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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Navy secretary threw us 'under the bus,' say some Marines in mixed-gender unit

The Washington Post

Marines involved in a controversial experiment evaluating a gender-integrated infantry unit say they feel betrayed by Navy Secretary Ray Mabus after he criticized the results of a nine-month study that found women are injured more frequently and shoot less accurately in simulated combat conditions.

"Our secretary of the Navy completely rolled the Marine Corps and the entire staff that was involved in putting this [experiment] in place under the bus," said Sgt. Danielle Beck, a female anti-armor gunner with the task force.

Mabus questioned the findings of the research after a four-page summary of the results was released Thursday, saying he still thinks all jobs in the Marine Corps should be opened to women. He said results that found women were more than twice as likely to be injured and ultimately compromise a unit's combat effectiveness were an "extrapolation based on injury rates, and I'm not sure that's right," he told NPR.

Sgt. Joe Frommling, one of the Marines who acted as one of Beck's monitors for the experiment, said he was frustrated with the secretary's comments.

"What Mabus said went completely against what the command was saying the whole time," said Frommling. "They said, 'Hey, no matter what your opinion is, go out there and give it your best and let the chips fall where they may.'"

"All the work that the task force did, the rounds that we shot didn't mean anything if he had already made up his mind."

Capt. Patrick McNally, a spokesman for the secretary, said Mabus had no further

'All the work that the task force did, the rounds that we shot didn't mean anything if he had already made up his mind.'

Sgt. Joe Frommling

Ground Combat Element Integrated Task Force

comment beyond his earlier remarks and "remains committed to opening combat fields to women."

Last week, the Marine Corps released the results of the nine-month experiment, known as the Ground Combat Element Integrated Task Force, which examined and tested the effectiveness of a gender-integrated infantry unit. The results, in short, determined that women were injured at a higher rate and did not do nearly as well as their male counterparts in the majority of the tested areas.

'Not a good idea'

"It started out with a fairly large component of the men thinking, 'This is not a good idea,' and 'Women will never be able to do this,'" Mabus said in the Friday interview with NPR. "When you start out with that mindset, you're almost presupposing the outcome."

The task force was stood up in October 2014 and consisted of roughly 300 men and 100 women broken down into a number of smaller units. Each job that is currently closed to women, known as combat arms, was represented. Artillery, tanks, amphibious and armored vehicles all had a component.

The task force then conducted training exercises like any other. Its mission was to hold a number of trials that would evaluate the

performance of a female integrated ground task force.

"If you were to look at our training plan and how we progressed from October to February, you're not going to find any evidence of institutional bias or some way we built this for females to fail," said one Marine officer who participated in the experiment.

The officer, who asked to remain anonymous because of his active-duty status, explained that for the first five months of the experiment the Marines of the task force trained as a unit to prepare for the testing phase in California. This phase of training is known as "the work-up," with the second phase in California — where the trials would be held — acting as the deployment.

'Not a day wasted'

"We consulted physical trainers from [the School of Infantry] to help develop an appropriate hike plan, and we fired roughly a year's worth of ammo for a regiment in a quarter," the officer said, referring to the massive amounts of ammunition used to train the relatively small task force at Camp Lejeune.

"In the time that we had, there wasn't a day wasted when it came to training for California. ... From the top down we were trying to level the playing field."

The main components of the task force was Alpha and Weapons companies. Alpha would be a female-integrated rifle company, or "line" company, while the Weapons Company would consist of three female-integrated sections of mortars, machine guns and an anti-armor section.

Arguably, a weapons company in an infantry battalion has the most rigorous set of requirement in combat. Each section in the company is dedicated to hauling a weapons system that regular rifle companies don't have to carry — from 90-pound 81 mm mortars to 85-pound .50-caliber machine guns.

Beck, 30, a Weapons Company Marine in the task force, was one of 17 females and 21 males who were left in the company at the experiment's conclusion in August. According to Marines involved in the experiment, numbers fluctuated frequently as those who volunteered to participate could drop out at any time.

'A higher bar'

Though the entirety of Weapons Company, both men and women, were trained to the same standard before deploying to California for the evaluation period of the test, another criticism leveled by Mabus was that the women probably should have had a "higher bar to cross" to join the task force.

To Beck, one of the strongest women in the company, Mabus' remarks were insulting.

"Everyone that was involved did the job and completed the mission to the best of their abilities," said Beck, adding that Mabus' remarks about the type of women in the experiment was a "slap in the face."

N. Korea threatens nuke attack

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Tuesday it has resumed operations at a key nuclear facility and is prepared to use nuclear weapons against the United States.

The posting by the North's state news agency came a day after Pyongyang said it has the right to conduct rocket launches anytime it chooses, fueling expectations that the provocative communist nation will conduct a satellite test next month as part of 70th anniversary celebrations of its ruling party.

The North is believed to use rocket launches, which it says are intended to put satellites into space for peaceful purposes, as a cover for ballistic missile tests.

On Tuesday, the North's Korea Central News Agency said "all the nuclear facilities in Yongbyon, including the uranium enrichment plant and 5 MW graphite-moderated reactor, were rearranged, changed or readjusted and they started normal operation."

"If the U.S. and other hostile forces persistently seek their reckless hostile policy towards the DPRK and behave mischievously, the DPRK is fully ready to cope with them with nuclear weapons any time," KCNA said, referring to the country's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

McCain slams PCS moving costs

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain believes it is time for Congress to cut back the costs of moving troops to new duty stations, and he has some ideas of how to do it.

Here's a hint: It could mean troops stay put longer and take less when they do move.

The Arizona Republican senator on Tuesday called out the \$4 billion spent annually on permanent change-of-station, or PCS, moves in the newest installment of his government waste reports, called "America's Most Wasted." He cited a federal audit released this month that found PCS costs rose 28 percent since 2001 while the number of moves decreased by 12 percent during that time.

"In recent years, Congress has directed [the Defense Department] to find efficiencies in the program, but the Department has been slow to implement meaningful change," according to McCain's report. "That means it's probably time for Congress to take a much closer look at the PCS program."

It is a strong signal from the chairman of the Armed Services Committee — a key congressional body for military policy — that PCS moves could be the next program in line for reform as lawmakers, the Obama administration and the Pentagon look to curb ballooning personnel costs.

A retirement system overhaul is in the works, House and Senate leaders are battling over increasing Tricare co-pays, and President Barack Obama

recently decided to keep troop pay raises below the rate of inflation for next year.

McCain says there are a few points of waste in the PCS process, which claims about 4 percent of the personnel budget.

For one, the services vary in how much weight they allow for servicemembers' belongings during a move.

"The result of the current policy is that some services routinely authorize higher weight allowances, even though there is no compelling reason for service members of the same rank to be allotted different weight allowances simply because they serve in different service branches," the report says.

The moves account for \$1 billion of the total PCS budget but are discretionary, meaning the military services could limit or eliminate them.

Carry passport in Europe, DOD travelers urged

Stars and Stripes

Americans crossing borders by land in Europe should be sure to carry passports as several nations move to establish checkpoints at normally open borders, the State Department said Tuesday.

Germany, Austria and Slovakia have all announced that checkpoints will be put in place in an effort to stem the flow of refugees into Europe.

The U.S. Embassy in Berlin

cautioned that disruptions at some border crossings and on land transportation networks could occur as a result of tighter controls.

"Official checkpoints may be set up on normally open border crossings with other countries, borders may be temporarily closed, or road and rail travel may be halted with little or no warning," the embassy said.

For U.S. military personnel traveling outside the country

to which they are assigned in Europe, passports must be carried to ensure the legal crossing of borders, U.S. Army Europe says in a tip sheet.

"Just as one is required to carry a driver's license while driving although it may not be checked, the same applies for carrying a passport when crossing European country borders, even when there are no checkpoints," says longstanding USAREUR guidance.

Religious clerks in Ky. follow law on licenses, feel conflicted

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Clerk Mike Johnston prays twice a day, once each morning and once each night, and asks the Lord to understand the decision he made to license same-sex marriage.

"It's still on my heart," said Johnston, whose rural Carter County, Ky., sits just to the east of Rowan County, where Clerk

Kim Davis sparked a national furor by refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples, a decision that landed her in jail.

Johnston is one of Kentucky's 119 other clerks, many of them deeply religious, who watched the Davis saga unfold on national television while trying to reconcile their own faith and their oath of office. Sixteen of them sent pleading letters to the governor noting their own

religious objections. But when forced to make a decision, only two have taken a stand as dramatic as Davis and refused to issue licenses.

After the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage in June, Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear ordered clerks across the state to issue licenses, launching them along markedly different paths. The clerk in Louisville, Bobbie Holsclaw, issued licenses that

very day and the mayor greeted happy couples with bottles of champagne.

But 100 miles east, Johnston prayed over the decision he knew he would have to make. And in the end, he chose to issue licenses.

"I just pray that I'm not doing anything wrong," he said, two weeks after he issued his first and only license for a same-sex marriage.

A look at overreaction in NFL's first week

Associated Press

Relax, Buffalo. Take it easy, St. Louis. Don't print those Super Bowl tickets just yet.

Tyrod Taylor, Travis Kelce and Marcus Mariota don't need busts in Canton. And let's hold off on the "Jameis Winston is a bust" talk.

Impressive performances in Week One have fans, players and coaches thinking big, but it's way too early to get excited.

Plenty of 0-1 teams have had successful seasons, and plenty of 1-0 teams have quickly come back to earth.

Led by their brash coach Rex Ryan and quarterback Tyrod Taylor, the Bills beat the Indianapolis Colts 27-14. On Sunday, Tom Brady and the Super Bowl champion New England Patriots go to Buffalo.

"I don't know if much has changed. They're still the hunted in my mind," Ryan said Monday. "They're the world champions, the ones you want to knock off."

The Bills haven't reached the playoffs since 1999. Even a win over the Patriots doesn't guarantee them anything. They were 3-0 in 2011 and 2-1 in 2012 but finished 6-10 both seasons. They started 2-0 last year but lost three of the next four.

The Rams are flying high after beating

Seattle 34-31 in overtime. New quarterback Nick Foles played well and their defense sacked Russell Wilson six times.

You can excuse Rams fans for getting excited, because they haven't had a winning season since 2003. But don't buy playoff tickets yet, particularly in the tough NFC West.

Here are other overreactions from Week 1:

JAMEIS WINSTON

Overreaction: The Buccaneers should've drafted Marcus Mariota instead of Jameis Winston with the No. 1 overall pick. Mariota threw four TD passes while Winston threw a pick-6 on his first pass in Tennessee's 42-14 win at Tampa Bay.

Appropriate reaction: Mariota might be the real deal, but he had a great game against a team that was 2-14 a year ago. Winston wasn't terrible — 16 of 33 for 210 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions. This battle won't be settled for at least a few years.

TRAVIS KELCE

Overreaction: Travis Kelce is the next Tony Gonzalez. Kelce had six catches for 106 yards and two touchdowns in Kansas City's 27-20 win at Houston.

Appropriate reaction: Kelce is a top

tight end a notch below Rob Gronkowski in fantasy leagues, but don't compare him to a 14-time Pro Bowl player like Gonzalez.

PEYTON MANNING

Overreaction: Peyton Manning is finished. Manning had just 175 yards passing, no TDs and an interception that was returned for a score in Denver's 19-13 win against Baltimore.

Appropriate reaction: The 39-year-old Manning is nearing the end, but he threw for 4,727 yards and 39 TDs last season, and he's still got something left.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Overreaction: Seattle's reign is over. The Sea-hawks could be 0-2 after losing to St. Louis with a trip to Green Bay coming up.

Appropriate reaction: The Seahawks were 3-3 last year after a loss at St. Louis, went 9-1 the rest of the way and reached the Super Bowl for the second straight year. If safety Kam Chancellor ends his holdout, it could solve many of their problems.

NEW YORK JETS

VS. NEW YORK GIANTS

Overreaction: The Jets are the best team in the Big Apple. The Jets beat

Cleveland 31-10. The Giants mismanaged the clock in a 27-26 loss at Dallas.

Appropriate reaction: Todd Bowles has improved the Jets, but they beat a bad team that lost its starting quarterback. The Giants would've defeated the defending NFC East champions if they properly ran out the clock. It's still unclear if any New York team is playoff quality.

OAKLAND RAIDERS

Overreaction: The Raiders won't win a game. The Bengals dominated the Raiders in a 33-13 win at Oakland in Jack Del Rio's coaching debut.

Appropriate reaction: An 0-16 season isn't impossible, but the Raiders have the Browns, Jets and Bears on their schedule.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Overreaction: Chip Kelly and the Eagles are a fraud. Sam Bradford threw an interception on the last drive, DeMarco Murray had 9 yards rushing on eight carries and the Eagles lost 26-24 at Atlanta on Monday night.

Appropriate reaction: With 10 new starters, the Eagles still need time to gel and the NFC East doesn't have a dominant team. They should contend to the end.

Falcons hold off Eagles

Associated Press

ATLANTA — In his first game with that big contract, Julio Jones was worth every penny.

Jones hauled in nine passes for 141 yards, including a pair of touchdowns, and the Atlanta Falcons came back after squandering a 17-point halftime lead to beat the Philadelphia Eagles 26-24 Monday night in the coaching debut of Dan Quinn.

"Julio is an awesome player," said Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan, who overcame a pair of costly interceptions. "He's as good as it gets, and we're lucky to have him."

Coming off the best season of his career, Jones was rewarded with a new \$71.25 million contract. Early on, he dominated the Eagles' revamped secondary as Atlanta raced to a 20-3 halftime lead.

Philadelphia rallied behind new quarterback Sam Bradford, taking the lead for the first time at 24-23 on Ryan Mathews' 1-yard run with 8:37 remaining.

Back came the Falcons, driving into position for Matt Bryant's fourth field goal of the game, a 47-yarder with 6:27 to go that turned out to be the winner.

Cody Parkey was wide right on a 44-yard field goal that could have restored Philadelphia's lead. The Eagles had one more chance, but cornerback-turned-safety Ricardo Allen intercepted a pass that went through the hands of Jordan Matthews, sealing the victory with 1:11 left.

"They didn't want to throw it at my corners so they threw it in the middle of the

field," Allen said. "They tipped the ball and it landed in my lap."

Bradford, in his first regular-season game in nearly two years after being acquired in a trade with St. Louis, was 36 of 52 for 336 yards. But Philadelphia's much-hyped running game, led by newcomer DeMarco Murray, was largely a bust.

After leading the NFL with 1,845 yards rushing in Dallas last season, Murray was held to 9 yards on eight carries. Ryan Mathews had only 4 yards, while Darren Sproles led the way with 50 yards on the ground.

Coach Chip Kelly's up-tempo offense looked unstoppable in the preseason but bogged down in the first half against the fired-up Falcons, who hope the energetic Quinn can turn things around from a 10-22 showing the past two seasons under Mike Smith.

"You just trust the preparation, let it rip and have fun," Quinn said. "That's what we did."

Other than a 69-yard drive that led to a field goal, the Eagles generated just 56 yards on their other seven first-half possessions — three of which went three-and-out, and another ended quickly when Bradford was intercepted. The deficit would have been even bigger if not for Kiko Alonso's dazzling one-handed interception while falling backward in the end zone.

Jones repeatedly burned new Eagles cornerback Byron Maxwell, including touchdowns of 4 and 22 yards. Philadelphia clamped down in the second half, but Jones finally got loose for his only catch after the break: a 44-yarder that set up Bryant's winning field goal.

49ers spoil Peterson's return to the Vikings

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The San Francisco 49ers have a new featured running back with Frank Gore long gone.

Carlos Hyde wanted to outplay the better-known No. 28 on the field, Adrian Peterson. He did that and more, and Jim Tomsula's San Francisco 49ers produced a victory in his debut as head coach minus the interim status he had for the final game of 2010.

Hyde carried the offense with 168 yards on the ground and touchdown runs of 17 and 10 yards in his first career start, spinning away from a defender and diving into the end zone untouched on a rare nice play in a first half full of ugly ones to lead the Niners past the Minnesota Vikings 20-3 on Monday night.

Peterson ran 10 times for 31 yards playing his first game in more than a year following paid leave and then a suspension last year in the fallout from a child-abuse case against him in Texas.

Hyde had him on the mind. "That was also in the back of my head, to outdo a guy who's been leading the NFL in rushing. That's tremendous to outdo a guy like that, Adrian Peterson, a great running back," Hyde said. "I used to watch his highlights. To be able to out-rush him, that's great."

The new starter in place of departed franchise rushing leader Gore, Hyde's yards were the most by a 49ers running

back since Gore's 207 in Week 2 of 2009 against Seattle.

"We want to run the football," Tomsula said. "Carlos did an awesome job running the football."

Colin Kaepernick threw for 165 yards and second-year back Hyde ran 26 times to easily best his top rookie performance of 55 yards in his final game last year.

A sloppy first half featured a pair of botched field goals, Vikings quarterback Teddy Bridgewater running into his own teammate that led to a 10-yard sack, an 85-yard punt return touchdown called back on penalty, and a fumbled punt — by the former Australian rugby league star Jarryd Hayne on his first NFL touch.

The 27-year-old rookie lost the fumble on a punt return in the first quarter when he misjudged the ball and had to dive forward to try to field it. He made a 1-yard run in the second quarter and caught a 7-yard pass. He was forced into running back duties as the only active backup after Reggie Bush was lost to a left calf injury with about 6½ minutes left in the first quarter.

"We don't think it's very serious," Tomsula said.

Peterson, playing for the first time since last season's opener at St. Louis, had just four carries in the first half then doubled that total on the initial series after halftime.

He still hasn't scored a touchdown against San Francisco in four meetings.



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Rangers top Astros, cut West deficit

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The Texas Rangers' biggest players came up big in the first game of a big four-game series on Monday night, allowing the Rangers to move within a half-game of first place in the AL West.

Prince Fielder followed Adrian Beltre's one-out single in the eighth inning with a tiebreaking, two-run home run to straight-away center field into a stuff wind to lead Texas to a 5-3 win over the first-place Houston Astros.

Mitch Moreland hit his team-leading 20th home run and left-hander Cole Hamels stranded nine runners in seven innings for Texas, which has won four straight against the Astros and leads the season series 9-4.

"We had to grind and show some mental and grit," Texas manager Jeff Banister said. "Didn't get rattled. Stayed focused. It really goes along with how we've played all year."

"Every day, we're going to talk about someone's going to have the lead," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "We have it, and we've had it for a long time."

Fielder's homer, which traveled an estimated 408 feet, came on 3-2 pitch from Will Harris (5-4). It ended a 46 at-bat homerless for the slugger.

"That felt good," Fielder said. "Anytime you square a ball up, you feel good."

The Rangers, who finished with the league's worst record last season, haven't been this close to first place since April 17. They hold a one-game lead over Minnesota for the league's second wild card, which they've held since Aug. 27.

Hamels allowed three runs in seven innings and expressed disappointment in his performance. Banister moved him back a day in the rotation to open the series. Jose Altuve hit Hamels' sixth pitch for his 12th homer to put Houston ahead two batters in.

"This is the type of playoff atmosphere that you're trying to play in front of," said Hamels, a veteran of two World Series with the Phillies. "You can't leave pitches

out over the plate 'cause every single one of those guys in that lineup can do damage."

Keone Kela (7-5) got the win, retiring one of two batters, and Shawn Tolleson earned his 32nd save in 34 attempts.

In a matchup of high profile left-handers acquired in late July, neither Hamels nor Houston's Scott Kazmir earned a decision.

Houston is 2-5 on a season-high 11-game road trip. The Astros' 29-43 road record is the worst in the league.

Hamels was the third of five consecutive left-handers that Houston will face on this trip.

Yankees 4, Rays 1: Alex Rodriguez enjoyed being overshadowed by a rookie.

Rodriguez had a tying, two-out RBI double in the ninth and Slade Heathcott followed with a three-run homer, leading the visiting Yankees over the Rays.

The 24-year old Heathcott's second career homer came on his first at-bat in the major's since May 27. He was called up from Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre on Saturday.

"Just tremendous," Rodriguez said. "You get caught up and I become a fan when you're watching a young kid with so much talent. Big, signature Yankee moment."

The victory moved the Yankees within three-games of AL East-leading Toronto.

"To be able to do it with two outs in the ninth, it was special," New York manager Joe Girardi said.

Erasmio Ramirez held the Yankees hitless until Carlos Beltran led off the eighth with a hot shot that took a short-hop off first baseman Richie Shaffer and went into right field.

The Yankees, though, rallied in the ninth. Down to their last out, Brett Gardner was walked by Brad Boxberger (4-10) on four pitches and stole second. Then Rodriguez tied Craig Biggio for 21st place all-time with his 3,060th hit.

Heathcott homered after Brian McCann was intentionally walked, setting off a raucous celebration in the New York dugout, A-Rod leading the way.

"It was awesome," Heathcott said.

Mets 4, Marlins 3: David Wright had a go-ahead double in the seventh inning, Yoenis Cespedes homered again and host New York won its eighth straight.

With two outs and runners on first and second, David Wright hit a fastball from reliever Kyle Barraclough (2-1) to the deepest part of the park, well over the head of scrambling center fielder Christian Yelich, for a ground-rule double — scoring pinch-runner Eric Young Jr. and giving the Mets a 4-3 lead.

Indians 8, Royals 3: Carlos Carrasco overcame a home run on his first pitch of the game to throw six strong innings, and Lonnie Chisenhall drove in three runs for host Cleveland.

Carrasco (13-10) let Alex Gordon hit his first pitch deep into the seats in right field, but that was the only run he allowed. The right-hander, who struck out nine, was making his second start since coming off the disabled list with a sore right shoulder.

Dodgers 4, Rockies 1: Clayton Kershaw won his ninth straight decision, Justin Turner hit a tiebreaking double and rookie Scott Schebler homered to lead host Los Angeles to a victory.

The Dodgers, kicking off a 10-game homestand following a 7-3 road trip, won for the 16th time in 20 games. They and reduced their magic number to 12 for clinching their second straight NL West title.

Kershaw (14-6) yielded a run and three hits over seven innings and struck out five, raising his major league-leading strikeout total to a career-high 264 and lowering his ERA to 2.12. The reigning NL MVP and three-time Cy Young Award winner hasn't lost since June 27 at Miami.

Kershaw is 9-0 with a 2.48 ERA in his last 10 starts against Colorado, including a no-hitter. His last loss to them was on July 12, 2013.

Padres 10, Diamondbacks 3: Wil Myers hit a leadoff homer and had four RBIs, James Shields pitched seven strong innings and visiting San Diego jumped on Arizona early.

Myers hit his second career leadoff

homer in San Diego's five-run first inning off Jeremy Hellickson (9-9) and had a two-run double in the fifth, another five-run inning.

White Sox 8, Athletics 7 (14): Melky Cabrera drove in Geovany Soto with two outs in the 14th inning to give host Chicago the win.

Cabrera singled off Arnold Leon (0-2) to end the season's longest game for both teams. Dan Jennings (2-3) pitched two scoreless innings in relief for Chicago, which squandered a 7-3 lead in the ninth.

Orioles 2, Red Sox 0: Kevin Gausman pitched six innings of two-hit ball to earn his first victory in six weeks, Adam Jones had two RBIs and host Baltimore beat Boston for its fifth win in six games.

Caleb Joseph had three hits for the Orioles, who moved two games ahead of the last-place Red Sox in the AL East. Baltimore trails four teams in the hunt for the second AL wild-card spot.

Twins 7, Tigers 1: Eduardo Escobar homered and drove in two runs and Tyler Duffey struck out seven while pitching into the seventh inning to lead host Minnesota to a victory over Detroit.

Duffey (3-1) gave up one run on seven hits and walked two in 6¹/₃ innings, and Joe Mauer went 3-for-5, extending his streak of games reaching base to 34 for the Twins.

Nationals 8, Phillies 7 (11): Jayson Werth hit two homers and drove in five runs, and Yunel Escobar had the game-winning RBI in the 11th inning to lift visiting Washington to a victory.

Mariners 10, Angels 1: Seth Smith homered and Taijuan Walker pitched seven dominant innings to pace host Seattle to a victory over the Angels, dropping Los Angeles four games back in the AL wild card race.

Giants 5, Reds 3: Matt Duffy doubled twice and drove in two runs for host San Francisco.

Brandon Belt tripled and drove in two runs and Marlon Byrd added an RBI double to help the Dodgers win their fourth straight at AT&T Park.

Source: Longhorns fire AD after 22 months

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas athletic director Steve Patterson has been fired after two rocky years on the job, pushed out after clashing with fans and donors upset with his aggressive push to raise money for the nation's wealthiest athletic department, a person with direct knowledge of the decision said Tuesday.

Patterson met with new university President Greg Fenves on Tuesday morning, according to the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the move had not been announced. The school did not immediately release details of the meeting or Patterson's departure.

University spokesman Gary Susswein said Fenves would not discuss "the nature of his private conversations." Patterson had a guaranteed contract through August 2019 worth at least \$1.4 million annually.

Texas thought it hit a home run when it hired Patterson in November 2013 from Arizona State. The school had put together a star-studded search committee to find a replacement for DeLoss Dodds. Former West Virginia athletic director Oliver Luck was considered the front-runner until Patterson impressed the committee with his final interview.

Patterson has overseen two popular hires at Texas — football coach Charlie Strong and men's basketball coach Shaka Smart, both now in charge of underperforming programs — but has been unable to win over fans and university donors and has had several meetings with Fenves to soften his approach to business.

He also pushed and won approval for alcohol sales at

athletics events, scheduled a men's basketball game in China for next season and talked of someday taking the football team to Mexico.

But Patterson raised football ticket prices after a 6-7 season in 2014, and instituted a "loyalty" program for tickets that rewarded some long-time donors.

Irish lose fourth starter in TE Smythe

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Notre Dame starting tight end Durham Smythe will miss the rest of the season with a knee injury.

Coach Brian Kelly said Smythe tore the MCL in his right knee late in the fourth quarter against Virginia. Kelly says Smythe had surgery Tuesday and also underwent surgery for an injured right shoulder. Smythe, entered the season with one career catch and had two this year.

Smythe is the fourth starter with a season-ending injury for the eighth-ranked Irish (2-0), who play No. 14 Georgia Tech (2-0) Saturday. Nose guard Jarron Jones and running back Tarean Folston sustained knee injuries while quarterback Malik Zaire fractured his ankle against Virginia.

One Utah player still in hospital after shootings

SALT LAKE CITY — One of the two Utah football players shot at a party late Saturday night has been released from the hospital.

Freshman Marcel Brooks-Brown was released while sophomore Lo Falemaka was still hospitalized. Coach Kyle Whittingham said he is expected out in a week or so.

The two football players were both shot in the torso, according to police. Whittingham declined to detail their

medical conditions due to privacy laws and requests from the families.

No arrests have been made in the shootings, said Salt Lake City Police detective Greg Wilking on Monday.

Rutgers WR charged with assault

PISCATAWAY, N.J. — Rutgers receiver Leonte Carroo has been charged with assault under domestic violence in connection with an unspecified matter after the team's game last weekend.

The team announced Sunday that the senior captain was suspended indefinitely. Then officials said Monday he had been arrested.

Rutgers Police Chief Kenneth Cop said in a statement that the Saturday incident was outside the Hale Center, the team's training and administrative building. Cop did not release further details.

The arrest and suspension are the latest stains on a program that has seen six other players kicked off the team this month after being arrested.

Lakers sign 7-footer Upshaw

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. — The Los Angeles Lakers have signed center Robert Upshaw to a multiyear contract.

The Lakers announced the deal Monday.

The 7-foot Upshaw led the nation with 4.5 blocked shots per game until his dismissal from the University of Washington's team last season. He went undrafted after leaving school two years early.

Upshaw was kicked off the team at Fresno State and Washington for violations of team rules during his two-season college career.