

## Iran's role in attack a new escalation

*The Washington Post*

Iran appears to have been responsible for a drone attack on a U.S. outpost in Syria, suggesting that a new front could be opening in the low-level conflict that has simmered since the United States pulled out of the Iran nuclear accord in 2017.

No U.S. casualties were reported in the attack on the isolated U.S. outpost at Tanf near the Jordanian and Iraqi borders, according to the U.S. military. But pro-Iranian media trumpeted it as a “victory” and it was the first major attack on U.S. troops in Syria by Iran.

It also marked the biggest and most sophisticated strike against the relatively small U.S. force in Syria deployed in 2015 to support Kurdish-led forces in the fight against Islamic

State.

At a news briefing on Monday, Pentagon spokesman John Kirby refused to directly blame Iran for the barrage of rockets and exploding drones that caused considerable damage to the base, according to photographs circulating on social media. He described it as “a complex, coordinated, and deliberate attack” and noted that similar attacks have been carried out by Iran-allied Shiite militias against U.S. troops elsewhere.

News outlets affiliated to Iran have not attempted to downplay the likely involvement of Tehran and its allied militias, however, touting the attack in commentaries in recent days as a major success and hinting that more strikes against U.S. troops

in Syria will follow.

They credited the attack to a little known group called Allies of Syria, which earlier this month issued a statement threatening “harsh” retaliation for an Israeli airstrike against an Iranian base outside the Syrian city of Palmyra on Oct. 14. The Israeli strike, the statement said, was launched from the direction of Tanf.

The attack demonstrated “a great deal of boldness and strength” on the part of the Allies of Syria that will change the balance of power in Syria, said Iran’s Al-Fars news agency, which is run by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the military entity that oversees Iran’s extensive network of militias in the region.

The Al-Ahed website, affiliat-

ed to Lebanon’s Hezbollah movement, said the attack heralded the start of “a new phase in the confrontation” in which Iran and its allies would seek to liberate Syria from U.S. troops. It noted that the American withdrawal from Afghanistan “happened only under the pressure of military operations and not political or diplomatic pressure.”

U.S. troops in neighboring Iraq have come under frequent rocket attack over the past four years, and at least three similar attacks involving drones have been reported in the past year. The United States has retaliated with airstrikes against Iran-allied militias in both Syria and Iraq, most recently in February, and it might respond to this one too, said Kirby.

## Pentagon eyes Black Sea to deter Russian aggression

*The Washington Post*

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin traveled throughout the Black Sea region last week to promote the partnerships needed to mount a credible defense against Russia along the most volatile territorial frontier between Moscow and the West. But despite his show of support, experts say the Biden administration so far has struggled to articulate how it intends to turn the United States’ alliances into a successful plan for repelling Russian aggression, which is on the rise.

“What is our strategy? Why should we care about the Black Sea region? That’s missing,” said retired Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, who commanded all U.S. Army forces in Europe for a time during the Obama and Trump

administrations and is now with the Center for European Policy Analysis. The limited military hardware that’s been supplied to certain countries in the region, he added, stem from “policy decisions that are not rooted in a sustainable, long-term strategy.”

For more than a decade, the Black Sea region has been a battleground where pro-Western and pro-Russian forces have clashed — and Moscow has often emerged with the upper hand. In 2008, war between a democratizing Georgia and Russia ended with Moscow helping two Georgian territories break away from the government in Tbilisi. In 2014, Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine after the country ousted a pro-Kremlin

government and helped separatists in its eastern provinces mount an ongoing war with Kyiv.

More recently, Russia has made significant investments in its navy’s Black Sea Fleet — and in the last several months, it has used those assets to menace Western forces during joint exercises and as ships move through the region.

Against that backdrop, U.S. allies have clamored for more troops and more weapons from the United States and NATO, to help them fortify their front line against Russian aggression. But there was noticeably little of that on offer as Austin made his tour through Georgia, Ukraine, Romania and ultimately to NATO headquarters in Brussels, even as he called forcefully on

Russia “to end its destabilizing activities in the Black Sea ... and to halt its persistent cyberattacks and other malign activities” against the United States and its partners.

“They have this great rhetoric ... but the details aren’t there,” said Jim Townsend, who worked on NATO and European policy at the Pentagon during the Obama administration and now is with the Center for a New American Security. “It’s almost like there’s a line that we’re not going to cross when it comes to the Black Sea.”

About 1,000 U.S. troops are stationed in NATO member Romania on a rotational basis, a number that is not expected to change dramatically or become a permanent presence, according to senior defense officials

# Army secretary: US will remain in Germany

By JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

The U.S. Army is here to stay in Germany, the service's top civilian said this week during a stop in Munich that reinforced a growing sense that a proposal for big troop cutbacks in the country is all but dead.

Secretary of the Army Christine Wormuth said Monday that "there should be no question" that the United States is sticking around. She highlighted the recent addition of new Army units as a sign that a mission dating to World War II will endure.

"The challenge Russia pre-

sents to both of our countries and the NATO alliance underscores how important it is we maintain and strengthen our trans-Atlantic ties," she said.

Wormuth was in Munich to mark the anniversary of the U.S. liberation of the Nazi concentration camp in nearby Dachau in 1945. The meeting, hosted by Bavarian governor Markus Soeder, came a little more than one year after former President Donald Trump announced plans to sharply draw down troop levels in Germany. The Army mission in Bavaria was hit especially hard in the

plan, which called for the removal of 12,000 U.S. troops from Germany. It is on hold while President Joe Biden reviews the worldwide U.S. force posture.

The Pentagon is expected to wrap up its review before the end of the year. But whatever plan emerges, officials in Germany are hopeful that no major changes will be in store for U.S. forces in their country.

One of the major proposals was moving the 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck, effectively forcing the unit's Rose Barracks headquarters to shut

down. But new base housing opened at the barracks earlier this month and more renovations are in the works.

"Many residents see these construction measures as a good sign that the U.S. Army will remain in Europe and in our region over the long term," Vilseck Mayor Martin Schertl said in a statement to Stars and Stripes.

The Army has more than 17,000 soldiers in Bavaria, the service's main hub in Germany. Most forces are based around the large training grounds in Grafenwoehr.

## Navy secretary concerned over China, Russia ships

By ALEX WILSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The U.S. Navy is reevaluating its presence in the Indo-Pacific region to protect national interests as China and Russia grow more assertive, according to the service's top civilian leader.

Carlos Del Toro, who is on his first visit to Japan as Navy secretary, spoke with reporters via teleconference from the home of Naval Forces Japan on Monday, not long after 10 Russian and Chinese naval vessels circled Japan by passing through narrow Japanese straits.

That any nation's ships could pass through international waters unimpeded is "truly a wonderful thing," Del Toro said. Nonetheless, he saw another intent behind the exercise.

"I believe that the relationship between China and Russia, perhaps recently, has evolved in ways where they're trying to intimidate other nations with their actions that don't abide by a

rule-based international order," he said. "I think it's necessary to thoroughly deter them from bullying other countries and being aggressors in any possible way."

The outward-bound Chinese and Russian warships passed through the Tsugaru Strait between Hokkaido and Honshu islands on Oct. 18 and returned inbound Thursday through the Osumi Strait off the southernmost tip of Kyushu Island.

Both straits are considered international waters, and the ships did not intrude on Japan's territorial waters, according to The Associated Press on Tuesday, which cited Japan's Ministry of Defense.

Del Toro said reasonable deterrents may include reminding China and Russia of the importance of international order and cooperation. But the United States' continued presence — as well as partnerships with countries such as Australia, Vietnam, the Philippines and Japan — are key to discouraging aggression in the region, he said.

## USS Vinson's strike group returns to South China Sea

By WYATT OLSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

The aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson and its strike group are now operating in the contested South China Sea alongside a Japanese helicopter destroyer, the Navy said Monday.

The strike group and the JS Kaga of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force are conducting flight operations, tactical training between surface and air units and maritime strike exercises, the Navy said in a news release.

This marks the first time the Carl Vinson has operated alongside a Japanese vessel in the South China Sea since it deployed from San Diego in early August.

Japan's helicopter destroyers are small helicopter carriers. One, the Izumo, has been improved to accommodate F-35B short-takeoff and vertical-landing F-35B Lightning II stealth fighters. The Kaga is scheduled for the same treatment.

The Carl Vinson arrived from the Indian Ocean, where last

week it wrapped up the second phase of Exercise Malabar with naval forces from the United States, India, Australia and Japan.

The Vinson strike group was last in the South China Sea in September.

The carrier USS Ronald Reagan and its strike group also exercised in late September in the South China Sea on its way back to its homeport in Japan after being deployed to the Middle East.

In early October, the Reagan and Vinson strike groups also teamed up with the Royal Navy carrier strike group led by the HMS Queen Elizabeth and the Japanese helicopter carrier JS Ise for exercises in the Philippine Sea.

The Navy has maintained a high — and highly publicized — operations tempo for the past 18 months both in the South China Sea and through the Taiwan Strait. It described the operations by the Carl Vinson and the Kaga as part of its "routine presence" in the region.

# Bill to honor US troops killed in Kabul

*The Detroit News*

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House passed bipartisan legislation by voice vote Monday evening that would posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 13 American service members killed in the August suicide bomb attack in Kabul, Afghanistan.

The measure, introduced by Republican freshman Rep. Lisa McClain, of Michigan, has 323 cosponsors in the House.

McClain said in an interview that seeing the bill on its way to adoption is “bittersweet,” but she’s grateful the House is taking it up so swiftly.

“We wanted to do something to honor the fallen men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice — something to keep their memory alive,” McClain said.

“With all the ugliness sometimes that goes on in politics, I just thought this would be a positive thing to do.”

McClain said she hopes the measure quickly passes the Senate and that President Joe Biden will sign it.

Her bill notes that Aug. 26 was the highest single-day death toll of the war in Afghanistan for the United States in more than a decade.

In total, the attack by the Islamic State affiliate ISIS-K at the gates of Hamid Karzai International Airport killed as many as 200 people and wounded hundreds of others, including 14 American troops.

More than 5,000 U.S. troops were deployed to help with the evacuation of more than 100,000 people after the Taliban swiftly

took control of Afghanistan in August amid the U.S. military’s withdrawal.

McClain said she’s met with some of the fallen service members’ parents and families.

“It makes them feel good, for lack of better words. It’s a nice way to honor them,” she said. “Quite honestly, it’s hard. It’s still fresh in their hearts. To know their memory and legacy will live on, they’re extremely grateful to know that their loved ones didn’t pass in vain, and that they’re appreciated.

“In a time when there’s so much partisanship, it really makes you feel good to know that not everything is partisan,” she added.

The day before the attack, the U.S. State Department had warned of a “credible” threat at

the Kabul airport, urging people to leave the area. Those gathered at the gates were hoping to make one of the last evacuation flights out of the country.

“The American service members went above and beyond the call of duty to protect citizens of the United States and our allies to ensure they are brought to safety in an extremely dangerous situation as the Taliban regained control over Afghanistan,” the bill says.

“The American service members exemplified extreme bravery and valor against armed enemy combatants. The American service members dedicated their lives and their heroism deserves great honor.”

They were the first U.S. service members killed in Afghanistan since February 2020.

## Navy base at Sigonella surveys damage from hurricane-like weather

*Stars and Stripes*

Schools at Naval Air Station Sigonella remained closed Tuesday and some services were suspended while officials evaluated damage from the severe weather that continued to batter southern Italy.

Power had been partially restored to a portion of the base that includes runways and operations, said Lt. Drake Greer, an NAS Sigonella spokesman.

Hurricane-like weather over the weekend caused widespread flooding and wind damage in Sicily, particularly in the area around Catania, near NAS Sigonella.

A 67-year-old man was swept away by floodwaters Sunday and later found dead. Searchers continued to look

Tuesday for his missing 61-year-old wife, according to the Italian news agency Ansa.

Greer said housing was being arranged for displaced residents. Schools and youth programs were still closed as a precaution because driving conditions were dangerous, he said.

By early afternoon Tuesday, water had been restored at the base’s Marinai housing complex, according to a post on the NAS Sigonella Facebook page. Residents of the complex had been ordered to boil water before drinking it or using it for cooking.

A flood advisory remained in effect on Sicily, and officials warned people on base to drive cautiously in heavy rain and avoid flooded areas.

## Record Calif. rainfall brings flooding, little drought relief

*Associated Press*

SAN FRANCISCO — A powerful storm that swept through California set rainfall records and helped douse wildfires. But it remained to be seen how much of a dent it made in the state’s drought.

The system weakened as it moved south but still dropped enough rain Monday evening to cause mudslides that closed roads in the San Bernardino Mountains northeast of Los Angeles.

In the northern part of the state, drenching rains caused widespread flooding and rock slides over the weekend. Strong winds knocked down trees and even toppled two big rigs on the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge near San Francisco.

Despite the problems, the rain and mountain snow were welcome in Northern California, which is so dry that nearly all of it is classified as either ex-

periencing extreme or exceptional drought.

The National Weather Service called preliminary rainfall totals “staggering,” including 11 inches at the base of Marin County’s Mount Tamalpais and 4 inches in downtown San Francisco, the fourth-wettest day ever for the city. Northeast of San Francisco, 5.44 inches fell on downtown Sacramento, shattering the one-day record for rainfall that had stood since 1880.

Justin Mankin, a geography professor at Dartmouth College and co-lead of the Drought Task Force at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said the cycle of going from yearslong drought to record-breaking downpours is something expected to continue because of climate change.

“While this rain is welcome, it comes with these hazards, and it won’t necessarily end the drought,” Mankin said.

# Billionaire tax criticized as Biden seeks deal

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Democrats' idea for a new billionaires' tax to help pay for President Joe Biden's social services and climate change plan quickly ran into criticism as too cumbersome with some lawmakers preferring the original plan of simply raising the top tax rates on corporations and the wealthy.

Biden said Monday he's hopeful the talks with Congress can wrap up overall agreement on the package this week. It's tallying at least \$1.75 trillion, and could still be more. Biden said it would be "very, very positive to get it done" before he departs for two overseas global summits.

"That's my hope," the president said before leaving his home state of Delaware for a trip to New Jersey to highlight the child care pro-

posals in the package and a related infrastructure measure. "With the grace of God and the goodwill of the neighbors."

Resolving the revenue side is key as the Democrats scale back what had been a \$3.5 trillion plan, insisting all the new spending will be fully paid for and not pile onto the debt. Biden vows any new taxes would hit only the wealthy, those earning more than \$400,000 a year, or \$450,000 for couples.

The White House had to rethink its tax strategy after one key Democrat, Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., objected to her party's initial proposal to raise tax rates on wealthy Americans by undoing the Trump-era tax cuts on those earning beyond \$400,000. Sinema also opposed lifting the 21% corporate tax rate. With a 50-50 Senate, Biden has no votes

to spare in his party.

Instead, to win over Sinema and others, the White House has been floating a new idea of taxing the assets of billionaires and another that would require corporations to pay a 15% minimum tax, regardless of if they show any profits. Those both appear to be gaining traction with another pivotal Democrat, Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., who told reporters he supported new ways to ensure that the wealthy pay their "fair share."

Democrats on the Senate Finance Committee, led by Sen. Ron Wyden, of Oregon, are prepared to roll out the tax revenue plan in a matter of days. It is likely to include other revenue-raising tax measures, including a plan to beef up the IRS to go after tax scofflaws.

## US COVID cases fall, trouble signs rise as winter looms

Associated Press

Tumbling COVID-19 case counts have some schools around the United States considering relaxing their mask rules, but deaths nationally have been ticking up over the past few weeks, some rural hospitals are showing signs of strain and cold weather is setting in.

The number of new cases nationally has been plummeting since the delta surge peaked in mid-September. The U.S. is averaging about 73,000 new cases per day, dramatically lower than the 173,000 recorded on Sept. 13. And the number of Americans in the hospital with COVID-19 has plummeted by about half to around 47,000 since early Sep-

tember.

In Florida, Miami-Dade County's mask mandate could be loosened by the end of October if the encouraging numbers continue, and nearby Broward County will discuss relaxing its requirement on Tuesday. The superintendent in metro Atlanta said he will consider waiving mask requirements at individual schools.

A high school outside Boston became the first in Massachusetts to make masks optional after it hit a state vaccination threshold. With about 95% of eligible people at Hopkinton High inoculated, school leaders voted to allow vaccinated students and staff to go maskless

for a three-week trial period starting Nov. 1.

Still, there are some troubling indicators, including the onset of cold weather, which sends people indoors, where the virus can more easily spread.

With required mask use reduced in much of the U.S., the University of Washington's influential COVID-19 forecasting model is predicting increasing infections and hospitalizations in November.

Also, COVID-19 deaths per day have begun to creep back up again after a decline that started in late September. Deaths are running at about 1,700 per day, up from close to 1,500 two weeks ago.

## Lawmakers defer some Jan. 6 document requests

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol "deferred" its requests for several dozen pages of records from former President Donald Trump's administration at the White House's urging, but President Joe Biden again rejected the former president's invocation of executive privilege on hundreds of additional pages.

In a letter to the National Archives and Records Administration, Biden counsel Dana Remus repeated that the president has "determined that an assertion of executive privilege is not in the best interests of the United States, and therefore is not justified" for two tranches of documents sent to the White House for review last month.

The panel is investigating the violent Capitol siege by Trump's supporters that day and has sought documents connected to the former president, who has falsely said he won the presidential election and that morning urged his crowd of followers to "fight like hell."

Obtained Monday by The Associated Press, the letter from Remus reveals that the committee "deferred" its request for nearly 50 pages of documents as a result of an "accommodation" process with the Biden White House that allows the White House to protect some records that may be privileged without formally blocking their release.

The letter from Remus came two weeks after the White House said it would not

block an earlier, more sweeping tranche of documents after Trump sought to shield them. Biden has made clear that he does not want to block the committee's work, and Remus wrote in both letters that the documents could "shed light on events within the White House on and about January 6 and bear on the Select Committee's need to understand the facts underlying the most serious attack on the operations of the Federal Government since the Civil War."

Still, the White House's desire to shield some documents shows that the process of approving releases to the Jan. 6 committee won't always be simple, as presidents have long relied on their ability to assert executive privilege to protect their internal communications and deliberations.

**AMERICAN ROUNDUP**

**Deli worker gets fatally stabbed over item price**

**NY** NEW YORK — A New York City deli worker was stabbed to death by a customer who became enraged over the price of an item, police said.

The altercation started inside an East Harlem deli when a customer got angry because he was 50 cents short for his purchase, a police spokesperson said.

The dispute spilled outside the deli, where the customer stabbed a 34-year-old employee in the upper body, police said.

The worker was taken to a nearby hospital, where he died. His name was not immediately released.

**New Wright Bros. state license plate has mishap**

**OH** COLUMBUS — Ohio's debut of its new license plate failed to take off because a banner depicted on the plate was attached to the wrong end of the Wright Brothers' historic first plane, the Wright Flyer.

The new license plate illustrates rays of sunlight beaming into the sky, with a banner that reads "Birthplace of Aviation" draped across the horizon. But the banner, which should have been trailing behind the plane, was attached to its front.

After the unveiling, Ohio officials said in a statement that they were aware of the mishap and it would be corrected to show the banner trailing the plane before Ohioans upgrade their plates.

Ohio isn't the only one who has made this flighty error. The front of the Wright Flyer can

easily be mistaken for its back because the plane's propellers were located at the back, instead of the front.

**Burglar arrested after changing house locks**

**CA** CORONADO — A woman pretended she owned a Southern California home so a locksmith would make her new keys. Then police locked her up.

Officers arrested a 43-year-old woman on suspicion of burglary in Coronado, a resort city across the bay from San Diego.

The brazen burglary was foiled when the real homeowner called Coronado police and said her neighbor noticed suspicious activity at the home. The homeowner was out of town, yet the neighbor saw the home's lights being turned on and off.

As police walked around the home, they saw back doors open and a fireplace turned on as music played inside. Officers saw someone moving around on the second floor in what was supposed to be an empty house.

Police called out to the person inside, who came out a few minutes later and was arrested.

**Shipping containers fall; Coast Guard watching**

**WA** PORT ANGELES — About 40 shipping containers tumbled into the Pacific Ocean in rough seas west of the Strait of Juan de Fuca entrance on Friday, authorities said.

The U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Northwest said on Twitter that the ship lost the containers when it listed to its side.

A Coast Guard helicopter

from Port Angeles was sent to the area and the crew was monitoring 35 floating containers as they move north. The ship was headed to Canada when the incident happened, officials said.

Photos from the helicopter captured containers, with one group of three linked together, floating in the water, a Coast Guard Twitter post showed.

**Reward offered after string of barn arsons**

**IN** GOSHEN — A reward is being offered as investigators try to find whoever has set at least a dozen barn fires at northern Indiana farms this year.

The Farm Bureau groups in Elkhart, Kosciusko, St. Joseph and Marshall counties created a \$10,000 reward fund seeking information for police that can lead to criminal convictions in the fires.

The organizations said all but one of the suspected arsons have occurred since April. Police have reported eight of the fires as occurring in Elkhart County, with the two most recent happening Oct. 4.

The barn fires have destroyed the buildings, along with equipment, hay and livestock.

**City to regulate rowdy, loud party bus industry**

**TN** NASHVILLE — Nashville's Metro Council has approved implementing new regulations for the city's numerous entertainment vehicles that often loudly cruise down lower Broadway.

The Tennessean reported that the council voted 33-3 on an

ordinance that establishes a permitting process, as well as giving the city the authority to approve routes and oversee driver eligibility and training.

The new bill also restricts alcohol consumption on unenclosed vehicles, to take effect on Dec. 1. O'Connell said, however, that further legislation will be introduced to regulate alcohol consumption under certain conditions.

The so-called transportation industry has long been known for its tourist-filled party buses, trucks and tractors. Calls for regulation increased earlier this year when a tourist fell off a party bus and was run over.

**Residents plagued by stench from channel**

**CA** LOS ANGELES — Levels of wretched-smelling hydrogen sulfide gas that have plagued south Los Angeles County communities for weeks are declining as authorities use various mitigation methods in a flood control channel emitting the gross odors, authorities said in an online news conference.

The problem was traced to the 15-mile-long Dominguez Channel, which flows into Los Angeles harbor. The smell has chiefly affected the city of Carson and several other Los Angeles suburbs.

The gas is being created by a natural phenomenon called anaerobic digestion, which occurs when bacteria break down vegetation when there's a lack of oxygen in the water, said Mark Pestrella, the county's public works director and chief engineer of the flood control district.

— From wire reports



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**Reporting World, National and Military News**

# Transfers alter college hoops landscape

*Associated Press*

Texas' Chris Beard prepared for his first season coaching at his alma mater by assembling a virtual all-star team of transfers from across the country.

Now it's a matter of finding out how quickly these new Longhorns can establish chemistry.

"Our team's a work in progress," said Beard, who coached Texas Tech to the NCAA Tournament final in 2019. "We have a lot of experience. I think that would be the identity of the team. But we're the first to tell you that we're really inexperienced playing together. It's kind of like experienced inexperience, if that makes sense."

Even in the era of the transfer portal, when just about every school annually adds at least one player who began his college career elsewhere, Beard's reconstruction of the Texas roster is noteworthy.

The fifth-ranked Longhorns' list of transfers includes forward Timmy Allen (formerly at

Utah), Dylan Disu (Vanderbilt), Christian Bishop (Creighton) and Tre Mitchell (UMass) plus guards Devin Askew (Kentucky) Marcus Carr (Minnesota), Tristen Licon (Division III program Sul Ross State) and Avery Benson (Texas Tech).

Other notable transfers who should make an impact for their new teams this season:

## **Baylor G James Akinjo**

Baylor won the national title last year, thanks largely to transfers such as Davion Mitchell and MaCio Teague. Akinjo would love to continue that tradition. The 6-foot-1 guard ranked 11th in the Pac-12 in scoring (15.6) and second in assists (5.4) last season to earn first-team all-Pac-12 honors. He also shot 40.8% from three-point range. He spent two years at Georgetown before playing at Arizona last season.

## **Oregon F Quincy Guerrier**

Guerrier had 13.7 points and 8.4 rebounds per game for Syracuse last season. The 6-8 forward joins former Oklahoma

guard De'Vion Harmon and former Rutgers guard Jacob Young as transfers on Oregon's roster. Young had 14.1 points per game for Rutgers and Harmon scored 12.9 points per game for Oklahoma last season.

## **Michigan G DeVante' Jones**

Jones was the Sun Belt player of the year last season and ranked second in the conference in scoring each of the last two years. He averaged 17.4 points in 2019-20 and 19.3 points for Coastal Carolina last year. He also had 7.2 rebounds per game last season to rank eighth in the conference. The 6-1 graduate transfer should step right into a featured role with Michigan.

## **Arkansas G Chris Lykes**

Although Lykes only played two games last year due to an ankle injury, he ranked among the Atlantic Coast Conference's top 10 scorers each of the previous two seasons at Miami. He averaged 16.2 points to rank ninth in the league in 2018-19 and had 15.4 points per game to place 10th in the league in 2019-

20. The 5-foot-7 Lykes graduated from Miami this spring.

## **Kansas G Remy Martin**

This 6-footer has averaged 19.1 points each of the last two seasons and led the Pac-12 in scoring last year at Arizona State. Martin has earned first-team all-Pac-12 honors each of the last two seasons after being a second-team selection in 2018-19, when he was also the league's co-sixth man of the year.

## **Kentucky F Oscar Tshiebwe**

Tshiebwe transferred to Kentucky midway through last season but couldn't play with his new team until this year. The Wildcats hope he can provide the post presence they lacked last season, when he averaged 8.5 points and 7.8 rebounds in 10 games with West Virginia. He had 11.2 points and 9.3 rebounds per game as a freshman in 2019-20. Tshiebwe heads a list of Kentucky transfers that also includes former Davidson guard Kellan Grady and ex-Georgia guard Sahvi Wheeler.

# Timme headlines preseason AP All-America squad

*Associated Press*

Drew Timme could have left for the NBA after leading Gonzaga into last season's national title game. He likely would have been drafted and gone on to have a solid career.

But Timme wanted more. Certainly, a chance to finish off a championship run, but also to work one more season with coach Mark Few.

There was an added benefit, too: Timme was the lone unanimous selection by a 63-person media panel on The Associated Press preseason All-America team released Monday. He was joined by Illinois big man Kofi Cockburn, UCLA guard Johnny Juzang, Villanova point guard Collin Gillespie and Indiana forward Trayce Jackson-Davis.

"I love it here. It's a great place. It's where I want to be," Timme said. "When I do something, I feel like I have to be the best version of myself and I felt like there are some things I needed to work on in order to accomplish that. Coach pushes me every day, we had some talks and I felt like it was the best move to me, the most logical move, especially with talking with coach and my family."

Timme transformed from a freshman backup to one of the nation's best big men last season, earning second-team All-America honors. He was a key cog in Gonzaga's return to the NCAA title game, averaging 19 points and 7.0 rebounds while creating matchup problems for nearly every team the Zags faced.

The 6-foot-10 forward can shoot from the perimeter, post up smaller players, is an adept passer and has excellent footwork, attributes that had him projected to go late in the first round or early in the second of the NBA Draft.

Cockburn faced a similar decision before opting to return to the Illini after weighing the NBA for a second straight year. The 7-foot center averaged 17.7 points and 9.5 rebounds per game as a sophomore last season to earn a second-team spot on the AP All-America team.

He was projected to be taken in the late first or early second round of the NBA Draft, but returned to cement his legacy at Illinois.

Juzang's stock rose after

UCLA's improbable run to the Final Four last season.

The 6-foot-6 guard was one of the breakout stars in March Madness, shooting 51% while averaging 22.8 points. His 137 points were the second-highest NCAA tournament total in UCLA history.

Gillispie was honored on senior night at Villanova and seemed to be on his way to a professional career before suffering a season-ending knee injury late in the season. He was cleared for workouts in August and is raring to go after missing out on the NCAA Tournament.

Jackson-Davis has been Indiana's best player the past two seasons, leading the Hoosiers in scoring, rebounding and blocked shots.

# Andersen leads Canes past Maple Leafs

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Frederik Andersen made 24 saves against his former team and the unbeaten Carolina Hurricanes matched the best five-game start in franchise history by defeating the struggling Toronto Maple Leafs 4-1 on Monday night.

Sebastian Aho, Steven Lorentz and Nino Niederreiter scored second-period goals for the Hurricanes. Andrei Svechnikov added an empty-netter and Jaccob Slavin had two assists.

Carolina was also 5-0-0 in 2019-20.

“This group is going to work hard every night,” Carolina coach Rod Brind’Amour said. “We’ve still got some areas to clean up. It’s good that we’re finding ways to win.”

Andersen has been the only goalie used by the Hurricanes this season. His latest performance came with personal connections to the opponent.

“I was trying not to think too much about it,” Andersen said. “It was kind of tough mentally to kind of shut that off and not try to analyze every play and what they might do.”

Jack Campbell stopped 31 shots for the Maple Leafs, who are 0-3-1 in their past four games and have managed just one goal in three of them.

“We’ve just got to believe,” left wing Michael Bunting said. “I think we’re confident to get out of this rut.”

Auston Matthews opened the scoring for Toronto with his first goal of the season. His wraparound came 3:25 in.

**Panthers 5, Coyotes 3:** Frank Vatrano and Joe Thornton scored for the first time

this season, and host Florida stretched its season-opening winning streak to six games in beating Arizona.

Anthony Duclair, Jonathan Huberdeau and Aaron Ekblad also scored goals for the Panthers. Spencer Knight made 18 saves. Brandon Montour had two assists.

Liam O’Brien and Phil Kessel scored late goals for the Coyotes (0-5-1). Clayton Keller also scored a goal. Carter Hutton made 10 saves before leaving the game after the first period with a lower-body injury. Karel Vejmelka started the second period and stopped 26 shots.

Florida’s 6-0-0 record extends the best start in franchise history and is the first 6-0-0 start in the NHL since Montreal in 2015-16.

The Arizona loss marks the second time in the franchise’s 42 seasons that they don’t have a win after six games (were 0-5-1 to start 2017-18 season).

**Blues 3, Kings 0:** Vladimir Tarasenko scored two goals and Ville Husso stopped 34 shots in earning his second career shut-out as host St. Louis blanked Los Angeles and extended its season-opening winning streak to five games.

The Blues are off to a 5-0 start for the first time in franchise history. The Kings haven’t won since their season opener.

St. Louis added an empty-net goal by David Perron with about a minute left. Husso made his first start of the season and improved to 2-1 against Los Angeles.

Kings goalie Jonathan Quick had 32 saves in falling to 12-16-3 lifetime against the Blues.

**Flames 5, Rangers 1:** Andrew Mangia-

pane scored twice and Calgary won at New York for its third straight victory.

Blake Coleman and Mikael Backlund each had a goal and an assist, and Christopher Tanev also scored for the Flames. Johnny Gaudreau got his seventh assist of the season, and Jacob Markstrom stopped 28 shots.

Dryden Hunt scored for the Rangers, who had won four straight — all on the road.

**Blue Jackets 4, Stars 1:** Gregory Hofmann scored his first NHL goal and added an assist, leading host Columbus past Dallas for its second win in three games.

Oliver Bjorkstrand added a goal and his 100th career assist, and Zach Werenski had a goal and an assist. Alexandre Texier scored into an empty net. Elvis Merzlikins stopped 31 shots and is unbeaten in four starts this season.

**Sabres 5, Lightning 1:** Victor Olofsson scored two goals and Craig Anderson made 35 saves in Buffalo’s win over visiting Tampa Bay.

Drake Caggiola, Vinnie Hinostroza and Robert Hagg also scored for the Sabres in their first win against the Lightning in eight meetings. Tage Thompson had two assists.

Buffalo improved to 4-1-0 at home.

**Capitals 7, Senators 5:** T.J. Oshie picked up his fifth career hat trick in Washington’s win at Ottawa.

Alex Ovechkin extended his point streak to six games with his sixth and seventh goals of the season for Washington. Nick Jensen and John Carlson also scored. Ilya Samsonov made 32 saves.

Drake Batherson led the way for the Senators with his first career hat trick.

## U.S. women’s hockey team loses again to Canada

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — Amanda Kessel isn’t panicking after the United States women’s hockey team opened its pre-Olympic series with two straight losses to rival Canada.

“This is the best that I think our team has felt,” said Kessel, who scored the tying goal as the Americans rallied from a 2-0 deficit before losing 3-2 on Monday night. “We have a really good thing going on inside of our locker room. I’m really confident in our group and I really

think that things are coming together inside of our locker room and it is going to show.”

A good place to start would be figuring out how to contain Canada’s Sarah Fillier.

In a heated rivalry dating to the U.S. beating Canada for gold in the 1998 Nagano Winter Games, a newcomer is making her presence felt.

The 21-year-old Fillier, who is delaying her junior season at Princeton, was unaccounted for in scoring a pair of backdoor tap-ins, including the game-

winner with 3:58 remaining. Fillier, who also scored in the series-opening 3-1 win at Allentown, Pa., has six goals and nine points in nine games with the national team since making her debut at the world championships in August.

“She just has a niche for the net, and getting around the net, and finding those spots where she can be successful,” linemate Natalie Spooner said. “I mean, she’s a natural goalscorer ... She’s able to find those soft spots and get pucks in.”

The nine-game series between the teams resumes at Kingston, Ontario, on Sunday, Nov. 21.

Victoria Bach also scored and Renee Desbiens stopped 18 shots. The Canadians won gold over the Americans at the world championships and have won four straight against the U.S. — their best run since a five-game streak from Dec. 3, 2017 to Feb. 15, 2018.

Cayla Barnes had a goal and an assist and Nicole Hensley stopped 17 shots for the U.S.

# DeRozan, LaVine lift Bulls past Raptors

Associated Press

TORONTO — DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points against his former team, Zach LaVine had 22 points and the Chicago Bulls opened their season with four straight wins for the first time since 1996-97, holding off the Toronto Raptors 111-108 on Monday night.

“DeMar obviously did a great job of closing the game out,” Bulls coach Billy Donovan said.

DeRozan scored four of Chicago’s final five points as the Bulls survived a late Toronto challenge.

“You live for those moments, honestly,” DeRozan said. “I get up for those moments. I love them.”

Nikola Vucevic scored 17 points and Lonzo Ball had 15 as Chicago won its fourth straight meeting with the Raptors. Ball shot 5-for-9 from three-point range.

OG Anunoby scored 22 points and Gary Trent Jr. had 18 as struggling Toronto lost for the third time in four games.

The Raptors’ Fred VanVleet scored 15 points and set a career high with 17 assists. Precious Achiuwa had 11 points and 11 rebounds for Toronto, and rookie Scottie Barnes scored 13 points.

**Celtics 140, Hornets 129 (OT):** Jayson Tatum scored a season-high 41 points, Jaylen Brown added 30, including an emphatic dunk in overtime, and visiting Boston handed Charlotte its first loss of the season.

Dennis Schroder had nine of his 23 points

in overtime, and Robert Williams added 12 points and 16 rebounds in a game that featured 28 lead changes.

Miles Bridges had 25 points and 10 rebounds and LaMelo Ball added 25 points on seven three-pointers for the Hornets before fouling out in overtime. Kelly Oubre added 19 points for Charlotte, which was seeking its first 4-0 start in franchise history.

**Bucks 119, Pacers 109:** Giannis Antetokounmpo finished with 30 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists, and Khris Middleton added 27 points as defending NBA champion Milwaukee won at Indiana.

Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer held out two injured starters — center Brook Lopez and guard Jrue Holiday — as well as key backup Bobby Portis. Milwaukee still had enough scoring punch to pull away from the Pacers, who have lost three of their first four games under new coach Rick Carlisle.

**Heat 107, Magic 90:** Jimmy Butler scored 36 points on 15-for-21 shooting, Bam Adebayo added 16 points and 13 rebounds and Miami pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat visiting Orlando.

Markieff Morris had 16 points off the Heat bench, and Tyler Herro finished with 13 points, five rebounds and nine assists for Miami.

**Hawks 122, Pistons 104:** Trae Young had 32 points and nine assists and John Collins scored 22 in Atlanta’s win over visiting Detroit.

The Hawks have won 24 of their last 30

home games, including playoff games, dating to Feb. 21.

**Nets 104, Wizards 90:** Kevin Durant scored 25 points and host Brooklyn bounced back from a poor finish a day earlier with a blistering start that gave them a victory over Washington.

Patty Mills made five three-pointers and added 21 points off the bench, while James Harden finished with 14 points, nine assists and six rebounds.

**Pelicans 107, Timberwolves 98:** Brandon Ingram scored 27 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 22 points and 23 rebounds, and New Orleans won at Minnesota to snap its season-opening, three-game losing streak.

Devonte’ Graham added 21 points for the Pelicans, who were again without injured star Zion Williamson. Nickeil Alexander-Walker had 17 points for New Orleans, which had a 21-point lead trimmed to four points late in the third quarter.

**Clippers 116, Trail Blazers 86:** Luke Kennard scored 23 points, tying his career high with six three-pointers, and host Los Angeles ran away early to beat Portland for its first win of the season.

Reggie Jackson added 18 points and Paul George had 16 points to help the Clippers avoid their first 0-3 start since 2010-11, when coach Vinny Del Negro was in his first season. CJ McCollum scored 20 points for the Blazers in their first road game of the season. Damian Lillard was held to 12 points on 4 of 15 shooting.

## New Orleans capitalizes on Seattle errors for victory

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Alvin Kamara and Jameis Winston were the happy beneficiaries of the Seattle Seahawks’ many mistakes.

Then it was rookie Brian Johnson’s turn to make sure the New Orleans Saints got the win they needed to keep pace in the NFC South.

“In a game like this where things are close, things get a little a little ugly towards the end, it builds confidence to be able to come into a game like this and close it out the way we did,” Saints defensive end Cameron Jordan said.

Johnson kicked a 33-yard field goal with 1:56 remaining in

his NFL debut, and New Orleans outlasted Seattle 13-10 on Monday night.

Kamara carried the load for New Orleans and Winston made a handful of plays when needed, but the Saints (4-2) escaped Seattle thanks largely to a series of blunders by the home team, which is sorely missing injured quarterback Russell Wilson.

Two of the Seahawks’ biggest mistakes came on New Orleans’ deciding drive when Seattle was flagged for roughing the passer and jumping offside on a long field-goal attempt. Both penalties gave the Saints first downs, and Johnson’s field goal coming out of the 2-minute warning put

them ahead.

Johnson, a rookie from Virginia Tech, made an extra point and both field-goal tries, connecting from 21 yards in the first half.

“It was tough trying to see what the wind was doing because it was changing constantly throughout pregame and the game itself,” Johnson said. “So just stick with my plan that I had coming into it and really focusing on just hitting my ball and hitting good contact that will cut through the wind.”

Geno Smith made his second start at QB for the Seahawks (2-5) since Wilson suffered a serious finger injury in a loss to

the Rams. The backup hit DK Metcalf for an 84-yard touchdown in the first quarter but went nowhere when Seattle had a final chance to tie or win.

Smith was sacked on consecutive plays by Malcolm Jenkins and Demario Davis. On fourth-and-28, Smith was pressured again and his throw to Metcalf fell incomplete. Smith went 12-for-22 for 167 yards — half coming on the TD toss to Metcalf — and was sacked five times as Davis, Jordan and others made his night uncomfortable.

Seattle has lost three straight for the first time since 2011 and fell to 0-3 at home for the first time since 1992.