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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Trump pushes for new arm-control pacts

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump has ordered his administration to prepare a push for new arms-control agreements with Russia and China after bristling at the cost of a 21st-century nuclear arms race, according to administration officials.

The aim of the nascent effort, a senior administration official said, is to bring Russian nuclear weapons unregulated by treaties under new limits and persuade China to join an arms-control pact limiting or verifying its capabilities for the first time.

The initiative is still in its earliest stages, with officials preparing options for how to implement Trump's order. It is unclear whether it will yield results in an administration that has locked horns with Moscow and Beijing and has less than two years left in its first term.

"The president's direction is

that we need to look at moreambitious arms control that will deal with more weapons, and more than just us and Russia," said the senior administration official, speaking on the condition of anonymity to discuss internal policy deliberations. "What you're going to see is more from the administration on how do we get to arms control that doesn't just reflect a Cold War mentality."

A trilateral nuclear armscontrol agreement among the United States, Russia and China would be a watershed diplomatic achievement; separate treaties alone would be significant. But normally such pacts require years of negotiation and diplomatic outreach, a challenge for an administration that has withdrawn from armscontrol treaties but has not brokered any new ones.

Trump mentioned the goal ahead of trade talks at the White House this month with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He.

The president said that Washington, after making a trade deal with Beijing, should strike agreements to reduce military spending.

"Between Russia and China and us, we're all making hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of weapons, including nuclear, which is ridiculous," Trump said. "And I would say that China will come along, and I would say Russia will come along. It doesn't really make sense that we're doing this."

The initiative comes as Russia, China and the United States all enhance their nuclear weaponry — and as the clock ticks on the New START accord, the last big arms-control pact remaining between Washington and Moscow, which expires in 2021.

Negotiated by President Barack Obama, the treaty places limits on strategic nuclear platforms such as bombers, submarines and intercontinental ballistic missiles. It can be extended for five years if the presidents of both nations agree.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on April 10, said Trump has made clear that if the United States can achieve a "good, solid" arms-control agreement with Russia to follow up on New START, then Washington should agree. Pompeo said China should be included in the next version of the treaty, but he signaled how difficult that could be.

"It may be that we can't get there," Pompeo said. "It may be we just end up working with the Russians on this."

This is not the first time Trump has expressed concern about the costs of an arms race. For example, he said in March 2018 that he wanted to negotiate with Russian President Vladimir Putin because it was "getting out of control."

President, Pence push 'American first' agenda to the moon

The Washington Post

"The first woman and the next man on the moon will both be American astronauts, launched by American rockets, from American soil."

Vice President Mike Pence, rhetorically planting a new American flag on the moon, spoke to leaders of the U.S. space community last month in Huntsville, Ala.

He came to deliver a dramatic message: The administration was unsatisfied by NASA's plan to return to the moon in 2028. That's not fast enough, Pence said. He ordered NASA to get there within five years — be-

fore, he didn't need to add, the end of what might be a second term for President Donald Trump.

In multiple ways, the Trump administration is trying to project the president's Make America Great Again rhetoric into space. Trump has vowed to ramp up the nation's missile defense system with a space-based layer that's "ultimately going to be a very, very big part of our defense and, obviously, of our offense." And he's pushed for the creation of a Space Force, a sixth branch of the U.S. military.

Trump came into office hoping to do something dramatic

in space. He expressed disappointment that NASA couldn't send humans to Mars in his first term. Pence took the helm of the National Space Council, a White House unit that had been moribund for a generation and that now put civilian and military space operations under one roof.

How much the new MAGA-in-space rhetoric will translate into reality is unclear. Without additional funding from Congress or a change in the laws of physics, NASA has little chance of putting boots on the moon within Pence's five-year time frame. But Pence's speech certainly energized the aerospace

community and jolted NASA, in part by signaling that the administration would consider a moon plan that used commercial spacecraft and not merely the hardware directly developed and owned by NASA.

It's also unclear if the Space Force will materialize as a separate military service. Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle aren't sure it's necessary. There's already a space command within the Air Force. To be clear: This would not involve some kind of military deployment of uniformed personnel in space, as in the movie "Starship Troopers."

Ethics investigation into ties between Boeing, Shanahan

Los Angeles Times

The year was 1989. The Pentagon was under the command of President George H.W. Bush and Defense Secretary Dick Cheney. And aviation giant McDonnell Douglas Corp. was riding high as the top federal contractor, grabbing 4.6%, or \$9.15 billion, of all federal contracting dollars. The next two largest contractors, General Dynamics Corp. and General Electric Co., raked in about 4% and 3.4%, respectively.

Thirty years and many acquisitions later, Pentagon spending has grown far more top-heavy.

Today, Lockheed Martin Corp. and Boeing — which bought McDonnell Douglas in 1997 — together reaped almost 15% of total U.S. government contracting dollars in fiscal year 2017, according to the most recent federal numbers. The two aerospace giants are currently the only makers of fast combat jets in the U.S. and are the dominant players for military transport aircraft.

The concentrated power of big defense firms became an issue two years ago when long-time Boeing executive Patrick Shanahan was confirmed as deputy secretary of Defense. Then in December, President Trump named him to serve as acting Defense secretary.

After a monthlong ethics investigation into claims that Shanahan allegedly promoted Boeing while slamming rival Lockheed Martin, particularly in discussions about its F-35 fighter jet contract, the Pentagon's office of inspector general concluded Thursday that Shanahan "did not promote Boeing or disparage its competitors."

"We did not substantiate any of the allegations," the report said. "We determined that Mr. Shanahan fully complied with his ethics agreements and his ethical obligations regarding Boeing and its competitors."

Shanahan is considered a leading candidate for permanent Defense secretary.

The question of possible favoritism toward Boeing had also been raised by some when the U.S. Air Force, in its 2020 budget, made a surprise request to purchase F-15X fighter jets, an update of that company's fourth-generation jet. The Air Force, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps have all made major commitments to the F-35, Lockheed Martin's more advanced and pricier fifth-generation fighter.

The inspector general report said the Pentagon's mix of fourth- and fifth-generation aircraft was a decision made by former Defense Secretary James N. Mattis prior to Shanahan's confirmation to the department. A Defense official told trade publication Defense News that the decision was bolstered by concerns about keeping "multiple providers in the tactical aircraft portfolio."

But there was no contract competition based on a set of defined requirements — the way business typically works in the industry, said Richard Aboulafia, aviation analyst at market analysis firm Teal Group.

"It's a duopoly structure business with a lot at stake," he said of fast combat jet manufacturing. "It's amazing that no one considered the optics here."

As the industry gets more concentrated, it can lead to concern that "there's only one or two potential contractors for a certain product, and then you may not get the kind of competitive outcome you want," he said.

The consolidation process hasn't slowed, driven by the perceived need to compete for more and bigger contracts. Last year, Northrop Grumman Corp. acquired spacecraft and rocket motor manufacturer Orbital ATK Inc. Months later, military communications firms L3 Technologies Inc. and Harris Corp. announced their intent to merge.

News of the Defense Department ethics investigation came after watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington sent a letter to the acting Defense Department inspector general, asking him to investigate allegations that Shanahan had boosted Boeing while working in the Pentagon.

The letter includes a description from a Politico story published in January, in which Shanahan allegedly criticized Lockheed Martin's work on the F-35 joint strike fighter program, saying it "would be done much better" if Boeing had won the contract.

In that article, an unnamed former Pentagon official told the news organization that Shanahan said during a high-level meeting that Lockheed "doesn't know how to run a program."

The inspector general's report said none of the witnesses interviewed said they heard Shanahan praise Boeing in meetings or discussions or make disparaging remarks about Lockheed Martin. Shanahan told the inspector general's team that he had never praised a Boeing military product and that he had said "program management on the F-35 is inadequate."

Shanahan's Boeing career spanned more than 30 years, during which he led its missile defense systems and military helicopter sectors.

Boeing declined to comment earlier this month on the initiation. The company referred to a statement it made in January, saying Boeing officials had not spoken to Shanahan about its programs during "his entire Pentagon tenure."

Iran's Guard monitors US carrier with drone

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency is reporting that the country's powerful Revolutionary Guard has successfully managed a surveillance flight over a U.S. aircraft carrier.

The Saturday report shows footage apparently from a Guard drone that flew over a U.S. carrier and another U.S. warship in the Persian Gulf. The images show jet fighters parked on the aircraft carrier deck.

Minn. Guard shares sexual assault stats

ARDEN HILLS, Minn.

— The Minnesota National Guard says it's received 90 reports of sexual assault in the past five years, including cases that ranged from inappropriate touching to rape.

Guard leaders shared the information with more than 400 soldiers, airmen and civilians who gathered Thursday to discuss sexual assaults and providing a safe work environment.

The Star Tribune reported that of the 51 cases the Guard could release details, 35 were incidents in which both victim and offender were Guard members. In the remaining 16 cases, the victim was a member of the Guard and the offender was either a civilian or a member of another military unit.

Fort Bragg: Blackout was part of training

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — A sprawling North Carolina Army base says a power outage that lasted for hours was part of an unannounced training exercise.

Fort Bragg officials issued a statement Thursday saying the base purposely cut power throughout the installation "to identify shortcomings in our infrastructure, operations and security." They said they didn't announce the exercise so that they could test people's "realworld reactions" to the type of problems caused by an event such as a cyberattack.

From The Associated Press

President tells NRA he's pulling out of international arms treaty

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — In a largely symbolic gesture to a group that helped him win the White House, President Donald Trump said Friday he is pulling the U.S. back from an international agreement on arms trade, telling the National Rifle Association the treaty is "badly misguided."

Trump made the announcement at the NRA's annual convention, where he vowed to fight for gun rights and implored members of the nation's largest pro-gun group — struggling to maintain its influence — to rally behind his re-election bid.

"It's under assault," he said of the constitutional right to bear arms. "But not while we're here."

With pro-gun legislation largely stalled in Congress and few deliverables during Trump's term so far, the president told the group that he would be revoking the United States' status as a signatory of the U.N. Arms Trade Treaty, which regulates the multibillion-dollar global arms trade in conventional weapons, from small arms to battle tanks, combat aircraft and warships.

President Barack Obama signed the pact, which has long been opposed by the NRA, in 2013. But it has never been ratified by U.S. lawmakers.

"Under my administration, we will never surrender American sovereignty to anyone," Trump said, before signing a document on stage directing the Senate to halt the ratification process. "We will never allow foreign diplomats to trample on your Second Amendment freedom."

"I hope you're happy," he told the group, then appeared surprised by the cheers. "I'm impressed," he said. "I didn't

think too many of you would really know what it is."

His move against the treaty came as Trump sought to excite an organization that was pivotal to his victory in 2016 but three years later is limping toward the next election divided and diminished. And it represents just the latest in a series of withdrawals from international pacts and organizations joined by previous administrations, like the Paris climate accord and the Iran nuclear deal.

Gun activists had denounced the treaty when it was under negotiation as an infringement of civilian firearm ownership, despite the well-enshrined legal principle that says no treaty can override the Constitution or U.S. laws. The treaty is aimed at cracking down on illicit trading in small arms, thereby curbing violence in some of the most troubled corners of the world.

Rights to abortion upheld by Kan. court

Associated Press

TOPEKA, Kan. — Kansas' highest court declared for the first time Friday that the state constitution protects abortion rights, a sweeping ruling that blocks a ban on a common second-trimester method for ending pregnancies and endangers other restrictions, as well.

The state Supreme Court's decision immediately roiled Kansas politics. Abortion opponents called for amending the state constitution but might wait to push for a change until next year, when all state law-makers face voters.

The court's decision was a big victory for abortion rights supporters in a state with a Republican-controlled Legislature long hostile to their cause.

It also comes as other GOP-controlled states are moving to ban most abortions in direct challenges to the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortions across the nation.

The decision prevents the state from enforcing what was a first-in-the-nation 2015 law that could have greatly limited second-trimester abortions.

But even worse for abortion opponents, the ruling clears the way for legal challenges to a string of abortion restrictions approved by state lawmakers.

The court's majority said vague language protecting "equal and inalienable rights" in the first section of the Kansas Constitution's Bill of Rights grants a "natural right of personal autonomy" that includes the right to "control one's own body" and to decide whether to continue a pregnancy.

The 6-1 majority rejected the state's arguments that there is no protection for abortion rights because most abortions were illegal in Kansas Territory when the state constitution was written in 1859.

New York archdiocese calls out 120 priests accused of sexual abuse in extensive list

Associated Press

NEW YORK — At least 120 priests accused of sexually abusing a child or having child pornography have worked in the Archdiocese of New York, the archdiocese said Friday in releasing a list of names that includes bishops, high school teachers, a scouting chaplain and a notorious cardinal.

The release from the nation's second-largest Roman Catholic archdiocese follows more than 120 such disclosures from other dioceses around the country as the church reckons with demands for transparency about sex abuse by clergy.

In a letter to church members, Cardinal Timothy Dolan said he realizes "the shame that has come upon our church due to the sexual abuse of minors." He asked forgiveness "for the failings of those clergy" who betrayed the trust invested in them to protect young people.

"It is my heartfelt prayer that together we as a family of faith may be healed," Dolan added.

Church abuse watchdogs and lawyers for abuse accusers said the release of the list was a positive step, but some of them saw it as incomplete.

It doesn't include accused members of religious orders who worked in the archdiocese's churches and schools, though some orders have released their own lists. Nor does it list priests who were ordained elsewhere and later served in New York.

And there are no details on accused priests' past assignments or the allegations against them, although some have emerged

in news accounts, lawsuits and criminal cases.

"It's certainly a good thing that they've come out with the list," said Terry McKiernan of Bishop Accountability, a watchdog group. But "do they still not see that this very, very reluctant way of offering information about the crisis is the wrong way for them?"

Archdiocese spokesman Joseph Zwilling said that "the important thing is that we have released all of the names of priests that have a credible and substantiated charge brought against them," plus those awaiting a church determination on allegations, and those newly accused through an archdioceserun compensation process.

The program has paid out \$65 million to over 350 people in the past three years.

Militants set off bombs during Sri Lanka raid

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Militants linked to Easter suicide bombings opened fire and set off explosives during a raid by Sri Lankan security forces on a house in the country's east, leaving behind a grisly discovery Saturday: 15 bodies, including six children.

The gunbattle that began Friday night and the carnage that followed came amid widespread fear of more attacks as officials hunt for militants with explosives believed to still be at large after the coordinated bombings of churches and luxury hotels that killed more than 250 people nearly a week ago.

Raids and police curfews have shut down areas of eastern Sri Lanka, and Catholic leaders have canceled Sunday Masses indefinitely. Officials also urged Muslims to stay home for prayers in an extraordinary call by the clergy to curtail worship.

The gunfight came after police tipped off soldiers about a suspected safe house near the town of Sammanthurai, where authorities said the militants detonated three explosions and opened fire.

Police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekara said some of the dead likely were militants who blew themselves up in suicide bombings. Earlier, the military said at least one civilian had been killed in the attack.

A girl and a woman survived the explosion at the suspected safe house but were critically injured and being treated at a hospital, Gunasekara said.

Photographs taken by The Associated Press show the charred remains of one child and the body of another wearing a green T-shirt with the words "good boy" written on the back. The bodies of an adult woman and man were found after the explosion with their clothes burned off.

Meanwhile, the military said security forces had recovered explosives, detonators, "suicide kits," military uniforms and Islamic State flags in the ongoing raids.

Gunasekara said officers acting on information from intelligence officials also found 150 sticks of blasting gelatin and 100,000 small metal balls, as well as a van and clothing suspected of being used by those involved in the Easter attacks. Suicide bomb vests often are packed with such balls to increase the shrapnel in the explosion, making them even deadlier.

Fear of more attacks has led to increased security at churches, shrines, temples and mosques across the island nation.

Police: Army vet thought people he hit were Muslim

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — An Iraq War veteran deliberately drove into a group of pedestrians because he thought some of the people were Muslim, California authorities said Friday.

Isaiah Joel Peoples, 34, faces eight counts of attempted murder for injuring eight people, including four who remain hospitalized.

The most seriously injured is a 13-yearold Sunnyvale girl of South Asian descent who is in a coma with severe brain trauma.

"New evidence shows that the defendant intentionally targeted the victims based on their race and his belief that they were of the Muslim faith," Sunnyvale police chief Phan Ngo said.

Peoples appeared briefly in Santa Clara County Superior Court on Friday. He did not enter a plea and is being held without bail.

The former U.S. Army sharpshooter experienced post-traumatic stress disorder after serving in Iraq, his family said. Peoples' attorney, Chuck Smith, said Friday that the crash was in no way deliberate.

Smith said after the hearing that they do not dispute what happened, but that his client's mental state is the issue.

"He served our country, honorably and admirably, and he's led an otherwise blameless life," Smith said. "So there's no explanation for this other than his service, the things he saw and what happened to him mentally while serving our country."

Peoples was on his way to a Bible class Tuesday in the Silicon Valley suburb of Sunnyvale when he told investigators he intentionally drove into a group of men, women and children, police said. The 13-year-old girl was hit along with her father and brother, who had minor injuries.

Jay Boyarsky, chief assistant district attorney for Santa Clara, said the charges carry a sentence of life in prison. He said they will file hate crime allegations if warranted.

"There is very appalling and disturbing evidence that at least one or two of these victims were targeted based on the defendant's view of what their race or religion may have been," he said.

Three adults also remain hospitalized with injuries that include broken limbs.

Turkey targets media, army, police in coup crackdown

Bloomberg

Turkey launched a new round of its three-year crackdown on purported followers of a U.S.-based cleric it blames for an attempted coup, ordering the arrest of former employees of an opposition newspaper, active-duty military officers and police.

A court Thursday said eight people who used to work at the Cumhuriyet daily must return to prison to serve the remainder of their terms for terrorism-related offenses, the state-run Anadolu Agency said. A day later, authorities issued arrest warrants for

210 military officers and more than 40 policemen, and jailed a former head of police intelligence, Sabri Uzun, pending trial on charges of terrorism and insulting President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Authorities say the eight ex-newspaper employees aided groups including the outlawed network of Islamic preacher Fethullah Gulen, allegations that have been directed at thousands of Turks since the failed 2016 military putsch against Erdogan.

Turkey has accused Gulen of masterminding the coup attempt and asked for his extradition from the U.S., where he has been in self-imposed exile for two decades.

"This criminal prosecution against media professionals for holding independent or critical views leads to the weakening of media freedom and grave restriction of freedom of expression in the country," the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Harlem Desir, said in an emailed statement on Friday.

"I once again urge the Turkish authorities to stop treating journalism as a criminal activity and journalists as terrorists."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Woman charged with smuggling meth

WICHITA — A Los Angeles woman was charged with smuggling more than 60 pounds of methamphetamine into Kansas.

The U.S. attorney's office said Maria Alvarez-Buenrostro, 46, was indicted on one count of possession with intent to distribute.

The indictment said Kansas Highway Patrol troopers found 33 heat-sealed bags of meth hidden in a rear quarter panel and both rear doors of her Ford Explorer when she was stopped on Interstate 70 near Hays.

4 charged with cutting rival lobsterman's traps

Maine Marine Patrol said four men face charges following an investigation of the cutting of a rival lobsterman's traps.

The agency said that two lobstermen — Walter Foster, 56, of Castine, and Nicholas Wood, 22, of Penobscot — were arraigned along with two crew members.

They face multiple charges including molesting lobster gear.

The patrol said the investigation revealed the men cut the rival's traps on numerous occasions in the summer and fall of 2018. The agency found the man lost more than 70 traps.

Exotic bird that killed man to be auctioned

GAINESVILLE — A large, flightless bird that fatally attacked a Florida man is among about 100 exotic animals from his estate up for auction.

The Gainesville Sun reported the Gulf Coast Livestock

Auction will auction the cassowary that killed Marvin Hajos, 75, in accordance with his last wishes.

Alachua County Sheriff's officials said Hajos apparently fell April 12 and the bird attacked him. First responders rushed him to a hospital but he died.

Cassowaries are similar to emus, stand up to 6 feet tall and weigh up to 130 pounds.

The animals being auctioned include two double-wattled cassowaries and five ring-tailed and ruffled lemurs.

Bobcat that attacked golfer, horse, had rabies

SPRAGUE — A bobcat that attacked a golfer in Connecticut shortly after scratching a horse tested positive for rabies.

The bobcat was shot and killed by state environmental police shortly after it attacked a man on the Mohegan Sun Golf Course in Sprague.

The state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in a statement said the wildcat was taken for testing at the UConn Medical Lab, which confirmed rabies.

The golfer, a man in his 60s whose name was not made public, was treated at a hospital for scratches.

Patients returned to hospital after heat issue

KEENE — Patients returned to a New Hampshire hospital that lost heat and hot water due to a boiler malfunction.

About four dozen patients were evacuated from Cheshire Medical Center in Keene on Friday and transferred to other hospitals in New Hampshire and Vermont. A temporary boiler was installed Friday

night, and the process of returning the patients began Saturday morning.

The boiler malfunction damaged the venting system and chimney that exhausts the furnace.

Saplings stolen from school; more donated

SPRINGFIELD — Officials said 10 fruit tree saplings that were to be planted by students at a school in southern Michigan to celebrate Earth Day were apparently stolen before they could be put in the ground.

The Battle Creek Enquirer reported the trees, which cost about \$200, had been placed outside Battle Creek Montessori Academy in Springfield in preparation for planting on April 22. When Jessica Eldridge, the head of the school, and others went to get the trees, they were gone.

As word of the apparent theft spread, parents and businesses donated money and replacement trees.

8 ducklings rescued from golf course drain

BONITA SPRINGS — Officials said Florida firefighters managed to rescue eight ducklings from a storm drain and return them to their concerned mother.

Bonita Springs Fire Control and Rescue District posted on Facebook that the firefighters responded to the Spanish Wells Golf and Country Club.

The post said firefighters patiently and gently pulled the ducklings out of the drain one at a time and returned them to their mother, who circled the firefighters. Firefighter Elliot Wilson leaned upside down in the drain for several minutes at a time to retrieve the baby

ducks.

The rescuers had used a cellphone video of the mother duck quacking to lure the babies to the end of the drain.

2 charged after gun found under child's bed

Police in North Carolina arrested two people after finding marijuana and a loaded AK-47 under the bed of a 2-year-old child.

News outlets reported Fayetteville police said drug and child abuse charges were filed against Sergio F. Weeks, 32, and Alysha J. Smith, 25. In addition, police charged Weeks with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Inside the home, they found nearly a pound of marijuana and various drug paraphernalia in addition to the AK-47.

Suit settled, allows boys to dance competitively

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minnesota State High School League agreed to a legal settlement that will allow boys to compete on high school dance teams beginning next school year.

The Star Tribune reported the settlement came after a ruling last month by a federal appeals court that it must allow two high school boys in Roseville and Hopkins to be a part of their schools' competitive dance teams.

Juniors Dmitri Moua and Zachary Greenwald sued last July saying the league's girlsonly bylaws violate a federal law that bars sex discrimination in education programs that receive federal funds.

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NFL Draft turns to picks of DBs, WRs

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — So you want proof the NFL is an aerial circus? Try the second round of the draft.

And some of the third.

Of Friday night's first 32 picks, 11 were defensive backs charged with holding down pass catchers, of which seven were chosen. Plus another seven offensive linemen charged with protecting the guys who throw the ball.

Only one of those, Drew Lock of Missouri, was taken in Round 2, going to Denver 42nd overall after the Broncos traded up with Cincinnati to get Lock. Some projections had him going in the opening round.

"Certainly. It certainly does," Lock said when asked about being even more motivated to prove himself now that he slipped so far; the previous quarterback selected was Dwayne Haskins at 15th.

"I know the kind of player I am. I know the kind of player I'm going to be. This adds a little chip to the shoulder bigger than the one that's already on there."

Many players might have that

outlook, thinking they belonged in the opening round. Such as tackle Jawaan Taylor of Florida and guard Cody Ford of Oklahoma, who were on hand for the draft and had to wait much longer than other prospects.

"It was a little devastating," Taylor said of being ignored Thursday before the Jaguars grabbed him. "I just have so much confidence in myself and I have high expectations for myself. I feel like I have something to prove ... so I'm just looking forward to seeing what happens next."

As is Ford, who now belongs to Buffalo, which like Jacksonville traded up for the blocker.

"I came back tonight because last night was a terrible disappointment," Ford explained. I've worked so hard to walk across that stage, I didn't want to leave and regret not being able to do that opportunity."

The defensive big guys dominated the opening round, then there was much more of a mix on Friday. Again, the SEC had the most picks with 13 in the second round, another six in the third, on top of the nine the previous night.

"In the SEC, I had 35 career

starts," Taylor said. "I left a year early, but I feel like I was ready and prepared to play in the NFL because I played against a lot of great competition. Definitely playing at Florida, playing in such a great conference, prepared me for this role."

The second round began with cornerbacks Byron Murphy of Washington and Rock Ya-Sin of Temple going to Arizona and Indianapolis respectively.

A bit later, that run continued with Central Michigan's Sean Bunting, Clemson's Trayvon Mullen, Vanderbilt's JoeJuan Williams, LSU's Greedy Williams — at one point considered the top defensive back in this crop — and Utah safety Marquise Blair.

It didn't subside until safety Juan Thornhill of Virginia went to the Chiefs on the penultimate selection in the second round.

One spot later, Seattle moved up for Mississippi WR DK Metcalf, who was rated by some the best wideout in this group.

Arizona finally pulled off the trade of QB Josh Rosen, expendable because the Cardinals took Oklahoma's Kyler Murray to start proceedings on Thursday night. Miami sent the 62nd overall spot to the desert for Rosen, a first-rounder a year ago.

The Cardinals opted for UMass receiver Andy Isabella with that pick.

Other than Lock, the only quarterback chosen Friday was West Virginia's highly productive Will Grier to Carolina at No. 100, two spots from the end of the night.

Teams began branching out in the third round — the final four rounds took place Saturday — with running backs getting some attention. But not too many: four, making for a measly six overall. Alabama's Josh Jacobs went in the opening round, and teammate Damien Harris did so in the third. Penn State's Miles Sanders was the only RB drafted in Round 2, by Philadelphia.

Still available are North Carolina State quarterback Ryan Finley, and All-Americans tackle Mitch Hyatt of Clemson, guards Beau Benzschawel of Wisconsin and Bunchy Stallings of Kentucky, linebacker Ben Burr-Kirven of Washington, and safety Deionte Thompson of Alabama.

After choosing Murray, Cards send Rosen to Dolphins

Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — Josh Rosen will reboot by trying to help the Miami Dolphins rebuild.

Rosen, supplanted by Kyler Murray as the Arizona Cardinals' quarterback of the future after only one season, was traded Friday to become part of Miami's makeover under firstround coach Brian Flores.

If Rosen makes an unfavorable first impression with the Dolphins, they might still use their top pick next year on a franchise quarterback. For now, Rosen will contend with well-traveled veteran Ryan Fitzpatrick, who signed in March after the Dolphins traded Ryan Tannehill to Tennessee.

Arizona used the No. 1 overall pick Thursday to draft Murray, the Heisman Trophy winner from Oklahoma. For Rosen, the Cardinals acquired from Miami a second-round choice — No. 62 overall — which they used to draft Massachusetts receiver Andy Isabella.

Miami also gave the Cardinals a fifth-round pick in 2020.

Arizona used the 10th overall pick on Rosen last year, and the former UCLA star had a rocky rookie season. He finished 33rd in the 32-team NFL in passing rating, throwing for 2,278 yards and 11 touchdowns with 14 interceptions, and the Cardinals finished last in points and yards while going 3-13.

The trade became final with

the Dolphins on the clock to make their second-round pick, and it followed a day of speculation about a deal. Rosen wasn't surprised — he quickly posted a photo of himself in a Dolphins uniform on Instagram.

"He was always a guy that has had a ton of talent," Miami general manager Chris Grier said. "He's a smart guy. He can throw it. What everyone always liked about him was how cerebral he was. It's a young talented guy at a premium position."

And he has a first-round pedigree — a rarity with the Dolphins. Since 1983, they have drafted only one quarterback in the first round — Tannehill in 2012.

"We're very high on Josh

Rosen and certainly were fine to keep him," Cardinals general manager Steve Keim said. "There were a number of things that went into it. It's sort of a sliding scale when you look at the value of what you get for the player as well as the number of players that you can get."

Flores will decide whether Fitzpatrick or Rosen should start this year, said Grier, who didn't seem concerned about a potential quarterback controversy.

"Ryan Fitzpatrick has been great," Grier said. "He's got personality. He's a character, a great leader. I think the two of them will be good in the room."

Jays knock off A's in Guerrero's debut

Associated Press

TORONTO — Vladimir Guerrero Jr. helped spark a walk-off celebration for the Toronto Blue Jays in his major league debut.

Guerrero doubled leading off the ninth inning for his first hit, and Brandon Drury followed with a winning two-run homer with two outs in a 4-2 win over the Oakland Athletics on Friday night.

"Just the way I dreamed it," Guerrero said.

Guerrero was showered with beer and almond milk after the game in the clubhouse. On the field, he dumped a sports drink over Drury.

"It was awesome," Blue Jays manager Charlie Montoyo said.

Guerrero, the 20-year-old son of Hall of Famer Vladimir Guerrero, is considered the top prospect in the major leagues. He arrived at Rogers Centre in a replica Montreal Expos jersey to honor his father, who was on hand. He grounded out in the second, was robbed of an extra-base hit by left fielder Stephen Pinder's leaping catch in the fourth, then flied out to right in the sixth.

"He's a great player," Drury

said. "You can see by his at-bats the game kind of comes easy to him. We're all super excited to have Vladdy in this lineup."

Guerrero hit an opposite-field double down the right-field line on a 2-2 fastball from Yusmeiro Petit (0-1). Billy McKinney sacrificed pinch-runner Alen Hanson and, with the infield in, Teoscar Hernandez lined out to second baseman Jurickson Profar.

Drury followed with a drive over the center-field wall to stop an 0-for-12 slide. Guerrero, arm raised, was the first Blue Jays player out of the dugout to celebrate. "It feels great," said Drury, who talked Montoyo out of giving him a day off. "I always feel like I'm one swing away from getting my bat going. I never want to take a day off, I want to be in there every day."

Ken Giles (1-1) struck out two in a one-hit ninth. Eric Sogard's first-inning homer and Randal Grichuk's third-inning RBI single built a lead off Mike Fiers, but Robbie Grossman hit a two-run homer in the eighth off Joe Biagini.

Guerrero missed the start of the season after an oblique injury in spring training.

MLB roundup

Renfroe's solo shot in ninth lifts Padres over Nationals

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hunter Renfroe delivered at a key moment against a tough left-hander.

Renfroe hit a tiebreaking solo drive off Sean Doolittle in the ninth inning, and the Padres topped Washington 4-3 on Friday night after Carter Kieboom went deep for the Nationals in his major league debut.

Renfroe, who entered as a defensive replacement in the eighth inning, drove Doolittle's 1-2 pitch over the wall in left-center for his fifth homer. It was only the second run allowed by Doolittle (3-1) in 12 appearances.

Craig Stammen (3-1) got the win despite allowing Kieboom's solo homer in the eighth. The shot to left-center was the first hit for Kieboom, who was promoted from Triple-A Fresno on Friday.

Kieboom, the 28th pick in the 2016 draft, also batted with the bases loaded and two out in the ninth. But Kirby Yates struck him out for his major league-best 13th save.

Washington ace Max Scherzer struck out 10 while allowing two runs over seven innings. He retired his first 13 batters

before Eric Hosmer homered in the fifth.

Scherzer became the 35th player in major league history to record 2,500 strikeouts, ending the night at 2,503 Ks.

Dodgers 6, Pirates 2: Cody Bellinger hit a two-run homer in the first inning and Los Angeles set a major league record with homers in 33 consecutive home games in a win over Pittsburgh.

Bellinger's blast was noteworthy for other reasons, too. He moved into a tie for the major league lead for home runs with the Milwaukee Brewers' Christian Yelich at 13 and set the MLB record for total bases in the months of March-April with 88. He also set a franchise mark for home runs in March-April, passing Matt Kemp.

With home runs in their first 14 home games this season, the Dodgers also matched this year's Milwaukee Brewers and the 1962 New York Mets for most consecutive home games with a home run to open a season.

Yankees 7, Giants 3: Luke Voit homered and had three hits and three RBIs, DJ Le-Mahieu also had three hits and scored three runs, and injury-

depleted New York beat host San Francisco.

Despite having a major league-high 13 players on the injured list, the Yankees have won seven of their last eight games and nine of their last 11.

White Sox 12, Tigers 11: Tim Anderson helped turn Jose Abreu's three-run homer into a two-run single when he tagged up at first and was passed on the bases, then hit a winning home run in the ninth that capped a comeback from a seven-run deficit and gave Chicago a win over visiting Detroit.

Indians 6, Astros 3: Francisco Lindor hit two of his team's four home runs and drove in three runs to help Cleveland beat host Houston.

Rockies 8, Braves 4: Nolan Arenado combined with Trevor Story to homer on consecutive pitches in the fourth inning, then hit a tiebreaking double in the sixth that led visiting Colorado to its ninth win in 11 games.

Twins 6, Orioles 1: Nelson Cruz hit two of the Minnesota's five home runs in the win over visiting Baltimore.

Phillies 4, Marlins 0: Jerad Eickhoff pitched seven crisp innings and Bryce Harper hit

a two-run homer in Philadelphia's home win over Miami.

Reds 12, Cardinals 1: Joey Votto, Yasiel Puig and Eugenio Suarez homered, and visiting Cincinnati snapped St. Louis' five-game winning streak.

Brewers 10, Mets 2: Lorenzo Cain drove in three runs and robbed Todd Frazier of a homer with another spectacular catch, helping Milwaukee beat Jacob deGrom and host New York.

Diamondbacks 8, Cubs 3: Wilmer Flores drove in three runs, helping Arizona beat visiting Chicago for its seasonhigh fifth straight victory.

Mariners 5, Rangers 4 (11): Mitch Haniger's infield grounder with the bases loaded brought home the winning run in the 11th inning to give host Seattle a victory over Texas.

Angels 5, Royals 1: Albert Pujols hit a two-run homer in the first inning and moved past Lou Gehrig into fourth place on the career RBIs list, and Tyler Skaggs pitched five shutout innings in visiting Los Angeles' win over Kansas City.

Pujols has 1,995 RBIs, one behind Barry Bonds in third place. Only Hank Aaron (2,297) and Alex Rodriguez (2,086) have more than 2,000 RBIs.



NHL playoffs roundup

Hurricanes down Isles OT of Game 1

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jordan Staal got the Carolina Hurricanes off to a winning start in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Staal scored 4:04 into overtime to give the Hurricanes a 1-0 victory over the New York Islanders on Friday night in the series opener.

Nino Niederreiter sent a shot that caromed off the end boards and came out to the right side, where Staal quickly put it in off Robin Lehner's left skate.

"I had a little room to kind of get a quick-as-I-could shot off," Staal said about his first career playoff overtime goal. "Honestly, I wasn't sure it went in. I just saw some people celebrating so I started celebrating, too. I'm not sure exactly how it went in or what."

Petr Mrazek stopped 31 shots for his fifth career postseason shutout as Carolina won in New York just 48 hours after beating defending champion Washington on the road in double-overtime of Game 7 of their first-round series. The Hurricanes have now won five of six since losing the first two against Washington.

The Hurricanes knew they needed to quickly put the victory over the Capitals behind.

"That was our biggest goal for this game, after that big emotion and happiness," Carolina's Sebastian Aho said. "Try to push that aside and try to focus on this game, and we did it really well."

Lehner also finished with 31 saves for New York. Back in Brooklyn at Barclays Center after opening the playoffs at the Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, the Islanders were playing for the first time in 10 days after finishing off their first-round sweep of Pittsburgh.

"Not the result we wanted," said Lehner, who has given up just one goal in four straight games. "Small details — small margins in the playoffs. I thought we played a good game. ... You don't want to lose. But we're not going to win every game."

Game 2 is back here Sunday. Both teams had their chances and each goalie made plenty of nice saves throughout the game, the first in Carolina's playoff history to go to overtime tied 0-0.

"They defense really well," Aho said. "On the flip side we want to play the same game and don't give them anything."

Cal Clutterbuck stole the puck and fired a short-handed shot from the right circle that Mrazek gloved with 9:09 left in the third. Lehner made several saves on the Hurricanes' power play, including on a tip by Justin Williams with 8:05 left, to keep it scoreless.

"There was good goaltending," Clutterbuck said. "I don't think it was a boring 0-0 game. It was a good hockey game."

Sharks 5, Avalanche 2: Joe Thornton sparked a three-goal outburst in the second period after his team killed off a fourminute penalty, leading host San Jose to victory over Colorado in Game 1 of their second-round playoff series.

San Jose trailed 2-1 when Brenden Dillon was called for a high-sticking double minor early in the second period. The Sharks managed to kill both penalties and then took over the game with a strong performance from the third line.

Thornton tied it midway through the period off a feed from Marcus Sorensen on a 2-on-1 rush shortly after the penalty was killed. Kevin Labanc, the third member of that line, gave the Sharks the lead with an impressive sequence that featured him deking Mikko Rantanen by playing the puck through his legs before scoring from the slot.

Brent Burns added the fourth goal late in the period when his shot from the boards deflected past Philipp Grubauer with Sorensen in front of the net. Thornton got an assist on that goal, giving him 100 career helpers in the postseason.

Gustav Nyquist scored the first goal for San Jose, Timo Meier added an empty-netter and Martin Jones made 26 saves to send the Sharks to their fourth straight win. Burns also had three assists.

Durant scores 50 points as Warriors eliminate Clippers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kevin Durant is setting the tone for the Golden State Warriors. Get him the ball and watch him work.

Durant scored 38 of his playoff career-high 50 points in the first half, Draymond Green had a triple-double, and Golden State dominated in closing out the Los Angeles Clippers 129-110 Friday night to win their first-round series 4-2.

"I scored 50 points but I missed some good shots," Durant said. "I thought I could have made a few more."

The Warriors advanced to the Western Conference semifinals and will face the Houston Rockets beginning Sunday in a rematch of last year's conference finals. That's when Houston let a 3-2 lead slip away and the Warriors went on to win their second straight NBA championship.

"They're similar to the Clippers," Golden State's Andrew Bogut said. "They run the pickand-roll and we'll need to be disciplined to beat them."

Golden State found itself in the unfamiliar position of trying to win a third road game in a playoff series for the first time in franchise history. Durant made his mark early with 38 points that tied for the second-most points in a half in a playoff game.

He was 12-for-17 from the floor, made all 10 of his free throws and sank four three-pointers in leading the Warriors to a 72-53 advantage.

"That was one of the great

performances I've ever seen in my life," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "He's the ultimate weapon because there's no defense for Kevin."

Durant had a vicious block of Danilo Gallinari in the fourth that left both of them on the floor. On the Warriors' next possession, Durant converted a three-point play.

The Clippers fought off elimination with a 129-121 win on the Warriors' home floor in Game 5, but aside from a game-opening burst and another to start the second half they couldn't make a stand in front of their crowd.

Still, they bowed out knowing they had exceeded others' low expectations of their playoff chances.

"We took the back-to-back

champions to six games," the Clippers' Patrick Beverley said. "We hold our heads high."

Durant's 45 points on Wednesday were his previous career playoff high.

Stephen Curry added 24 points and Green had 16 points, 14 rebounds and 10 assists for his fifth career playoff tripledouble, despite five fouls. Klay Thompson was limited to nine points with three fouls. Durant got his fourth foul in the fourth.

The Warriors repeatedly burned the Clippers with dunks off alley-oop passes.

Los Angeles opened the game on an 18-8 run. Durant and Curry combined to score the Warriors' next nine points as part of a 21-5 burst that put them ahead for good.

