

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Volatile mixture in Olongapo

What role did transgender, military cultures play in Philippines death?

BY SETH ROBSON

*Stars and Stripes*

SUBIC BAY, Philippines — Marines and sailors are pretty eager to blow off steam after weeks at sea, particularly when granted liberty in an exotic port with a notorious reputation for easy female company.

While troops get briefings before going ashore on what to expect and what to avoid, some information may have gotten lost during the two-plus decades since the U.S. military left U.S. Naval Base Subic Bay. Not everything is what it seems in Olongapo, the city that sits just outside the gates.

Marine Pfc. Joseph Scott Pemberton, a 19-year-old anti-tank missileman based at Camp Lejeune, N.C., who enlisted in 2013, was among those who flooded out of the USS Peleliu last on Oct. 11. He joined a few buddies at the Ambyanz nightclub on Magsaysay Drive.

By the time the night was over, transgender Jeffrey “Jennifer” Laude lay dead in a bathroom at the Celzone Lodge — a seedy hotel across the street from the nightclub.

Pemberton has refused to enter a plea on murder charges. Filipino state prosecutors say he killed Laude after discovering she was transgender, according to The Associated Press. His trial is set to resume Monday.

According to one of Laude’s friends, Pemberton and another Marine took a few prostitutes to the hotel for sex. In a dark nightclub and under the influence of alcohol, it’s common for young military men to fork out 1,000 pesos, or \$22, for oral sex from one of the female impersonators, according to another transgender sex worker who goes by the name “Angel.”

They never realize they’re with a man, Angel said.

Laude’s transgender friends — who call themselves “lady-boys” — are candid about their interactions with U.S. troops and their tactic of “hunting” in groups for customers, passing themselves off as women to unsuspecting heterosexuals.

Some sailors and Marines actively seek out transgender prostitutes when they are in port, Angel said. The typical customer, however, is a heterosexual servicemember who thinks he is receiving oral sex from a woman, Angel said.

Emilie Fe de los Santos, the prosecutor

**‘We can forgive him, but he has to pay for what he did.’**

**Marilou Laude**  
the victim’s sister

in Pemberton’s case, said it’s not as easy as most think to tell a transgender woman from someone who was born female.

“If you are a transgender, you take pills,” she said. “Your muscles soften up. Your Adam’s apple disappears. Some have injections in their hips. Until you see what you have to see, you can’t tell they are not real women.”

### Mardi Gras every night

There’s a common saying in the U.S. military: “What happens TDY (temporary duty), stays TDY.” It harkens back decades to times when ships frequently pulled into foreign, exotic ports.

In those days, Olongapo was the rowdiest, most free-wheeling town in the rowdy and free-wheeling Philippines, where prostitution is illegal but widely tolerated, and police were unlikely to intervene in anything less lively than a knife fight. It was like Mardi Gras every night.

Having sex with prostitutes was seen as a rite of passage for many troops. It was even tacitly accepted by the military leadership.

Before the military made the hiring of a prostitute a Uniform Code of Military Justice offense in 2005, services made sure condoms were readily available before a port visit. Military leaders, recognizing the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases — particularly AIDS/HIV — encouraged condom use.

It’s a culture that still exists in certain circles. Earlier this year, the command master chief of the USS Germantown, based in Sasebo, Japan, pleaded guilty in military court to conspiracy to procure prostitutes for his ship’s upcoming port visit to the Philippines.

For those who have served for a while, it might be common knowledge that some

prostitutes in those foreign ports might be men dressed as women, or a man who is trying to become a woman.

In the 1980s and ‘90s, the military briefed its troops about transgender people when ships pulled into ports in Southeast Asia, according to Autumn Sandeen, a transgender military retiree living in San Diego. Sandeen served 20 years in the U.S. Navy, retiring as a petty officer first class before becoming a transgender woman in 2003.

In an email response, Navy officials said that sailors still receive briefs that there may be transgender individuals in countries they visit, but sailors at Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan disputed that. They are told about potential threats, places to stay away from and the value of going ashore with buddies, the sailors told Stars and Stripes.

U.S. Marine Corps officials in the Pacific did not respond to requests about the briefings given to their units.

Patricio Abinales, a University of Hawaii expert on the Philippines, said that in the past, he briefed U.S. military personnel on Okinawa and Hawaii who were headed to the Philippines and warned them to stay away from bars and prostitutes.

“Some of these young (U.S. military) people have never been to another country,” he said by telephone from Hawaii. “I tell them, ‘If you do something bad, it will reflect badly on your government.’ I don’t know if they listen, but some nod their heads.”

He said he hadn’t warned troops specifically about transgender sex workers but that he would if called upon to brief troops in the future.

### 2 families in pain

On the sidelines of the trial are two families in pain.

Pemberton’s criminal trial is being held in conjunction with a civil action by Laude’s family, who reportedly are negotiating a deal that could see the charge against Pemberton reduced from murder to homicide, which carries a shorter mandatory prison sentence.

There has been speculation that the family is seeking 21 million pesos, or \$473,000, in compensation.

But Marilou Laude, the victim’s sister, said the family’s only goal is see Pemberton behind bars.

“We can forgive him, but he has to pay

for what he did,” she said.

Pemberton’s mother is expected to testify at the trial.

In October, she told the Standard-Times newspaper in New Bedford, Mass., that she didn’t know what happened in the Philippines.

“His family loves him very much, and nothing is going to change that,” she told the newspaper.

Since Laude’s death, Magsaysay Drive has changed, too. There was hope that President Barack Obama’s announcement last year about a renewed U.S. presence in the Philippines would mean an economic revival for Olongapo, but business is down since the U.S. military canceled all port visits following Laude’s death.

The hotel where the killing happened has changed its name from the Celzone Lodge to the Bachelor’s Lodge. Ambyanz has closed. On the other side of the street last month, the only customers were local Filipinos or Asian tourists at Delailah — a bar where young women wearing name tags dance on a stage in their underwear, then gather in groups for “choose the girl” sessions with patrons.

Some blame a decline in business on Laude.

Taxi driver Alex Suarez said he’s angry at Laude for putting herself in a dangerous situation and jeopardizing local jobs.

“We hate Jennifer Laude,” he said. “It’s bad for business.”

Suarez isn’t surprised that a Marine would react with violence upon finding out that he had sex with a man when he thought he was with a woman.

“If it happened to me, I would be angry, too,” he said.

But there were signs that Laude may have been trying to get out of the Olongapo transgender culture.

Her sister said Jennifer was studying hotel and restaurant management at the Asian Institute for E-Commerce — one of the few schools in the Philippines that accepts transgender students.

Jamille, a transgender woman who was Laude’s housemate, said Laude didn’t go out the night of her death to earn money. Laude had a boyfriend who accepted her and was supporting her financially, Jamille said.

“She just went out because she was bored,” she said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Erik Slavin contributed to this report.

## Judge convicts command sergeant major of ‘stolen valor’

*The Associated Press*

LAWTON, Okla. — A command sergeant major at Fort Sill has been convicted of wearing unauthorized military insignia, including a Ranger Tab and the Pathfinder Badge.

Command Sgt. Maj. Perry McNeill was convicted last week by a military judge who sentenced McNeill to a demotion to sergeant first class, a letter of reprimand and forfeiture of \$500 in pay per month for 10 months.

The sentence must be approved by the fort’s commanding general.

The Ranger Tab is awarded to those who complete

Ranger School — considered one of the Army’s toughest training schools. The Pathfinder Badge goes to those who complete a school on managing helicopter landing zones, drop zones and other air-ground operations.

McNeill allegedly wore the badges between 2011 and 2014 while serving in Japan, Turkey and at Fort Sill.

# Carter lauds peace, prosperity in East Asia

*The Associated Press*

HONOLULU — No news is good news. That might have been the bumper sticker for Ash Carter's first tour of Asia as secretary of defense.

It was mostly quiet on the Eastern front. Carter consulted with Japanese and South Korean leaders, gave pep talks to American troops, stressed the

U.S. military's stabilizing influence in the region and repeatedly remarked that compared with the Middle East, the Asia-Pacific is calm and on a prosperous track.

That's a welcome respite from crisis for a Pentagon chief not yet two months into his tenure.

It's also a reminder of why the Obama administration's

much-advertised pivot to Asia, after more than a decade of all-consuming war in Iraq and Afghanistan, keeps getting overshadowed by rising towers of trouble in Iraq, Syria, Yemen and elsewhere across the Middle East.

In Japan on Thursday, Carter told U.S. troops and their families at Yokota air base that if they open any newspaper,

"what you see is the mess in the Middle East," whereas East Asia is "generally so peaceful and therefore so prosperous."

"If you think about it," he later told troops at Osan air base in South Korea, "the Middle East is in the headlines all the time. But the reason this place isn't in the headlines is because you're ready anytime to deter conflict on the peninsula."

## Advisers: Clinton bid to focus on middle class

*The Associated Press*

CHICAGO — What will drive Hillary Rodham Clinton's second bid for the presidency? Boosting economic security for the middle class and expanding opportunities for working families, key issues that her campaign says will be heralded by a results-oriented "tenacious fighter."

The former first lady, U.S. senator and secretary of state was expected to make her 2016 effort official Sunday with an online video followed by small events with residents of early voting states over the days ahead. The campaign's opening strategy was described ahead of the announcement by two senior advisers who requested anonymity to discuss her plans.

If Clinton's strategy sounds familiar, it might be because President Barack Obama framed the choice for voters in 2012 as between Democrats focused on the middle class and Republicans wanting to protect the wealthy and return to policies that led to the Great Recession.

Clinton intends to sell herself as being able to work with Congress, businesses and world leaders, the advisers said Saturday.

## S. Korea building dedication to 1954 Marilyn Monroe USO show

BY ERIK SLAVIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

A small county in South Korea is betting on a famous blonde's visit with American troops 61 years ago to bolster its profile.

Inje County, in the picturesque but sparsely populated northeast, is building a 10 million won (\$9,150) dedication to Marilyn Monroe's 1954 USO show.

The stone dedication at Inje Catholic Church's square will recall an era when some of America's biggest stars came to Korea to visit servicemembers during and soon after the end of Korean War combat.

In February 1954, Marilyn Monroe and her new husband, New York Yankees great Joe DiMaggio, arrived in Japan to massive fanfare. DiMaggio was well-known for his baseball clinics in the country, but it was Monroe who captured more of the country's attention.

After a few visits with servicemembers at the Tokyo Army Hospital and elsewhere in Japan, Monroe was asked to visit troops in South Korea, a country still very much recovering from the scars of war.

Monroe performed 10 shows in four days for about 100,000 servicemembers, according to the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery, which houses

several color pictures of the visit taken by Navy corpsman David Geary.

"[The trip] was the best thing that ever happened to me," Monroe said, according to the Smithsonian. "I never felt like a star before in my heart. It was so wonderful to look down and see a fellow smiling at me."

The dedication will include a large picture of servicemembers watching Monroe on stage, with the county's fields and mountains as a backdrop. An inscription will note how Monroe "soothed the hearts" of U.S. servicemembers at the time.

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## Video: Militants destroy ruins

*The Associated Press*

BAGHDAD — Islamic State militants hammered, bulldozed and ultimately blew up parts of the ancient Iraqi Assyrian city of Nimrud, destroying a site dating to the 13th century B.C., an online militant video purportedly shows.

The destruction at Nimrud, near the militant-held city of Mosul, came amid other attacks on antiquities carried out by the group now holding a third of Iraq and Syria in its self-de-

clared caliphate. Last month, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called the destruction at Nimrud "a war crime."

The seven-minute video posted late Saturday shows militants using sledgehammers, jackhammers and saws to take down huge, alabaster reliefs depicting Assyrian kings and deities. A bulldozer brings down walls, while militants fill barrels with explosives and later destroy three separate areas of the site in massive explosions.

## Navy-contracted ship loses power off Wash.

PORT ANGELES, Wash. — The Coast Guard says a Navy-contracted cargo ship is under tow after losing power in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.

The 685-foot Cape Intrepid when it lost power about 2:30 a.m. Saturday north of Clallam Bay. Coast Guard Lt. Ben Weber said the emergency tug Jeffrey Foss reached it approximately two hours later, and was pulling the ship into harbor at Port Angeles.

From The Associated Press



# Spieth tough to catch at Masters

*The Associated Press*

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Jordan Spieth seized control of the Masters with a performance not seen since another 21-year-old, Tiger Woods, first blazed his way around Augusta National.

He made four birdies in five holes on the back nine to stretch his lead to seven shots. Standing on the 17th tee, he already was on the same score — 18-under par — that only Woods had ever reached in the Masters.

And then it all changed Saturday in two holes.

Out of nowhere, Spieth made a double bogey. Ahead of him, former U.S. Open champion Justin Rose poured in a 20-foot birdie.

In the worst spot he had been all week, Spieth ended 30 minutes of chaos with a bold shot that saved his par, set another Masters scoring record and gave the 21-year-old Texan a four-shot lead over Rose going into the final round.

On a day of charges and cheers for the biggest names in golf — Woods, Rory McIlroy and Phil Mickelson — Spieth now gets to return and do this all over again.

Rose closed with five birdies on his last six holes for a 67, and that birdie on the 18th put him in the final group for the first time in a major.

“Jordan was so far ahead that it was almost ... you were just playing your own game,” Rose said. “It was nice to stay patient and get rewarded with a hot finish. It’s amazing, and it put me in with a great opportunity tomorrow.”

Mickelson wore a pink shirt in honor of Arnold Palmer because he knew he needed a big charge, and the three-time Masters champion delivered a 40-foot birdie putt on the 16th hole on his way to a 67, despite two bogeys on the back nine. Mickelson was five shots behind.

Woods and McIlroy will play together in the final round of a major for the first time, though both are 10 shots behind.

Spieth knew what he was facing even before he started.

Woods, who for three rounds has made everyone forget about that guy who shot 82 in the Phoenix Open earlier this year, ran off three straight birdies early in the round, and he threw a victorious fist pump after a most improbable birdie on the 13th hole. McIlroy made eagle on his

second hole, went out in 32 and inched closer to Spieth on the back nine.

Both of them stalled at the end. McIlroy made bogey on two of the last three holes for a 68. Woods made a bogey from the bunker on the 18th for his 68.

For a short time late in the afternoon, Spieth made the green jacket ceremony seem a formality.

Four shots ahead of Charley Hoffman, Spieth buried a 10-foot putt on the 12th hole and another birdie from about the same distance at the 13th. He followed a three-putt bogey on the 14th hole by making two more birdies, and his lead was up to seven shots as the trees began casting long shadows.

He looked in total control at what is the most peaceful time of the day at Augusta National.

And then it was shattered. Spieth chipped weakly to the 17th green and three-putted for a double bogey.

It was a reminder how quickly comfort can vanish. A year ago, Spieth was on the wrong end of a four-shot swing over two holes in the final round at Augusta. He went from a two-shot lead to a two-shot deficit and never caught up to Bubba

Watson.

“Last year definitely left a bad taste in my mouth,” Spieth said. “I’ve been looking to get back, looking at trying to get some revenge.”

The story line should sound familiar — a 21-year-old with a four-shot lead going after his first major at Augusta National. Four years ago, that was McIlroy, who shot 80 in the final round. Now it’s Spieth’s turn, and he at least knows what to expect.

McIlroy all but ruled out his chances of adding the Masters to his collection of majors. Only one player in major championship history has rallied from 10 shots behind on the final day. That was Paul Lawrie at Carnoustie in the 1999 British Open, and Jean Van de Velde is nowhere to be found.

Woods wasn’t willing to concede. He mentioned Greg Norman’s collapse in 1996 after the second round, and McIlroy’s collapse after he finished up his third round.

“I’m going to have to put together a really special round of golf tomorrow,” Woods said. “You never know around this golf course.”

## Johnson nabs 5th win at Texas track

*The Associated Press*

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jimmie Johnson was still chasing Jamie McMurray and Kevin Harvick, trying to get back in front as the laps wound down at Texas Motor Speedway.

Then Johnson got the break that led to his fifth NASCAR Sprint Cup victory at the track.

“They slid up high through (Turns) 3 and 4 and left the bottom wide open for me,” Johnson said. “I thought I’d at least get [Harvick]. When I came off of Turn 4, I was alongside [McMurray].”

Johnson passed both of them, regaining the lead for good with 14 laps left. He held off Harvick and Hendrick Motorsports teammate Dale Earnhardt Jr. for his sec-

ond victory this season — and 72nd of his career.

Harvick, the series points leader who has also won twice this season, had been trying to get around McMurray, who had taken only two tires for the final restart on lap 314 of 334.

Then Harvick went high and scraped the wall with about three laps to go.

Johnson led nine times for 128 laps. He also won in November at Texas, where all four of his previous wins had been in fall races.

The runner-up finish for Harvick comes after he was eighth in Martinsville in the last Cup race two weeks ago. That ended his run of eight consecutive races finishing first or second, the longest such stretch since Richard Petty did it 11 times in a row

in 1975.

Earnhardt, with his third third-place finish this season, gave Chevrolet a sweep of the top three spots in the first Sprint Cup night race this season.

Team Penske rounded out the top five in a pair of Fords, with defending race winner Joey Logano finishing fourth and Brad Keselowski fifth.

Harvick, Logano and Martin Truex Jr., who finished ninth, are the only drivers to finish in the top 10 in all seven races this season. Keselowski got his sixth top 10.

Jeff Gordon, who in his last full season, is the only driver who has started all 29 Sprint Cup races at Texas since the track opened in 1997. He finished seventh after starting 12th.

## Providence tops BU for hockey title

*The Associated Press*

BOSTON — Providence defenseman Tom Parisi thought he was just dumping the puck in from the red line so the Friars could get some fresh skaters on the ice.

Boston University goalie Matt O’Connor thought he had it. Easy.

But after the puck fluttered into his glove, more a blooper than a line drive, O’Connor lost track of it. He opened his hand, the puck dropped below him, and as the BU junior scooted back to cover the net, he kicked it in for the tying score.

“I go back to the bench and guys are saying, ‘That went in,’” Parisi said. “I don’t even know what to say. I was stunned. The second that went in, I knew we had it.”

Officially, it was a couple of minutes later that Brandon Tanev scored to give the Friars the lead with 6:17 remaining. Frozen Four Most Outstanding Player Jon Gillies stopped 49 shots, and Providence held on to beat BU 4-3 on Saturday night for its first NCAA hockey title.

It was the third straight year that the NCAA has crowned a first-time champion.

Anthony Florentino and Mark Jankowski also scored for the Friars (26-13-12). The Hockey East runners-up earned the last at-large berth in the 16-team NCAA Tournament, but they won it all by beating the school that edged them out for the conference title.

## Mercedes’ Hamilton wins Chinese GP

*The Associated Press*

SHANGHAI — Lewis Hamilton put Mercedes back on top with a win at the Chinese Grand Prix on Sunday, but it may have come at a cost — another schism with teammate Nico Rosberg.

Hamilton made sure there would be no repeat of Ferrari’s surprising win two weeks ago at the Malaysian Grand Prix, conserving his tires to withstand a challenge by the Italian team’s Sebastian Vettel and easily capture his fourth

Chinese Grand Prix and the 35th win of his career.

Rosberg finished second again and angrily accused his teammate of holding him back in the race.

Hamilton’s tire-conservation strategy ensured he could open up a sizeable lead over Vettel after the second pit stop, but Rosberg said afterward that Hamilton’s measured pace allowed the Ferrari driver to stay close to him and caused his tires to wear by the end of the race.

“It’s just now interesting to hear from you, Lewis, that you were just thinking about

yourself with the pace in front and unnecessarily that was compromising my race,” he said. “It was unnecessarily close with Sebastian as a result and it cost me a lot of race time.”

Hamilton responded by smiling and saying he didn’t intentionally try to impede his teammate.

“It’s not my job to look after Nico’s race. My job’s to manage the car and bring the car home as healthy and as fast as possible and that’s what I did,” he said. “I just was focusing on myself. If Nico wanted to get by he could have tried, but he didn’t.”



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# Tigers blank Indians to stay perfect

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — With one of baseball's most fearsome lineups, the Detroit Tigers can bash their way to wins. With a strong rotation, they can outpitch teams.

And sometimes, they just simply find a way.

So far this season, they're perfect. Ian Kinsler hit an RBI single and Yoenis Cespedes doubled in two runs during Detroit's four-run ninth inning as the Tigers stayed unbeaten with a 9-6 win over the Cleveland Indians on Saturday.

Kinsler's fourth hit — a single off closer Cody Allen (0-1) — snapped a 5-all tie and helped the Tigers improve to 5-0 for the first time since 2006. The Tigers were forced to rally twice after Cleveland's Jerry Sands delivered a pair of clutch doubles and became an instant cult hero to Indians fans.

Miguel Cabrera also had four hits for Detroit, which has now outscored its opponents 39-11.

"Our hitters feed off each other and like to do well," Tigers manager Brad Ausmus said. "It's kind of a competition between them for who has the best game every day. A lot of times, it's Miggy or Victor (Martinez), but Ian came through late here."

Indians catcher Yan Gomes sustained a potentially serious injury to his right leg in the ninth. Gomes' leg was struck by

Tigers outfielder Rajai Davis as he tried to keep his foot on the plate for a force. Davis slid hard through the catcher's leg, and Gomes remained on the ground for several minutes. He did not put any weight on his leg as he was helped off the field.

Cleveland manager Terry Francona said Gomes sprained his knee and will undergo further tests, including an MRI, on Sunday. Francona did not think Davis made a dirty play.

Moments after Gomes went down, Cespedes doubled with two outs into the right-field corner to give Detroit a three-run lead.

The Tigers were able to overcome starter David Price's throwing error, a minor injury to Martinez and Sands' star turn to stay perfect in 2015.

**Diamondbacks 6, Dodgers 0:** Archie Bradley made a dazzling major league debut, allowing one hit over six innings to outpitch Clayton Kershaw.

Bradley, a first-round draft pick in 2011, struck out six, walked four and singled for his first hit. He became the fifth rookie starter to make his first start against a reigning Cy Young Award winner.

Kershaw (0-1) lasted 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings and gave up 10 hits.

**Cardinals 4, Reds 1:** Matt Adams delivered his first home run of the season, and St. Louis snapped host Cincinnati's season-opening winning streak at four.

**Mariners 5, Athletics 4:** Nelson Cruz hit his first home run for visiting Seattle and Brad Miller threw out a runner at the plate in the 10th inning and doubled in the go-ahead run in the 11th.

**Red Sox 8, Yankees 4:** Joe Kelly pitched one-hit ball for seven innings and the visiting Red Sox ran over New York, hours after winning their own New York City marathon.

Bleary-eyed, the teams started at 1:08 p.m. following Friday night's game that took 19 innings and finished at 2:13 a.m. Brock Holt, the only position player on either side who didn't get into that 6-5 Boston victory, had four hits and drove in three runs.

**Rays 2, Marlins 0:** Chris Archer (1-1) pitched seven crisp innings for visiting Tampa Bay.

**White Sox 5, Twins 4:** Pinch-hitter J.B. Shuck had a go-ahead RBI single in the eighth inning to give host Chicago its first win of the season.

**Phillies 3, Nationals 2:** Odubel Herrera doubled home the winning run in the 10th inning with his first major league hit for host Philadelphia.

**Orioles 7, Blue Jays 1:** Ubaldo Jimenez (1-0) struck out eight and allowed one single in seven innings, and Jonathan Schoop hit a grand slam for host Baltimore.

**Braves 5, Mets 3:** Julio Teheran pitched effectively into the seventh inning, when he retired none of the five batters he

faced. Jim Johnson faced four batters in the ninth for his first save, and host Atlanta improved to 5-0 for the first time since winning its first seven games in 1994.

**Brewers 6, Pirates 0:** Jimmy Nelson (1-0) struck out a career-high nine in seven innings and allowed two hits, Jean Segura hit a two-run homer and host Milwaukee became the last team in the majors to win this season.

**Padres 10, Giants 2:** New Padres ace James Shields was masterful in outpitching October nemesis Madison Bumgarner, who lasted only three innings at San Diego. Shields (1-0) held the Giants to one run and three hits in seven innings, struck out seven and walked one for his first victory with the Padres. He signed as a free agent in February. He combined with two relievers to hold the Giants to five hits.

**Royals 6, Angels 4:** At Anaheim, Calif., Mike Moustakas and Salvador Perez homered during a five-run fourth inning against Jered Weaver (0-2), and reigning AL champ Kansas City improved to 5-0.

**Cubs 9, Rockies 5:** Chris Coghlan and Mike Olt hit consecutive solo homers in the third inning, Dexter Fowler had two triples and Chicago dropped host Colorado to 4-1.

**Rangers 6, Astros 2:** Yovani Gallardo (1-1) won his home debut for his hometown team, striking out seven in 5<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings in his first appearance at Globe Life Park.

## Raptors put Heat on brink

The Associated Press

MIAMI — When the playoffs open next weekend, the Toronto Raptors will be at home.

And, almost certainly, so will the Miami Heat.

Lou Williams scored 29 points, DeMar DeRozan added 24 and the Raptors put the Heat on the brink of playoff elimination with a 107-104 victory Saturday night.

Greivis Vasquez and Kyle Lowry each scored 12 points and Patrick Patterson had 11 for the Raptors. They clinched home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs and dealt an absolutely crippling blow to Miami's postseason hopes.

"For our organization, where we are, the process we're going through, I think it's important," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said about wrapping up home-court. "You can't take anything for granted. ... These guys fought for it, scratched for it. They earned it."

Dwyane Wade scored 30 points for the Heat, who can only get to 37 wins — the number that Brooklyn and Boston are already at, putting them in the No. 7 and No. 8 spots in the Eastern Conference race. Goran Dragic scored 22 points for Miami and Hassan Whiteside finished with 16 points and 18 rebounds.

But Whiteside also missed 12 free throws, going 4-for-16, and as a team the Heat went 24-for-44 from the line.

"Nobody needs to feel sorry for any of us," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "This is what you sign up for in this business. You don't know what's going to happen ... and this year has had its challenges for all of us. But we've been grinding and fighting."

**Warriors 110, Timberwolves 101:** Stephen Curry scored 20 of his 34 points in the first half, Klay Thompson made three three-pointers in the final 4 minutes and host Golden State broke the franchise record with its 37th home win. The Warriors

have lost only twice at home and lead the NBA with a 68-15 record.

Curry made five three-pointers, went 11-for-21 from the floor and had seven assists to help the Warriors complete a four-game sweep of Minnesota.

Andrew Wiggins had 17 points, six rebounds and nine assists for Minnesota, which dropped its 10 straight.

**Knicks 80, Magic 79:** Cole Aldrich had a career-high 19 points and visiting New York beat Orlando in a game that had the lowest-scoring quarter in NBA history.

The teams combined to score only 15 points in the second quarter, breaking the record of 18. The previous NBA mark was accomplished three times, the last by Utah and Detroit on March 13, 2005.

The Knicks scored eight points in the quarter, shooting 3-for-20 from the field with a pair of turnovers. The Magic had seven points and were 3-for-19 from the field, with seven turnovers.

**Clippers 94, Grizzlies 86:** J.J. Redick and Blake Griffin scored 18 points each and host Los Angeles pulled away to beat Memphis, moving closer to securing home-court advantage for the playoffs.

The Clippers' DeAndre Jordan had 16 points and 16 rebounds.

**Jazz 111, Trail Blazers 105:** Trevor Booker scored a career-high 36 points and visiting Utah beat Portland.

Portland's hopes of home-court advantage in the playoffs slipped away. The Blazers won the Northwest Division, but the four teams with the best records in each conference get home court in the postseason.

**Bulls 114, 76ers 107:** Pau Gasol had 24 points and 13 rebounds and Derrick Rose — in his third game back after missing two months following knee surgery — had 22 points and eight assists in 28 minutes in host Chicago's victory over Philadelphia.

The 76ers dressed just nine players, but stayed close with an aggressive, attacking style on both ends.

## ‘Hamburglar’ helps Senators clinch berth

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Ottawa used its super-sized record down the stretch and a "Hamburglar" to order up a playoff berth.

Needing just one point for the playoffs in the season finale, the Senators wrapped up their sizzling second-half rally with a 3-1 win over the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday and clinched a spot in the Eastern Conference playoffs.

"Here we are at the end of the year, we made an unbelievable run for the past 30 games," Senators captain Erik Karlsson said.

Headed toward a spot in the NHL draft lottery two months ago, the Senators finished 23-4-4 over their final 31 games. They will face Montreal in the first round of the playoffs.

The Senators hope they can play deep into the postseason behind goalie Andrew Hammond. Nicknamed the "Hamburglar," Hammond went from a borderline AHL goalie to posting a 20-1-2 record since he was recalled in the second half.

"I've never had a stretch of hockey like this in my life," Hammond said. "It's something I don't think anyone can really explain."

**Penguins 2, Sabres 0:** Brandon Sutter scored twice and Marc-Andre Fleury made 28 saves in visiting Pittsburgh's playoff-clinching win over last-place Buffalo, the final day of the NHL regular season.

**Ducks 2, Coyotes 1:** Ryan Getzlaf and Jakob Silfverberg scored to lead Anaheim over host Arizona in the season finale.

**Canadiens 4, Maple Leafs 3 (SO):** Alex Galchenyuk and David Desharnais scored in the shootout and Montreal beat host Toronto in a shootout to clinch the

Atlantic Division title and the second seed in the Eastern Conference.

**Rangers 4, Capitals 2:** Kevin Hayes and Dominic Moore each had a goal and an assist, Henrik Lundqvist stopped 22 shots and New York capped its stellar regular season with a win over host Washington.

**Lightning 3, Bruins 2 (SO):** Victor Hedman scored the lone shootout goal, and playoff-bound Tampa Bay beat visiting Boston.

**Stars 4, Predators 1:** Jamie Benn had three goals and an assist, and Dallas beat visiting Nashville.

**Red Wings 2, Hurricanes 0:** Petr Mrazek made 35 saves in his third shutout of the season, leading Detroit past host Carolina.

**Blues 4, Wild 2:** Vladimir Tarasenko and Alexander Steen returned from injuries with two points apiece, helping host St. Louis finish the regular season strong with a victory over Minnesota.

**Blue Jackets 5, Islanders 4 (SO):** Cam Atkinson and Alexander Wennberg scored in the shootout to lead Columbus over New York.

**Avalanche 3, Blackhawks 2:** Jarome Iginla's second power-play goal with 32.9 seconds left lifted host Colorado.

**Kings 4, Sharks 1:** Brayden McNabb and Marian Gaborik scored third-period goals, and Los Angeles wrapped up its season with a victory over visiting San Jose.

**Jets 5, Flames 1:** Lee Stempniak had a goal and assist and playoff-bound host Winnipeg set a franchise record for points in a rout of Calgary.

**Panthers 3, Devils 2:** Jaromir Jagr had a goal and an assist, and Florida beat visiting New Jersey.

**Canucks 6, Oilers 5 (OT):** Alex Edler scored in overtime as host Vancouver rallied to beat Edmonton.