

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Search for 3 Marines off Australia ends

Associated Press

SYDNEY — U.S. military officials called off a search-and-rescue operation on Sunday for three U.S. Marines who were missing after their Osprey aircraft crashed into the sea off the east coast of Australia while trying to land.

The U.S. Navy and Marine Corps suspended the rescue operation and launched a recovery effort instead, the Marine base Camp Butler in Japan said in a statement, essentially confirming the military does not expect to find the missing Marines alive.

The Marines' next of kin have been notified, and Australia's defense force was assisting the Americans with the recovery effort, the statement said.

The MV-22 Osprey had launched from the USS Bonhomme Richard and was conducting regularly scheduled operations on Saturday when it crashed into the water, Camp Butler said. The ship's small boats and aircraft immediately responded in the search-and-rescue efforts, and 23 of 26 personnel aboard the aircraft were rescued.

"Recovery and salvage operations can take several months to complete but can be extended based on several environmental factors," Camp Butler's statement said. "The circumstances of the mishap are currently under investigation, and there is no additional information available at this time."

The Osprey is a tilt-rotor aircraft that takes off and lands like a helicopter but flies like an airplane. They have been involved in a series of high-profile crashes in recent years.

The aircraft was in Australia for a joint military training exercise held by the U.S. and Australia last month in Shoalwater Bay in Queensland state.

The Talisman Sabre exercise, a biennial event between the two nations, involved more than 30,000 troops and 200 aircraft.

Australian Defense Minister Marise Payne said Saturday's incident occurred off the coast of Shoalwater Bay.

"I can confirm no Australian Defence Force personnel were

on board the aircraft," Payne said in a statement.

Payne said she had spoken with U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis "to offer Australia's support in any way that can be of assistance."

A White House official said President Donald Trump had been briefed by Chief of Staff John Kelly on the mishap.

In 2015, a U.S. Osprey crashed during a training exercise in Hawaii, killing two Marines. Last December, a U.S. military Osprey crash-landed off Japan's southern island of Okinawa. Its five crewmembers were rescued safely.

Also, in January, three U.S. soldiers were injured in the "hard landing" of an Osprey in Yemen.

Navy IDs sailor reported overboard in South China Sea

Stars and Stripes

The Navy has identified the sailor who was reported overboard Aug. 1 from the guided-missile destroyer USS Stethem in the South China Sea.

The service announced Friday it had suspended its search for Lt. Steven Hopkins, who was reported missing about 9 a.m. Tuesday as the ship transited 140 miles west of Subic Bay, Philippines. An investigation into the disappearance is underway.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with our lost shipmate, their family, and the officers and crew of USS Stethem," Rear Adm. Charles Williams, commander of Task Force 70, said in the statement Friday. "I appreciate greatly the dedication and professionalism shown by all who participated in the search efforts."

Hopkins, a Texas native, joined the Navy in 2009 and reported to the Stethem in July, officials said on Saturday.

The Stethem was assisted in the search-and-rescue operation by the USNS Amelia Earhart, USNS Vice Admiral K. R.

Wheeler, a Navy P-3 aircraft, and ships and helicopters from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, Navy officials said. Two Chinese navy frigates that had been

'After an extensive search, with help from [Japan and China], we were unable to locate our sailor.'

Capt. Jeffrey Bennett
commander of Destroyer Squadron 15

not found after more than three days, the effort was called off at 4 p.m. Friday Japan time.

"After an extensive search, with help from [Japan and China], we were unable to locate our sailor," Capt. Jeffrey Bennett,

shadowing the Stethem joined the effort on Wednesday.

Approximately 10,000 square nautical miles of ocean was searched in 79 hours, the statement said. When Hopkins was

commander of Destroyer Squadron 15, said in the statement. "I offer my deepest condolences to the Sailor's family, friends, and the Stethem Steelworkers."

The Stethem was conducting routine operations in the South China Sea at the time of the incident, Navy officials said.

Weeks earlier, the destroyer sailed within 12 nautical miles of Triton Island on the basis of innocent passage, a U.S. official said at the time. Triton is part of the Paracel chain claimed by China, Vietnam and Taiwan.

The move drew a sharp rebuke from the Chinese, who called the operation "provocative" and said such actions "violate China's sovereignty and threaten China's security."

Earlier this year, American and Japanese ships spent more than 50 hours searching for a presumed overboard sailor missing from the guided-missile cruiser USS Shiloh off the coast of Okinawa, Japan, only to later discover Petty Officer 3rd Class Peter Mims had been hiding aboard the ship.

USS Barry visits Guadalcanal

Stars and Stripes

A U.S. warship arrived in the Solomon Islands on Friday to mark the 75th anniversary of World War II's Battle of Guadalcanal.

The USS Barry, an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer, made a port call in the capital of Honiara, where its crew will participate in ceremonies, memorials, community

events and a parade, a Navy statement said.

The Battle of Guadalcanal — the first major offensive by Allied forces against Japan — began Aug. 7, 1942, when 11,000 Marines landed on the island. It took six months of fighting before the last Japanese defenders withdrew. The battle included the first U.S. amphibious attack of World War II and marked the first time Japan lost territory

after the war began.

The Barry, forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, took part in Talisman Saber, a major joint exercise with Australia that involved more than 33,000 troops. In June, the ship helped search for Petty Officer 3rd Class Peter Mims, the USS Shiloh sailor who was presumed overboard but later found hiding in the cruiser's engine room.

Police in Tokyo stage exercise at Navy hotel

BY LEON COOK
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Tokyo police staged an anti-terrorism drill at a U.S. government hotel Thursday in central Tokyo, a Tokyo Metropolitan Police spokesman said.

More than 170 riot police and hotel workers participated in the exercise at the Navy's New Sanno Hotel in Minato Ward. In the scenario, armed terrorists hijacked a bus, took the passengers hostage and drove onto the hotel's grounds.

Officers from the Azabu Police Station in nearby Roppongi rushed to the scene after hotel workers called emergency services, the spokesman said. Working with hotel security, police controlled the perimeter while an anti-terrorism unit and a police dog subdued the suspects, who were holding a woman at gunpoint and demanding a helicopter.

The bomb squad disabled a simulated explosive device the suspects had brought into the facility, the spokesman added.

"Since there needs to be cooperation with U.S. forces, the drill aimed to improve the cooperation and ability to handle such a case," he said.

There are roughly 100 foreign facilities, including about 50 embassies in the Azabu police jurisdiction, said the spokesman, who added that officials will analyze the drill and work on improving their performance. "We hope to deepen the cooperation even further," he said.

New Sanno staff said Friday that the drill had no effect on normal hotel operations.

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Soldier pays bagpipe tribute at the grave of ancestor who died in WWI

BY DAN STOUTAMIRE
Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — With the ongoing centennial observations marking America's entry into World War I, and in the wake of the British royal family's visit to Ypres to mark the 100th anniversary of the bloody third battle there, one U.S. Army Europe soldier made the trip to the battle site to visit the grave of his great-uncle, a British army private slain there in 1915.

Lt. Col. Robert Gunther, an operations officer with USAREUR, recently discovered that Pvt. Walter Young Gibson, of the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots Regiment, who fell in battle in 1915, was in fact his maternal great-uncle.

"I felt an automatic connection to this person, being re-

lated, being half-Scottish and being in the military," said Gunther, whose mother is from Edinburgh, Scotland.

In May, armed with a bit of knowledge and a subscription to a Scottish genealogy website, Gunther dove in, hoping to confirm that Gibson was in fact related to his mother's family. Finding birth certificates, census records and other documents confirmed his hunch.

Gibson enlisted in August 1914 at the outset of hostilities in Europe, and was killed in less than a year. He had three young children at the time, and even after his death, it took the British government more than half a year to begin paying his widow his death pension.

While touring the gravesite in Belgium on Aug. 2, Gunther said, "I felt this peace, that this was something that I had to

do," he said. "I felt a connection with this person."

While there, Gunther, a hobbyist bagpiper, felt compelled to play a final tune for his ancestor. It is unlikely that Gibson was buried accompanied by the sound of bagpipes because he was initially interred as an unknown soldier.

"He deserved a piper at his funeral, because he was in a Scots regiment, and he was a Scotsman," Gunther said.

Gibson was one of four brothers — not including Gunther's grandfather, who was too young to serve — who fought in the Great War. Gunther said he will continue researching information on the others and learning more about Gibson's life. "I'm not done doing research," Gunther said. "I've got a lot more to go."

Camp Pendleton Marine killed in base accident

A Camp Pendleton Marine from Iowa died in an accident on the base Friday, Marine officials said Saturday.

The Marine was identified as Lance Cpl. Cody J. Haley, 20, of Hardin, Iowa, assigned to 1st Marine Division.

Harley was gravely injured and then died at the site of

the accident, officials said in a statement.

A Marine spokesman said he could not release the time the accident occurred on Friday or the nature of the accident. There was no explanation about why the information was released a day after the incident occurred.

Haley deployed with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit in March 2016, officials said. His

awards include the National Defense Service medal, Global War on Terrorism Service medal and the Sea Service Deployment ribbon.

The Marine statement said, "We are heartbroken at the tragic loss of a member of the Marine Corps family, and we will do all we can to comfort the family, friends and colleagues of the deceased."

From wire reports

VA whistleblower gets accountability job

By NIKKI WENTLING
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Two years ago, Brandon Coleman was placed on paid leave from his job with the Department of Veterans Affairs as an addiction therapist after he reported poor care for mental health patients at the Phoenix VA Health Care System — the epicenter of the agency's wait-time scandal.

After he reported his concerns, managers opened internal investigations into Coleman and accused him of misconduct, he said. Coleman claimed it was retaliation and he spent 18 months on leave while settling the dispute with the VA.

Now, Coleman, 42, is about to take a new position with the VA in which he can influence how whistleblowers are treated within the agency. He's been assigned to VA headquarters to work on behalf of whistleblowers who still face deterrents to

speaking out like he did.

Coleman reports in mid-August to Washington, where he'll be part of the new VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection, which is led by Navy and Air Force veteran Peter O'Rourke. The office was established with the intention of making VA officials more aggressive in finding and removing bad workers and protecting the whistleblowers who help them do it.

The new office was afforded some authority in June, when Congress passed legislation empowering the VA to fire bad workers. Also with the new law, supervisors will be evaluated on their ability to protect whistleblowers from retaliation. It all falls in line with President Donald Trump's campaign message to root out a perceived culture of corruption in the department.

The office is in its early stages of development, Coleman said. Right now, O'Rourke is building a team, and he hired Coleman to serve as a bridge between whistleblowers

and VA officials. Coleman is being encouraged by his new bosses to speak out about how whistleblowers are treated by the VA.

"Lots of people at the VA wanted to see me hit by a bus," he said. "I can't believe that the same agency that tried to fire me when I first spoke out on Jan. 12, 2015, is now paying me to talk to the media. For the first time, instead of being thought of as part of the problem, we're being thought of as part of the solution."

Trump created the office with an executive order April 27, and Coleman stood behind him in VA headquarters as the president signed it. At the time, Coleman was forthright about his thoughts on the endeavor. He said the office was "not going to have any teeth."

"In April, this meant nothing. It was nothing more than a dog-and-pony show until they brought whistleblowers to the table," he said. "And now they've done that."

Rape suspect overpowers Ohio deputy, steals his gun

Associated Press

PAULDING, Ohio — A nationwide manhunt is underway for an Ohio rape suspect who overpowered a sheriff's deputy in a van and stole his gun and ammunition.

Paulding County Sheriff Jason Landers said Saturday that FBI agents and U.S. Marshals have joined the search for Branden Powell, 32, after his escape about noon Friday on an 80-mile trip from a psychiatric hospital in Toledo to the Paulding County Jail in Ohio.

According to Landers, Powell was in leg shackles and in handcuffs secured to a belly belt when he jumped over the seat and put the deputy in a headlock, causing the van to crash into a ditch.

Powell managed to get the deputy's gun during a struggle and ordered the deputy at gunpoint to remove his restraints.

Powell then handcuffed the deputy to the steering wheel before fleeing, Landers said.

The deputy suffered minor injuries.

Suspects in stabbing turn themselves in

CHICAGO — A Northwestern University professor and a University of Oxford staffer accused of stabbing a man to death in Chicago surrendered peacefully to authorities in California, eight days after the brutal attack.

Wyndham Lathem, 42, surrendered Friday night at the Oakland federal building about the same time that Andrew

Warren, 56, was turning himself in to police in San Francisco, according to the U.S. Marshals Service.

Lathem, an associate microbiology professor at Northwestern, and Warren, a Somerville College resident at Oxford University in England, will appear separately in court before being extradited to Illinois, where they face charges of first-degree murder in the killing of Trenton James Cornell-Duranleau, 26.

From The Associated Press

FBI seeks suspects in Minn. mosque bombing

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — FBI investigators are seeking suspects after an explosive device tore through part of a suburban Minneapolis mosque as people were preparing for morning prayers, damaging a room but not causing any injuries, authorities and witnesses said.

The blast happened about 5 a.m. Saturday at the Dar Al-Farooq Islamic Center in Bloomington, according to Bloomington Police Chief Jeff Potts. Windows of the imam's office were shattered, either by the blast or by an object thrown through them, the Minneapolis Star Tribune reported.

One worshipper saw a pickup speeding away shortly after the explosion, said Mohamed Omar, the center's executive director. He said the mosque, which primarily serves people from the area's large Somali community, occasionally receives threatening calls and emails.

"We came to this country for the same reason everyone else came here: freedom to worship," Yasir Abdalrahman,

a worshipper at the mosque, told the newspaper. "And that freedom is under threat. Every other American should be insulted by this."

Asad Zaman, director of the Muslim American Society of Minnesota, described the attack as a firebombing.

Investigators will try to determine whether the incident was a hate crime and who may have been behind it, according to Richard Thornton, special agent in charge of the FBI's Minneapolis Division.

Thornton said during an afternoon news conference that the explosion was caused by an "improvised explosive device," and that investigators have recovered components of the device to figure out how it was put together.

The mosque in Bloomington, just south of Minneapolis, serves as a religious center and community organizing platform for Muslim activists and leaders in the area, according to the society. The group is offering a \$10,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest or conviction.

Best Marine bomb expert ready to rest

John 'Boom Boom' Fasulo set to retire after 67 years of service

BY MICHAEL S. DARNELL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Growing up in pre-war New York City, John Fasulo was fascinated by the fireworks that revelers set off at the end of neighborhood festivals.

The dazzling displays of light, the sharp crack of gunpowder, the awe-inspiring science behind it all — things most people think about only for Independence Day — sparked a lifelong interest for Fasulo in all things explosive.

"I spent a lot of time in Brooklyn. Every summer, the Italians have feasts, and at the end of the feasts, they would have these fireworks," he said. "I took an interest in watching the fireworks and helping the guys out with them."

That curiosity formed the backbone of a decadeslong Marine Corps career that took him to the frozen forests of Korea and the sweltering jungles of Vietnam. He pulled a thankful Ted Williams out of a river in Korea — a bitter pill for a lifelong Yankee fan — and befriended Medal of Honor recipients who say they're honored to know him.

Now, after a career that spanned the greater part of a century, the Marine nicknamed "Dr. Demo" and "Boom Boom" is ready to retire.

Eager to serve

His career almost didn't get off the ground.

"I was too small for the Marine Corps," Fasulo said. That's what a recruiter at the station ("346 Broadway," he recalled, 67 years after the fact) told him. It was the beginning of the Korean War, and the recruiting station was full of men eager to serve. Standing just a hair over 5 feet tall, Fasulo must have been easy to overlook.

A higher-ranking officer, Maj. Louis Wilson, took a chance on him and approved his waiver. Wilson was a Medal of Honor recipient from World War II and would go on to become the 26th commandant of the Marine Corps.

"He goes over to the window and says, 'Come here,'" Fasulo recalled. "You're going to wish you'd jumped out of this window tonight when they get through with you at boot camp."

That didn't dissuade him. "I wanted to be a Marine," he said.

Fasulo enlisted in October 1950. Despite Wilson's warning, Fasulo said he managed recruit training just fine. "Boot camp was

tough, but my father was tougher," he said.

He didn't get to Korea until 1952. During his deployment, which lasted more than a year, Fasulo spent a lot of time driving trucks. While far from what would come to define his career, it was a job that had its perks.

'Yeah, he taught engineering and he taught explosives, but he also taught people a lot about life.'

Col. Harvey C. Barnum Jr.
Medal of Honor recipient

passenger was Ted Williams, who had been recalled to active duty after flying in World War II. Williams, the Red Sox star, thanked Fasulo. Coleman did not.

"Of all the people," Fasulo said, "Ted Williams."

'The prettiest thing'

After the armistice in 1953, Fasulo was often called upon to train South Korean marines. He met a young waitress named Si Kyung at the local mess hall.

"She was the prettiest thing," he recalled. "She was 18 years old, and I was an old 24-year-old." They married in 1956 and are still together. They have two sons and a daughter, thanks to that chance meeting.

After the end of the fighting in Korea, Fasulo went to combat engineer school at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He trained Marines and soldiers in the years leading up to the Vietnam War, earning the rank of master sergeant.

He received his commission in 1966, and the next year, he was leading combat engineers in support of the 1st and 7th Marine regiments.

"When I got to Vietnam, I really worried more about my troops than I would myself," he said. "I didn't want any office job. ... I couldn't wait until I got a platoon."

The Marines put him to work clearing mines and creating landing zones out of jungle thicket. At night, the Viet Cong would place mines. In the morning, Fasulo

and his men would go out and find them. It was dangerous work, but Fasulo considers himself one of the lucky ones.

"This one kid, he was going to leave (the) country in a couple of weeks. He didn't have to go out, but he volunteered (to) come out with my people," Fasulo said. "He puts his radio up and he's helping. All of the sudden, boom, he hits a mine. All we saw was his rifle stock."

Fasulo retired from active duty soon after the end of the Vietnam War, leaving as a major with 27 years of service under his belt. As a combat engineer, he had made a career out of teaching the art of bomb-making and defusing.

The next chapter

After retiring from active duty, Fasulo continued to work for more than 40 years. He's largely settled down now, spending his time at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, teaching new generations of warfighters vitally important skills. He became one of the premier authorities on demolitions. When something needed to be blown up, "Dr. Demo" was the one to call. That included a water tower that had sat at Quantico's Camp Goettge in Virginia for decades. When contractors couldn't bring it down, Fasulo did, using the mission as a moment of instruction for his class.

"Yeah, he taught engineering and he taught explosives, but he also taught people a lot of things about life," Medal of Honor recipient, retired Col. Harvey C. Barnum Jr. told Stars and Stripes. "He will be a role model for a long time. I admire the guy."

Fasulo and Barnum taught demolition and weaponry, respectively, to new troops at The Basic School at Quantico.

"His name preceded him. The thing was, when the major talked, you listened," Barnum said. "He had so much in that little frame it goes to show you don't have to be 6-foot-4, 250 pounds to be a Marine leader."

Fasulo, now 86, is long removed from the boy whose face was illuminated by sparks in the Brooklyn night sky.

Over the years, he's contemplated retiring for good, always pushing it back to "next year." But after more than 60 years, Fasulo is retiring at the end of 2017. He said he's leaving because he simply can't give anything less than his best to the troops he trains.

A career full of memories is behind him, but his most cherished accomplishment, he said: "I was a Marine."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

WWII paratrooper again flies in vintage bomber

ME OWLS HEAD — A World War II veteran has relived a part of his former career — flying over Maine in a 73-year-old B-17 “Flying Fortress” bomber.

Kenneth Morang, 89, said July 31 was his first time in an airplane since he jumped out of them as a paratrooper in the Pacific during World War II. The Portland Press Herald reported the B-17 known as Sentimental Journey is one of the last Flying Fortress bombers still in operation. It landed at the Owls Head Transportation Museum.

The plane is owned by Commemorative Air Force, an Arizona nonprofit dedicated to preserving vintage military aircraft. Sentimental Journey never saw combat, but served as a mapping plane, a search-and-rescue aircraft and as a “mother ship” for aircraft collecting data from nuclear weapons tests.

Man gets 20 years for shooting acquaintance

WA PORT ORCHARD — A Washington state man who shot an old acquaintance who came to his house on Halloween has been sentenced to 20 years in prison.

The Kitsap Sun reported that Raymond Thomas Short, 68, received the sentence Friday in Kitsap County Superior Court. A jury in June convicted Short of attempted first-degree murder for shooting Robert Roland Sears, 73, in the face with a .22-caliber pistol.

At his trial, Short said he was surprised and afraid when Sears showed up at his house Oct. 31, 2016. Short said he intended to fire a bullet by Sears’ ear but mistakenly fired into

Sears’ face.

Sears said he went to Short’s house to ask about buying a car, and that the two men were on friendly terms.

Police: Hungry suspects ate meal, robbed diners

FL MIAMI — Police said two men walked into a Florida restaurant, ate their meals and then robbed four fellow diners.

Miami Police said the men walked into the Honduran restaurant Thursday afternoon. When they finished eating, they stood up, approached four patrons who were eating and demanded money and valuables.

Authorities said one of the suspects fired his weapon into the ground during a struggle with one of the victims. The victims handed over their belongings and police said the suspects fled in a grey or silver four-door Chevy Impala.

Skunk in bed; boy gets stinky wakeup

CT HAMDEN — A Connecticut boy got an unpleasant surprise when he awoke to find a skunk in his bed.

Hamden Police said the 13-year-old was awoken in his upstairs bedroom by the skunk, which had climbed into bed with him.

Police said the skunk apparently climbed through a hole in a trash can and a resident brought the can inside. It’s not clear how the skunk found its way into the boy’s bed.

Hamden Animal Control Division responded to a call about 6 a.m. on July 25. Police said an animal control officer arrived “to the poignant smell of skunk, which emanated throughout the house.”

The family got the animal out of the house on their own.

Bear breaks into and trashes, crashes SUV

CO DURANGO — A bear broke into a sport utility vehicle in southwestern Colorado, trashed its interior and caused it to roll out of a driveway and smash into a mailbox.

Neighbors heard the crash early Friday and called law enforcement officers in the small city of Durango.

Ron Cornelius joked that he doesn’t usually get up at 5 a.m. “unless there is a bear driving a car down the street.”

The bear’s actions may have released the parking brake or put the transmission into neutral, causing the SUV to roll out of a driveway.

The bear was gone when authorities arrived.

Monk seal pup swims into pool for 2nd time

HI HONOLULU — A monk seal pup found its way into a Hawaii pool for the second time.

The pup, named Kaimana after the beach where it was born, swam into the Waikiki Natatorium on Thursday morning. Kaimana’s mother, Rocky, was able to guide the pup out instead of wildlife officials having to intervene as they did the previous week.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration officials said the seals were separated for about two hours before Rocky eventually entered the Natatorium and helped her pup get out.

Last week, the pup swam into the natatorium’s pool at night, triggering a response by volunteers.

Rains draw snakes to neighborhoods

FL PEMBROKE PINES — Residents in two Florida cities say snakes are overtaking their backyards.

City officials said recent heavy rains pushed the snakes out of their natural habitats. Residents in Miramar and Pembroke Pines have taken to social media sites to share their experiences, posting snapshots of snakes and seeking help in identifying them as either venomous or nonvenomous.

Nelson Giraldo said his backyard has been taken over by poisonous cottonmouth snakes. Another resident said at least a half-dozen snakes started following him on a canoe ride in the canal near his home.

The Sun Sentinel reported the venom unit said it responded to calls once every four days in June and July.

Man strikes vehicles after ‘mental crisis’

TX SAN ANTONIO — Police in San Antonio say a man suffering a “mental crisis” struck about 10 vehicles with his pickup truck, injuring 12 people before striking a home.

Police Sgt. Douglas Greene told the San Antonio Express-News the man hurt himself before driving erratically along a half-mile stretch of road Tuesday.

The 12 people who were taken to hospitals included seven children.

The unidentified man was being held under an emergency detention at San Antonio Military Medical Center.

From wire reports

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Bolt finishes third in final race at World Championships

Associated Press

LONDON — One final time, Usain Bolt peered down the last 50 meters of his lane and saw sprinter upon sprinter running footsteps ahead of him.

One final time, the world-record holder furiously pumped the arms and legs on his gangly 6-foot-5 frame, desperately trying to reel in all those would-be winners as the finish line fast approached.

This time, the afterburners kicked in but not hard enough. Not one but two overlooked and underappreciated Americans — Justin Gatlin and Christian Coleman — held off what was once Bolt's undeniable late charge.

This time, Bolt finished third in the 100-meter dash at world championships. That's right: a bronze-medal finish Saturday night in the going-away party for one of the planet's most entertaining icons and track and field's lone shining star.

"No regrets," Bolt insisted, long after a result that stunned a pumped-up crowd into near silence. "It was always going to end, no matter what happened — win, lose or draw. It doesn't change anything in my career."

Gatlin, who actually trailed Bolt at the halfway point, heard boos cascade loudly across the stadium when his winning time, 9.92 seconds, popped up on the scoreboard. The 35-year-old, who has served two doping bans and been widely cast as a villain to Bolt's hero, went sprawling to the ground with a huge smile. Later, he bowed down to the man he finally defeated.

"I wanted to pay homage to him," Gatlin said. "This night is still a magical night for track and field and Usain Bolt. I'm just happy to be one of his biggest competitors."

Coleman, a 21-year-old in the first major race of his life, was in shock, too: "To beat someone I looked up to when I was growing up. I was just happy to be on the line with him," he conceded.

Bolt, who finished third in a time of 9.95, accepted with class both the result, and the fact that, at 30, he probably is picking the perfect time to retire.

"I did it for the fans," he said after collecting a bronze to go with his three world golds at 100 meters. "They wanted me to go for one more season. I came out and did the best I could."

In the past, the scene after a Bolt race was really just an after-party masquerading as ceremony, filled with Bob Marley tunes, Jamaican flags and dancing. On Saturday, it felt surreal to anyone who's been at one of these Bolt victories before.

With house music playing softly throughout the stadium where Bolt won the middle three of his nine Olympic finals, Gatlin and Coleman passed through the exit tunnel while the former champion took a 10-minute trip around the track, then detoured into the stands for selfies with the Jamaican fans who came across the ocean to see him one last time.

A few minutes after that, he stepped onto the track, kneeled down and kissed the finish line that he crossed in Lane 4.

Then, he gave the fans what they expect: The famous "To The World" pose, which used to be the cherry on top of a raucous, fun-filled night. But where in the past the stadium would have still been brimming, this time, it was about one-eighth full and emptying quickly.

Bolt still has the 4x100 relay next weekend. He was asked if he wished he'd run what is widely considered his best race — the 200, where he also holds the world record.

"It probably would've been even worse," Bolt said. "I'm not in shape to run 200 meters right now."

Should we have seen this coming? Maybe so.

Bolt raced very lightly this year, and his best time coming into the meet was the same 9.95 seconds he ran in his finale.

His first heat, on Friday night, was ugly. Though he won, he lumbered out of the start and complained about the feel of the starting blocks.

In the semifinals, he actually lost by .01 to Coleman — a rare defeat in any sort of race, but one that could still be chalked up to it being a tune-up, with the real race more than two hours away.

But in the back of his mind, reality was setting in: "After the semifinal, I knew if I didn't get my start, I was going to be in trouble," he said. "I knew it. And when I left the blocks, I was like 'Aaaah.'"

He was the second-slowest starter in the eight-man field. Nothing new there, though his ability to overcome it and the fitness of the guys he was reeling in turned the usual comeback into something nobody's seen before on this big a stage.

Through most of the race, it looked as if Bolt would be trying to reel in Coleman, the NCAA champion, who was in Lane 5, and racing in his first major competition after a long college season.

Barely in the picture, outside in Lane 8, was Gatlin, who was actually trailing Bolt by a step early-on.

Two years ago at world championships, Gatlin had Bolt all but beaten in the 100 finals, but he leaned too early before the line and let the champion pass him for a .01-second victory.

This time, it was Gatlin doing the passing, and now he is a world champion in addition to a trivia question: Who was the last sprinter to win Olympic gold in the 100 before Bolt? It was Gatlin in 2004.

"You guys call it losses, losses, losses," Gatlin said. "I'll call it lessons, lessons, lessons."

The new champion spent much of his post-race news conference insisting he didn't mind the booing and explaining that he's not that bad a guy.

"I know you have to have the black hat and the white hat, but guys, c'mon," he said.

Briefly

Little League team banned for photo

KIRKLAND, Wash. — Atlee Little League's Junior softball team has been disqualified from its World Series championship matchup over what officials say was an inappropriate social media posting.

Little League officials announced the disqualification Saturday morning, just hours ahead of the championship game which was broadcast live on ESPN2.

Little League described the offending post only as "an inappropriate social media post."

The Richmond Times-Dispatch reported that an Atlee team member posted a photo on Snapchat showing six of the girls giving the middle finger. The post was directed at the host club from Kirkland, Wash., which Atlee defeated in the semifinals.

The Kirkland team replaced Atlee in the championship.

Lomachenko stops Marriaga after 7

LOS ANGELES — Although Vasyl Lomachenko had battered Miguel Marriaga around the ring for 6½ superlative rounds, the Ukrainian star couldn't break his Colombian opponent's will until he landed a body punch that told him the end was finally near.

"I hear his 'Ughhhhh,' and then I punch the body (again)," Lomachenko said with a smile.

Marriaga's corner stopped the bout after seven rounds Saturday night, and Lomachenko defended his WBO 130-pound title for the third time in nine months.

Lomachenko (9-1, 7 KOs), the two-time Olympic gold medalist, showcased his virtuosic technical skill and athletic prowess in another one-sided victory. He knocked down Marriaga (25-3) in the third round and systematically took control with precise punching and graceful footwork in the ensuing rounds.

Lomachenko floored Marriaga again in the waning seconds of the seventh, and the challenger's corner had finally seen enough.

From The Associated Press

Tomlinson steals spotlight at Canton

Associated Press

CANTON, Ohio — As he so often did on the field, LaDainian Tomlinson stole the show.

With a powerful speech calling for “Team America” to be a place for inclusion and opportunity, the great running back of the San Diego Chargers was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday.

The 2017 roster of entrants into the shrine was deeply impressive: fellow running back Terrell Davis; quarterback Kurt Warner; defensive end Jason Taylor; safety Kenny Easley; placekicker Morten Andersen; and Cowboys owner Jerry Jones.

All spoke eloquently, with bursts of humor and heartwarming stories. But Tomlinson’s words resonated so strongly that he drew several standing ovations not only from the crowd of 13,400, but from his now-fellow Gold Jackets.

“Football is a microcosm of America,” Tomlinson said. “All races, religions and creeds, living, playing, competing side by side. When you’re part of a team, you understand your teammates — their strengths and weaknesses — and work together toward the same goal, to win a championship.

“Let’s not choose to be against one another. Let’s choose to be for one another. ... I pray we dedicate ourselves to being the best team we can be, working and living together, representing the highest ideals of mankind. Leading the way for all nations to follow.”

Tomlinson and Taylor were elected in their first year of eligibility. Taylor’s emotional speech during which he had to pause several times to compose himself was another highlight.

A third-round draft pick from Akron — just down the road from the Hall of Fame — Taylor’s 139½ career sacks helped him make the All-Decade Team of the 2000s. He also was the NFL’s Man of the Year in 2007.

“I honestly can’t believe I am here,” said

Taylor, who kissed the shaved head atop his bust when it was unveiled. “In 1992 I was at the University of Akron, just 20 miles away. It took 20 years to travel 20 miles to put on this jacket. It was worth every step.”

The longest wait, 24 years, was by Easley, chosen for enshrinement by the seniors committee. The hard-hitting safety for the Seahawks and a member of the 1980s All-Decade Team played only seven seasons and 89 games. But what an impact he made as an intimidator and ballhawk.

The 1981 NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year, Easley was the league’s top overall defender in 1984 when he had a league-leading 10 interceptions, a career high.

“I thank you for welcoming me into your exclusive club,” he said.

Andersen, the league’s career scoring leader, joined Jan Stenerud as the only placekickers in Canton.

A native of Denmark who knew nothing of American football when he came to this country as a teenager, Andersen played an incredible 25 pro seasons, a league record. A member of the NFL’s 1980s and ‘90s All-Decade Teams, he played 382 total games, scored 2,544 points (565 field goals, 849 extra points) and is the all-time scoring leader for both New Orleans and Atlanta.

“Good evening, Canton, Ohio,” he began. “Good morning Denmark.”

“My story isn’t only about my love for my country of Denmark and its people, but also my deep appreciation and respect for what I discovered here in the United States of America.”

It took Warner years to get discovered by the NFL. By way of the Arena Football League, NFL Europe — and stocking shelves at a grocery store in between football jobs — Warner stepped in when Trent Green tore up his knee in a 1999 preseason game.

He went on to win two NFL MVP awards and one league title, reinvigorating moribund Rams and then Cardinals franchises along the way.

“People say Hollywood couldn’t have written it any better,” Warner noted. “After this, they don’t have a chance.”

Davis had a similar story. A sixth-round draft pick after a nondescript career at Long Beach State and Georgia, his mercurial NFL stay (seven years, five of them spectacular) had been something of a hindrance for entry into the hall. But he was the catalyst for the NFL titles Denver won in 1997 and ‘98 with another Hall of Famer, John Elway, at quarterback.

The 1996 and ‘98 Offensive Player of the Year, 1997 Super Bowl Most Valuable Player and ‘98 NFL MVP, Davis’ meteoric stint came to an ugly end with a devastating knee injury in 1999. That in great part kept him out of the hall for more than a decade.

Now, he is in, having overcome migraines that plagued him since he was a teenager — and overcome the questions over the longevity of his NFL stint.

“The overwhelming feeling running through my body is gratitude,” he said.

The current Cowboys showed their gratitude to Jones by sticking around the area after winning the Hall of Fame game on Thursday night. They were in the stadium for his induction, which Jones earned not only for winning three Super Bowls within six years of buying the team, but for being a power broker within the NFL.

Jones has been a key figure as the league grew to a multi-billion dollar business, having a hand in many important decisions, from TV contracts to sponsorships to labor issues.

“As someone who owned a team, I was always thinking how we could go to the next level,” Jones said.

That next level for “America’s Team” is a value of \$4.2 billion, the most for any sports franchise.

“Buying the Dallas Cowboys frankly was that kind of risk, even exaggerated in my mind,” Jones said of the 1989 purchase. “But I knew it was now or never. Football kicked in.”

49ers LB Smith tears pectoral muscle; season in doubt

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — San Francisco 49ers linebacker Malcolm Smith suffered a torn pectoral muscle during Saturday’s open practice at Levi’s Stadium, putting in doubt the status of one of the team’s most coveted offseason additions.

The team announced the

injury Saturday night but had yet to make a roster move, and with not practicing again until Monday it provided a little bit of time for evaluation.

Smith, 28, left the field during full-team drills after working with the starters throughout training camp next to All-Pro NaVorro Bowman in the new-look defense.

“We think it was his chest area. Don’t know for sure. But that’s what it looked like,” 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan said earlier in the day.

Smith, the MVP of Seattle’s Super Bowl-winning team in the 2013 season, was brought in by San Francisco on a five-year contract in March. He rejoined new coordinator Robert Saleh,

who was an assistant on the Seahawks’ title team.

If Smith is sidelined, it may expedite first-round pick Reuben Foster’s insertion into the starting lineup. Foster, 23, fell to the 31st selection in the NFL Draft after he was widely expected to be a top-10 pick. The 49ers traded back into the first round to take Foster.

Dodgers storm back to knock off Mets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Early on, everything went wrong for the Los Angeles Dodgers. They gave up three home runs in the first inning, were held without a hit until the fifth.

And then that big blue machine came storming back.

Yasiel Puig hit a tiebreaking homer in the seventh and the resilient Dodgers went deep five times, rallying past the New York Mets 7-4 on Saturday to extend their incredible surge.

Chris Taylor, Justin Turner, Corey Seager and rookie Cody Bellinger also connected for the Dodgers, who are 43-7 since June 7. That's the best 50-game run by a big league team since the 1912 New York Giants compiled the same mark from May 14 to July 3.

"Got 'em," Turner said with a smile

through his bushy red beard. "It's definitely something that down the road is going to be cool to talk about for a long time."

Los Angeles has won all but one of its last 13 games, upping the top record in the majors to an astounding 78-32. That puts the thundering Dodgers at 46 games above .500 for the first time since they were 98-51 on Sept. 15, 1962.

That team — led by Don Drysdale, Sandy Koufax and NL MVP Maury Wills — didn't even win the pennant after dropping a best-of-three playoff to rival San Francisco. This year's Dodgers are looking to end a World Series drought that dates to the franchise's last championship in 1988.

"It's a wave that we're riding," manager Dave Roberts said. "I know our players and they realize that we haven't done anything yet."

Said Turner: "Everyone knows what the

goal is. Everyone knows what we're trying to do."

Leadoff man Michael Conforto, Wilmer Flores and Curtis Granderson homered in the first off Dodgers lefty Rich Hill, the NL pitcher of the month for July.

Mets starter Seth Lugo kept Los Angeles hitless until Yasmani Grandal's two-out double in the fifth, but it didn't last.

"You've got to keep going the whole game," Lugo said. "I think we got a little complacent. They didn't."

Taylor homered leading off the sixth, connecting in a third straight game for the first time in his career. One out later, Turner singled and Bellinger nearly went down to one knee to lift his 31st homer over the right-center fence, tying it at 3.

"Man, it's been fun," Bellinger said. "Both sides of the ball as a team are clicking. So I think we're just trying to ride it out as long as we can."

Roundup

Boston tops White Sox for 5th straight win

Associated Press

BOSTON — Drew Pomeranz was trailing 1-0 after his second pitch of the game, and he knows that things can get worse — quickly — at Fenway Park.

But after giving up Tim Anderson's leadoff homer, the Boston left-hander got out of the inning — and into the seventh — without allowing any more runs and the AL East-leading Red Sox beat the Chicago White Sox 4-1 on Saturday night for their fifth straight win.

"It's all about not letting it snowball into something else," said Pomeranz (11-4), who has lost just once in 15 starts since starting the season 3-3. "You give up the homer, get rid of it. Set up the next guy, try to sit him down."

Cubs 7, Nationals 4: Willson Contreras homered and drove in three runs while Alex Avila homered for his first hit with host Chicago as the Cubs beat Washington to even the series between division leaders.

Kris Bryant and Jon Jay each added a run-scoring hit as

the Cubs snapped a three-game losing streak.

Bryce Harper hit his 28th homer and threw out a runner at third base for the Nationals.

Yankees 2, Indians 1: Brett Gardner and Ronald Torreyes made sensational defensive plays in the ninth inning to save Aroldis Chapman from another late-inning meltdown in Progressive Field as New York hung on to stop a four-game losing streak.

Chapman (4-2), making his first appearance in Cleveland since Game 7 of last year's World Series for the Chicago Cubs, allowed a leadoff single in the ninth before Jose Ramirez hit a fly to deep left that Gardner grabbed with a jump on the warning track. Edwin Encarnacion then hit a blooper toward right that Torreyes ran down with a dive.

Orioles 5, Tigers 2: Welington Castillo hit a tiebreaking homer in the seventh inning while Adam Jones and Tim Beckham also hit solo shots as host Baltimore ended Detroit's four-game winning streak.

Jonathan Schoop doubled in

a run for Baltimore to increase his RBI total to 80, tied for the AL lead.

Justin Upton homered in a third consecutive game for the Tigers, who were unbeaten in August after trading away three stars before the non-waiver trade deadline.

Brewers 3, Rays 0: Zach Davies gave up one hit in seven innings as visiting Milwaukee remained a half-game behind NL Central-leading Chicago after a victory over Tampa Bay.

It was the second straight shutout for the Brewers, who have given up only one run while winning three straight.

Blue Jays 4, Astros 3 (10): Ryan Goins hit a tiebreaking RBI single in the 10th inning as Toronto rallied to beat host Houston.

Rangers 4, Twins 1: Cole Hamels threw the 16th complete game of his career — his first in nearly two years — and turned in his most efficient start of the season to lead visiting Texas past Minnesota.

Padres 5, Pirates 2: Rookie Dinelson Lamet allowed just

one hit in 5²/₃ innings while Wil Myers broke out of a slump with a home run and three RBIs as San Diego beat host Pittsburgh.

Braves 7, Marlins 2: Mike Foltznewicz had a career-high 11 strikeouts and Freddie Freeman hit a three-run homer as Atlanta beat visiting Miami.

Cardinals 4, Reds 1: Paul DeJong hit a two-run homer and Lance Lynn got past Joey Votto's first-inning home run to win his fourth straight start as St. Louis eased past host Cincinnati.

Athletics 5, Angels 0: Rookie Paul Blackburn allowed five hits in 6²/₃ innings as visiting Oakland cooled off Los Angeles.

Rockies 8, Phillies 5: Jon Gray pitched seven innings of one-run ball while Pat Valaika homered as host Colorado rode a big early lead to a victory over Philadelphia.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 4 (10): Denard Span scored on Jarrett Parker's two-out infield single in the 10th inning, lifting San Francisco over visiting Arizona.