

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Pompeo: Recent Taliban attack ended talks

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Sunday that Taliban “overreached” with a car bomb attack in Kabul that killed an American soldier, prompting President Donald Trump to call off closely held Afghanistan peace talks planned for Camp David.

Pompeo said the Trump administration has recalled envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who has been negotiating with Taliban leaders for months in Qatar, and it will be up to the insurgent group whether talks will resume.

Critics denounced Trump’s plan to hold the Camp David meeting just days before the 18th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, and they said Trump was giving legitimacy to extremists who are responsi-

ble for the deaths of more than 2,400 U.S. servicemembers in America’s longest war.

Pompeo said Trump wanted to look the Taliban leaders “in the eye” while Khalilzad worked to finalize an agreement that would allow the U.S. to start withdrawing troops.

Pompeo defended Trump’s planned talks, saying the presidential retreat in Maryland was an “appropriate place,” given that it had been the venue for Mideast peace negotiations and other diplomatic meetings.

Trump tweeted Saturday night that he canceled negotiations with the Taliban in the wake of Thursday’s car bombing that killed an American soldier, a Romanian servicemember and 10 civilians in a busy diplomatic area near the U.S. Embassy in the Afghan capital.

The bombing was one of many attacks by the Taliban in recent days.

Sgt. 1st Class Elis A. Barreto Ortiz, 34, was the fourth U.S. servicemember killed in the past two weeks in Afghanistan.

“They tried to use terror to improve their negotiating position,” said Pompeo, who appeared on five Sunday TV talk shows. “The Taliban overreached.”

Pompeo said the agreement in principle that had been negotiated with the Taliban included their commitment to break with al-Qaida.

The Taliban harbored al-Qaida before that group conducted the 9/11 attacks against the United States.

“And then, the Taliban failed to live up to a series of commitments that they had made, and when that happened, President

Trump said, ‘I’m not going to take that deal. I’m not going to work with someone that can’t deliver on their commitments,’” Pompeo said.

The Afghan government says it doesn’t believe talks between the United States and Taliban will continue “at this stage.” The Taliban said Americans would be the ones who suffer from Trump’s cancellation of the talks.

Afghan presidential spokesman Sediq Sediqqi confirmed that Afghan President Ashraf Ghani had wanted to go to Washington to speak with Trump about his concerns, “but I am not able to go into the details of the particular trip.”

The details of the U.S.-Taliban deal that had been shown to Ghani last week “were not convincing,” Sediqqi said. “Let’s see the future.”

## Turkey, US begin ‘safe zone’ joint patrols in Syria

Associated Press

TAL ABYAD, Syria — Turkish and U.S. troops conducted their first joint ground patrol in northeastern Syria on Sunday as part of a planned so-called “safe zone” that Ankara has been pressing for in the volatile region.

Turkey hopes the buffer zone, which it says should be at least 19 miles deep, will keep Syrian Kurdish fighters, considered a threat by Turkey but U.S. allies in the fight against Islamic State group, away from its border.

Associated Press journalists in the town of Tal Abyad saw about a dozen Turkish armored vehicles with the country’s red flag standing along the border after crossing into Syria, and American vehicles wait-

ing about a mile away. The two sides then came together in a joint patrol with American vehicles leading the convoy.

At least two helicopters hovered overhead.

The Turkish Defense Ministry confirmed the start of the joint patrols and said unmanned aerial vehicles also were being used.

In recent years, Washington frequently has found itself trying to forestall violence between NATO ally Turkey and the Kurdish fighters it partnered with along the border to clear of ISIS militants.

An initial agreement between Washington and Ankara last month averted threats of a Turkish attack. But details of the deal are still being worked out in separate talks with An-

kara and the Kurdish-led forces in Syria known as the Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF.

Turkey, which has carried out several incursions into Syria in the course of the country’s civil war in an effort to curb the expanding influence of the Kurdish forces, carried out joint patrols with U.S. troops in the northern town of Manbij last year.

Sunday’s joint patrol is the first one taking place east of the Euphrates River, where U.S. troops have more presence, and as part of the safe zone that is being set up.

Anadolu Agency said six Turkish armored vehicles crossed into Syria on Sunday from the border town of Akcakale, opposite from Syria’s Tal Abyad, and joined U.S. ve-

hicles for their first joint patrol of an area east of the Euphrates river.

AP reporters in Tal Abyad said the patrol was headed to a Kurdish-controlled base to inspect it, apparently to ensure that trenches and sand berms had been removed. U.S. troops had inspected the base Saturday during patrols with the SDF during which some of the berms Turkey had complained about were removed.

The patrol ended after 2½ hours, with four stops along the way in villages near the border to inspect bases.

Helicopters flew low. Local commuters patiently waited while the convoy blocked traffic. The patrol then continued driving along dirt tracks as farmers and kids looked on.

# Tokyo keeps deadline on Futenma closure

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
AND AYA ICHIHASHI  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The Japanese government declined to establish a new deadline for closing Marine Corps Air Station Futenma after being pressed by officials on the southern island prefecture.

The move came during a meeting Wednesday between Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kazuhiro Sugita, senior defense officials, Okinawa Deputy Gov. Kiichiro Jahana and Ginowan Deputy Mayor Keigo Wada, Japan's Asahi newspaper reported Thursday.

Okinawan officials sought a new deadline because of safety risks associated with MCAS Futenma, which is in an urban area in central Okinawa.

In 2014, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe promised former Okinawa Gov. Hirokazu Nakaima to shutter Futenma by February 2019 if Nakaima signed off on permits to

fill in a portion of Oura Bay along Okinawa's northern coast for a new runway at the Marine base Camp Schwab in Henoko. The airfield would provide a new home for the Marine squadrons at Futenma.

Nakaima acquiesced, but two subsequent Okinawa prefectural administrations have strived to halt the construction. Those efforts have included a flurry of lawsuits and administrative challenges.

Construction at Schwab began five years ago. It has been postponed several times due to the legal challenges and environmental factors.

A prefectural spokesman confirmed the Asahi report to Stars and Stripes on Friday. The spokesman said Tokyo cited uncertainty surrounding the stability of the seabed, which has been described as "soft," in its decision to forgo a new deadline.

"During the meeting, the prefectural government and Ginowan City officials demanded a new deadline for returning Futenma as the deadline expired in Febru-

ary," the prefectural spokesman said. "The central government official replied, 'It may take a little longer to reinforce soft seabed, but we will do our best to return Futenma,' without determining the actual new deadline or anything."

The disagreement came while Japanese Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya was on the island last week to tour the Schwab construction site and meet with prefectural and U.S. military officials about the Futenma relocation.

Iwaya, the defense minister, said in March that reinforcing the seabed would set the project back three years and eight months. Current estimates of completion on the Schwab construction now stand somewhere around 2025-26 or later, Marine officials have said.

Japan and the United States originally planned to finish the project by 2022 "or later."

## USAF denies that Alaska crew favored Trump hotel

*Associated Press*

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Military officials are disputing a report that claims a joint Air Force and Alaska Air National Guard unit on a routine mission to Kuwait went miles out of its way to spend the night at a resort in Scotland owned by President Donald Trump.

Politico first reported that the military transport that took off from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage in March spent the night at the Turnberry resort, about 50 miles outside Glasgow.

The disclosure comes as Trump last week denied he had any role in Vice President Mike Pence booking a room at a Trump resort in Ireland or Attorney General William Barr booking a holiday party at a Trump property in Washington, actions which Democrats and critics claim enrich the president at taxpayers' expense.

The House Oversight and

Government Reform Committee has opened an investigation into the matter.

Military flights making stopovers in Scotland are not unusual, and there were no rooms closer to the airport, an Air Force spokesman said Saturday in an emailed statement to The Associated Press.

"As our aircrews serve on these international airlift missions, they follow strict guidelines on contracting for hotel accommodations and all expenditures of taxpayer dollars," Brig. Gen. Edward Thomas wrote. "In this case, they made reservations through the Defense Travel System and used the closest available and least expensive accommodations to the airfield within the crews' allowable hotel rates."

He said the Trump resort had rooms for \$136 a night, cheaper than a Marriott, which charged \$161 a night. However, he said, both are under the per diem rate of \$166.

## RAF Fairford holds event to reconnect with locals

By CHRISTOPHER DENNIS  
*Stars and Stripes*

RAF FAIRFORD, England — More than 750 people from the local community visited RAF Fairford in an event Friday aimed at strengthening ties with their American neighbors.

The 75th Anniversary Heritage Day was an open house-style event. The base hasn't had such a gathering in almost a decade.

"Throughout all the change, whether there have been hundreds stationed here or only a few, the town of Fairford and surrounding community has been woven into our mission set," said Lt. Col. Joseph Knothe, 420th Air Base commander. "You have fed our airmen, educated our children, contributed to our decisions and provided communities and friendships for our families."

RAF Fairford opened in 1944 in preparation for the D-Day landings and has been home to

a number of functions, including a test area for the Concorde and the birthplace of the RAF Red Arrows. It is now a forward bomber operating base.

Army Willys MB "Jeeps" and other World War II memorabilia were on display, and longtime community members offered airmen and visitors the history of the base.

A single B-52 that had just arrived at RAF Fairford to participate in training exercises from the 307th Bomb Wing at Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and one of the three B-2 Bombers from the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., were an added bonus to the event, said Jenny Collyer, base community relations adviser.

Originally, the Friday event was meant to include only 150 people and a barbecue, but local interest grew.

The open house drew in schoolchildren from the local primary school and made an impression on them.

# Cargo ship overturns near Ga. port; 4 on crew missing

Associated Press

ST. SIMONS SOUND, Ga. — Rescuers were searching Sunday for four crewmembers of a cargo ship that overturned and caught fire near a port on the Georgia coast, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The Golden Ray cargo ship ran into trouble in the early morning when it listed heavily in St. Simon Sound.

Of the 23 crewmembers and one pilot on board, the Coast Guard said 20 were safely evacuated from the ship, a 656-foot vehicle carrier.

Search and rescue operations were ongoing for the remaining four crewmembers, with boat

and helicopter crews assisting with the efforts.

Local agencies also were helping with the rescue.

The Coast Guard said it was notified by a 911 call about 2 a.m. of a capsized vessel in the sound.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Ryan Dickinson said it isn't clear if weather conditions caused the ship to lurch. Hurricane Dorian brushed past the Georgia coast last week before being downgraded to a post-tropical cyclone.

The cause of the incident remains under investigation.

The Golden Ray is flagged out of the Marshall Islands and was headed to Baltimore,

according to the website vesselfinder.com. The ship's registered owner is a South Korean company.

The Port of Brunswick is currently closed to vessel traffic, with an established emergency safety zone in St. Simons Sound. Vessels are not authorized within a half-mile of the Golden Ray, which was lying on its side.

The port is one of the busiest U.S. seaports for shipping automobiles. Nearly 614,000 vehicles and heavy machinery units moved across its docks in the 2019 fiscal year that ended June 30, according to the Georgia Ports Authority.

# Trial set for woman accused of trespassing

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — The upcoming trial of a Chinese national on federal charges that she trespassed at President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort and lied to the Secret Service is potentially a circus wrapped in mystery.

Rejecting the strong recommendation of U.S. District Judge Roy Altman, Yujing Zhang fired her public defenders in June to act as her own attorney — a longshot move the 33-year-old Shanghai business consultant has struggled with during pre-trial hearings setting up Monday's scheduled jury selection.

Zhang often frustrates Altman by ignoring his questions or answering with non sequiturs. At times she replies in near-fluent English and insists she understands complex legal concepts, but will then say she doesn't understand a simple question and turns to her Mandarin translator.

If that weren't enough, prosecutors have filed under seal secret evidence that they say has national security implications, even though Zhang is not charged with espionage.

The Secret Service said when agents detained Zhang at Mar-a-Lago she was carrying a computer, a hard drive, four cellphones and a thumb drive containing malware, although agents later recanted that accusation.

Agents said Zhang told them she brought the electronics to Mar-a-Lago because she feared they would be stolen if left at her nearby hotel, but in her room they allegedly found a device to detect hidden cameras, computers, \$8,000 in cash plus credit and debit cards, all in the open.

Zhang could get six years if convicted.

Her former public defenders are on standby in case she changes her mind about representing herself.

# Former SC lawmaker announces Republican primary challenge

The Washington Post

Former congressman Mark Sanford announced Sunday that he will challenge President Donald Trump in the 2020 Republican primary, becoming the third GOP contender in the race to unseat the incumbent.

Sanford made the announcement in an appearance on "Fox News Sunday."

"I am here to tell you now that I am going to get in," he said.

Sanford, a former South Carolina governor who represented the state's 1st Congressional District in the House until earlier this year, had been mulling a bid against the president for weeks.

He joins former Massachusetts governor Bill Weld, who launched a bid against Trump in April seeking to appeal to traditional Republican voters, and former Illinois congressman Joe Walsh, who announced last month that he will challenge

the president, not from the center but from the right and on moral grounds.

The president remains immensely popular among Republican voters. According to a Monmouth University poll released last month, 84 percent of Republicans approve of Trump's job performance.

Those numbers would suggest that, like other Trump challengers, Sanford has lower odds of actually defeating the president than of successfully criticizing him in a way that could affect the general election.

Limiting government spending was a key focus of Sanford's time in public office. And he has previously said he was motivated to consider a bid against Trump out of concern over the federal debt and deficit.

On Sunday, he said the country needs to have a conversation about the "degree to which institutions and political cul-

ture are being damaged by this president."

Asked by host Chris Wallace whether he seriously thinks he has a chance of beating Trump, Sanford responded, "I'm saying, you never know."

Sanford has his own political baggage.

He is perhaps best known for the 2009 episode during which, as governor, he disappeared for nearly a week before reemerging to hold a tearful news conference at which he revealed an extramarital affair.

Sanford's staff had said he was hiking the Appalachian Trail, but he had actually traveled to Argentina to be with Maria Belen Chapur, the woman he described as his "soul mate."

Sanford had previously served three terms in the House and, after leaving the governor's mansion in 2011, he ran for the House again and won, serving from 2013 to 2019.

# Hurricane Dorian slams Canada

Associated Press

TORONTO — The storm that has already walloped the Virgin Islands, Bahamas and North Carolina brought hurricane-force winds to far-eastern Canada on Sunday, knocking out power to hundreds of thousands of people.

Dorian hit near the city of Halifax on Saturday afternoon, ripping roofs off apartment buildings, toppling a huge construction crane and uprooting trees. There were no reported deaths in Canada, though the storm was blamed for at least 49 elsewhere along its path.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said the post-tropical cyclone was centered about 55 miles east-northeast of thinly populated Anticosti Island on Sunday morning and had top sustained winds of 80 mph. It was heading to the north-northwest, roughly up the St. Lawrence River.

Nova Scotia officials asked

people in the province to stay off the roads so crews could safely remove trees and debris and restore power.

The government said up to 700 Canadian military personnel will be fanning out across the Maritimes to help restore electricity, clear roadways and evacuate residents in flooded areas.

Nova Scotia Power Inc. chief executive Karen Hutt said there were more than 400,000 Nova Scotia Power customers without power at the peak of the storm and 50,000 have since had power restored. As the storm plowed into Prince Edward Island, about 50,000 homes and businesses were soon without power, as were another 74,000 in New Brunswick.

By far the greatest devastation caused by the storm was in the Bahamas, where Dorian struck a week ago as a Category 5 hurricane with 185 mph winds and then hovered just

offshore for more than a day and a half, obliterating thousands of homes.

Meanwhile, floodwaters were receding from North Carolina's Outer Banks, leaving behind a muddy trail of destruction. The storm's worst damage in the U.S. appeared to be on Ocracoke Island, which even in good weather is accessible only by boat or air and is popular with tourists for its undeveloped beaches.

Residents who waited out the storm described strong winds followed by a wall of water that flooded the first floors of many homes and forced some to await rescue from their attics.

"We're used to cleaning up dead limbs and trash that's floating around," Ocracoke business owner Philip Howard said Saturday. "But now it's everything: picnic tables, doors, lumber that's been floating around."

# Iran: Time is running out to save nuclear deal

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran defended its decision to use faster centrifuges prohibited by its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, officials said Sunday, while underscoring that time was running out for Europe to save the unraveling accord.

Iran already has crept past limits the deal imposed on nuclear enrichment and its uranium stockpile. It is trying to pressure Europe to find a way to sell crude oil abroad despite U.S. sanctions.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif claimed Iran's announcement the day before that it would use advanced centrifuges was still within the "framework" of the 2015 nuclear deal, while meeting with the visiting acting chief of the U.N. atomic watchdog, Cornel Feruta.

According to the semi-official Fars news agency, Zarif promised continued cooperation with the agency while warning the U.N. watchdog to carry out its task in an "impartial" way.

Earlier Sunday, the head of Iran's nuclear program, Ali Akbar Salehi, said the European Union has so far failed to carry out its commitments under the 2015 deal, which promised relief from trade sanctions in return for curbing the country's nuclear program.

France, which has led efforts to find a way around U.S. sanctions, including offering Iran a multibillion dollar credit line, appeared still committed to keeping Iran within the deal.

Speaking on Europe 1 radio Sunday, French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said Iran's "disengagement" from the deal's terms was causing tensions, but he added "the channels of dialogue remain open."

# Marchers urge liberation of Hong Kong

Associated Press

HONG KONG — Thousands of demonstrators in Hong Kong urged President Donald Trump to "liberate" the semi-autonomous Chinese territory during a peaceful march to the U.S. Consulate on Sunday, but violence broke out later in the business and retail district as police fired tear gas after protesters vandalized subway stations, set fires and blocked traffic.

Demonstrators flooded a park in central Hong Kong, chanting "Resist Beijing, Liberate Hong Kong" and "Stand with Hong Kong, fight for freedom." Many of them, clad in black shirts and wearing masks, waved American flags and carried posters that read "President Trump, please liberate Hong Kong" as they marched to the U.S. Consulate nearby.

"Hong Kong is at the forefront of the battle against the totalitarian regime of China,"

said Panzer Chan, one of the organizers of the march. "Please support us in our fight."

Hong Kong's government promised last week to formally withdraw the bill, but that failed to appease the demonstrators, who have widened their demands to include calls for direct elections of the city's leaders and an independent probe into alleged police brutality against protesters.

The unrest has become the biggest challenge to Beijing's rule since Hong Kong's return from Britain. Beijing and the entirely state-controlled media have portrayed the protests as an effort by criminals to split the territory from China, backed by hostile foreigners.

Protesters on Sunday urged Washington to pass a bill, known as the Hong Kong Democratic and Human Rights Act, to support their cause. The bill proposes sanctions against Hong Kong and Chinese officials found to suppress democ-

racy and human rights in the city, and could also affect Hong Kong's preferential trade status with the U.S.

A group of protesters sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" before handing over an appeal letter to a U.S. Consulate official.

Just before the rally ended, violence broke out after riot police detained several people and chased a crowd out of the nearby Central subway station. Angry protesters smashed glass windows and sprayed graffiti at the station's exits.

Some American legislators are pressing Trump to take a tougher stand on Hong Kong. But the president has suggested that it's a matter for China to handle, though he also has said no violence should be used. Political analysts suggest Trump's response has been muted because he doesn't want to disrupt talks with China over their tariff war.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## City sets fine for donating to homeless

**ME** SANFORD — Officials are telling residents to stop leaving donations at a homeless encampment or risk paying fines.

The Journal Tribune reported that Sanford city leaders said no donated items should be dropped at an encampment off Heritage Crossing.

City Manager Steve Buck said the items create clutter and unsanitary conditions for those living there.

## Farmer told to round up his pigs – or else

**VT** ORANGE — Vermont officials have issued an ultimatum to a farmer whose pigs escaped.

State Agriculture Secretary Anson Tebbetts said state officials are sympathetic to the farmer's plight but that "this has gone on for long enough."

WCAX-TV reported that the pigs escaped from their pens Aug. 12. Boars, sows and piglets have been spotted up and down the road since then.

Tebbetts said the farmer has until Tuesday to complete the roundup or USDA wildlife trappers will be called in.

## Batman walks bullied toddler to school

**FL** CRYSTAL RIVER — It wasn't Gotham City, but Batman descended on a Florida preschool to help a 3-year-old girl who was being bullied.

When Erica Calulli's daughter, Lydia, came home from school with bruises on her face, she chalked it up to regular kid's play. But then Lydia came home with a swollen black eye last month. The little girl told

her mother a classmates hit her and threw a shoe at her.

Calulli said she reported the incident to her daughter's school, but nothing came of it. She turned to social media, where Batman impersonator Jack Asbury saw the post and offered to walk the little girl to school.

## Whale entanglements on West Coast drop

**CA** SAN FRANCISCO — A conservation group said the number of whales entangled in crab fishing gear along the West Coast dropped by nearly half this year after a lawsuit settlement ended the state's commercial Dungeness crab season early.

The Center for Biological Diversity said preliminary data released by the National Marine Fisheries Service shows 18 whale entanglements were reported in the first eight months of this year, down from 42 reported during the same period in 2018. The majority of entangled whales were spotted off California.

A settlement between the conservation group and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife ended California's Dungeness crab season on April 15.

## Police: Wheels stolen off speed trailer

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — A speed trailer placed on a busy street can still monitor speeding motorists but it can't move. That's because police said thieves recently stole its tires.

KOB-TV in Albuquerque reported that police confirmed Thursday the wheels of the speed trailer were stolen and the device has been placed on metal pegs.

The device appears to be still working.

Police said the speed monitor shows drivers how fast they are going and tracks the data.

Authorities said the trailer will be repaired.

## Zoo orangutan may venture out with mom

**LA** NEW ORLEANS — Visitors can now see the baby orangutan born less than two months ago at the New Orleans zoo, but only when her mother decides to come outdoors.

Bulan was born July 17 to longtime Audubon Zoo resident Feliz and to Jambi, a male Sumatran orangutan brought from Germany late last fall.

Zoo spokeswoman Lauren Messina Conrad said Bulan's name means "Moon" in Indonesia's official language.

## Teacher charged with having gun in school

**WV** RICHWOOD — News outlets reported Shana Knight, 34, was arrested and charged with possessing a deadly weapon at an educational facility.

A Nicholas County sheriff's statement released Thursday said that the Cherry River Elementary teacher was arrested after authorities began investigating a complaint about the firearm last month.

Court documents said the gun was a loaded Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver.

The documents and the sheriff's statement don't include a possible motive or say where the gun was on school property.

State law prohibits possessing a firearm on a school bus or on the grounds of any primary or secondary educational facility unless the facility is private and

has a written policy allowing firearms.

## Guide guilty of using electronic bird caller

**IL** SPRINGFIELD — A central Illinois owner of an outfitter service has pleaded guilty to federal charges that included deploying an electronic bird caller to lure geese into shooting range.

A statement from the U.S. attorney's office in Springfield said Rick A. Hamm, 58, of Chillicothe, pleaded guilty Thursday to illegal sale of wildlife.

Hamm and several assistant guides were charged after taking undercover agents posing as hunters on a 2015 hunt in Fulton County.

Prosecutors said Hamm knew electronic callers violated conservation laws. They incorporate recordings of waterfowl to signal contentment at feeding grounds and can lead to excessive kills because they are so effective.

Hamm's sentencing is Jan. 9.

## Man who razed bridge for scrap gets prison

**IN** HAMMOND — A scrap-metal dealer convicted of razing a historic railroad bridge and selling the metal has been sentenced to two years in prison.

The (Northwest Indiana) Times reported Kenneth Morrison, 69, of Whiting, was given his punishment Thursday in U.S. District Court after being convicted in December of interstate transportation of stolen goods.

Federal prosecutors said Morrison knew the unused Monon Bridge was owned by the city of Hammond.

From wire reports

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# No. 7 Michigan tops Army in 20Ts

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Jake Moody made a 43-yard field goal and No. 7 Michigan forced and recovered a fumble to hold on for a 24-21 double-overtime victory over Army on Saturday.

The Wolverines (2-0) didn't lead until the second extra period and would have lost to the Black Knights (1-1) at the end of regulation if Cole Talley made a 50-yard kick

that sailed just short and to the right.

It marked the second straight year the U.S. Military Academy nearly beat a Top 10 team for the first time in more than a half-century. The Black Knights pushed No. 5 Oklahoma into overtime on the road last year before losing 28-21.

Army had won 10 straight since, a run that college football's winningest program barely stopped.

In overtime at the quiet Big House, Black Knights quarterback Kelvin Hopkins ran for a go-ahead, 6-yard touchdown and Michigan extended the game with Zach Charbonnet's third TD. Hopkins was sacked and lost a fumble to end the game in the second overtime.

Aidan Hutchinson hit Hopkins to jar the ball loose and Kwity Paye recovered the fumble to end the game.

## Top 25 roundup

# Maryland wallops No. 21 Syracuse

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Josh Jackson threw for 296 yards and three touchdowns for Maryland in a 63-22 defeat of No. 21 Syracuse Saturday.

Anthony McFarland Jr. ran for two scores and caught a 6-yard TD pass from Jackson during a sparkling first half in which the Terrapins (2-0) amassed 397 yards and built a 29-point lead.

**No. 1 Clemson 24, No. 12 Texas A&M 10:** Trevor Lawrence threw for one touchdown and ran for another and the Tigers won their record-tying 17th straight game.

The Aggies (1-1) talked of an upset all week and figured to be the sternest test left for the defending national champions. Instead, the Tigers (2-0) methodically made plays, stretched out drives and pressured A&M junior quarterback Kellen Mond into an awful showing.

The decisive win tied Clemson's best-ever run of success that spanned the 2014 and 2015 seasons.

**No. 6 LSU 45, No. 9 Texas 38:** Joe Burrow passed for 471 yards and four touchdowns, including a 61-yarder to Justin Jefferson with 2:27 left, and the Tigers pulled out a wild victory in Austin, Texas.

The biggest nonconference game in Austin since No. 1 Ohio

State came to town in 2006 was one the most anticipated matchups of the season and delivered on its promise. Texas stormed back from a 20-7 halftime deficit and the teams traded seven touchdowns in the second half.

**No. 2 Alabama 62, New Mexico State 10:** Tua Tagovailoa passed for three touchdowns and ran 25 yards for a fourth, all in the first half of the Crimson Tide's victory in Tuscaloosa. Alabama (2-0) was off to the races starting with the game's first play, when Henry Ruggs III collected a lateral and sprinted 75 yards for a touchdown. It didn't get any better for the Aggies (0-2) after that in sweltering conditions that contributed to thousands of empty seats at Bryant-Denny Stadium.

**No. 3 Georgia 63, Murray State 17:** D'Andre Swift ran for two touchdowns, Jake Fromm threw for 166 yards and a score, and the host Bulldogs broke loose in the second quarter against FCS school Murray State.

**No. 4 Oklahoma 70, South Dakota 14:** Jalen Hurts passed for 259 yards and three touchdowns in just over two quarters and the host Sooners rolled.

**No. 5 Ohio State 42, Cincinnati 0:** Justin Fields passed for two touchdowns and ran for two more scores for the host Buckeyes.

**No. 10 Auburn 24, Tulane**

**6:** Bo Nix threw for 207 yards and a touchdown, Auburn ran for 172 yards after amassing just 20 in the first half and the Tigers' defense dominated.

**No. 11 Florida 45, Tennessee-Martin 0:** Elusive receiver Kadarius Toney and speedy cornerback CJ Henderson left in the first half and did not return in the host Gators victory.

**No. 13 Utah 35, Northern Illinois 17:** Tyler Huntley passed for one touchdown and ran for another and the host Utes held the Huskies to 69 yards in the second half.

**California 20, No. 14 Washington 19:** Greg Thomas kicked a 17-yard field goal with 8 seconds left, and the Bears beat the Huskies in a game delayed more than 2½ hours due to severe weather.

**No. 15 Penn State 45, Buffalo 12:** Sean Clifford threw for 280 yards and four touchdowns and the host Nittany Lions overcame a halftime deficit to beat Buffalo.

**No., 16 Oregon 77, Nevada 6:** Justin Herbert threw for 310 yards and five touchdowns before heading to the sideline in the third quarter, and the host Ducks rebounded from their season-opening loss to Auburn.

**No. 17 Wisconsin 17, Central Michigan 0:** Jonathan Taylor rushed for three touchdowns and caught a scoring pass, Quintez Cephus scored his first two touchdowns of the

season and the host Badgers cruised past Central Michigan.

**No. 18 UCF 48, Florida Atlantic 14:** Dillon Gabriel went 7-for-19 in his first start, but threw touchdown throws of 57 and 74 yards, and the visiting Knights extended their regular-season winning streak to 24 games.

**No. 20 Iowa 30, Rutgers 0:** Nate Stanley threw for 236 yards and three touchdowns and the host Hawkeyes rolled past the Scarlet Knights in the Big Ten opener for both teams..

**Washington St. 59, Northern Colorado 17:** Anthony Gordon threw for 464 yards and four touchdowns and the Cougars State pounded a FCS opponent.

**USC 45, No. 23 Stanford 20:** Freshman Kedon Slovis passed for 377 yards and three touchdowns in an excellent debut, and the host Trojans rolled over Stanford.

**Colorado 34, No. 25 Nebraska 31, OT:** James Stefanou's 34-yard field goal in overtime gave the visiting Buffaloes their first lead and Colorado beat the Cornhuskers when punter Isaac Armstrong's 49-yard try sailed wide right. The students stormed the field in celebration of the Buffaloes' second straight victory over old Big 12 rival Nebraska (1-1). Last year, Colorado rallied win in the closing minutes in Lincoln.

# All-Pro Brown heads to Patriots

Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Randy Moss. Josh Gordon. And now Antonio Brown.

A dozen years after Bill Belichick took a chance on Moss when the talented but troubled diva had worn out his welcome in Oakland, the Patriots picked up Brown on Saturday hours after he was released by the Raiders without ever playing a game for them.

Brown's agent, Drew Rosenhaus, confirmed to The Associated Press that the four-time All-Pro receiver has agreed to terms with New England, going from the NFL's cellar to the defending Super Bowl champions despite talking and tweeting his way out of two teams in one offseason.

Brown had been scheduled to earn up to \$50 million from Oakland over the three-year deal. Instead, the Patriots guaranteed him \$9 million this season, with the potential to earn as much as \$15 million.

If Brown can behave, he would make up for the loss of tight end Rob Gronkowski, who retired at the age of 29. After the signing was reported, New England became the oddsmakers' favorite to win the Super Bowl.

A Patriots spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The deal was first reported by ESPN, and it became Instagram official minutes later when Brown posted a photo-shopped picture of himself in a Patriots uniform. The post was soon liked by New England receiver Julian Edelman, who already was sharing quarterback Tom Brady's attention with one troublemaking receiver, Josh Gordon.

# Serena still waiting for No. 24

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bianca Andreescu knew this would happen, because she knows all about Serena Williams. Looked up to her. Dreamed of playing her.

Andreescu knew Williams would not go quietly. Knew Williams would not make things easy. And so as a big lead in the U.S. Open final dwindled Saturday, as she stuffed fingers in her ears to drown out the decibels from the delirious thousands filling Arthur Ashe Stadium, Andreescu knew she needed to be just as bold, and hit just as big, as she did earlier in the match — and as Williams has done for years.

Displaying the same brand of in-your-face tennis Williams seemed to invent, replete with strong serves, gutsy groundstrokes and "Come on!" cries, the 19-year-old Andreescu regained the upper hand and pulled out a 6-3, 7-5 victory at Flushing Meadows to win her

first Grand Slam title and keep Williams from collecting a record-tying 24th.

"I'm sure I'm not the only person that's looked up to her. She's an inspiration to many, many people, not only athletes. What she's done off the court, too. She's truly a champion. Above all, she's very kind-hearted. She came up to me in the locker room, she said some really nice things, which I'll cherish for a really, really long time," Andreescu said about the 37-year-old Williams.

"I've really strived to be like her," Andreescu said. "Who knows? Maybe I can be even better."

Andreescu is the first woman in the Open era, which began in 1968, to win the championship in New York in her tournament debut; a year ago, she couldn't even make it into the field, because she lost in the first round of qualifying. She is the first woman since Monica Seles in 1990 to lift the trophy in only her fourth Grand Slam tour-

namment. She is the first player from Canada to win a Grand Slam singles title.

This is the second year in a row that Williams has lost in the final at Flushing Meadows. This one had none of the controversy of 2018, when she got into an extended argument with the chair umpire while being beaten by Naomi Osaka.

Williams has now been the runner-up at four of the seven majors she has entered since returning to the tour after having a baby two years ago. The American remains stuck on 23 Grand Slam singles titles, one shy of Margaret Court's mark for the most in history.

"I'm not necessarily chasing a record. I'm just trying to win Grand Slams. It's definitely frustrating, you know," Williams said.

She gave credit to Andreescu for playing well, but also said: "I honestly didn't play my best today. I could have played better. That's the only solace that I can take right now."

# Nurmagomedov submits Poirier in 3rd

Associated Press

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates — Khabib Nurmagomedov stopped Dustin Poirier by submission in the third round Saturday night at UFC 242, retaining his lightweight title and unbeaten record.

After dominating Poirier with wrestling and grappling throughout the bout at Yas Island, Nurmagomedov (28-0) landed a rear naked choke and forced Poirier to tap midway through the third.

The Dagestan-born Russian fighter returned almost flawlessly for his first fight since beating Conor McGregor in October 2018. Nurmagomedov has stopped three of his last five opponents by submission, and he is challenging Jon Jones and Amanda Nunes for unofficial pound-for-pound supremacy in mixed martial arts.

"MMA is about respect, this is what we showed tonight," Nurmagomedov said.

Nurmagomedov felt disrespected by McGregor and the Irish star's friends before their bout, and that's why he jumped into the crowd to brawl with the entourage after his victory last year. Nurmagomedov was suspended and fined by the Nevada Athletic Commission, and Poirier won an interim lightweight title during Nurmagomedov's forced absence.

"There has been a lot of pressure on me recently," Nurmagomedov said. "I now need a couple of days rest."

Poirier (25-6) nearly finished Nurmagomedov with a guillotine choke early in the third round of a fight otherwise dominated by his opponent. Poirier held his interim title after beating Max Holloway in April for his fourth consecutive victory over elite lightweights.

But Nurmagomedov stands on another level entirely, and he appears to be one of the UFC's most bankable stars.

"I feel like I let myself down," Poirier said. "My career was set up for this moment. I was so prepared. I didn't cut any corners. When I wake up, I need to take a look in the mirror."

UFC President Dana White said Nurmagomedov's next fight is likely to be against Tony Ferguson, the powerful lightweight who has been booked against Nurmagomedov several times in bouts that fell through due to injuries.

McGregor, who has unpersuasively claimed to be retired, offered his own idea for Nurmagomedov's next bout on Twitter: "Book my rematch for Moscow."

Nurmagomedov has won his first 12 UFC bouts, a mark surpassed only by Anderson Silva in the promotion's history.

# Braves edge Nats for 9th straight win

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Brian McCann helped Houston win the World Series in 2017. He feels the same vibe with the streaking Atlanta Braves.

“I think this series just showed we’re a complete team,” the veteran catcher said. “We can beat you in any phase of the game. We can beat you with speed. We can beat you with pitching. We can beat you with the long ball late in games. Guys hit No. 1s.”

Josh Donaldson and Ozzie Albies each homered for the second straight day and the Braves set off another celebration with their ninth straight victory, 5-4 over the Washington Nationals on Saturday night.

McCann and Matt Joyce hit back-to-back homers in a three-run sixth inning, helping the NL East leaders to their longest winning streak in five-plus years. Atlanta, 20-4 since Aug. 11, has won 13 in a row at home, most in the major leagues since Cleveland

had a 13-game string in 2016.

“This is what you sign up for,” McCann said. “This is what you love. You get into September baseball and you’re close to the finish line. We’ve done a great job from day one.”

The Nationals still lead the NL wild-card race despite losing four in a row for the first time since May 19-23. Washington fell 10 games back in the division race.

Albies hit his 21st homer, an opposite-field shot to left into the Washington bullpen, in the first. Donaldson homered for the 36th time, this one a season-long 443-foot shot into the left-field seats in the fourth, and the slugger known as the Bringer of Rain grabbed his black umbrella for another wet dugout dance with his teammates.

Donaldson, the 2015 AL MVP, has 28 homers since June 11 to tie Cincinnati’s Eugenio Suarez for most in the major leagues over that span.

Julio Teheran (10-8) made his 30th start

for the seventh straight season, allowing one run and three hits in five innings. His 219 starts since 2013 are fourth-most in the majors, and no pitcher has made as many starts for a single team during that span.

“We all know that we have a great team, and obviously I wanted to do my job,” Teheran said. “To look back now over 30 starts and see consistency I’ve been having, I’m proud of myself for the work I’ve been doing.”

Asdrubal Cabrera’s 16th homer trimmed the lead to 2-1 in the fifth. McCann answered in the bottom half of the inning with a two-run shot. He and Joyce each took Hunter Strickland deep to right.

Nationals starter Austin Voth (1-1) allowed two runs and three hits in four innings. Washington had the bases loaded with no outs in the seventh, but came away with one run against Darren O’Day and Sean Newcomb. Juan Soto’s two-run double cut the lead to 5-4 in the eighth.

## Roundup

# Astros’ Verlander beats Mariners for 18th win

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Justin Verlander pitched seven strong innings to get his MLB-leading 18th win in his first start since throwing his third no-hitter to lead the Houston Astros to a 2-1 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Saturday night.

Verlander (18-5) allowed four hits with one run and fanned seven in his 30th start of the season. He leads the American League with a 2.52 ERA and his 264 strikeouts are second in the majors behind teammate Gerrit Cole. Will Harris struck out one in a scoreless ninth for his second save.

With the game tied at one, Josh Reddick drove in the go-ahead run with a sacrifice fly in the seventh inning. Alex Bregman tied it up with a solo home run in the sixth inning to help the Astros improve to 15-1 against the Mariners this season with their 10th straight win over their AL West foes.

Seattle starter Yusei Kikuchi had retired 11 of the last 13 batters he’d faced when Bregman connected off of him on a shot

to the seats in left field with no outs in the sixth to tie it at 1-all.

Rookie pinch-hitter Kyle Tucker doubled to start Houston’s seventh and reached third on a wild pitch by Austin Adams (1-2). Houston took the lead when Tucker scored on the sacrifice fly by Reddick for the first out of the inning.

Verlander has started at least 30 games in 13 seasons and he reached 200 innings on Saturday night for his 12th season with at least 200 innings.

**Phillies 5, Mets 0:** Drew Smyly pitched seven solid innings and visiting Philadelphia pounded Marcus Stroman and a porous New York defense to end a three-game skid. Cesar Hernandez led off the game with his ninth homer, and Philadelphia grinded away early even with star Bryce Harper out of the lineup a day after being hit in the right hand by a fastball.

**Rays 5, Blue Jays 3:** Travis d’Arnaud and Daniel Robertson drove in runs with two outs in the eighth inning, helping host Tampa Bay beat Toronto.

The Rays won for the ninth

time in 10 games.

**Diamondbacks 2, Reds 0:** Rookie Alex Young struck out 12 in eight innings, Ketel Marte drove in a run and scored another and Arizona won its fifth straight and extended its playoff surge with a win at Cincinnati.

**Yankees 5, Red Sox 1:** J.A. Happ pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning, Edwin Encarnacion homered and New York won at Boston.

**Royals 7, Marlins 2:** Ryan McBroom doubled twice and had three RBI to help Kansas City win at Miami.

**Rangers 9, Orioles 4:** Rougned Odor homered during a six-run first inning and Texas cruised to its third straight victory with a win at Baltimore.

**Cardinals 10, Pirates 1:** Marcell Ozuna hit a three-run homer and Adam Wainwright pitched seven strong innings, helping St. Louis maintain its lead atop the NL Central with a win at Pittsburgh.

**Angels 8, White Sox 7:** Shohei Ohtani hit a three-run home run and drove in a career-high five runs to help Los

Angeles win at Chicago.

**Twins 5, Indians 3:** Mitch Garver hit his second homer of the game, a three-run shot, in the seventh inning, helping host Minnesota rally past Cleveland.

**Brewers 3, Cubs 2:** Christian Yelich sliced an opposite-field double off Brandon Kintzler to score the winning run in the ninth inning for host Milwaukee.

**Padres 3, Rockies 0:** Manny Machado hit a two-run home run, Wil Myers also connected and left-hander Joey Lucchesi and three relievers combined on a three-hitter to lead host San Diego to a defeat of Colorado.

**Athletics 10, Tigers 2:** Chris Bassitt struck out a career-high 11 in six innings and was part of a bizarre double play to help host Oakland beat Detroit.

**Giants 1, Dodgers 0:** Kevin Pillar knocked in the game’s only run with a ground out in the first inning and Tyler Beede struck out five in five innings as San Francisco won at Los Angeles.