SPORTS

NFL Week 16 filled with playoff implications

Panthers can reach playoffs with win

Carolina has won 6 of its last 7 games

BY STEVE REED ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTE — The Carolina Panthers find themselves on the brink of clinching a playoff spot despite a season filled with off-field distractions.

The Panthers (10-4) can reach the postseason for the fourth time in the last five seasons under coach Ron Rive-

ra with a win Sunday against the slumping Tampa Bay Buccaneers (4-10).

The Panthers, who've won six of their past seven games, are tied with New Orleans atop the NFC South, but the Saints hold the head-to-head tiebreaker. The Panthers would need to win out and the Saints to lose one of their remaining two games to win the division.

It is the type of consistency the Panthers have been striving for since coming into the league in 1995. Prior to 2014, the team had never been to the postseason in back-to-back seasons.

"What it talks about as far as the culture inside the locker room is we have a group of young men who want to win," Rivera said. "It's been a group of young men who have given their all over the past five seasons and put a lot on the line. ... I think it speaks very well for what

The Panthers didn't get to this point without overcoming their fair share of distractions.

Carolina's season has been a soap opera of epic proportions, beginning with owner Jerry Richardson's surprising decision to fire general manager Dave Gettleman on the eve of training camp — and then replace him with former GM Marty Hurney.

SEE PANTHERS/PAGE B2

Waiting Game



LOGAN ULRICH/Dispatch sports

Southern Vance senior Tre'Quan Alston finished in first place at the WRAL Invitational on Saturday. Alston is poised to contend for a state championship this season, which would cement his name in Southern Vance lore.

Southern Vance's Tre'Quan Alston on the verge of making school history

BY LOGAN ULRICH SPORTS EDITOR

re'Quan Alston stalks back and forth, eyes intently focused on the wrestling mat in the center of the gym. Soon it will be his turn, but for now he waits.

Waiting is mostly what Alston does at these wrestling tournaments, which might be more aptly called waiting tournaments. On Friday, the first day of the WRAL Invitational wrestling tournament, he arrived at Athens Drive High at 9:30 a.m. with his head coach Chris Watson, but his first match wasn't until almost 3.

Saturday, Alston beat his seminnai opponent at around 1 in the afternoon, and now has waited almost five hours for his championship match against Christian Hite of Broughton High. But really Alston has been waiting much longer than that. Hite beat him in the Grant Wilder Wilson Invitational in November.

He shouldn't have. He never took Alston down, and only won the match after Alston was called for an illegal move that leveraged Hite back into position. Now Alston's made his way through the bracket and

has another shot at making tnings right.

"That loss stung Tre to the core," Watson said. "That's the match he keeps talking about. I would bet money on it, that's how confident I am. There's no way he can lose to that guy again."

Tre'Quan Alston shouldn't need an introduction. The senior from Southern Vance has as long a list of accomplishments as any other athlete in the county. He qualified for regionals as a freshman, won more than 40 matches as a sophomore and was one match away from

the championship bout as a

But because wrestling occupies a lower rung in the hierarchy of Vance County sports, sometimes Alston falls through the cracks. Though Southern Vance has a long

history of strong wrestling, each year only a handful come out for tryouts and even fewer stay. Most of the guys Alston's age are playing either football or basketball - and Alston doesn't care to

"If they don't, they don't. I just do my own thing," he said.

SEE WAITING/PAGE B3

Berry, Pinson lift UNC past Ohio State

BY BRETT MARTEL ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — Theo Pinson and Joel Berry II viewed North Carolina's recent upset loss to Wofford as a test of their leadership.

The seniors provided a convincing response in a neutralsite, made-for-TV matchup against Ohio State.

Berry and Pinson each scored 19 points, and No. 5 North Carolina bounced back with an 86-72 victory over the Buckeyes on Saturday in the CBS Sports Classic.

"Any team should have a great amount of focus after a loss," Pinson said. "I was just ready to come out and step up for my teammates."

Pinson scored six points on flawless free throw shooting inside the final 1:06 of the game as the Tar Heels (11-2) kept the Buckeyes (10-4) at

"We've got veteran guys who know we can't sulk," Pinson said. "We need to move on to the next game, but at the same time, keep that loss in our minds.'

Cameron Johnson — a graduate transfer from Pittsburgh whose recent debut was delayed by injuries — scored 13 points in just his second game for North Carolina, which had 13 3-pointers.

Keita Bates-Diop had 26 points — one point shy of his career high — for Ohio State. He shot 10 of 17 for the game and scored 19 points in the second half, including eight straight for Ohio State during a late 13-4 run that briefly pulled the Buckeyes within 78-69 with 1:10 to play.

In the first half, Bates-Diop played just 8 minutes because

SEE UNC/PAGE B3

No. 21 Vols pull away in 2nd half, beat Wake Forest

BY AARON BEARD ASSOCIATED PRESS

WINSTON-SALEM — The fouls piled up early for No. 21 Tennessee — one coming a single second into the game to send some of the Volunteers' top players to the bench. And Wake Forest controlled the boards to build some confidence and rhythm.

The halftime message to

Jordan Bowden scored 17 points and Tennessee shot 59 percent in the second half to beat Wake Forest 79-60 on Saturday in their final pre-conference game.

The Volunteers (9-2) led by one at the half but took control by scoring on seven of 10 possessions coming out of the break. That pushed Tennessee the Volunteers was simple: to a 52-43 lead, a margin that

never slipped to fewer than five as the Demon Deacons struggled for a sustained push.

"We just knew we were going for it," said Grant Williams, who scored 11 points despite early foul trouble. "We talked about it in the locker room, that they're out-toughing us. They were kind of punking us on the rebounding end ... and they were driving to the basket and getting fouled.

to come out aggressive, and that's what happened.'

Tennessee's finishing kick was pretty good, too. After Mitchell Wilbekin's layup cut the deficit to 66-60 with 4:33 left, Tennessee closed the game on a 13-0 run. Bowden and Admiral Schofield each hit key 3-pointers in the flurry, with Bowden's straightaway 3 to beat the shot clock near

"So we just knew we had the 2-minute mark pushing the lead to 75-60.

That was part of Bowden's 5-for-5 shooting day — all from behind the arc - in 28 minutes after tying his career high of 21 points against Furman on Wednesday.

"He plays off his teammates," coach Rick Barnes said. "We try to tell him to be

SEE VOLS/PAGE B2



'Takes on life' have changed

WALT

BOWEN

A different definitions. Inings was not so very important to me just a few short in a hold the luster, while things I'd not considered so much have now taken on quite a shine. Falling down the list slightly were fishing so much and working around the clock. Making the top five are the grandchildren, Ruth Anne, Vincent Elijah, and my namesake John Walter II, enjoying more time with my wife and soulmate Susan while we're both still young and upright, and spending

time with my parents whenever

s time passes my "take on life" takes on

possible. Watching John's excitement build as Christmas Day nears takes me back 50 years to when I was 8. He's so mindful of the fact that Santa's always watching and how any misbehavior might impact his Christmas morning. He's also mindful of the true meaning of Christmas and wouldn't consider my proposal to delay it a few days since "You can't move Jesus' birthday."

Spending time with the family, watching the grandkids play, and eating a 20-month old hickory smoked Tennessee country ham from Benton Hams has me almost as excited as John is. Benton Hams is a father and son pork operation started in 1947. Their hams, bacon and sausage are famous worldwide and the sausage is aged while hanging in muslin cloth sacks like my dad made years ago. A good friend picked up the country ham, bacon and sausage on his way back from visiting family in Tennessee.

Although there wasn't enough time this week to do any fishing I did watch a huge flock of turkeys scratching up acorns in the oak grove in our yard. They were enjoying the easy pickings I'd uncovered while raking and burning leaves this week. Burning leaves is another thing that's high on my fun list these

days. And getting them burnt safely as the rain started Wednesday morning made Susan and I both proud of my leaf burning abilities.



nice white perch one morning this week on the south end of Kerr Lake. He used the boat ramp at Hibernia which remains open despite low water levels. And on the Chesapeake Bay Mike Breedlove is reporting that the action has slowed down. Mike didn't land a fish in 5 days of fishing recently. A few boats found isolated fish with a

64-pound, 10-oz. being weighed and several others in the 40 - 50 pound range.

The 2018 "Ice Bowl Catfish Tournament" will be held January 27th, 2018 and launch from Occoneechee State Park. Pre-registration for the event will take place Friday January 26th, 2018 at the Lamp Lighter in Clarksville Va from 2 to 6:30 p.m. and the mandatory Pre-Registration Captains meeting will begin at 7 p.m. They have a Facebook page with more information. Ruben's Too Restaurant in Danville Va is supplying a hot meal at the

NEXT WEEK'S REPORT

Results of Santa's visit to N.C. and plans for heading south while the snow falls here.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Go to www.saw.usace.armv.mil/ Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/ John-H-Kerr/Recreation/Ramps/ for information on which ramps to use during high or low water. They list the highest and lowest water levels for each ramp.

Contact the writer by email at waltbowen@ yahoo.com

WAITING

FROM PAGE B1

"If I have to work by myself, I'll work by myself. If they want to be a follower, then hey. They can do whatever they do.'

Some of the lack of participation can be traced to a stigma that lingers around the sport. Watson, who twice was a runner-up at the state championship while he was at Southern Vance and has coached wrestling for a decade, has had students tell him the tight jumpsuit and rolling around on a mat is too "gay" for them.

mental discipline wrestling demands is also too much for many. They have to adjust to conditioning, maintaining weight and learning a litany of complicated moves, which takes time. Meanwhile, they're likely being schooled by opponents, and no one likes losing for long.

But the physical and

"You've got to have a lot of heart to wrestle," Watson said.

Alston's heart has always been apparent. Since he was young, his work ethic has been on a different plane than his peers. "I'll never forget trying

to break him in practice one day doing up downs," said Jahquan Turner, who coached Alston while he was in middle school. "All the other kids, they're tired, they're giving up, and he's still going at the same pace. He's had a passion since the day he walked onto the mat." Alston didn't pick up

wrestling until the eighth grade when a friend convinced him to try it. But once he did, something fell into place. He had always been independent, and in wrestling he found a sport where he — not coaches or teammates or anyone else was the only one in control of the outcome. He talked his mother,

Sharon Alston, into letting him continue with wrestling, then convinced her to sign

him up for a camp in Wake Forest. He had always been single-minded, now wrestling was the sole object of his focus. As soon as his mother got home from work, he'd be pushing her to the car to leave for camp. They'd arrive before any of the coaches.

Whenever he wants to do something, he puts a lot of work into it," Sharon Alston said. "That's all he does." In middle school, Alston

would call his mother after every practice to ask if he could stay an extra hour to work. When he started at Southern Vance as a freshman, he would outwork even the team captains, who were contenders at the state meet. Watson, finishes every practice with conditioning 20 up downs, 20 mountain climbers, 20 squat jumps and 20 jumping jacks.

"(Alston) would add uicides after every practice, Watson said. "And I see my two leaders just leaving. That's when I knew his ceiling would be just a little bit higher, because he always wanted the extra work put in before he leaves."

Despite his dedication, there's some lessons in wrestling that are only taught by experience. Alston was no exception. As a freshman, he had a chance to advance to the state meet. He was facing a wrestler from Carrboro who he had trounced earlier that year. His opponent turned the tables, though, and Alston took a seat as one of his teammates won his next match immediately after and advanced to states. "He just burst out crying,

just right there," Watson said. "He didn't burst out right after the loss, but after that kid made it he just poured out his heart, because he wanted to go so bad.' Alston's never forgotten

that match, though he admits he tries not to think about it. The hurt of being on the outside looking in is still too real. Since that moment, though, that laser-focused mind has turned to the one thing that will right that wrong in his eyes. Not just a

state championship, Alston doesn't want rings or medals or adulation, but his name on a blue banner hanging forever in the gym at Southern Vance. "I could care less about

anything else, I just want the banner," Alston said. "To put my name up on the wall.' Now he just has to wait.

Finally it's Alston's turn to wrestle. He sheds his black T-shirt covering his dark and light blue jumpsuit. The back reads, "Pain is weakness leaving the body."

Alston walks to the center of the mat and faces Hite in his royal purple jumpsuit. The official places his hand between them, then blows the whistle and steps back as the two crash together.

The first period ends in a deadlock, as neither wrestler can find an opening to take advantage of. In the second though, Hite snatches Alston's knee and scores a takedown, something he wasn't able to do the first time they met. Alston faces a 3-1 deficit going into the third period.

Then for a while, his prospects look bleak. Hite takes the top position and looks like he'll be able to ride out the clock for the win. Try as he might, Alston can't gather his legs underneath him to escape. From a folding metal chair next to the mat, Watson yells, "You gotta go, now!" The clock projected

onto the wall of the gym ticks down underneath 30 seconds. Alston bucks free, and the pair corkscrew to the boundary. As time runs out, Alston heaves Hite out of bounds and takes him to the mat. Watson jumps to his feet, two fingers in the air for the two points Alston just earned with the takedown. The gym buzzes softly

as the two referees confer. Watson stays in his stance with his two fingers still in the air. Finally one of them holds up two fingers for Alston enough points for the victory. His wait, at least for today,

is over. lulrich@hendersondisaptch.com

was called for a technical

foul during the first half. "I'm

SCOREBOARD

TV SPORTSWATCH

COLLEGE FOOTBALL
8:30 P.M.
ESPN — Hawaii Bowl, Fresno St. vs. Houston, at Honolulu

NFL FOOTBALL 1 P.M.

NOON
ESPN — Philadelphia at New York
3 P.M.
ABC — Cleveland at Golden State
5:30 P.M.

PRO FOOTBALL

Miami	6	8	0	.429	252	342							
N.Y. Jets	5	9	0	.357	285	342							
SOUTH W L T Pct PF PA													
x-Jacksonville	10	4	ö	.714	374	209							
Tennessee	8	6	ŏ	.571	296	319							
Houston	4	10	0	.286	319	380							
Indianapolis	3	12	0	.200	241	391							
NORTH													
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Dallas	8	6	0	.571	336	311							
Washington	6	8	0	.429	305	359							
N.Y. Giants	2	12	0	.143	228	355							
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Carolina	10	4	ŏ	.714	331	286							
Atlanta	9	5	ŏ	.643	318	282							
Tampa Bay	4	10	0	.286	285	336							
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y-Minnesota	11	3	0	.786	343	242							
Detroit Green Bay	8 7	6 7	0	.571 .500	358 309	339 333							
Green Bay	- /	- /	U	.500	209	333							

Cincinnati at Baltimore, 1 p.m. Cincinnati at Baltimore, 1 p.m. New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m. Oakland at L.A. Chargers, 4:25 p.m. San Francisco at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m. Arizona at Seattle, 4:25 p.m. Kansas City at Denver, 4:25 p.m.

Troy 50, North Texas 30

CURE BOWL

ORLANDO, FLA.

Georgia State 27, Western Kentu
LAS VEGAS BOWL

State 30

FRIDAY, DEC. 22 BAHAMAS BOWL NASSAU

NAWAII BOWL HONOLULU Fresno State (9-4) vs. Houston (7-4), 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

TUESDAY, DEC. 26 HEART OF DALLAS BOWL inia (7-5) vs. Utah (6-6), 1:30 p.m.

CACTUS BOWL PHOENIX
Kansas State (7-5) vs. UCLA (6-6), 9 p.m.
(ESPN)

SAN ANTONIO Stanford (9-4) vs. TCU (10-3), 9 p.m. (ESPN)

HOLIDAY BOWL SAN DIEGO State (9-3) vs. Michigan State

FRIDAY, DEC. 29 DELK BOWL CHARLOTTE, N.C. Wake Forest (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (7-5), 1 p.m (ESPN)

SUN BOWL EL PASO, TEXAS NC State (8-4) vs. Arizona State (7-5), 3 p.m. (CBS) MUSIC CITY BOWL

MASHVILLE, TENN.
Kentucky (7-5) vs. Northwestern (9-3), 4:30 p.m. (ESPN) ARIZONA BOWL TUCSON, ARIZ. New Mexico State (5-6) vs. Utah State (6-6), 5:30 p.m. (CBSSN)

5:30 p.m. (CBSSN)

COTTON BOWL CLASSIC
ARLINGTON, TEXAS

Southern Cal (11-2) vs. Ohio State (11-2), 8:30
p.m. (ESPN)

SATURDAY, DEC. 30
TAXSLAYER BOWL
JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
Louisville (8-4) vs. Mississippi State (8-4),
Noon (ESPN)

LIBERTY BOWL MEMPHIS, TENN. (7-5) vs. Memphis (10-2), 12:30

FIESTA BOWL GLENDALE, ARIZ. (10-2) vs. Penn State (10-2), 4

ORANGE BOWL MIAMI GARDENS, FLA. Wisconsin (12-1) vs. Miami (10-2), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

MONDAY, JAN. 1 OUTBACK BOWL TAMPA, FLA. Michigan (8-4) vs. South Carolina (8-4), Noon (ESPN2)

PEACH BOWL ATLANTA

ATLANTA
UCF (12-0) vs. Auburn (10-3), 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)
CITRUS BOWL
ORLANDO, FLA.
Notre Dame (9-3) vs. LSU (9-3), 1 p.m. (ABC)
ROSE BOWL (CFP SEMIFINAL)
PASADENA, CALIF.
Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Georgia (12-1), 5:10 p.m.
(ESPN)
SUGAR BOWL (CFP SEMIFINAL)

(ESPN)
SUGAR BOWL (CFP SEMIFINAL)
NEW ORLEANS
Clemson (12-1) vs. Alabama (11-1), 8:45 p.m.
(ESPN)

MONDAY, JAN. 8
COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
ATLANTA
Rose Bowl winner vs. Sugar Bowl winner, 8
p.m. (ESPN)

East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)

AT CARSON, CALIF.

American vs. National, 4 p.m. (FS1)

SATURDAY, JAN. 20

EAST-WEST SHRINE CLASSIC

AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFLN)

NFLPA COLLEGIATE BOWL

AT CARSON, CALIF.

American vs. National, 4 p.m. (FS1)

SATURDAY, JAN. 27

SENIOR BOWL

AT MOBILE, ALA.

North vs. South, 2:30 p.m. (NFLN)

MAJOR LEAGUES

FREE AGENTS SIGNINGS

FREE AGENTS SIGNINGS

NEW YORK — The 26 free agents who have signed, with name, position, former club if different, and contract. The contract information was obtained by The Associated Press from player and management sources. For players with minor league contracts, letter agreements for major league contracts are in parentheses:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON (1) — Re-signed Mitch Moreland, 1b, to a \$13 million, two-year contract.

CHICAGO (1) — Signed Welington Castillo, c, Baltimore, to a \$15 million, two-year contract.

HOUSTON (1) — Signed Joe Smith, rhp, Cleveland, to a \$15 million, two-year contract.

LOS ANGELES (1) — Signed Zack Cozart, inf. Cincinnait, to a \$38 million, three-year contract.

Minnesotta (2) — Signed Michael Pineda, rhp, New York Yankees, to a \$10 million, two-year contract; signed Fernando Rodney, rhp, Arizona, to a \$4.5 million, one-year contract. OAKLAND (1) — Signed Yusmeiro Petit, rhp, Los Angeles Angels, to a \$10 million, two-year contract.

DAKLAND (1) — Signed Visineiro Petit, rip, Los Angeles Angels, to a \$10 million, two-year contract. SEATTLE (2) — Re-signed Hisashi Iwakuma, rhp, to a minor league contract (\$2.5 million); signed Juan Nicasio, rhp, St. Louis, to a \$17 million, two-year contract. TEXAS (3) — Signed Doug Fister, rhp, Boston, to a \$4 million, one-year contract; signed Mike Minor, lhp, Kansas City, to a \$28 million, three-year contract. NATIONAL LEAGUE

CHICAGO (3) — Signed Tyler Chatwood, rhp, Colorado, to a \$38 million, three-year contract; signed Brandon Morrow, rhp, Los Angeles Dodgers, to a \$21 million, two-year contract; signed Steve Cishek, rhp, Tampa Bay, to a \$13 million, two-year contract. COLORADO (3) — Signed Chris Iannetta, c. Arizona, to an \$8.5 million, two-year contract; re-signed Jake McGee, lhp, to a \$27 million, three-year contract; signed Bryan Shaw, rhp, Cleveland, to a \$27 million, three-year contract.

NEW YORK (2) — Signed Jose Lobaton, c.

tract.
NEW YORK (2) — Signed Jose Lobaton, c, Washington, to a minor league contract (\$1.25 million); signed Anthony Swarzak, rhp, Milwaukee, to a \$14 million, two-year con-

Milwaukee, to a \$14 million, two-year contract. PHILADELPHIA (3) — Signed Tommy Hunter, rhp, Tampa Bay, to an \$18 million, two-year contract; signed Pat Neshek, rhp, Colorado, to a \$16.25 million, two-year contract; signed Carlos Santana, 1b, Cleveland, to a \$60 million, three-year contract. ST. LOUIS (1) — Signed Luke Gregerson, rhp, Houston, to an \$11 million, two-year contract. SAN DIEGO (1) — Re-signed Jordan Lyles, rhp, to a \$1 million, one-year contract. SAN FRANCISCO (1) — Re-signed Nick Hundley, c, to a \$2.5 million, one-year contract.

REMAINING FREE AGENTS

NEW YORK — The 140 remaining free agents (q-rejected qualifying offer):

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BALTIMORE (9) — Pedro Alvarez; dh-1b; Ryan Flaherty, 2b; Craig Gentry, of; J.J. Hardy, ss; Jeremy Hellickson, rhp; Ubaldo Jimenez, rhp; Wade Miley, lhp; Seth Smith, of; Chris Tillman,

rhp.
BOSTON (6) — Fernando Abad, lhp; Blaine
Boyer, rhp; Rajai Davis, of; Eduardo Nunez,
inf; Addison Reed, rhp; Chris Young, of.
CHICAGO (2) — Mike Pelfrey, rhp; Geovany

Soto c. CLEVELAND (4) — Craig Breslow, Ihp; Jay Bruce, of; Austin Jackson, of; Boone Logan,

Ihp.
DETROIT (1) — Anibal Sanchez, rhp.
HOUSTON (4) — Carlos Beltran, dh; Tyler
Clippard, rhp; Francisco Liriano, lhp; Cameron
Maybin, of.

Mallor Cabrera, of: Trevor

Maybin, ot. KANSAS CITY (8) — Melky Cabrera, of; Trevor Cahill, rhp; q-Lorenzo Cain, of; Alcides Escobar, ss; q-Eric Hosmer, 1b; q-Mike Moustakas, 3b; Peter Moylan, rhp; Jason

Inp OAKLAND (0)
SEATTLE (6) — Yonder Alonso, 1b; Gordon Beckham, inf; Jarrod Dyson, of; Yovani Gallardo, rhp; Carlos Ruiz, c; Danny Valencia,

Galiarus, frip, sansa labaratic particles and sansa labaratic part

Gomez, of; Miguel Gonzalez, riip, Jason Linh; Mike Napoli, 1b.
TORONTO (5) — Brett Anderson, Ihp; Darwin Barney, 2b; Jose Bautista, of; Miguel Montero, c; Michael Saunders, of.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

ARIZONA (5) — Gregor Blanco, of; Jorge De La Rosa, Ihp; David Hernandez, rhp; J.D. Martinez

rnp. CHICAGO (8) — q-Jake Arrieta, rhp; Alex Avila, c; q-Wade Davis, rhp; Brian Duensing, lhp; Jon Jay, of; John Lackey, rhp; Rene Rivera, c; Koji

Walker, 20 — Matt Garza, Tip, New Walker, 20: NEW YORK (1) — Jose Reyes, inf. PHILADELPHIA (4) — Andres Blanco, inf; Clay Buchholz, rhp; Hyun-Soo Kim, of; Daniel Nava,

Buchholz, rhp; Hyun-Soo Kim, of; Daniel Nava, of.

PITTSBURGH (3) — Joaquin Benoit, rhp; John Jaso, 1b; Chris Stewart, c.

ST. LOUIS (3) — Zach Duke, lhp; q-Lance Lynn, rhp; Seung-Hwan Oh, rhp.

SAN DIEGO (3) — Erick Aybar, ss; Jhoulys Chacin, rhp; Craig Stammen, rhp.

SAN FIRANCISCO (3) — Matt Cain, rhp; Jae-Gynn Hwang, 1b-3b; Michael Morse, ib-of.

WASHINGTON (11) — Matt Albers, rhp; Joe Blanton, rhp; Alejandro De Aza, of; Stephen Drew, 2b; Edwin Jackson, rhp; Howie Kendrick, of-2b; Brandon Kintzler, rhp; Adam Lind, 1b; Oliver Perez, lhp; Ryan Raburn, of; Jayson Werth of.

of a couple of quick fouls, and that helped Carolina take its

FROM PAGE B1

When you're losing a guy

halftime.

as important to us as Keita is, you're going to feel it, and we felt it," said Ohio State coach Chris Holtmann, who

first double-digit lead before

sure that was a factor in them stretching the lead." C.J. Jackson scored the first 11 points for Ohio State

and finished with 19.

CBS — Regional coverage 4:25 P.M. FOX — Regional coverage RUGBY

NBCSN — English Premiership, Leicester vs Saracens (same-day tape)

MONDAY, DEC. 25
COLLEGE BASKETBALL
12:30 P.M.
ESPNU — Diamond Head Classic, seventhplace game, at Honolulu
2:30 P.M.
ESPNU — Diamond Head Classic, fifth-place
game, at Honolulu
5 P.M.

game, at Honolulu

6 P.M.
ESPN2 — Diamond Head Classic, championship game, at Honolulu

8:30 P.M.
ESPNU — Diamond Head Classic, third-place

game, at Honolulu

NBA BASKETBALL

ABC — Washington at Boston
8 P.M.

ABC — Houston at Oklahoma City
10:30 P.M.

TNT — Minnosota at LA Lakors INCOME ALL ON AND THE ADDRESS OF THE

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Miami N.Y. Jets	6 5	8	0	.429 .357	252 3 285 3						
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	w	L	Т	Pct	PF	ı					
x-Jacksonville	10	4	0	.714	374 2	2					
Tennessee	8	6	0	.571	296	3					
Houston	4	10	0	.286	319 3						
Indianapolis	3	12	0	.200	241 3	3					
NORTH											
Pittala	W	Ļ	Ţ	Pct	PF	ļ					
y-Pittsburgh Baltimore	11	3 6	0	.786 .600	344 2 368 2	:					
Cincinnati	9 5	9	0	.357	368 2 233 3	5					
Cleveland	0	14	0	.000	207 3						
Cievelanu		EST.	U	.000	201	,					
	w	Ľ	т	Pct	PF	ı					
Kansas City	8	6	ō	.571	359 3	3					
L.A. Chargers	7	7	0	.500	311 2	2					
Oakland	6	8	0	.429	281 3	3					
Denver	5	9	0	.357	254 3	3					
NATIO			FER	ENCE							
		AST	_								
Blatte deletelete	W	L	Ţ	Pct	PF	ļ					
y-Philadelphia Dallas	12	2 6	0	.857	438 2 336 3	:					
	8 6	8	0	.571	336 3 305 3	5					
Washington N.Y. Giants	2	12	0	.429 .143	228 3	•					
N.T. GIAIILS	۷	12		.143	220 3)					

Chicago 10 WEST 0 .286 234 294 WEST W L 10 4 8 6 6 8 4 10 Pct .714 .571 .429 .286

WEST
W L T Pct PF
LA. Rams 10 4 0 .714 43:
Seattle 8 6 0 .571 32:
Arizona 6 8 0 .429 24:
San Francisco 4 10 0 .286 25:
v-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Baltimore 23, Indianapolis 16
Minnesota at Green Bay, n.
SUNDAY'S GAMES
Cleveland at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Denver at Washington, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Miami at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at New England, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Arizona, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.

N.Y. Glants at Arizona, 4:25 p.m. Seattle at Dallas, 4:25 p.m. MONDAY'S GAMES Pittsburgh at Houston, 4:30 p.m. Oakland at Philadelphia, 8:30 p.m. SUNDAY, DEC. 31 Washington at N.Y. Glants, 1 p.m. N.Y. Jets at New England, 1 p.m. Carolina at Atlanta, 1 p.m. Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m. Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. Green Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m. Dallas at Philadelphia, 1 p.m. Dallas at Philadelphia, 1 p.m. Buffalo at Miami, 1 p.m. Buffalo at Miami, 1 p.m. Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1 p.m. Cincinnati at Baltimore, 1 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

BOWL SCHEDULE
SATURDAY, DEC. 16
CELEBRATION BOWL
AT ATLANTA
NC A&T 21, Grambling State 14
NEW ORLEANS BOWL
Troy 50, North Texas 30
Tube Rowl

Boise State 38, Oregon 28
NEW MEXICO BOWL

MEMBERICO BOWL
ALBUQUERQUE
Marshall 31, Colorado State 28
CAMELLIA BOWL
MONTGOMERY, ALA.
MIDEN BOWL
MONTGOMERY, ALA.
MIDEN BOWL
FAU 50, Akron 3
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20
FRISCO (TEXAS) BOWL
LOUISIANA ECC. 21
GASPARILLA BOWL
AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.
Temple 28, FIU 3
FRIDAY, DEC. 22

Ohio 41, UAB 6
FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO BOWL
BOISE
Wyoming 37, Central Michigan 14
SATURDAY, DEC. 23
BIRMINGHAM (ALA.) BOWL
SOUTH Florida 38, Texas Tech 34
ARMED FORCES BOWL
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
Army 42, San Diego State 35
DOLLAR GENERAL BOWL
MOBILE, ALA.
Annalachian State (8-4) vs. Toledo (11 MUBILE, ALA.
Appalachian State (8-4) vs. Toledo (11-2), n.
SUNDAY, DEC. 24
HAWAII BOWL

QUICK LANE BOWL DETROIT Northern Illinois (8-4) vs. Duke (6-6), 5:15 p.m. (ESPN)

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27

INDEPENDENCE BOWL
SHREVEPORT, LA.

Southern Mississippi (8-4) vs. Florida State
(6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)

PINSTRIPE BOWL
BRONX, N.Y.

Boston College (7-5) vs. Iowa (7-5), 5:15 p.m.
(ESPN)

(ESPN)

FOSTER FARMS BOWL
SANTA CLARA, CALIF.

Arizona (7-5) vs. Purdue (6-6), 8:30 p.m. (FOX)
TEXAS BOWL
HOUSTON

Texas (6-6) vs. Missouri (7-5), 9 p.m. (ESPN)
THURSDAY, DEC. 28
MILITARY BOWL
ANNAPOLIS, MD.

Virainia (6-6) vs. Navy (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)

ANNAPOLIS, MD.
Virginia (6-6) vs. Navy (6-6), 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)
CAMPING WORLD BOWL
ORLANDO, FLA.
Oklahoma State (9-3) vs. Virginia Tech (9-3),
5:15 p.m. (ESPN)
ALAMO BOWL

Moustakas, 3b; Peter Moylan, rhp; Jason Vargas, lhp.
LOS ANGELES (10) — Andrew Bailey, rhp; Jesse Chavez, rhp; Yunel Escobar, 3b; Ricky Nolasco, rhp; Bud Norris, rhp; Cliff Pennington, inf; Brandon Phillips, 2b; Ben Revere, of; Fernando Salas, rhp; Huston Street, rhp.
MINNESOTA (5) — Matt Belisle, rhp; Bartolo Colon, rhp; Dillon Gee, rhp; Glen Perkins, lhp; Hector Santiago, lhp.
NEW YORK (4) — Todd Frazier, 3b; Jaime Garcia, lhp; Matt Holliday, dh; CC Sabathia, lhp.

Rosa, lhp; David Hernandez, rhp; J.D. Martinez of; Adam Rosales, inf. ATLANTA (2) — R.A. Dickey, rhp; Jason Motte,

Jay, of; John Lackey, rnp; Kene Kivera, v, rup; Uehara, rhp.
CINCINNATI (3) — Bronson Arroyo, rhp; Scott Feldman, rhp; Drew Storen, rhp.
COLORADO (6) — Alexi Amarista, inf; Carlos Gonzalez, of; Ryan Hanigan, c; q-Greg Holland, rhp; Jonathan Lucroy, c; Mark Reynolds, 1b.
LOS ANGELES (6) — Yu Darvish, rhp; Andre Ethier, of; Curtis Granderson, of; Franklin Gutierrez, of; Chase Utley, 2b; Tony Watson, Iho.

lhp. MiAMI (4) — Mike Aviles, inf; A.J. Ellis, c; Dustin McGowan, rhp; Ichiro Suzuki, of. MILWAUKEE (2) — Matt Garza, rhp; Neil Walker, 2b.