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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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US B-1B bomber lands in South Korea

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The United States landed a B-1B Lancer in South Korea for the first time in 20 years Wednesday, labeling it the “closest flight ever to North Korea” by the supersonic bomber.

It was the second aerial show of force since the North conducted its most powerful nuclear test earlier this month in tit-for-tat actions on the already-tense peninsula.

A pair of Air Force B-1B Lancers, accompanied by seven South Korean and U.S. fighter jets, flew over Osan Air

Base, about 40 miles south of Seoul. The flights came a day after North Korea claimed it successfully tested a powerful new rocket engine that could launch satellites.

One of the bombers landed at the base; U.S. Forces Korea declined to say how long it would remain there.

The North conducted its fifth underground atomic blast on Sept. 9, ignoring international condemnation and sanctions imposed after the previous nuclear test in January.

Those, combined with an uptick in missile tests this year,

have raised fears that Pyongyang is making faster-than-expected progress toward its stated goal of developing a nuclear-tipped missile that could reach the U.S. mainland.

The U.S. Air Force said it was the first time the bomber has landed on the Korean Peninsula since 1996.

Lt. Gen. Thomas W. Bergeson, 7th Air Force commander, said the deployment was aimed at showing that the U.S. has an unshakable commitment to defending South Korea.

Lt. Gen. Lee Wang-keun, South Korea’s air force opera-

tions commander, said the peninsula faces a “grave security crisis.”

“Should the enemy provoke us once again, the Combined Air Forces will respond and eliminate their will and capability to fight,” he said.

The U.S. also sent two of the bombers, each accompanied by four South Korean and U.S. fighter jets, in a flyover of Osan four days after the most recent nuclear test. North Korea called that a bluff and said such actions were pushing tensions to the “point of explosion.”

Airmen do not have to repay housing allowance overpayments

Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — About 1,400 airmen are off the hook for millions of dollars in housing allowance they received in error while living off base in Germany, officials said.

The Air Force says the airmen — who were assigned to Spangdahlem and Ramstein air bases while receiving the overpayments — won’t have to return collectively about \$4 million in Overseas Housing Allowance they weren’t entitled to, according to U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa.

The Air Force Review Board Agency granted the command’s request to forgive the collective debt as part of a group waiver package submitted last fall.

“This approval allowed for the cancellation of outstanding OHA debt and was deemed in the best interest of the United

States and that collection of the debts would create an inequitable situation for nearly 1,400” airmen, Capt. Lauren Ott, a USAFE spokeswoman, said in a statement this week.

The Air Force told USAFE of its decision in June, but it wasn’t publicly announced, Ott said. Those airmen affected by the judgement were informed through various channels.

For some airmen, it means they won’t have to repay tens of thousands of dollars in housing allowance to which the Air Force says they weren’t entitled. Debts ranged from as small as \$8 to as much as \$26,000.

USAFE sought the waiver because so many airmen incurred debt under similar circumstances, officials said last year.

Ott said USAFE doesn’t have a definitive timeline for when all the debts will be canceled, but the Air Force is working

closely with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to expedite processing.

“All debts were suspended until the time that they are canceled,” Ott said. That means airmen, including those who have since retired or separated from the service, didn’t have to repay any money while awaiting the group waiver approval.

The debt will be canceled on airmen’s financial records, and they’re not required to take any action, officials said.

The erroneous housing payments were discovered during an audit of housing records. The Air Force Audit Agency noticed discrepancies in OHA payments during a routine audit that began in late 2014. The review included a small sample of off-base housing contracts at several Air Force bases in Europe.

Crew finds seawater leak in new destroyer

The futuristic Navy destroyer Zumwalt will remain at Naval Station Norfolk, Va., somewhat longer than planned after the ship’s crew detected a problem that required repairs, according to a report.

The ship sustained “an engineering casualty” that will require 10-14 days to fix, according to a story from U.S. Naval Institute News, citing a Navy statement.

The problem was detected Monday as the ship prepared to get underway from Norfolk. It arrived in Hampton Roads last week.

“The crew discovered the casualty after detecting a seawater leak in the propulsion motor drive lube oil auxiliary system for one of the ship’s shafts.”

The statement notes that problems of this nature are not unusual for a first-in-class ship.

Zumwalt is the first of three new destroyers that feature an angular design and wave-piercing hull.

From wire reports

1 AF pilot killed in U-2 crash in Calif.

The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee

A pilot from Beale Air Force Base in California was killed and a second was injured Tuesday after a U-2 spy plane, one of the most famous aircraft of the Cold War era, crashed Tuesday morning near the Sutter Buttes.

The pilots, participating in a training mission, ejected from the aircraft before it plunged into grassy hills in Sutter County.

The crash set off a 250-acre wildfire. Fire crews raced to put out the blaze as search-and-rescue teams searched for the pilots in remote terrain.

"We are still working to make access to the patients to (determine) how we are going to get them out of the area they are in," Sutter County Fire Chief John Shalowitz said Tuesday.

The Air Force confirmed

shortly afterward that one pilot was dead.

Shalowitz said 20 engine units responded to battle the fire, which was set off in hot conditions with a 20 mph breeze. Near the crash site, a smoldering wing, fuselage and tail of the aircraft were visible on the horizon. The fire was extinguished Tuesday afternoon.

The names of the pilots were not released.

"The incident is currently under investigation," said the statement from the Air Force's 9th Reconnaissance Wing. "Additional details will be provided as they become available."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein posted on Facebook that he was "deeply saddened" by the death of the pilot. "We offer our deepest condolences to the airman's family and to all who are mourning this tremendous loss," he said.

The aircraft was assigned to the 1st Reconnaissance Squadron, part of the 9th Reconnaissance Wing at Beale, where the U-2 fleet is based and its 33 planes are deployed to military detachments around the world. More than 1,000 personnel work on the U-2 program at the base near Marysville.

The U-2, a sleek black jet known as the Dragon Lady, became known for an international incident in 1960 when American Capt. Francis Gary Powers was shot down and taken prisoner after flying surveillance aircraft over the Soviet Union.

The U-2 also gained fame for uncovering a secret Soviet launch site in the Cuban missile crisis of 1962.

Since that time, the U-2 has continued to play a critical military role, collecting imagery and electronic measurements

on surveillance flights targeting terrorist networks in the Middle East.

While the military says the cost of a U-2 is classified, the military information site GlobalSecurity.org puts the price tag of the current model at \$400 million. In 2012, the Air Force said it had spent \$1.7 billion over eight years to modernize the aircraft with new flight and surveillance technology.

The Air Force has long planned to replace the U-2, normally flown with one pilot, with unmanned RQ-4 Global Hawks, remotely controlled aircraft first deployed by the Air Force in 2001. The Global Hawks are also stationed at Beale, from which they fly thousands of miles to pinpoint human targets for armed Predator and Reaper drones.

Eligible expats rarely vote, US study finds

A study released Wednesday, described as the first of its kind, has found what political scientists have long suspected: Most American expatriates don't vote in U.S. elections.

The study by the Federal Voting Assistance Program found that voting rates for all estimated 2.6 million eligible overseas voters, excluding servicemembers and their spouses, was 4 percent in 2014. That compares to 36 percent of eligible voters in the U.S. and, according to a

previous study by the FVAP, 21 percent of eligible active-duty military voters who mailed in ballots in 2014. The top reasons for not voting, according to a group of citizens abroad FVAP surveyed, were difficulties with absentee voting, feeling out of touch with the national or local community and no candidate preference. FVAP said the study was the first of U.S. expatriates' voting behaviors.

From staff reports

Overseas voters' registration deadlines near

Overseas military personnel wanting to vote in November's presidential election should register or request absentee ballots now.

The registration deadline for many states is Oct. 10.

To get a ballot, prospective voters must fill out a Federal Post Card Application available online at FVAP.gov or overseasvotefoundation.org. This applies to first-time voters and those who have voted

by absentee ballot in previous years. Voters can also request that ballots be delivered to them electronically.

Once a ballot is received, voters must follow included instructions that vary by state, as do deadlines for submission.

Overseas military base residents are encouraged to visit their Voting Assistance Office to navigate their state's voting regulations.

From staff reports

Navy names ship after Sen. Robert F. Kennedy

Associated Press

BOSTON — The U.S. Navy is naming a ship after Robert F. Kennedy.

Navy Secretary Ray Mabus announced the name Tuesday at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston.

Members of the Kennedy family, including Robert's widow, Ethel Kennedy, attended. Massachusetts Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy III, his grandson, said they're "deeply grateful" for the honor.

The Robert F. Kennedy's job will be to restock and refuel ships already at sea. Construction is expected to begin in 2021. Ethel Kennedy is the honorary sponsor, and daughter Kathleen Kennedy Townsend is the sponsor, who will christen the vessel.

Ships in the class are being named in honor of civil and

human rights heroes. Mabus said the class would be incomplete without Kennedy's name. Kennedy served as U.S. attorney general from 1961 to 1964 and as a U.S. senator from New York from 1965 to 1968. He was an advocate for the poor and for racial minorities. He was assassinated in 1968 during his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

"He said to those forgotten, 'Your country sees you. Your country counts you. Your country needs you.' This class of ships tells that story," said Joseph Kennedy.

Mabus chooses ship names to help connect people with the Navy and Marine Corps. He spoke of how Kennedy inspired him and others to see politics and public service as a "noble profession, an opportunity to make the future bright for everyone."

Intel chief opposes pardon for Snowden

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's top intelligence official said Tuesday that he could never agree with a decision to pardon Edward Snowden.

Snowden was a National Security Agency contract employee when he took more than a million documents and leaked them to journalists who revealed massive domestic surveillance programs begun in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. The programs collected the telephone metadata records of millions of Americans and examined emails from overseas.

"I could understand what he did, if ... what he exposed was limited to domestic surveillance. ... But he exposed so much else that had absolutely nothing to do with domestic surveillance, where he has damaged our capability against foreign threats. He has taken away capabilities that were used to protect our troops in Afghanistan," Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said. "I don't think I could concur in offering him a pardon."

Snowden's revelations about the agency's bulk collection of millions of Americans' phone records set off a fierce debate about privacy versus losing tools to combat terrorism. Democrats and libertarian-leaning Republicans pushed through a reauthorization of the USA Patriot Act last year that ended the program.

Snowden fled to Hong Kong, then Russia, to avoid prosecution. Human rights groups are seeking a presidential pardon, saying he helped his country.

Asked if Snowden could get a negotiated plea agreement in exchange for information, for example, that he might have gleaned from Russian contacts, Clapper simply replied, "No."

"The more time that goes on, there is actually, in my mind, less and less incentive for any kind of negotiated" plea agreement, Clapper said.

Kerry: Stop flights over Aleppo

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

Secretary of State John Kerry on Wednesday called on Russia and Syria to cease flying over Aleppo, just days after a convoy carrying human-aid supplies to civilians in the besieged city was attacked by warplanes.

"I believe we must move forward and try to immediately ground all aircraft flying in those key areas in order to de-escalate the situation and give a chance for humanitarian assistance to flow unimpeded," Kerry said Wednesday at the U.N. Security Council. "If that happens there's a chance of giving credibility back to this (cease-fire) process."

The American- and Russian-brokered cease-fire that went into effect nine days ago appears all but dead, following the Monday night attack on the humanitarian convoy just southwest of Aleppo that killed at least 20 people.

U.S. officials have blamed Russia or Syria for the attack, while the Russians have denied either party was involved. On Wednesday, Russia claimed a U.S. military drone was in the area during the two-hour at-

tack, implying the American military was responsible.

It was at least the fourth differing account the Russians have provided of the incident, Kerry said as he asked other Security Council members to use common sense and realize "only two countries have airplanes that fly in that particular area — Russia and Syria."

A senior Pentagon official on Wednesday denied any coalition aircraft were anywhere near the site of the attack. He added the coalition does not fly near Aleppo because there are no Islamic State group targets in the area.

But the Pentagon would welcome the grounding of Syrian and Russian aircraft over Aleppo, the official said. It would be a first step toward shifting the direction of the cease-fire, which originally called for the U.S. and Russian militaries to begin working together to target the Islamic State group and the al-Qaida-affiliated Nusra Front in Syria.

The Americans had taken the necessary steps to begin preparing the proposed joint command center with the Russians, Air Force Col. John Thomas,

a spokesman for U.S. Central Command, said Tuesday. A location for the operations center had been chosen and face-to-face meetings were set to begin soon. But after the convoy attack, he said, the United States was no longer "anticipating any great progress anytime soon."

It leaves the U.S. military sitting and waiting on word from the State Department and the United Nations that the cease-fire has either officially been terminated or that the Syrian and Russian militaries have taken the appropriate steps to move forward with the deal initially struck.

That original deal included the grounding of all Syrian warplanes in areas controlled by opposition groups. It did not initially call for Russian planes to cease flying in any specific areas, but after the aid convoy attack, Kerry said there are few options remaining for them to prove they are committed to ending the violence in the country and allowing civilians to get much-needed humanitarian assistance.

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Signs of panic, rebellion in militants' territory

The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — The graffiti that appeared on a wall near the mosque in Mosul where the Islamic State leader declared his caliphate two years ago was a small but symbolic act of rebellion.

The spray-painted letter "m" — for the Arabic word "mukawama," meaning resistance — was part of a campaign by Kitaeb al-Mosul, an underground opposition group in the northern Iraqi city that released a video detailing its efforts this month.

The Islamic State reacted with swift brutality, executing three young men it accused of being involved. The militants released their own video showing the men kneeling in orange jumpsuits before being shot in

the head. The letter "m" was sprayed on the wall behind them, a reference to their alleged crime.

In recent months, the Islamic State group has carried out more arrests and executions such as these in a sign of desperation as it faces the prospect of losing Mosul, according to reports from inside the city.

Mosul is the largest city under Islamic State control and is central to its narrative of having restored the Islamic caliphate. It was less than a month after Mosul fell in June 2014 that Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi appeared in the mosque there and called on Muslims to follow him.

The recapture of the city would be a significant step toward depriving the Islamic State group of its territory and forcing the group back into an

insurgency, U.S. and Iraqi officials say. That is only a matter of time, they add.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has pledged to retake Mosul by the end of the year, and the Iraqi air force dropped 7 million leaflets on the city last week telling residents to prepare for the "zero hour."

As Iraqi forces move closer, the Islamic State group has also been making preparations.

"Daesh is weaker in Mosul, but it is using methods of oppression like random arrests to try and show it is still in control," said a representative of Kitaeb al-Mosul.

The militants have constructed new berms, he said. In some neighborhoods, concrete barricades have been erected, he said, speculating that they are trying to isolate neighborhoods.

Bomb suspect talks of attacks in journal

Associated Press

NEW YORK — He bought bomb ingredients on eBay and recorded a mirthful video of himself igniting a blast in a backyard. In a handwritten journal, he warned that bombs would resound in the streets and prayed he'd be martyred rather than caught, authorities say.

Ahmad Khan Rahami's jihad journal ended with a stark message, according to court papers: "Death to your oppression."

Federal court complaints filed Tuesday gave a chilling glimpse into what authorities say motivated the Afghan-born U.S. citizen to set off explosives last weekend in New York City and New Jersey, including a bomb that injured 31 people in Manhattan. The blasts came

two years after the FBI looked into him but came up with nothing tying him to terrorism.

Rahami remains hospitalized with gunshot wounds from a shootout with police that led to his capture Monday outside a bar in Linden, N.J. The charges against him include federal terror crimes and state charges of attempting to murder police officers.

Rahami ordered citric acid, ball bearings and electronic igniters on eBay and had them delivered to a Perth Amboy, N.J., business where he worked until Sept. 12, the court complaints said. San Jose, Calif.-based eBay Inc. noted that the products are legal and widely available and said the company had worked with law enforcement on the investigation.

Just two days before Saturday's bombings, a relative's cellphone recorded Rahami igniting incendiary material in a cylinder buried in a backyard, the fuse being lighted, a loud noise and flames, "followed by billowing smoke and laughter," the complaints said.

And the complaints said in his bloodied journal — damaged by shots from his gunbattle with police — he fumed that the U.S. government was slaughtering Muslim holy warriors and alluded to plans for revenge.

One portion expressed concern at the prospect of being caught before being able to carry out a suicide attack and the desire to be a martyr. Another section included a reference to "pipe bombs" and a "pressure cooker bomb."

There also were laudatory references to Osama bin Laden, Anwar al-Awlaki — the American-born Muslim cleric who was killed in a 2011 drone strike and whose preaching has inspired other acts of violence — and Maj. Nidal Hasan, the former Army officer who went on a deadly shooting rampage in 2009 at Fort Hood, Texas, the complaints said.

The FBI has said Rahami apparently was not on its radar at the time of the bombing. But he was in 2014, when the FBI opened up an "assessment" — its least intrusive form of inquiry — based on comments from his father after a domestic dispute, the bureau said in a statement.

Protesters riot over NC shooting

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Authorities used tear gas to disperse protesters in an overnight demonstration that left about a dozen officers injured in North Carolina's largest city and shut down a highway after the fatal shooting of a black man by Charlotte police who said he was armed and posed a threat.

The protests broke out Tuesday night after Keith Lamont Scott, 43, was fatally shot by a black officer at an apartment complex on the city's northeast side. They continued into early Wednesday morning, when TV footage showed dozens of protesters on Interstate 85 apparently looting semi-trucks and setting their contents on fire on the highway.

Following the shooting and prior to the protest, an online post on Facebook by a woman claiming to be Scott's daughter angrily asserted that he was unarmed when police shot him. The Associated Press was not

able to immediately verify the authenticity of the post.

Tuesday night, a larger group of demonstrators gathered near the scene of the shooting. The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department tweeted that demonstrators were destroying marked police vehicles and that approximately 12 officers had been injured.

By 5 a.m. Wednesday, the streets were quiet, and I-85 was moving again.

Charlotte police officers went to the complex about 4 p.m. looking for a suspect with an outstanding warrant when they saw Scott — who was not the suspect they were looking for — inside a car, department spokesman Keith Trietley said in a statement. Officers say they saw Scott get out of the car with a gun and then get back in, Trietley said. When officers approached, the man exited the car with the gun again. At that point, officers deemed the man a threat and at least one fired a

Family: Tulsa man shot by police was turning life around

Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — The unarmed black man shot dead in the middle of a Tulsa street last week by a white police officer had run-ins with the law dating back to his teenage years and had recently served a four-year stint in prison.

But those closest to Terence Crutcher described him as a church-going father who was beginning to turn his life around. After marking his 40th birthday with his twin sister last month, Crutcher sent her a text that read, "I'm gonna show you, I'm gonna make you all proud."

Crutcher was due to start a music appreciation class at a local community college on Friday, the day he was fatally shot by Tulsa police officer Betty Shelby after she responded to a report of a stalled vehicle.

The shooting was captured in graphic detail by a police helicopter and a cruiser dashcam, though it's not clear from that

footage what led Shelby to draw her gun or what orders officers gave Crutcher. An attorney representing Crutcher's family says Crutcher committed no crime and gave officers no reason to shoot.

Shelby was put on paid administrative leave while local and federal officials investigate the shooting.

Crutcher's criminal history includes a 1995 arrest in nearby Osage County in which officers reported they saw him fire his weapon out a vehicle window.

Crutcher eventually entered a no-contest plea to charges of carrying a weapon and resisting an officer and received suspended sentences, court records show.

Oklahoma prison officials confirmed Tuesday that Crutcher also served four years in prison from 2007 to 2011 on a Tulsa County drug-trafficking conviction.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man thinks he has tooth of Japanese admiral

IL CHICAGO — The founder of a Chicago hot dog empire thinks he may have a gold tooth that belonged to a Japanese World War II admiral who orchestrated the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Dick Portillo told the Chicago Tribune that he'll "do whatever it takes to find out" if the gold incisor in his office safe belonged to Japanese naval Commander Isoroku Yamamoto.

Portillo traveled last year to Papua New Guinea, where U.S. pilots shot down Yamamoto's plane. The tooth surfaced from mud. A clan that owns the site confiscated the tooth but later sold it back for \$14,000.

Japanese naval historian Yukoh Watanabe told the newspaper it's unlikely a match, in part because multiple people were on the plane. But like Portillo, Watanabe said it would be a great historical find.

Calf born at farm has mutation: Two faces

KY CAMPBELLSVILLE — Visitors to a central Kentucky farm may do a double-take when they see the newest addition: a two-faced calf.

Stan McCubbin, of Campbellsville, told WDRB-TV that he thought he had twins when he first saw the calf on Friday, but quickly realized he had something far more unusual.

The female calf has two noses, two mouths and four eyes, though the middle two eyes don't function. Although the calf can walk, the McCubbins say she ends up going in circles and falling over.

The family said most calves with such a genetic mutation are stillborn, but so far this one is eating and seems healthy.

McCubbin's wife, Brandy,

said their 5-year-old daughter, Kenley, named the calf Lucky because she's lucky to be alive.

Woman leads police on chase through 3 towns

NH LACONIA — Police in Laconia broke into a suspect's car to arrest her after a high-speed chase through several towns that started at the Lakes Region Casino.

Police said they responded to a report of a theft at the Belmont casino late Sunday. They clocked a vehicle traveling 90 mph in a 45 mph zone. They pursued it from Belmont into Laconia and Gilford before ending back in Laconia.

Police said the driver, identified as Sherry Giddis, 48, of Gilmanton, refused to open the car door, forcing them to break a window.

Giddis was charged in Laconia with three counts of disobeying an officer, aggravated DWI and other charges. She may face more charges in Belmont and Gilford.

Funeral held for roofer who fell into vat of tar

MO ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis-area roofer who died more than a month after falling into a vat of 600-degree tar has been laid to rest.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that Daniel Madden, 66, of Overland, died Sept. 14 at a hospital.

He'd been in a medically induced coma since Aug. 6, when he slipped from a one-story University City roof he had been mopping with tar. He fell into a four-wheel tar kettle that can hold 450 gallons of tar.

His son and a co-worker pulled him from the tar and doused him with water.

Madden's funeral with military honors was held Monday.

He was an Army veteran who served in the Rangers in South Vietnam in 1968-69.

School bus gets tangled in cable lines; no injuries

ME SCARBOROUGH — Police said there were anxious moments when a school bus snagged downed utility lines in Scarborough.

Police said 12 students were on the bus Monday morning when it snagged some downed cable TV lines. They said electrical power lines didn't come into contact with the bus.

Police blamed a fallen tree limb for knocking over the wires, causing the bus to become tangled.

Central Maine Power officials said the bus driver kept the children calm and that the bus' occupants were never endangered during the incident.

Historic inn wants stolen stuff returned

MA SUDBURY — A historic Massachusetts inn that inspired poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and was once owned by automotive pioneer Henry Ford wants its stuff back — no questions asked.

Longfellow's Wayside Inn in Sudbury is celebrating its 300th anniversary by offering amnesty for former guests who might have "secretly checked out" inn property. Return it, and management says it won't pursue criminal charges.

Innkeeper Steve Pickford told The Boston Globe that he's particularly interested in recovering a copy of the Declaration of Independence belonging to Revolutionary War-era innkeeper Ezekiel Howe. It went missing in the 1950s.

Pickford said guests have also absconded with stamped silverware, pewter serving pieces, antique dishes and

paintings.

The inn opened in August 1716 and bills itself as the oldest operating inn in the country.

Sentencing set for 3 accused of bank fraud

AK WALNUT RIDGE — Sentencing has been set for the end of the month for three women who pleaded guilty to stealing nearly \$4 million from a bank.

Brenda Montgomery, Cindy Tate and Peggy Sutton each pleaded guilty in May to conspiracy to commit bank fraud. The women were all employees of the First National Bank of Lawrence County. Prosecutors said the three took money from the vault of the bank's main office in Walnut Ridge for about 10 years, starting in 2005.

Montgomery's sentencing is set for Sept. 29, while Tate and Sutton will be sentenced Sept. 30. The Jonesboro Sun reported that the women each face up to 30 years in prison.

Trial is set for officer accused of road rage

IA WATERLOO — A November trial has been scheduled for a Waterloo police officer who was charged in connection with what authorities say was a road rage incident.

Court records said Corbin Payne, 45, pleaded not guilty to a charge of assault causing bodily injury. His trial is scheduled to begin Nov. 15.

Authorities have said Payne, a lieutenant, accused the driver of another vehicle of cutting off the car Payne was riding in on June 12. Authorities say he struck the other vehicle and grabbed the driver. Payne was placed on paid administrative leave, and police said the department intends to conduct an internal investigation.

From wire reports

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Players' goal-line giveaways on the rise

Associated Press

The old saying goes, "When you score a touchdown, act like you've been there before."

A few college football players took the nonchalant approach too far when entering the end zone the past couple of weekends, casually dropping the ball right before crossing the goal line. It cost Clemson and California touchdowns and should have taken six off the board for Oklahoma, too. With goal-line brain freezes seemingly spreading, some coaches are taking action to keep such case of the dropsies from becoming an outbreak.

"It's something that doesn't need to happen, I can tell you that," South Carolina coach Will Muschamp said. "We've had a hard time getting (to the end zone). We dang sure don't want to drop it before."

The madness started this season with the Gamecocks' in-state rivals. Clemson's Ray-Ray McCloud cost himself a punt return TD two weeks ago against Troy when he dropped the ball a stride short of pay dirt. McCloud got chewed out by coach Dabo Swinney but was allowed to keep playing and has been a productive player since.

"After the play, I just told him, first of all, what a great play. What an awesome run. Tremendous," Swinney said. "Now, secondly, you are going to be on SportsCenter for the rest of your life because you didn't

hand the ball to the ref. How many times do I have to tell you to hand the ball to the ref?"

Not everybody has learned from McCloud's mistake.

Oklahoma's Joe Mixon and California's Vic Enwere made similar moves last Saturday. Officials did not catch Mixon's and the long TD stood. Enwere lucked out in that officials ruled that no effort was made by Texas to recover his fumble. The whistle was blown and the Bears retained the ball at the 1 and ran out the clock on a victory.

Enwere's gaffe prompted Cal coach Sonny Dykes to implement a new rule when the team met Sunday. Cal players must hand the ball to an official after scoring.

"It's really a strange phenomenon," Dykes told USA Today Sports. "I don't understand it. But I can assure you it won't ever happen to us again. We'll get it fixed."

Arkansas coach Bret Bielema said it's not just near the goal line that he see players being too quick to discard the football. He still uses a message to players that he took from his former running backs coach, Jemal Singleton.

"He said any time a ball carrier has the ball in his hands, it's a fumble unless it's handed to the official," Bielema said. "We had a flare-up in our first game where some guys were dropping the ball on the ground, or they were flipping the ball out. For the most part, you'll see our offensive

players, if there's a referee or anybody in sight, hand the ball to the official — especially on scoring plays. It's the easiest way to take away from any type of celebration, anything along that lines."

Bielema said a clip of Enwere's drop will likely make its way into Arkansas film study this week to reinforce the point.

These goofy goal-line giveaways are not a new phenomenon.

Former Cal receiver DeSean Jackson might be patient zero when it comes to toss-back-a-touchdown disease. He's done it twice in the NFL with two teams and also did it in a high school all-star game while front flipping into the end zone.

Nobody's flub was more costly than Kaelin Clay's in 2014. Instead of scoring a long touchdown for Utah, an Oregon defensive player alertly picked up the ball before it was ruled dead and returned it 99 yards for a flip-six.

A word of caution before branding this apathetic approach to reaching the end zone another example of widespread millennial entitlement: Plenty of college football players are taking a traditional approach when scoring that would make low-key Hall of Famer Barry Sanders proud.

"I either run all the way to the end of the end zone and then celebrate, or I just don't do anything at all," Iowa State running back Mike Warren said. "That's just how I am."

Clemson's offense breaks out at the right time

Associated Press

CLEMSON, S.C. — Clemson quarterback Deshaun Watson said the Tigers' much-needed breakout performance over South Carolina State was good for the fifth-ranked Tigers — and came at exactly the right time.

The offense, sluggish through a pair of six-point wins over Auburn and Troy the first two weeks, exploded in a 59-0 victory over South Carolina State on Saturday. Sure, the FCS Bulldogs were clearly overmatched, but Watson said Clemson (3-0) got the chance to correct errors and gain some rhythm with its Atlantic Coast Conference opener at Georgia Tech (3-0) coming up Thursday night.

"We're very confident," Watson said Monday. "We've got a lot of swagger on both sides of

the ball."

It was especially critical for the offense, a supposedly once-in-a-generation amalgam of skill players that had looked rather ordinary in its two opening games. Watson was adamant that no one had panicked, but yet he apologized to fans before last week's game for the "negative energy" he felt he brought to the Troy outing.

There was no need for any "I'm sorrys" this time around, just further refinement and focus to get the ACC season started off right, Watson said.

"Nothing that we were too frustrated about," Watson said. "Great teams improve throughout the season every week. We got better, a lot of people got more experience. It was something we really needed going into this week."

Clemson co-offensive coordinator Tony Elliott said his offense's rebound began at the end of the Troy game where the Tigers scored 17 points in the fourth quarter, all of them necessary to lock things up against the pesky Trojans.

Clemson carried that into a 31-point opening quarter against South Carolina State.

Georgia Tech coach Paul Johnson said Clemson, who beat the Yellow Jackets 43-24 at Death Valley last year, will be his team's most talented opponent so far.

"They're going to come in here with a bunch of cats," he said. "We've got to see if we can line up and play with them. We didn't a year ago, two years ago we did. I don't think we'll be afraid, but we've got to play."

The challenge for Clemson is

to carry that success into Georgia Tech, where the Tigers haven't won since Elliott was a junior receiver who caught a 9-yard TD pass to beat the Yellow Jackets in 2003.

Watson, a native of Gainesville, Ga., has some bad memories of facing Tech. As a freshman in 2014, Watson injured his knee and would eventually need offseason surgery, in the first half of Clemson's 28-6 loss — its last regular-season defeat.

"I have flashbacks about that," said Watson, who had missed the previous three games with a hand injury. "I was excited to play and then that first quarter going down. Of course, it's going to pop up in my mind, but it won't be anything too serious."

Peterson picks surgery, return unclear

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Adrian Peterson will have surgery on his right knee to repair a torn meniscus, putting his season and perhaps his 10-year run with Minnesota in question.

But the Vikings have held off for now on placing the franchise's all-time leading rusher on injured reserve.

Peterson was hurt in Sunday night's victory over Green Bay, needing assistance off the field after his knee twisted while being tackled at the end of a run. He has only 50 yards on 31 attempts this season.

Peterson told ESPN on Wednesday morning that the type of tear he was diagnosed with typically requires a minimum recovery time of three to four months. But Vikings coach Mike Zimmer said the timetable for Peterson's return won't be clear until after the procedure.

"Everything is possible," Zimmer said. "It could be season ending. It could be

three weeks, four weeks. I don't know."

Peterson made a swift recovery from a torn ACL in his left knee suffered in the second-to-last game of the 2011 season. He came back with a flourish and won the league MVP award the next year with 2,097 yards rushing. He led the NFL in rushing again last season, but he's 31 now with a contract that might not make financial sense in its current state for the Vikings to carry next year.

The Vikings (2-0) signed running back Ronnie Hillman, who was on Denver's Super Bowl-winning team last season. Jerick McKinnon will start on Sunday at defending NFC champion Carolina, and Matt Asiata has proven to be a capable backup.

Already without quarterback Teddy Bridgewater, who went down with a massive knee injury on Aug. 30 during a routine practice drill, the Vikings must also move on without their starting left tackle Matt Kalil.

Kalil was placed on injured reserve with a lingering hip problem that he played through in the first two games. He will require surgery that Zimmer said the team believes will be season ending. T.J. Clemmings will start in his place.

The Vikings haven't given up on their chase for a championship, though. Sam Bradford had a brilliant debut against the Packers in Bridgewater's place, and McKinnon and Asiata were a relatively productive tandem in 2014 when Peterson was sidelined during the fallout from a child abuse case.

"They're resilient. They're tough. They're competitive," Zimmer said. "Obviously we've had a few setbacks, but I think we can go back to last year and think about some of the things that happened. We're not the type of team that's going to sit back and cry about what's happened. We're going to go forward. Try, like I've said before, to find a way."

Another early US exit at World Cup of Hockey

Associated Press

TORONTO — Phil Kessel was quick to note he wasn't on the United States' roster for a disappointing World Cup of Hockey.

He wasn't the only one to point out problems with the team's construction.

In the moments after the Americans' 4-2 loss to Canada that eliminated them from contention, the questions cascaded: John Tortorella as coach? Too much grit? Not enough skill? What might change after another all-too-familiar early exit from an international tournament?

U.S. management doubled down on the sandpaper style that almost resulted in a gold medal at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics but hasn't worked since. Kessel, centers Tyler Johnson and Paul Stastny, wings Kyle Okposo and Bobby Ryan and defensemen Justin Faulk, Kevin Shattenkirk and Cam Fowler were among skilled players left off the World Cup roster, generating criticism months ago and even

more with the U.S. bowing out after going 0-2.

"To come here and flop like we did is extremely disappointing," defenseman Ryan Suter said. "Obviously we have to examine ourselves and what more could we have done and how can we get better for future tournaments."

The Americans' two-and-out revealed they brought too much physicality to a skill game. Canada, Russia, Team North America and others have thrived with fast-paced, entertaining hockey. Speed has been king at this international tournament.

With the aim of beating Canada, U.S. general manager Dean Lombardi built a big team with an edge to neutralize the talent of the top hockey power in the world. Instead, the World Cup showed depth of talent is everything. Leaving more skilled players at home proved detrimental.

Kessel, a Conn Smythe candidate as playoff MVP when the Pittsburgh Penguins won the Stanley Cup this spring,

took to Twitter after the U.S. loss to make light of not being selected.

"Just sitting around the house tonight (with) my dog," Kessel tweeted. "Felt like I should be doing something important, but couldn't put my finger on it."

Kessel was the Americans' leading scorer and best player at the 2014 Sochi Olympics, but he was left off the initial and then final World Cup rosters. Hand surgery after the playoffs may have put his availability in doubt, but USA Hockey's management team clearly overlooked him and others.

The U.S. opted for old-guard players such as forward Brandon Dubinsky, defensemen Jack Johnson and Erik Johnson and grinder Justin Abdelkader. Tortorella, as old-school coach as there is left, wanted to play his brand of hockey and stood by his roster construction and style.

"It's disappointing, frustrating, all different types of emotions," Tortorella said. "I think we let some people down. It's on my watch. I certainly feel

responsible for that."

Patrick Kane, who did not score a goal in two games after winning the Hart Trophy as the NHL MVP last season, wouldn't blame his coach for this failing.

"Tortorella is just one of the most passionate guys I've ever seen about hockey," Kane said. "I'll never say a bad thing about him. He's just a great coach. We didn't show up for him."

Lombardi and other executives will take heat for the World Cup debacle, though it might lead to philosophical changes about how to beat Canada and win elite tournaments. It will help at future events to have players such as Auston Matthews, Johnny Gaudreau, Jack Eichel, Brandon Saad and Seth Jones, all of whom played on the 23-and-under Team North America and weren't eligible for the U.S. team.

"There is definitely a fantastic future coming here," Tortorella said. "There are some good young kids there that I think they'll bring some juice to the program."

Giants down Dodgers despite injuries

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The San Francisco Giants lost two important players Tuesday night and still managed a critical victory.

Eduardo Nunez and Brandon Belt homered to help the Giants overcome injuries to All-Star pitcher Johnny Cueto and shortstop Brandon Crawford in a 2-0 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

San Francisco pulled into a three-way tie with the Mets and Cardinals for the two NL wild cards. The Giants are five games behind the NL West-leading Dodgers with 11 to play.

Cueto (17-5) left in the sixth with a strained groin, but the much-maligned Giants bullpen delivered as three relievers combined to pitch shutout ball over the final 3²/₃ innings.

Crawford came out with a dislocated left pinky in the sec-

ond. An X-ray was negative, and the Giants said he is day to day.

A team trainer checked on Cueto with Andrew Toles at bat. The right-hander stayed in and walked Toles, then motioned that he was done.

Cueto is scheduled to have an MRI on Wednesday.

"I felt uncomfortable," he said through a translator. "It was bothering me, so that's why I didn't finish the inning."

Crawford was injured sliding into third base when he was thrown out trying to advance from first. He said a trainer popped his finger back into place after he came out of the game. He was wearing a splint afterward.

"At first I was hoping it was just jammed," Crawford said. "I went down to kind of feel it when I was on the bag and felt that it was out of place."

It was Vin Scully bobblehead night at Dodger Stadium. A

sellout crowd gave the longtime broadcaster a loud standing ovation before the game, and Scully responded in kind.

The bobblehead featured Scully with his hands over his heart thanking fans, depicting a warm moment from opening day this year. Scully is retiring after this season, his 67th in the booth. His final game will be Oct. 2 when the Dodgers play at San Francisco in their regular-season finale.

The attendance of 53,621 was the largest regular-season crowd in Major League Baseball since Aug. 30, 2012, when the Dodgers had another Scully bobblehead giveaway.

Rich Hill (12-5) started for the Dodgers and pitched five innings, allowing just one run — the homer by Nunez — and six hits while striking out seven and walking one. Hill came out after 77 pitches.

Los Angeles manager Dave Roberts took Hill out as a pre-

caution due to concerns about a recurring blister.

"It was more of preservation, where he was at, and to put him in a situation to go any deeper," Roberts said. "It's the blister that we're consciously trying to monitor. I think where we're at, it's a very important game, but I just didn't know how much longer he was going to go. It was going to be another inning at the most anyway. I felt that was good for him."

Hill's debut with the Dodgers was delayed almost a month because of blister issues. This was his fifth start with the team.

"I threw the ball well, but at the end of the day it was disappointing," Hill said. "One mistake to Nunez, a fastball that was supposed to be down. Completely missed all the way in. He did his job and what he should've done with the pitch. I take 100 percent responsibility for this. It's not acceptable to miss like that at this level."

Red Sox beat Orioles, stretch winning streak to six

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — With 40-year-old David Ortiz leading the way, the Boston Red Sox are putting substantial distance between themselves and their pursuers in the AL East.

Ortiz broke open a tight game with a three-run homer in the seventh inning, and Boston beat the Baltimore Orioles 5-2 Tuesday night for its sixth straight victory.

Jackie Bradley Jr. also homered for the Red Sox, who stretched their lead over third-place Baltimore to five games with 11 remaining. Toronto is in second place, four games back after a 10-2 victory at Seattle.

After sweeping four games from the Yankees, Boston has won the first two of this pivotal four-game series.

Trey Mancini homered in his major league debut for the Orioles, who are 1½ games ahead of Detroit for the second AL wild card.

The Red Sox are 11-3 in their last 14 games and a major league-best 13-5 in September.

Blue Jays 10, Mariners 2: J.A. Happ (20-4) became the major leagues' second 20-game winner and Russell Martin and Michael Saunders each hit a two-run homer, lifting visiting Toronto over Seattle to move into first in the AL wild-card race.

Toronto took the lead with an eight-run fourth inning and moved a game ahead of Baltimore. Detroit remained 2½ games behind the Blue Jays.

Seattle lost for the fourth time in five games to fall four games behind Toronto.

Astros 2, Athletics 1 (10): George Springer hit a go-ahead single in the 10th inning, and visiting Houston beat Oakland.

Yankees 5, Rays 3: Rookie slugger Gary Sanchez hit his 17th homer in 42 games this season, a three-run shot in a four-run seventh inning for visiting New York.

Tigers 8, Twins 1: Matt Boyd (6-4) breezed through eight innings, backed by home runs from James McCann and Miguel Cabrera, and visiting Detroit stepped forward in the AL wild-card race.

Cardinals 10, Rockies 5: Adam Wainwright (12-9) was shaky on the mound and shined at the plate with a career-high four RBIs, helping visiting St. Louis move into a three-way tie for the top NL wild card.

Indians 2, Royals 1: Pinch-hitter Brandon Guyer hit a game-ending RBI single, helping host Cleveland inch closer to the AL Central title.

Rangers 5, Angels 4: Rookie Nomar Mazara hit his 20th homer in another testy game with multiple ejections and host Texas moved closer to its second consecutive AL West title.

Marlins 1, Nationals 0: Giancarlo Stanton homered to back a strong outing by Jose Fernandez (16-8), who pitched

eight innings and struck out 12 for host Miami.

Braves 5, Mets 4: Mets nemesis Julio Teheran (6-10) pitched seven more sparkling innings and last-place Atlanta blunted host New York's bid to extend its NL wild-card lead.

Cubs 6, Reds 1: Jon Lester (18-4) overcame an injury scare to throw seven strong innings, and host Chicago moved closer to securing the NL's best record.

Pirates 6, Brewers 3: Andrew McCutchen, Jody Mercer and Josh Bell each drove in two runs, and visiting Pittsburgh kept its faint playoff hopes alive.

Phillies 7, White Sox 6: Odubel Herrera homered and drove in three runs, leading host Philadelphia to the win.

Padres 5, Diamondbacks 2: Adam Rosales homered and drove in four runs and rookie Ryan Schimpf scored three times to lead host San Diego.