed his first six free throws of the game.

"It starts with like believing," Griffin said. "I saw a lot of times last year where guys were kind of like defeated. Everybody stayed positive, and that was huge."

Pelicans 116, Clippers 109: Anthony Davis highlighted a 34-point and 13-rebound per-

formance with a clutch left-wing three with less than two minutes remaining, and host New Orleans remained unbeaten through three games.

New Orleans won for the first time when Nikola Mirotic struggled from three-point range. He was 0-for-6 from deep, but still managed to score 18 points and grab 12 rebounds.

Nuggets 126, Kings 112: Jamal Murray scored 14 of his 19 points in the third quarter and Nikola Jokic had 14 points and 12 rebounds to lead host Denver to a win over Sacramento.

The Nuggets have won their first four games for the first time since starting 5-0 in 2009-10. They swept their three-game homestand, including a win over Golden State on Sunday.

NHL roundup

Crosby scores twice, including game winner in OT

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — Sidney Crosby isn't about to let the younger stars of the game pass him by.

It was vintage Crosby on Tuesday night as he made a slick move through two defenders, skated through the slot and lifted a backhand into the net at 2:12 of overtime to give the Pittsburgh Penguins a 6-5 victory over Connor McDavid and the Edmonton Oilers.

"Listen, I'm not changing the way I play," Crosby said.

Crosby opened the scoring in the first period and his second goal of the season was the winner. Crosby moved from the left boards, slipped the puck through a defender's legs, moved past Oilers goalie Cam Talbot and lifted a backhand shot over Talbot's glove for the

win.

"I'm going out there every night to try and create things, and come up with big plays when they're needed," Crosby said. "I'm not any different than [McDavid] is as far as understanding my responsibility, and wanting to be at my best."

Despite the hype ahead of the matchup that pitted two of the game's brightest stars in McDavid and Crosby, Pittsburgh head coach Mike Sullivan said Crosby just put his head down and got the job done.

"He doesn't really get caught up in a lot of the story lines from game to game regardless of who we play," he said. "He's just a real good player that tries to be the best that he can be. I thought he had a great game, he gets two goals. The overtime goal was one of the prettiest goals that I've seen."

Leon Draisaitl and Alex Chiasson each scored twice, while McDavid had the other for the Oilers (3-3-1), who lost their second straight.

"I felt that we deserved those two points tonight," Oilers forward Milan Lucic said. "I think we are trending in the right direction as far as our game goes. We are starting to get contributions from other guys throughout the lineup. I feel we are one mistake less from taking that stride to that next level."

Coyotes 4, Blue Jackets 1: Christian Fischer got his first career hat trick, Darcy Kuemper stopped 35 shots and visiting Arizona rallied to beat Columbus.

Rangers 5, Panthers 2: Mats Zuccarello and Mika Zibanejad each scored twice, helping host New York snap a two-game losing streak.

Canadiens 3, Flames 2: Jeff Petry and Jonathan Drouin each had a goal and an assist as host Montreal won for the fourth time in five games.

Bruins 4, Senators 1: David Pastrnak had two goals and two assists, and Patrice Bergeron added a goal and two assists for visiting Boston.

Stars 4, Kings 2: Jason Spezza and John Klingberg each had a goal and an assist, and host Dallas snapped a three-game losing streak.

Blackhawks 3, Ducks 1: Patrick Kane scored in the third period, Corey Crawford made 24 saves and host Chicago handed Anaheim its third straight loss.

Sharks 5, Predators 4: Brent Burns scored with 2:52 remaining to cap a rally from a late two-goal deficit, and visiting San Jose beat Nashville.