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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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House subpoena for report pushes probe

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the House Judiciary Committee issued a subpoena Friday for special counsel's Robert Mueller's report as Congress escalates its investigation of President Donald Trump.

"It now falls to Congress to determine the full scope of that alleged misconduct and to decide what steps we must take going forward," said Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y. He expects the Justice Department to comply by May 1.

While Mueller declined to prosecute Trump on obstruction of justice, he did not exonerate the president, all but leaving the question to Congress.

Mueller's report provides fresh evidence of Trump's interference in the Russia investigation and challenges lawmakers to respond. The risks for both parties are clear if they duck the responsibility or prolong an inquiry that, rather than coming to a close, may be just beginning.

"My committee needs and is entitled to the full version of the report and the underlying evidence consistent with past practice," Nadler said in a statement.

But the committee's top Republican, Rep. Doug Collins of Georgia, said the subpoena was "wildly overbroad" and that Trump already declined to assert executive privilege in a move of "unprecedented openness." Collins said Nadler was rush-

ing the process for political gain.

"This is politically convenient," Collins said, allowing the chairman "to grandstand and rail against the attorney general for not cooperating on an impossible timeline."

Attorney General William Barr sent Congress a redacted version of the report, blacking out several types of material, including classified information, material pertaining to ongoing investigations and grand jury evidence.

Nadler said he is open to working with the department "to reach a reasonable accommodation for access to these materials, however I cannot accept any proposal which leaves most of Congress in the dark, as they grapple with their duties of legislation, oversight and constitutional accountability."

The materials are due the day Barr is scheduled to testify before a Senate committee and one day before Barr is set to appear before Nadler's committee. Nadler also has summoned Mueller to testify.

Republicans are eager to move beyond what Trump calls the "witch hunt" that has overshadowed the party and the presidency. While Democrats say Mueller's findings are far more serious than initially indicated in Barr's four-page summary last month, they've been hesitant to pursue the ultimate step, impeachment proceedings, despite pressure from the left flank of

the party to begin efforts to try to remove the president from office.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, traveling Thursday on a congressional trip to Ireland, said in a joint statement with Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer that Mueller's report revealed more than was known about the obstruction question.

"As we continue to review the report, one thing is clear: Attorney General Barr presented a conclusion that the president did not obstruct justice while Mueller's report appears to undercut that finding," they said.

It's unlikely that the full Mueller report or the public testimony will untangle the dilemma that Democrats face. Mueller laid out multiple episodes in which Trump directed others to influence or curtail the Russia investigation after the special counsel's appointment in May 2017, and Trump made clear that he viewed the probe as a potential mortal blow — "the end of my presidency."

Rep. Adam Schiff, the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said the acts described in the report "whether they are criminal or not, are deeply alarming in the president of the United States. And it's clear that special counsel Mueller wanted the Congress to consider the repercussions and the consequences."

Talks between Afghan leaders, Taliban canceled

The Washington Post

DOHA, Qatar — Organizers canceled talks between Afghan leaders and Taliban insurgents that were scheduled to begin Friday, dealing a major setback to a U.S.-led peace process aimed at ending nearly 18 years of warfare.

The first talks between the two sides were postponed Thursday, then officially called off by sponsors in the Qatari capital, amid a rash of disputes among Afghan

officials, Taliban leaders and Qatari meeting hosts over the size and composition of the Afghan delegation.

There was no indication when the talks would be rescheduled, but talks appeared unlikely in the immediate future.

The peace process has failed to make progress in part because the Taliban had refused to meet with Afghan officials until now.

"Despite tireless and well-intentioned efforts of all parties, a shared understanding

on how to achieve inclusivity couldn't be reached," tweeted Sultan Barakat, a scholar in Doha whose institute organized the talks. "This doesn't reflect a lack of will to deliver #peace but clearly the moment is not yet right."

In Kabul, the government of President Ashraf Ghani issued a statement Friday morning that blamed the government of Qatar for not accepting a list of proposed Afghan delegates and instead proposing a list that was "not balanced" and "a dis-

respect to the national will of the Afghan people."

Officials in Kabul had announced a final list of 250 delegates on Tuesday that included politicians and civic leaders from across Afghan society, but Taliban officials objected to its large and unwieldy size, prompting a hurried effort to pare down the delegation. But by late Thursday, that effort had collapsed amid arguments over who should be included or excluded.

Squadron takes F-35s to Middle East for 1st time

OGDEN, Utah — F-35s from Utah's Hill Air Force Base have deployed to the Middle East for the first time.

The Standard-Examiner reports airmen from the 388th and 419th fighter wings set off earlier this week for Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates, to support the United States Air Force Central Command mission in the Middle East.

Hill spokesman Micah Garbarino said the group includes pilots from the active duty 4th Fighter Squadron and Reserve 466th Fighter Squadron, as well as active duty and reserve airmen in the 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, and personnel in other support functions.

Pardon sought for soldier in Iraq war crime case

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma's attorney general is renewing his request that President Trump pardon for a former U.S. soldier from Oklahoma convicted of killing an Iraqi prisoner.

Attorney General Mike Hunter supports a pardon for former Army Lt. Michael Behenna, first requesting one in February 2018. Behenna was convicted in 2009 of unpremeditated murder in a combat zone after killing a suspected al-Qaida terrorist. He was paroled in 2014 and remains on parole until 2024.

In letters dated Monday to Trump and U.S. Attorney General William Barr, Hunter said Department of Justice regulations that prohibit anyone on parole from applying for a pardon "unduly restrict" the president's constitutional power to grant pardons. Hunter has said he believes Behenna's conviction was unjustified because of erroneous jury instructions and the failure of prosecutors to turn over evidence supporting a self-defense claim.

30th anniversary of Iowa blast

NORFOLK, Va. — A ceremony was to be held to pay tribute to 47 sailors who were killed when a gun turret exploded on the USS Iowa in 1989.

The ceremony was scheduled for Friday on Naval Station Norfolk. It was the 30th anniversary of the explosion on the Norfolk-based battleship on April 19, 1989.

The ship's Number Two turret exploded during a gunnery exercise off the coast of Puerto Rico.

The Navy initially claimed the explosion was a result of a suicidal attack by a ship petty officer. A congressional investigation found the explosion was likely caused by guns being over-rammed with powder.

From The Associated Press

US, Japan stick with tough stance on N. Korea talks

BY MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Friday rejected a North Korean demand that he be replaced as President Donald Trump's top negotiator, as the United States and Japan vowed to continue to enforce tough sanctions on North Korea until it dismantles its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs.

Pompeo's refusal to step down and the joint U.S.-Japanese pledge made at a meeting of their foreign and defense ministers at the State Department threw more uncertainty over the possible resumption of stalled denuclearization talks.

The talks have been at an impasse over sanctions since Trump's second summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ended without any agreement in late February, and the North has warned it may not return to the table without immediate sanctions relief.

"Nothing changed, we're continuing to work. I'm still in charge of the team," Pompeo told reporters, insisting that he and his special envoy for North Korea Stephen Biegun would remain on the job.

"President Trump is obviously in charge of the overall effort, but it will be my team and special representative Biegun who will continue to lead the U.S. efforts to achieve what Chairman Kim committed to do," he said. "He's made that commitment to President Trump multiple times, he's made it to me personally half a dozen times and I am convinced we still have a real opportunity to achieve that outcome and our diplomatic team will continue to remain in the lead."

Pompeo's comments — at a news conference with acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan, Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono and Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya — were his first response to the North Korean demand, which followed an announcement by Pyongyang on Thursday that it had tested a new tactical weapon. The test, along with the North's criticism of Pompeo for "talking nonsense" and misrepresenting Kim's positions, signaled a hardening stance and cast doubt on a quick resumption of negotiations.

Pompeo, Shanahan, Kono and Iwaya all said that they would not bow to North Korea's sanctions relief demands.

"We will continue to press North Korea to abandon all of its weapons of mass destruction, ballistic missiles and related

programs and facilities," Pompeo said, speaking on behalf of the group. "We will continue to enforce all sanctions against North Korea and encourage every country to do so."

Kono said Friday's meeting came at "a critical time to align the response to the North Korean situation," noting that Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will travel to the U.S. to meet Trump next week and that Trump will soon visit Japan. "Japan and the United States will continue to cooperate on full implementation of all U.N. Security Council resolutions," he said in reference to international sanctions the world body has imposed on the North.

The U.S. is refusing to ease major sanctions until North Korea completely and verifiably dismantles its nuclear weapons and long-range ballistic missiles while the North wants significant sanctions to be lifted before the process is completed.

Japan has also advocated a tough approach to the North in contrast to South Korea, which has pushed for a step-by-step approach that would lift some international sanctions as incentives. Pompeo has said some minor relief, including the possible easing of travel restrictions, could be considered in the short- to medium-term but that the crippling sanctions the North most wants removed will not be lifted until it fulfills what he says have been Kim's repeated pledges to Trump to completely denuclearize.

On Thursday, North Korea said it had test-fired a new type of "tactical guided weapon," its first such test in nearly half a year, and demanded that Pompeo be excluded from future negotiations. Although the test didn't appear to be of a banned mid- or long-range ballistic missile that could scuttle chances of resuming the negotiations, it allowed North Korea to show its people it is pushing ahead with weapons development and reassuring hardline military officials worried that diplomacy with Washington is a sign of weakness.

North Korea's foreign ministry accused Pompeo of playing down the significance of comments by Kim, who said last week that Washington has until the end of the year to offer mutually acceptable terms for an agreement to salvage the high-stakes nuclear diplomacy.

Private cargo ship brings Easter feast to space station

Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — A private cargo ship brought the makings of an Easter feast to the International Space Station on Friday, along with mice and little flying robots.

Space station astronaut Anne McClain used a robot arm to capture Northrop Grumman's Cygnus capsule as they soared 258 miles above France.

The Cygnus and its 7,600-pound shipment rocketed from Wallops Island, Va., on Wednesday, completing the trip in a quick day and a half. It holds numerous science experiments, including 40 mice taking part in a tetanus vaccination study, and three boxy, free-flying robots designed to assist astronauts inside and out.

NASA also packed more than 800 meals for the six station residents. Their holiday choices include pork chops with gravy, smoked turkey, potatoes au gratin, lemon meringue pudding and apricot cobbler.

Northrop Grumman named this Cygnus the S.S. Roger Chaffee, after the youngest of the three astronauts who died in the Apollo 1 spacecraft fire in 1967.

Chaffee was the only one on the crew who never made it to space.

Two hours after its arrival, the capsule was anchored onto the space station by flight controllers working remotely from Houston. The Cygnus will remain there until July, when it is released with trash for a few months of solo orbiting in a test by Northrop Grumman. It ultimately will make a fiery re-entry.

Besides McClain, there are two other Americans living on the space station, as well as two Russians and one Canadian. They will receive another shipment in just over a week from NASA's other commercial supplier, SpaceX.

South blasted by severe storms; multiple tornado warnings issued

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Strong storms were still roaring across the South on Friday, after killing two Mississippi drivers and a woman in Alabama and leaving more than 100,000 people without power across Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas.

The threat on Friday shifted to Georgia, where multiple tornado warnings covered parts of northeast Georgia. There were no immediate reports of any damage from those storms, but the tornado threat was expected to continue well into the day in the Carolinas and Virginia.

The national Storm Prediction Center said 9.7 million people in the Carolinas and Virginia are at a moderate risk of severe weather on Friday.

It's a region that includes the Charlotte, N.C. metro area.

Torrential downpours, large hail and a few tornadoes are among the hazards, the National Weather Service in Raleigh, North Carolina, warned about in its Friday morning hazardous weather outlook.

"An isolated strong and long-track tornado can't be ruled out," forecasters wrote.

National Weather Service forecasters said they believe multiple tornadoes hit southwest and central Mississippi on Thursday, although they won't be sure until the damage is surveyed. Heavy winds also were reported in Louisiana earlier in the day and in central Alabama as the system quickly pushed eastward.

On the back side of the system, there were also reports

late Thursday of high winds in southern Oklahoma.

A Mississippi man was killed Thursday afternoon when his car hit a tree on a highway south of Philadelphia, Miss., Neshoba County Coroner John Stephens told local news outlets.

Kenderick Magee, 24, was also killed while driving in the storm, WLBT-TV reported. Magee fatally crashed near the rural town of Gillsburg in southwest Mississippi, Amite County Coroner Campbell Sharp said.

Two minor injuries were reported in Harvey, Louisiana, a suburb of New Orleans, when a power pole fell on two vehicles.

Alabama authorities said a woman was killed Thursday night after strong storms knocked a tree onto her mobile home in St Clair County.

Biden due to launch presidential campaign

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former Vice President Joe Biden is expected to join the crowded 2020 Democratic presidential race next week.

The decision answers one of the most significant outstanding questions of the early presidential primary season, which has already seen announcements from 18 high-profile Democrats. Biden, 76, would be the oldest and most experienced politician in the race.

His plans were confirmed by three people with knowledge, who insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly. The announcement is expected as early as Wednesday and would cap months of deliberation over his political future.

The specific launch date and location is unclear. Biden is likely to quickly make visits to early voting states.

One person said Biden's advisers are also considering an

early event in Charlottesville, Va., the site of a deadly clash between white supremacists and counterprotesters in 2017. The location would be intended to draw a contrast between Biden and President Donald Trump, who initially said there were some "very fine people on both sides" of the violent confrontation.

Biden has been particularly outspoken against the rise of white supremacy in the Trump era.

One of the most recognizable names in U.S. politics, Biden served as Barack Obama's two-term vice president after nearly four decades as a Delaware senator. His high-profile, working-class background and connection to the Obama years would help him enter the race as a front-runner, although he faces questions about his age and whether his more moderate record fits with a party that has become more liberal.

With a record in elected of-

fice that stretches half a century, Biden faces multiple challenges.

Last month he struggled to respond to claims he touched 2014 Nevada lieutenant governor nominee Lucy Flores' shoulders and kissed the back of her head before a campaign event. A few other women have made similar claims, though none has alleged sexual misconduct.

The incident is just a taste of the harsh vetting from both parties expected for Biden, who has run for president twice before but never from such a strong political starting point.

Biden has since apologized for his role in the hearing. But in the #MeToo era, it's another example of why critics believe he may struggle to catch on with the Democratic primary voters of 2020.

On paper at least, however, he may be well positioned to take on Trump in a general election.

Businesses roll with the stoner 'holiday' as legalized pot grows

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Potheads have for decades celebrated their love of marijuana on April 20, but the once counterculture celebration that was all about getting stoned now is so mainstream that corporate America is starting to embrace it.

No, Hallmark doesn't yet have a card to mark "420." But many other businesses inside and outside the multibillion-dollar cannabis industry are using April 20, or 4/20, to roll out marketing and social media messaging aimed at connecting with consumers driving the booming market.

On Saturday, Lyft is offering a \$4.20 credit on a single ride in Colorado and in select cities in the U.S. and Canada. Carl's Jr. is using a Denver restaurant to market a hamburger infused

with CBD, a nonintoxicating molecule found in cannabis that many believe is beneficial to their health.

On 420 last year, Totino's, a maker of frozen pizza snacks, tweeted an image of a microwave and an oven with the message: "To be blunt, pizza rolls are better when baked."

"I think brands that associate themselves with cannabis kind of get that contact high. In other words, they're just considered to be cooler by association," said Kit Yarow, consumer psychologist at Golden Gate University. "As pot becomes more legal, more discussed, more interesting to people, more widely used, then 420 becomes more mainstream as well."

Marijuana normalization has snowballed since 2012, when Colorado and Washington were

the first states to legalize recreational use. Eight more followed, including California, Oregon and Michigan. Medical marijuana is legal in two-thirds of the states, with conservative-leaning Utah and Oklahoma among recent additions.

U.S. retail sales of cannabis products jumped to \$10.5 billion last year, a threefold increase from 2017, according to data from Arcview Group, a cannabis investment and market research firm. The figures do not include retail sales of hemp-derived CBD products.

To mark 420 in recent years, Ben & Jerry's partnered with a San Francisco Bay Area cannabis retailer to give customers who place delivery orders on Friday and Saturday a free pint of Half Baked, a combination of cookie dough and fudge brownie.

Father saves toddler from an attack by wild dingoes

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Rescue personnel said a father fought off several dingoes to save his 14-month-old son from one of the wild dogs that were dragging the boy from their campervan on an Australian island early Friday.

The boy had deep cuts on his head from the attack on Fraser Island in Queensland state, paramedic Ben Du Toit said.

The family was sleeping when a dingo entered their campervan. Du Toit said the parents awoke to their son's cries, the sound fading as he was dragged away.

The father ran outside and fought off several dingoes to rescue his son.

"He was apparently grabbed around the back of the neck area and dragged away. So, if it wasn't for the parents and their quick thinking and fighting off the dingoes, he probably would have had more severe injuries," Frank Bertoli, a pilot for RACQ Life Flight, told Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

The boy was airlifted to a hospital early Friday.

Bertoli said the boy is the third child attacked by dingoes on Fraser Island this year.

The island is part of an Australian national park and is known for its rainforests, wetlands and extensive coastal dunes.

Fraser Island also displays strong warnings for visitors to avoid dingoes and to not try to draw their attention or leave food behind.

Principal Ranger Daniel Clifton told reporters that close interactions with people and access to food can alter dingoes' behavior and raise aggression.

Extra rangers were assigned to investigate the attack and patrol the island. Clifton said dingo specialists were trying to identify which animals attacked and to brief campers about what happened.

Herd of robotic dogs haul truck with ease

The Washington Post

Boston Dynamics' latest video of its four-legged robot, SpotMini, is just over a minute long.

But that's all the time it takes to impress upon viewers that the technology company has developed machines capable of pulling a full-size box truck up a slight incline.

An individual SpotMini can carry 31 pounds, but the crew of robots apparently contains enough collective power to pull a vehicle that likely weighs at least 10,000 pounds. It takes 10 of the 66-pound robots — hitched together like metallic sled dogs and marching with militaristic precision — to get the vehicle rolling.

The video left many YouTube viewers uneasy. (It had been played nearly 2 million times Thursday evening.)

"Boston Dynamics CEO: 'Okay, team. We haven't

freaked out the YouTube crowd in about two weeks,'" a viewer named Scott Davidson wrote. "We need to stay on top of it. What have you got?"

"Wow. Now that they are making an army all they need to do is give those spots mounted machine guns and the end of the world is near," a viewer with the username BlitzSterz said.

Boston Dynamics appears to delight in dropping simple yet startling videos without warning, showing stunning advances in robotic technology without much context or comment. A caption at the bottom hinted at the machine's commercial debut:

"These Spot robots are coming off the production line now and will be available for a range of applications soon," the caption states.

News about the SpotMini hitting the market has been public for months.

Marc Raibert, Boston Dynamics' founder, told an audience at the CeBIT computer expo in Hanover, Germany, last year that his company was testing SpotMini with potential customers from four industries: security, delivery, construction and home assistance. His presentation at the expo was reported by Inverse.

Raibert also predicted that his company's robots could one day be used for "warehouse logistics" or to clean up dangerous environments such as the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster site, where human workers are at risk.

"This robot will be available next year," he said at the time, referring to SpotMini. "We've built 10 by hand. We're building 100 with manufacturers at the end of this year, and in the middle of 2019, we're going to begin production at the rate of about 1,000 a year."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man in dumpster ends up in trash truck

PA MCKEES ROCK— Authorities said a man sleeping in a dumpster was tossed into the back of a garbage truck as the trash was being emptied, causing him to lose his prosthetic leg.

WPXI-TV reported that the incident occurred at about 2 a.m. Thursday in McKees Rocks. The truck driver heard the man yelling and called 911.

Officials say that while he was in the back of the truck the man realized his prosthetic lower leg was missing. He searched for it for about 30 minutes before police ordered him to stop.

The man didn't appear to be injured in the accident but was taken to a hospital to be evaluated. His name has not been released.

Authorities said they will continue searching for the missing prosthetic.

65-year-old woman hits burglar with bat

FL GAINESVILLE — When a Florida woman heard a noise and saw a man trying to break into her car early Sunday, she took matters into her own hands.

Clarese Gainey, 65, of Gainesville, told WGFL that she picked up her softball bat early Sunday, braced herself and eased open the door before hitting Antonio Mosley.

"I took that bat and hit him upside the head, like 'pi-yah,'" Gainey said, adding that the 5-foot-6, 300-pound man said, "Ow!"

Mosely ran to a nearby mobile home park, leaving behind his pants, shirt and a sock, police said. A K-9 unit tracked him down, and Gainey said she

easily identified him because of the knot on his head.

Students charged as food fight turns to riot

CT STAMFORD — Police said 10 students at a Connecticut high school face charges in connection with a food fight that turned into a riot and ended with injuries to a teacher and a school resource officer.

Stamford police said Tuesday that the Westhill High School students between the ages of 15 and 17 involved in the incident last Friday are charged with first-degree rioting, breach of peace, reckless endangerment and assault on a police officer.

School officials said the food fight had been in the planning for days and developed in a courtyard next to the cafeteria.

Police said the resource officer was struck in the head by a full soda can, while the teacher was "trampled by a mass of students."

Stamford Superintendent Earl Kim called the incident "ugly and disappointing."

Naked toddler at IHOP leads to arrests

FL PANAMA CITY — Employees of an IHOP were headed to work early Friday when they found a naked toddler wandering the restaurant's parking lot. They then found the toddler's mom and the mom's fiance passed out in a nearby van.

Panama City police told news outlets that the employees were unable to wake Jordyn Freeman, 24, and Randy McMillin, 27, both of whom were under the influence of drugs.

Police said two 9-month-old children were also found in the van, along with drugs and drug paraphernalia.

Police said the soiled children were given clean clothes and diapers and placed with the state Department of Children and Families.

The Ohio couple was arrested on charges including methamphetamine possession.

7-year-old takes handgun to school

MN ST. PAUL — Police are investigating after a 7-year-old boy brought a loaded handgun to school in St. Paul.

Someone at Highland Park Elementary became aware of the gun Wednesday morning and called police. A school resource officer retrieved the gun from the student's backpack.

The St. Paul Pioneer Press reported that police say the gun had a trigger lock on it. The second-grader was turned over to his mother. She had reported her gun stolen on Sunday. Police are investigating how the student got the gun and how his mother stored the weapon to determine whether charges are warranted.

Suspect jumps from 3rd floor while fleeing

MN MOORHEAD — Authorities said a man suspected of chasing a woman with a gun and knife suffered multiple injuries when he jumped from a third-story apartment window to elude police in Moorhead.

Officers talked to the woman about 10 p.m. Wednesday and found her unharmed. She directed officers to the apartment building where the man, 47, had possibly returned.

When police made contact with him, the suspect jumped to the ground 25 feet below and ran from the scene. Officers used a tracking dog and found

him hiding in a residential porch where he was arrested. He is being treated for injuries suffered during the jump.

Pupil caught passing out fake \$100 bills

MO NIXA — Officials said a student was caught passing out fake \$100 bills at a southwest Missouri high school.

The Springfield News-Leader reported that Nixa Public Schools is cautioning the community to be extra cautious because not all of the bills that were handed out Tuesday were collected.

District spokesman Zac Rantz said the bills "do appear to be fake." But he added that the bills could be mistaken for real currency if they were included in a bundle with other money.

Rantz said the school is working with the U.S. Secret Service.

Dead jellyfish, shrimp, crabs litter beach

SC SULLIVAN'S ISLAND — Hundreds of dead jellyfish, some shrimp and crabs have washed up across the Sullivan's Island beach.

What's causing it? The Post and Courier reported that it's due to summer breezes.

Cannonball jellies tend to turn up in the nearshore waters during April, pushed in from the Gulf Stream with washes of warmer water. They're a sign that the surf is approaching that magic room-temperature zone a lot of people find tempting on a hot day.

When the wind blows as hard as it has, the jellies end up on the beach.

From wire reports

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Bolts, Pens victims of 'playoff hockey'

Associated Press

Scotty Bowman had already coached six teams to the Stanley Cup championship when his high-powered Detroit Red Wings — winners of 12 of their first 14 playoff games — couldn't get the puck away from the New Jersey Devils and got swept in the 1995 final.

"They just shut us right down," Bowman said. "We were shocked, but it happens."

The coach with the most Stanley Cup rings in NHL history wasn't as shocked to see the Tampa Bay Lightning get swept out of the first round this postseason after tying the single-season wins record set by his 1995-96 Red Wings and finishing 21 points ahead of the rest of the league. He wasn't surprised, either, when the same thing happened the same night to the Pittsburgh Penguins after they won two of the past three championships.

The defending Stanley Cup champion Washington Capitals are deadlocked with the playoff newcomer Carolina Hurricanes at two games apiece. If the Calgary Flames can't come

back from a 3-1 series deficit against Colorado, it will mark the first time each conference's top seed is eliminated in the first round.

More than any other sport, playoff hockey is a much different animal than the regular season because of increased emphasis on scouting and preparation, fewer penalties and even-strength goals, and more all-out shot-blocking and sacrificing. The way games are coached, played and officiated changes enough that the Lightning can go from being the best team for seven months to gone in seven days.

"The ice shrinks and you have less time, less space, the hits are harder, guys are not preserving energy over the course of a game," said NHL Network analyst Mike Rupp, who won the Cup in 2003 with New Jersey. "You're exhausting it every shift."

Tampa Bay looked so exhausted after winning 62 of 82 regular-season games that it lost four in a row to eighth-seeded Columbus, which didn't even clinch a playoff spot until game 81. The Blue Jackets were by

far the better team, and Bowman — who lives in Florida and frequents the Lightning's press box — saw a totally different Tampa Bay team without top defensemen Victor Hedman and Anton Stralman because it couldn't move the puck up ice without a strain on the top forwards.

Bowman compared it to what Detroit would've been like without Hall of Famer Nicklas Lidstrom, who hardly ever made a mistake with the puck and made everything happen.

"During the season, Tampa would have the puck so much, the other team would get four, five or six penalties and, boom, their power play was at 28 percent and had the most goals in the league," Bowman said. "They were so hard to play against all year because they forced the other teams to take penalties. (Hedman and Stralman) are bringing the puck up, they're in the (offensive) zone. The game changes."

Star players also get much more attention in the playoffs. Tampa Bay's top scorers, presumptive MVP Nikita Kucherov, Steven Stamkos and

Brayden Point, combined for five points against Columbus after averaging 1.3 a game during the regular season.

That problem isn't limited to the Lightning. Two-time playoff MVP Sidney Crosby was limited to one point in the Penguins' sweep at the hands of the New York Islanders, and Calgary's Johnny Gaudreau has one point through four games against Colorado.

Belying a common misperception, scoring isn't down much in the postseason so far: an average of 5.8 goals over the first 31 playoff games compared to 6.0 in the regular season. But after 77.8 percent of regular-season goals came at even strength, that number is 59.4 percent so far in the playoffs, which means each power-play goal is all the more important.

"You want to stay out of the penalty box," Stevens said. "There's teams that their power play might've been average during the year but they find a way to get a few in the playoffs and make a difference and that can win a series for you."

Roundup

Hurricanes beat Capitals to even series

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The Carolina Hurricanes lost another forward — and won another playoff game.

"'Next guy up' has been the memo lately," rookie Warren Foegele said.

Enough of them have stepped up to even their series with the Washington Capitals.

Carolina beat the defending Stanley Cup champions 2-1 on Thursday night to square the series at two games apiece, with Teuvo Teravainen scoring the go-ahead goal with 27.9 seconds left in the second period.

Foegele scored 17 seconds in, giving him three goals in two home games, and Petr Mrazek made 30 saves for Hurricanes.

They lost another key forward to injury yet fed off the energy of the largest hockey crowd in PNC Arena history to win their second straight on home ice after routing

Washington 5-0 in Game 3. Road teams have yet to lead — much less win — in this series.

"All we've done," Hurricanes captain Justin Williams said, "is hold serve."

Alex Ovechkin scored a power-play goal and Braden Holtby finished with 22 saves for the Capitals, who hadn't lost consecutive games in regulation since late January but lost key forward T.J. Oshie "for a while" after he was hit by Foegele late in the third, coach Todd Reirden said.

Foegele received a boarding minor for his hit with 5:08 left that had Oshie doubled over in pain as he skated to the dressing room.

"It was a defenseless player that was quite a distance from the boards," Reirden said. "It's an extremely dangerous play, and he will not be with our team for a while."

Blues 3, Jets 2: Jaden Schwartz scored with 15 seconds remaining to cap visiting St. Louis' three-goal third period, giving the Blues a 3-2 series lead.

The Blues' win marked the first time in 15 years, and fourth time overall, the road team has won each of the first five games in a seven-game series. According to a league stat, when a best-of-seven NHL playoff series is tied 2-2, the winner of Game 5 takes the series 78.8 per cent all time (205-55).

Sharks 5, Golden Knights 2: Tomas Hertl got his team off to the fast start that had been missing the past three games, Martin Jones came up with the big saves and host San Jose staved off elimination in Game 5 of their first-round series.

The Golden Knights lead the series to 3-2 heading into Game 6 in Vegas on Sunday night.

Sports briefs

Yzerman set to join Red Wings

Associated Press

DETROIT — The Captain is coming home.

Hockey Hall of Famer Steve Yzerman will be named general manager of the Detroit Red Wings, two people familiar with the decision told The Associated Press on Friday. Ken Holland will become the team's senior vice president after being its general manager for two-plus decades, according to the two people, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the team had not announced the move.

Yzerman was a captain for a league-record 20 seasons in Detroit, where he is adored and known as The Captain.

He stepped down as general manager of the Tampa Bay Lightning last year just two days before training camp, triggering talk he would come back to run the Red Wings.

Yzerman spent his entire playing career trying with the Red Wings, and his No. 19 jersey is retired along with some of the game's greats such as Gordie Howe. He is regarded as one of the best leaders in NHL history.

Hatchell resigns

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina women's basketball coach Sylvia Hatchell had built a Hall of Fame career over more than three decades with the Tar Heels, including a national championship and becoming the Atlantic Coast Conference's all-time winningest coach.

That tenure ended with her resignation after a program review found concerns over "racially insensitive" comments and pressuring players to compete through medical issues.

The school announced the 67-year-old Hatchell's resignation late Thursday, along with findings from that external review conducted this month by a Charlotte-based law firm.

Warriors shut down Clippers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — He's Kevin Durant, and the Los Angeles Clippers got reminded of it.

Durant scored 38 points, Stephen Curry added 21 playing with five fouls, and the Golden State Warriors dominated from the opening tip to win 132-105 Thursday night and take a 2-1 lead in their first-round playoff series.

"He came out super-aggressive, in kill mode," teammate Draymond Green said of Durant. "That was all the difference for us. We took control of the game right there in the first quarter and never lost control of it."

The Warriors began the game on a 22-9 tear and went on to shoot 73% from the floor in the first quarter, taking the crowd out of it early.

Durant was perfect, making all five of his field goals and both free throws for 12 points. He and Curry picked up two fouls each, but the Warriors still built a 19-point lead.

"As much momentum as we lost in the final 16 minutes of Game 2, we got it all back early," Curry said. "Everybody was aggressive, decisive, getting good shots on every possession. The way we went about our business was the sign of a resilient team."

Kevon Looney, again filling in for injured DeMarcus Cousins, shot 4-for-4 in the first, dunk-

ing three times in a row.

Durant had 27 points at halftime despite not making a three-pointer.

Golden State coach Steve Kerr had said he wanted Durant shooting much more than the eight times he did in Game 2. When relayed his coach's comment earlier in the week, Durant replied, "I don't play like that. I'm Kevin Durant. You know who I am."

The Clippers won Game 2 on the road after trailing by 31 points in the third quarter, stunning the Warriors with the largest comeback in NBA playoff history.

But they couldn't find the basket this time, shooting 37% from the floor.

"They dissected us," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "You kind of felt they were going to come in and throw a punch. We just didn't respond."

The Clippers' only starter in double figures was rookie Ivica Zubac, who finished with 18 points after playing most of the fourth. Patrick Beverley, a defensive pest guarding Durant in Game 2, was limited to six points, four fouls, one rebound and no assists in 18 minutes.

Curry is five three-pointers away from becoming the first player to make 400 postseason threes. The Warriors set an NBA record by winning at least one road game in each of their last 20 playoff series.

NBA roundup

White, Spurs knock off Nuggets

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Derrick White had a career-high 36 points and the Spurs beat the Denver Nuggets, withstanding a first-half lapse to take a 2-1 lead in the first-round series.

Nikola Jokic had 22 points, eight rebounds and seven assists for Denver.

Game 4 is Saturday in San Antonio, where the Spurs are 3-0 against the Nuggets this season.

White attacked Nuggets point guard Jamal Murray from the opening tip after being on the receiving end of Murray's career outing Tuesday night. Murray had only six points, a game after scoring 21 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter to help Denver overcome a 19-point deficit to even the series.

White set his career high after being fouled by Paul Mill-

sap on a driving layup that fell in to give the Spurs a 99-89 lead with 8:52 remaining. White added five rebounds, five assists and three steals while shooting 12-for-17. DeMar DeRozan took over after that, scoring 21 of his 25 points in the second half.

LaMarcus Aldridge added 18 points and 11 rebounds, and Rudy Gay had 11 points and 10 rebounds. Malik Beasley added 20 points for Denver.

76ers 131, Nets 115: Ben Simmons scored a career playoff-high 31 points, Tobias Harris added 29 points and 16 rebounds and Philadelphia shook off the absence of Joel Embiid to take a 2-1 series lead over host Brooklyn.

Without their All-Star center, the 76ers relied on Simmons, who had nine assists while slashing to the basket and finding Harris and JJ Redick on

the perimeter.

Simmons finished 11-for-13, repeatedly getting to the rim to eventually quiet a crowd that booed him every time he touched the ball.

Harris had his playoff highs in both points and rebounds, and was 6-for-6 from three-point range. Redick was 5 of 9 behind the arc and finished with 26 points.

Embiid warmed up before the game but the 76ers announced shortly before the start that the All-Star center wouldn't be available because of a sore left knee. Greg Monroe started in his place and had nine points and 13 rebounds.

D'Angelo Russell and Caris LeVert each scored 26 points for the Nets. They have dropped the last two games after surprising the No. 3 seed in the opener in Philadelphia.

Homers propel Dodgers past Brewers

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Cody Bellinger and Christian Yelich chatted in the outfield after batting practice ended. Once Thursday's game started, the bats of the National League home run co-leaders kept the exchange going.

Bellinger hit his 10th home run, Max Muncy also went deep, and Julio Urias struck out a career-high nine and allowed one hit in six strong innings as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Milwaukee Brewers 3-1 Thursday night to extend their winning streak to five games.

"Just conversations, just talking about baseball," Bellinger said of the dialogue between the two. "He's great on and off the field."

Bellinger drove a 3-2 pitch from reliever Matt Albers (1-1) into the Dodgers' bullpen in

right center in the sixth inning.

"It's going to be fun competing against him, hopefully, all year," Bellinger said after Yelich added his own homer and the pair moved into a tie with Oakland's Khris Davis with a major league-leading 10 homers.

Muncy followed Bellinger's drive with a two-run shot that landed in the netting above the Brewers' bullpen in left.

That was all the offense Urias (1-1) needed.

"He was great," Bellinger said of Urias, who is headed back to the bullpen after two spot starts against the Brewers. "Spotting every single pitch. Really confident up there."

The Brewers saw a totally different Urias than the one they beat 8-5 at Dodger Stadium six days ago, when he allowed six runs, five earned, on six hits.

"He was really good tonight," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said of Urias. "Best he's thrown. The differentiation between the fastball and the change-up tonight was very subtle. Those guys weren't taking good swings, weren't getting good looks at it."

Asked where Urias fits into the pitching plans, the Dodgers manager had a quick answer.

"We feel he's a major league starter," Roberts said. "Julio's certainly proved that."

Orlando Arcia slapped a single up the middle with two outs in the fifth for the only hit off Urias.

"He just made a lot more pitches," Brewers manager Craig Counsell said. "Outside of (Luis) Castillo's start for the Reds, that was the best anybody has pitched against us this year."

Caleb Ferguson pitched a scoreless seventh. Joe Kelly came on with one out and one on in the eighth and escaped, thanks to left fielder Joc Pederson's throw to plate that beat Hernan Perez' slide home.

Kenley Jansen pitched the ninth for his sixth save, despite Yelich hitting his 10th homer of the season.

Yelich went 2-for-12 with no RBIs, walks or extra-base hits in the three-game series last weekend. He came into Thursday's game, batting .500 with four homers and 11 RBIs during the current homestand. He was 0-for-3 against Urias.

Milwaukee starter Zach Davies allowed three hits over five innings, with three walks and two strikeouts. Twice he stranded runners at third and turned a scoreless tie over to Albers in the sixth.

MLB roundup

Corbin picks up first win as Nationals down Giants

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Now this is what the Washington Nationals were looking for when they plunked down \$140 million to add Patrick Corbin to the rotation.

Corbin took a one-hitter into the eighth inning to earn his first win with Washington, and the Nationals beat the punchless San Francisco Giants 4-2 Thursday in the deciding matchup of a three-game series.

Signed to a six-year contract in December after pitching for six seasons in Arizona, Corbin started three games without a decision with his new team. In this one, the Nationals staked him to an early lead that he easily made stand up.

"It feels great to get my first win here as a Nat," the lefty said. "It seemed like every inning I was able to make pitches and get ahead of guys."

Corbin (1-0) struck out nine,

walked one and a hit a batter over 7²/₃ innings against a struggling San Francisco offense that came in with a .208 average. The lone hits against the 29-year-old were a fifth-inning double by Evan Longoria and a two-out RBI double by Erik Kratz in the eighth.

After Kratz broke up the shutout, Corbin exited to cheers from most of the 26,085 fans at the weekday afternoon game in the nation's capital.

"I still felt strong at the end," he said.

Kyle Barraclough entered and retired pinch-hitter Buster Posey. Sean Doolittle worked the ninth, giving up three hits and a run while earning his second save.

The Giants had problems with Corbin's fastball and the strike zone of plate umpire Ryan Additon. San Francisco manager Bruce Bochy was tossed in the fifth inning and left fielder Brandon Belt was

ejected in the seventh after he threw down his helmet in disgust over a called third strike.

"I probably said something. It wasn't very nice," Belt said.

For the Giants, it was case of subtraction by Additon.

Diamondbacks 4, Braves 1: Christian Walker continued his remarkable late-innings production with a two-run homer in the seventh, Luke Weaver (1-1) got his team off to a good start and visiting Arizona beat Atlanta to complete a three-game sweep.

Mariners 11, Angels 10: Jay Bruce delivered a tiebreaking pinch-hit RBI single in the ninth, and visiting Seattle blew a late eight-run lead before rallying past Los Angeles.

Blue Jays 7, Twins 4: Randal Grichuk, Justin Smoak and Teoscar Hernandez homered to help visiting Toronto beat Minnesota.

Tigers 9, White Sox 7: Nicholas Castellanos had three hits

and drove in a pair of runs and host Detroit beat Chicago to end a five-game losing streak.

Royals 6, Yankees 1: Homer Bailey (2-1) won consecutive starts for the first time since July 2017, holding host New York to three hits over six innings for Kansas City.

Orioles 6, Rays 5 (11): Joey Rickard drove in the winning run in the 11th inning with an RBI double, his fourth hit of the game, to lift visiting Baltimore over Tampa Bay.

Rockies 6, Phillies 2: Ryan McMahon homered twice and had five RBIs in his return to the lineup and Kyle Freeland (2-3) pitched six scoreless innings in host Colorado's win over Philadelphia.

Reds 4, Padres 1: Joey Votto hit his first career leadoff homer and Tucker Barnhart and Jesse Winker also connected as visiting Cincinnati beat San Diego to snap a four-game losing streak.