

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Trump lashes out at former lawyer

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Facing a growing threat to his presidency, President Donald Trump lashed out at his former personal lawyer Michael Cohen, a day after the onetime “fixer” implicated Trump in a campaign cover-up to buy the silence of women who said they had sexual relationships with him.

Trump on Wednesday accused Cohen of making up “stories in order to get a ‘deal’” from federal prosecutors. Cohen pleaded guilty to campaign finance violations that the lawyer said he carried out in coordination with Trump.

“If anyone is looking for a good lawyer, I would strongly suggest that you don’t retain the services of Michael Cohen!” Trump tweeted Wednesday.

In a split screen for the history books, Cohen’s admission to the crimes in federal court in New York on Tuesday came at nearly the same moment that Trump’s onetime campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, was convicted by a jury in Virginia of financial misdeeds. Manafort faces separate charges in September in the District of Columbia that include acting as a foreign agent.

The back-to-back blows resulted from the work of special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Russia’s attempts to sway voters in the 2016 election, includ-

ing hacking Democrats’ emails, whether the Trump campaign might have cooperated, and if the president himself obstructed justice in investigating both.

Trump denounced the probe again Wednesday on Twitter as a “witch hunt.”

Cohen’s lawyer, Lanny Davis, said Wednesday that Cohen has information “that would be of interest” to the special counsel. Davis said Cohen is not looking for a presidential pardon.

“My observation is that the topics relating to hacking and the crime of hacking ... that there are subjects that Michael Cohen could address that would be of interest to the special counsel,” Davis said in a series of television interviews.

Trump soon weighed in on Twitter, taking his shot at Cohen and praising Manafort, saying he has “such respect for a brave man!”

Manafort, Trump wrote, had “tremendous pressure on him and, unlike Michael Cohen, he refused to ‘break.’”

There was no doubt that Cohen’s acknowledgement of a coordinated payoff scheme puts Trump’s presidency on the defensive.

“It’s going to be hard for the president to try to discredit all this. It’s circling him,” said David Weinstein, a former federal prosecutor who is not involved in the case.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi

said impeaching Trump is “not a priority” for Democrats despite Manafort’s conviction and Cohen’s guilty plea, telling The Associated Press that, “impeachment has to spring from something else.”

Pelosi said she prefers for Democrats, if they win the House in November, to conduct oversight and ensure Mueller can finish his work.

Cohen and Manafort played prominent roles in Trump’s political rise in 2016.

Cohen said once he’d take a bullet for Trump, and was intimately familiar with Trump’s personal, business and political dealing for more than a decade. Cohen released a secretly recorded audio of Trump discussing a payout made via a third party to model Karen McDougal who says she had a sexual relationship with Trump in 2006.

The payments to the women could be regarded as an illegal campaign expenditure if the money was clearly meant to influence the 2016 election.

In a deal with federal prosecutors, Cohen pleaded guilty to eight counts, including tax evasion. He could get about four to five years in prison at sentencing Dec. 12.

Manafort was convicted of eight felony counts, including charges of filing false tax returns and failing to report foreign bank accounts. Prosecutors will decide whether to retry him on 10 other charges.

## US bases in South Korea prepare for typhoon

BY MARCUS FICHTL  
*Stars and Stripes*

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — U.S. bases in South Korea are battening down the hatches ahead of Typhoon Soulik, which is forecast to hit the peninsula on Thursday evening. Soulik, a typhoon with sustained winds of 104 mph, was expected to clip the southwestern Korean island of Jeju on Wednesday night, then weaken to a tropical storm as it swings right toward the mainland, threatening U.S. bases, the Navy’s Joint Typhoon Warning Center said.

Forecasters say the center of the storm will pass 42 miles west of Kunsan Air Base with wind gusts reaching 81 mph, then

travel up the coast with its epicenter coming about 30 miles west of Osan Air Base and Camp Humphreys. Soulik is expected to travel up to Seoul, putting the country’s capital and Yongsan Garrison at risk.

Most of the 28,500 U.S. servicemembers in South Korea are stationed at the four bases in the storm’s path and should expect up to 6 inches of rain.

The 8th Fighter Wing at Kunsan activated their emergency operation center Wednesday, and airmen have been issued Meals, Ready to Eat as dining facilities and other nonessential facilities have closed.

The unit’s jets have been sheltered in hardened hangars, and 8th Fighter Wing

troops have been working around-the-clock filling sandbags and boarding windows across the base, Kunsan official said.

“The safety of our people and the surrounding communities is one of our foremost concerns, and we are taking all the preliminary precautions to ensure our personnel stay safe and our resources remain unharmed,” said Col. John Bosone, 8th Fighter Wing commander.

“We are also working closely with our [South Korean] Air Force counterparts at the 38th Fighter Group to secure base infrastructure and aircraft in order to maintain mission capabilities during the typhoon,” said Bosone.

# 'Top Gun' sequel films aboard carrier

*The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot*

NORFOLK, Va. — The highway to the danger zone will run through Hampton Roads.

The sequel to the 1986 Hollywood blockbuster "Top Gun" is filming aboard the Norfolk-based USS Abraham Lincoln this week, according to the Navy. The original film inspired an entire generation of fighter pilots and served as a recruiting bonanza for the Navy.

The much-anticipated sequel began shooting on May 31, according to a photo on Tom Cruise's Instagram account. The photo featured him in a flight suit near a fighter jet with the same helmet he wore in the original film and referenced an oft-quoted line from the original movie: "I feel the need, the need for speed."

The first day of shooting took place at Naval Air Station North Island in California, the Navy said.

Few details about what the film will be about have been released, but Cruise revealed in an interview with "Access Hollywood" last year that it would be called "Top Gun: Maverick."

A 15-person crew from Par-

amount Pictures and Bruckheimer Films went aboard the Lincoln on Sunday and will remain through Saturday, said Naval Air Force Atlantic spokesman Cmdr. Dave Hecht. He said no actors are aboard and that the crew is shooting footage on the flight deck of air operations, which include F/A-18 Super Hornets from Virginia Beach-based Carrier Air Wing Seven taking off and landing as part of their carrier qualifications.

"This opportunity is one of many aircraft carrier embarks planned pierside and at sea on both coasts coordinated by the Commander, Naval Air Forces," Hecht said in an email from aboard the Lincoln.

"Top Gun inspired countless men and women to volunteer to protect and defend our country as Naval aviators and the crew of USS Abraham Lincoln are excited to play a small role in bringing this story back to the silver screen and inspiring another generation to serve in the world's finest Navy."

The sequel is set to premiere on July 12, according to Paramount.

# Soldier to plead guilty in terrorism help case

*Associated Press*

HONOLULU — A Hawaii-based Army soldier accused of attempting to support Islamic State will plead guilty, one of his lawyers told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Sgt. 1st Class Ikaika Kang has agreed to plead guilty, but Alexander Silvert, an assistant federal defender representing him, won't say what charges he'll be pleading to.

"We've agreed on a sentence," Silvert said, declining to elaborate. He referred further questions to Kang's other attorney, Birney Bervar, who couldn't immediately be reached.

Court documents allege Kang provided classified military information to undercover agents whom he believed were part of ISIS.

Kang is scheduled to withdraw his not guilty plea Thursday, court records show. The hearing was moved from the afternoon to the morning because of concerns about a hurricane headed for Hawaii, Silvert said.

A plea agreement hasn't been filed in court yet.

A confidential informant told authorities Kang watched videos depicting beheadings and other violence in his room for

hours every day, according to court documents.

Kang told the informant that if he became an ISIS member, he would be a suicide bomber and attack Schofield Barracks, a sprawling Army base outside Honolulu, according to an affidavit filed in court.

Kang began researching the Muslim religion in 2014, couldn't wait to move to the Middle East to "join the cause" and was "only in the military for a paycheck," the informant said, according to the affidavit.

When Kang met with the undercover agents at a home in Honolulu, he pledged allegiance to the group and kissed an ISIS flag, according to court documents.

Kang may suffer from service-related mental health issues that the government was aware of but neglected to treat, Bervar has said previously.

Kang has been detained without bail since his arrest last year. Kang is still in the Army, but his duty status is "confined," said Lt. Col. Curt Kellogg, with the 25th Infantry Division.

# US commander backs removing some DMZ guard posts

BY KIM GAMEL

*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — The top U.S. commander in South Korea expressed support Wednesday for a plan to remove some guard posts from the tense border, saying it's a "reasonable" risk that may help denuclearization talks with the North.

South Korea's defense ministry has said it plans to close about 10 guard posts along the Demilitarized Zone and ex-

pects the North to reciprocate as part of a bilateral summit agreement to ease tensions.

Gen. Vincent Brooks — who wears three hats as the leader of U.S. Forces Korea, the United Nations Command and the Combined Forces Command — said he supports the initiative to reduce tensions and build trust between the rival nations.

"I have some concerns about what that means militarily to the ability to defend along the Military Demarcation Line and in depth beyond it," he said at a

press conference at the Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club.

"I believe that there's a reasonable amount of risk that's involved in this, not an excessive amount of risk," to the defense of South Korea, he said.

The border post decision was the latest in a series of moves by Seoul to improve relations with the North even as nuclear talks between North Korea and the United States have stalled.

South Korean Defense Minister Song Young-moo didn't give a timeline but said it would be a

gradual process.

"What it means is that we will withdraw one or two guard posts first, then additional ones," he was quoted as telling the National Assembly's defense committee on Tuesday.

The two Koreas have been divided by the heavily fortified border, which is lined with barbed wire and dotted with landmines, since their 1950-53 war ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

# Lawmakers boost funding to ID war remains

By CLAUDIA GRISALES

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — The Senate has approved provisions that would boost funding for the identification of Korean War remains and trigger a study of a new digital, military health records system.

The approvals took place by the second day of Senate floor debate on a more than \$850 billion spending plan to fund defense, labor, health and human services and education priorities. Of that, the vast majority, \$675 billion, would be directed to defense spending.

So far, senators approved an amendment to the so-called “minibus” appropriations bill, H.R. 6157, to direct an additional \$10 million toward the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, or DPAA, to aid the ongoing identification of remains turned over last month by North Korea.

They also approved a study for the new Military Health System Genesis electronic system that lets clinics share medical re-

ords for servicemembers, veterans and dependents. In the coming days, they might debate several more measures, including one to purchase an additional Navy littoral combat ship and possible, new funding requirements for the new Army Futures Command in Texas.

“First and foremost is our promise to defend the nation — and to meet our obligation to the brave men and women who do so. To ensure that if we send them into battle, they will be prepared and equipped to prevail,” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said in opening remarks to Tuesday’s debate. “This week, we have the opportunity to follow through by appropriating the necessary resources.”

The debate follows this month’s passage of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act, which would authorize a wave of significant military increases, including servicemembers’ biggest pay boost in nearly a decade, higher troop levels and new equipment and weapons for the upcoming fiscal

year.

But the effort moves on two tracks: the annual NDAA sets policy changes and expenditures for the military and determines how the money will be spent, while the defense appropriations bill, which is now part of the larger labor, health and human services and education spending bill, is what actually moves money to the Pentagon to support the plan.

By including the defense spending measure with a package that includes other priorities, it’s more likely to gain passage by the start of the fiscal year on Oct. 1, lawmakers have said. Otherwise, lawmakers will have to turn to a temporary funding measure, known as a continuing resolution.

“By combining these bills in one package, we increase the certainty they will be enacted into law, on time, and avoiding the devastating effect of long-term continuing resolutions,” said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., vice chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## Vet, wife charged with campaign funds misuse

*The Washington Post*

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department on Tuesday charged a Republican congressman and his wife with using more than \$250,000 in campaign funds to pay for family vacations, theater tickets and other personal expenses.

Rep. Duncan Hunter, of California, and his wife, Margaret, were charged in a 47-page indictment that details how they allegedly used campaign money to live beyond their means, funding trips to Italy, Hawaii and other places, as well as school tuition, dental work and theater tickets. The Justice Department said in a news release that the couple also allegedly spent tens of thousands of dollars on more modest items, such as golf outings, video games and even home utilities.

Hunter’s office did not immediately respond to a request for comment. He and his wife, who was paid \$117,000 from the campaign for work between 2010 and 2017, are scheduled to be arraigned in court

Thursday.

Hunter, who represents an area near San Diego, served in Iraq and Afghanistan as a Marine. Sworn in at age 32 to the seat once held by his father, Hunter has shown a strong interest in national security issues.

Hunter’s father, Duncan Hunter Sr., told KUSI News in San Diego: “This is going to be a long, tough battle. We’re going to fight it out, we’re going to win and we’re going to win the election.”

The Justice Department alleged the couple falsely described their purchases in Federal Election Commission filings as “campaign travel,” “dinner with volunteers/contributors,” or by using other seemingly innocent descriptions. They allegedly described the payment of their family dental bills as a charitable contribution to “Smiles For Life,” and tickets to see “Riverdance” at the San Diego Civic Theater as “San Diego Civic Center for Republican Women Federated/Fundraising.”

## Iowa arrest stirs political debate over immigration

*Associated Press*

MONTEZUMA, Iowa — The disappearance of a well-liked college student from America’s heartland had touched many people since she vanished one month ago while out for a run. But the stunning news that a Mexican man living in the U.S. illegally has allegedly confessed to kidnapping and murdering her thrust the case into the middle of the contentious immigration debate and mid-term elections.

President Donald Trump seized on the man’s arrest in the death of Mollie Tibbetts, 20, on Tuesday to call the nation’s immigration laws “a disgrace” that will only be fixed by electing more Republicans. Iowa’s Republican governor, facing a tough re-election challenge in November, blasted an immigration system that “allowed a predator like this to live in our community.” And Iowa’s two GOP U.S. senators called the death a tragedy that “could have been prevented.”

Cristhian Bahena Rivera, 24, was arrested and charged

with first-degree murder in the death of Tibbetts, whose July 18 disappearance set off a massive search involving state and federal authorities.

Rivera led investigators early Tuesday to a body believed to be Tibbetts in a cornfield about 12 miles southeast of Brooklyn, Iowa, where Tibbetts was last seen going for a routine evening run, Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation special agent Rick Rahn said.

Rivera was jailed on \$1 million cash-only bond.

Trump noted the arrest at a rally in West Virginia.

“You heard about today with the illegal alien coming in, very sadly, from Mexico and you saw what happened to that incredible, beautiful young woman,” Trump told the crowd in Charleston. “Should’ve never happened. Illegally in our country. We’ve had a huge impact, but the laws are so bad. The immigration laws are such a disgrace, we’re getting them changed, but we have to get more Republicans. We have to get ‘em.”

# Microsoft an 'internet cop' with fraud work

Associated Press

Intentionally or not, Microsoft has emerged as a kind of internet cop by devoting considerable resources to thwarting Russian hackers.

The company's announcement Tuesday that it had identified and forced the removal of fake internet domains mimicking conservative U.S. political institutions triggered alarm on Capitol Hill and led Russian officials to accuse the company of participating in an anti-Russian "witch hunt."

Microsoft stands virtually alone among tech companies with an aggressive approach that uses U.S. courts to fight computer fraud and seize hacked websites back. In the process, it has acted more like a government detective than a global software giant.

In the case this week, the company did not just accidentally stumble onto a couple of harmless spoof websites. It seized the

latest beachhead in an ongoing struggle against Russian hackers who meddled in the 2016 presidential election and a broader, decadelong legal fight to protect Microsoft customers from cybercrime.

"What we're seeing in the last couple of months appears to be an uptick in activity," Brad Smith, Microsoft's president and chief legal officer, said in an interview this week. Microsoft says it caught these particular sites early and that there's no evidence they were used in hacking.

The Redmond, Wash., company sued the hacking group best known as Fancy Bear in August 2016, saying it was breaking into Microsoft accounts and computer networks and stealing highly sensitive information from customers. The group, Microsoft said, would send "spear-phishing" emails that linked to realistic-looking fake websites in hopes targeted victims — including political and military figures — would click and betray their credentials.

The effort is not just a question of fight-

ing computer fraud but of protecting trademarks and copyright, the company argues.

Some security experts were skeptical about the publicity surrounding Microsoft's announcement, worried that it was an overblown reaction to routine surveillance of political organizations — potential cyberespionage honey pots — that never rose to the level of an actual hack.

The company also used its discovery as an opportunity to announce its new free security service to protect U.S. candidates, campaigns and political organizations ahead of the midterm elections.

But Maurice Turner, a senior technologist at the industry-backed Center for Democracy and Technology, said Microsoft is wholly justified in its approach to identifying and publicizing online dangers.

"Microsoft is really setting the standards with how public and how detailed they are with reporting out their actions," Turner said.

## Facebook assigns users trustworthiness ratings

The Washington Post

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook has begun to assign its users a reputation score, predicting their trustworthiness on a scale from zero to one.

The previously unreported ratings system, which Facebook has developed over the last year, shows that the fight against the gaming of tech systems has evolved to include measuring the credibility of users to help identify malicious actors.

Facebook developed its reputation assessments as part of its effort against fake news, Tessa Lyons, the product manager who is in charge of fighting misinformation, said in an interview.

The company, like others in tech, has long relied on its users to report problematic content — but as Facebook has given people more options, some users began falsely reporting items as untrue, a new twist on information warfare that it had to account for.

It's "not uncommon for people to tell us something is false simply because they disagree with the premise of a story or they're intentionally trying to target a particular publisher," said Lyons.

Users' trustworthiness score between zero and one isn't meant to be an absolute indicator of a person's credibility, Lyons said, nor is there a single unified reputation score that users are assigned.

Rather, the score is one measurement among thousands of new behavioral clues that Facebook now takes into account as it seeks to understand risk.

The reputation assessments come at a moment when Silicon Valley, faced with Russian meddling, fake news, and ideological actors that abuse the company's policies, is recalibrating its approach to risk — and is finding untested, algorithmically driven ways to understand who poses a threat.

## Facebook uncovers new misinformation operations

Associated Press

Facebook has identified and banned hundreds of accounts, groups and pages engaged in misleading political behavior, a far larger discovery than a "sophisticated" effort it reported three weeks ago with great fanfare.

The social network said Tuesday that it had removed 652 pages, groups, and accounts linked to Russia and, unexpectedly, Iran, for "coordinated inauthentic behavior" that included the sharing of political material.

Facebook has significantly stepped up policing of its platform since last year, when it acknowledged that Russian agents successfully ran political influence operations on its platform that were aimed at swaying the 2016 presidential election. Other social media networks have done likewise, and continue to turn up fresh evidence of political disinformation campaigns.

Facebook's action in late July against 32 accounts possibly

linked to Russia generally involved U.S. political activity ahead of the midterm elections in November. By contrast, the latest group of apparently fake accounts appeared more intent on influencing U.S. foreign policy and regional politics in the Middle East.

Shortly after Facebook's announcement, Twitter revealed that it had also suspended 284 accounts for "coordinated manipulation," many of them apparently originating from Iran. A day earlier, Microsoft also reported a new Russian effort to impersonate conservative U.S. websites, potentially as part of an espionage campaign.

The social network said it had not concluded its review of the material and declined to say how or why the state-backed actors were behaving the way they did. But it said it has informed the U.S. and U.K. governments as well as the U.S. Treasury and State departments because of ongoing sanctions against Iran.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Woman uses Tinder to prank dozens of men

**NY** NEW YORK — A woman used Tinder to prank more than 100 men into showing up for a date that turned out to be a “Hunger Games”-style competition.

The New York Times reported that the woman, identified as Natasha Aponte, invited dozens of Tinder contacts to meet her in Manhattan’s Union Square on Sunday for what they thought was a one-on-one date.

Instead, a woman who said she was Natasha told them they had to compete for a date with her. She disqualified the men who were under 5 foot 10 and those named Jimmy, a name she dislikes. Then she asked the remaining contestants to perform pushups and foot races.

## Metal thieves stealing manhole covers, grates

**OH** CINCINNATI — Cincinnati city officials said thieves are ripping manhole covers and stormwater grates out of the ground to sell for scrap metal.

Greater Cincinnati Waterworks and Metropolitan Sewer District officials said scrap metal is valuable right now and that scrappers are using industrial vehicles like backhoes to rip the metal out of the ground. Cincinnati Metropolitan Sewer District spokeswoman Deb Leonard said officials believe the scrappers are posing as construction crews while they take the metal from the ground.

## After reported sighting, town embraces Bigfoot

**NC** MARION — He goes by many different names and is feared by some, but in one North Carolina mountain town, Bigfoot is

celebrated.

The Charlotte Observer reported that Marion has proclaimed the elusive creature its “official animal” following a reported sighting last year. The proclamation takes effect Sept. 8, the day of a Bigfoot festival that intends to assemble proof of the creature’s existence.

John Bruner is the founder of Bigfoot 911. He said he was with the group last August when they spotted a large creature “covered in hair” in a forested area. He pitched the proclamation to town officials after Whitehall, N.Y., did something similar in July.

## Man may be charged for killing squirrel with dart

**ND** BISMARCK — Authorities will consider filing charges against a Bismarck man accused of throwing a dart at a squirrel — and hitting it.

Bismarck police Sgt. Tim Sass said officers who responded to a caller’s report Sunday afternoon of a squirrel “acting weird” talked to a neighbor who admitted hitting the rodent with a dart. The Bismarck Tribune reported the squirrel died.

The case was referred to the city attorney’s office for a potential violation of the municipal prohibition against “throwing missiles.”

## Police: Woman stole cash meant for family

**FL** JACKSONVILLE — Authorities said a Florida woman stole a donation jar full of cash meant for the family of a little girl killed in a shooting.

The Florida Times-Union reported that Tammy Wynnell Crews, 46, was arrested Saturday and charged with felony grand theft and a misdemeanor

drug charge. The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office said security video shows Crews taking the jar from the Tapatio restaurant, which is in the shopping center where Heidy Rivas Villanueva, 7, was caught in the crossfire of an Aug. 11 shooting. Three men have been charged in the shooting.

The jar contained about \$600 that was meant to help the girl’s family with funeral expenses.

## Racing stickers pour in for casket of dying boy

**IA** OSKALOOSA — Race drivers and others have been answering the call from an Iowa boy, 11, who wants racing stickers to cover his casket after he dies from leukemia.

Caleb Hammond’s uncle, Chris Playle, told The Des Moines Register that his family brought him home to Oskaloosa after determining the painful treatments he’d been undergoing at a Des Moines hospital weren’t working and other options offered little hope. Playle said Caleb’s been home for about three weeks doing things an 11-year-old normally does, but that he tires easily. He said the stickers pouring in from social media appeals have helped keep everyone’s spirits up.

## Teen happy to make it to age 17 fatally shot

**MO** ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis teenager posted online that he was glad to make it to his 17th birthday after all he’d been through. Just over an hour later, he was fatally shot in the head.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that Armond Latimore was shot about 1 p.m. Saturday. He was pronounced dead at a hospital. No arrests have been made.

His mother, Chandra Payne, said she had gone to a store

to buy ice cream to go with a birthday cake to celebrate her son’s birthday. Three minutes later, she received the call that he had been shot.

## Novelty hand grenades found in checked bag

**NJ** NEWARK — Authorities said two suspected hand grenades found in a woman’s checked bag at Newark Liberty International Airport this week were actually novelty bottle openers.

Transportation Security Administration officials said the realistic-looking replicas were found Tuesday. The woman eventually was allowed to board her flight, but her luggage didn’t make it on the plane due to the delay.

Officials said the fake hand grenades come with a warning notice that tells travelers not to bring them into airports because they can look real to screeners scanning luggage.

## Canines are rescued in dog-fighting case

**AL** MULGA — More than a dozen dogs were rescued from an apparent dog-fighting operation where Alabama authorities found 11 dog skulls.

Jefferson County Chief Deputy Randy Christian told AL.com that deputies responding to a complaint Sunday were met by a juvenile carrying an injured dog, and could hear what sounded like dogs fighting in woods behind a home. He said deputies found 17 pit bulls, four of whom had injuries that were indicative of dog-fighting, and at least 11 dog skulls.

A 42-year-old man who has not yet been identified was taken into custody. Animal control has taken custody of the dogs.

From wire reports

On a mission to provide objective reporting to America’s military, wherever they serve.  
Read us online at [www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com).

STARS AND STRIPES®

# Georgia's Swift aims for increased role

Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — Zamir White's knee injury takes some of the mystery out of Georgia's attempt to reload at tailback after losing Nick Chubb and Sony Michel to the NFL.

D'Andre Swift, already the favorite to take the first snap in No. 3 Georgia's opener against Austin Peay on Sept. 1, now is even more important to the Bulldogs.

Swift had success last year, when he ran for 618 yards as a freshman in a complementary role behind Chubb and Michel. Now Swift must prove he can handle a bigger share of the carries.

"It's great," Swift said after practice Tuesday. "I've got to show a lot to people. I've got a little bit of hype behind me so I've got to show people what I can do."

White, one of the biggest names in Georgia's top-ranked freshman class, was expected to push Swift, Elijah Holyfield

and Brian Herrien and possibly eventually start this season.

Instead, White suffered his second serious knee injury in less than a year and is expected to miss the season.

White was still wearing a protective brace on his surgically repaired right knee, hurt late in his senior season in high school, when he tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in Saturday's scrimmage. White was working on a punt coverage team and was not hit when he suffered the injury, according to coach Kirby Smart.

Georgia is left with four scholarship players at tailback including freshman James Cook, who has impressed teammates with his speed in practice.

"Georgia is known as RB U. so our coaches will figure it out," said Holyfield, the son of former boxing champion Evander Holyfield.

Holyfield (5-11, 215) is a strong, punishing runner who, like his father, has good balance and is difficult to bring

down.

Swift (5-9, 215) has more big-play potential, as he showed with his 64-yard touchdown run in Georgia's Southeastern Conference championship game win over Auburn last season. But he never had more than 10 carries in a game.

Swift says he's not worried about possibly tiring in a game due to Georgia's depth at the position, even after losing White.

"We're so deep at the position," Swift said. "When I come out and Elijah comes out we're not going to lose anything at all."

When asked how Swift has grown into a possible lead role this year, Holyfield just smiled.

"Well, Swift has been good since he got here," Holyfield said. "He hasn't had to. I mean, he's gotten better in other aspects of his game, becoming a more complete back. I think he's going to be very ready to step into that role and be awesome."

Outside linebacker D'Andre

Walker says Georgia's running game won't suffer a letdown.

"I don't think it really changes," Walker said. "I feel like they recruit some of the similar guys each year. They are all very fast and they don't mind running you over."

Swift agreed.

"We have a great group of guys here," he said, adding "I think we'll have a great year at running back."

Walker compared Cook, the younger brother of Minnesota Vikings running back Dalvin Cook, with Michel. "But a little bit faster," he said.

Chubb and Michel are significant losses after ranking second and third, respectively, behind only Herschel Walker on the Bulldogs' career rushing list.

"Last year when we were behind Sony and Nick we'd prepare like we were going to start the game," Holyfield said. "Now that it's our time, we'll be prepared."

## Ex-Texas A&M LB alleges NCAA violations

The Associated Press

Texas A&M says it is reviewing allegations of possible NCAA violations by football coaches made by a former player who transferred to Arizona.

Santino Marchiol, a linebacker who signed with the Aggies in 2017 when Kevin Sumlin was coach, told USA Today that Aggies assistant Bradley Dale Peveto gave him cash on two occasions to entertain recruits on unofficial visits to campus. Schools are allowed to pay expenses for recruits on official visits and NCAA rules allow student hosts to be paid \$40 per day to entertain recruits.

Marchiol also claimed in Tuesday's story new A&M coach Jimbo Fisher's staff possibly violated NCAA rules by running mandatory team activities at impermissible times.

"Texas A&M Athletics takes these allegations seriously, and we are reviewing the situation with the NCAA and the SEC Office," the school said in a statement.

Marchiol, a former four-star recruit from Colorado, left Texas A&M in June and re-

joined Sumlin, now coaching Arizona. Marchiol is currently enrolled at Arizona and has been practicing with the team. NCAA rules require him to sit out this season, but Arizona is requesting a waiver from the NCAA to allow Marchiol, who redshirted last season, to play immediately.

USA Today reported Marchiol's claims of possible NCAA violations were part of a statement he provided to Arizona compliance officials to be used in the waiver request. Marchiol also told USA Today that coaches and trainers at Texas A&M pushed him to practice on an injured ankle and that, too, was included in his waiver request.

Arkansas-based attorney Tom Mars, who is representing Marchiol, told AP he could not comment on the case.

Earlier this year, the NCAA changed the waiver request policy to grant immediate eligibility if it can be shown "the transfer is due to documented mitigating circumstances that are outside the student-athlete's control and directly impact the health, safety and well-being of the student-athlete."

The waiver policy changes also stated that to grant eligibility the athlete must be in good standing at the original school and meet percentage-of-degree requirements, and the original school does not oppose the transfer.

The changes came as Michigan was attempting to get a waiver and immediate eligibility for Mississippi transfer Shea Patterson. The quarterback was claiming Ole Miss coaches and staff misled him during recruitment about an NCAA investigation that led to the football program being sanctioned. The change to the waiver process was credited for alleviating a potentially contentious situation between Michigan, Ole Miss and Patterson, and allowing him to play this year.

Mars represented Patterson and aided with several of his former teammates cases.

Now it seems the change has created another issue: encouraging players to document possible misdeeds at their former schools in order to be eligible to play immediately at their new schools.

# RB Peterson says he has something left

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Adrian Peterson believes he still has something left.

The 33-year-old running back had his first practice with the Redskins on Tuesday, a day after signing a one-year deal with Washington.

"I can give a lot. I really believe that," Peterson said following his first practice. "I feel like the sky is the limit."

Injuries and opportunity limited Peterson to 13 games over the past two seasons. He averaged 3.4 yards per carry in 10 games last season with the Saints and Cardinals.

Peterson remained on the sideline throughout the offseason waiting for the next opportunity, a scenario he admitted was "rough."

His workouts continued. Peterson was in Oklahoma, where he played college ball, when his agent said the Redskins wanted a look. The three-time NFL rushing champion was ready.

"I know what I have left in the tank," Peterson said.

Despite his career achievements, Peterson didn't big-time the workout opportunity. He volunteered to join other free-agent options in various drills.

"He's actually a physical freak," Redskins coach Jay Gruden said. "Some of the backs we had in here were huffing and puffing, keeling over. He was standing straight up. He could have gone for another two hours."

The Redskins decided they couldn't go forward with their limited options at running back for the final two preseason games and possibly their Week 1 opener at Arizona on Sept. 9.

Washington, 28th in yards rushing last season, addressed the concern by selecting running back Derrius Guice in the second round of the draft. The LSU product's rookie year ended with a season-ending knee injury in the first preseason game against New

England.

The Redskins also lost Samaje Perine and Byron Marshall for an extended period of time as both suffered ankle injuries in Thursday's preseason win over the New York Jets.

After waiving undrafted free agent Martez Carter with an injury designation, the Redskins had only three healthy running backs available. One of them, Chris Thompson, has yet to play in the preseason following last season's broken fibula.

Robert Kelley, a 2016 undrafted free agent who emerged as Washington's No. 1 running back during his rookie year and started 2017 on top of the depth chart, remains in the starting mix. Kapri Bibbs offers some depth. Adding Peterson and De'Veon Smith provides more.

What happens going forward remains unsettled.

"We haven't really gotten into detail, but obviously they brought me in here for a reason. I'm just going to play my role,

whatever it is," said Peterson, who is three years removed from rushing for 1,485 yards with the Vikings. He finished with 529 yards last season.

Last season's numbers provided data for doubters who believe Peterson's difference-making days are done.

"It shows me people don't really know about football," Peterson said of the naysayers. "When people say, (3.4) yards per carry, there's a lot that contributes to that as well. I just brush it off and continue to work."

That work began Tuesday with the Redskins.

"It's his first practice. He did a great job today," said Gruden, who stated he hoped to get Peterson some work in Friday's preseason game against Denver.

"You've got a Redskins jersey on. You're here to compete and make the squad. It's no different with (Adrian). We'll just see how he does day after day."

## WNBA playoff roundup

# Gray, Sparks eliminate defending champion Lynx

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Chelsea Gray scored 26 points, helping the Los Angeles Sparks beat the defending champion Minnesota Lynx 75-68 Tuesday night to advance to the second round of the WNBA playoffs.

It was the fourth straight year Los Angeles and Minnesota have met in an elimination playoff game — with each team winning the past two WNBA championships. The Lynx hadn't been eliminated in the first round since 2004.

After Minnesota's Maya Moore missed two free throws with 1:56 remaining, Gray sank a long jumper to extend Los Angeles' lead to 70-65. Minnesota turned it over on its next possession and Nneka Ogumike hit two free throws.

Temi Fagbenle made an open corner three-pointer to pull Minnesota to 72-68 with 52.4 seconds to go, but Moore was off on a contested three-pointer on the next possession and Ogumike sealed it at the free-throw line.

Sixth-seeded Los Angeles (20-15) will play at No. 3 seed Washington on Thursday.

Ogumike added 19 points for Los Angeles and Riquna Williams scored 17. Candace Parker, who averages nearly 18 points, was held to two.

Gray and Ogumike combined to score 23 of Los Angeles' 25 second-quarter points. The Sparks closed the half on a 15-3 run for a 40-37 lead.

Sylvia Fowles had 18 points and 12 rebounds for her 21st playoff double-double for seventh-seeded Minnesota (18-17).

Fagbenle scored a career-high 15 points and Moore added 14.

Four-time WNBA champion Lindsay Whalen, who announced her retirement last week, scored nine points in her final game.

Oklahoma City Thunder star Russell Westbrook sat court-side, as did Los Angeles Lakers guard Rajon Rondo.

**Mercury 101, Wings 83:** DeWanna Bonner had 29 points and 11 rebounds and Diana Taurasi collected 26 points and 12 assists, helping host Phoenix beat Dallas in the opening game of the WNBA playoffs.

Phoenix (21-14) advances to play at Connecticut in another single-elimination round on Thursday.

Phoenix broke it open in the third quarter, hitting six three-pointers. Bonner banked

in a long three just before the shot clock expired and Taurasi added a three on the Mercury's next possession, part of an 11-0 run that lifted Phoenix to a 79-59 lead.

Brittney Griner added 17 points for fifth-seeded Phoenix (21-14). Taurasi made six three-pointers, helping the Mercury go 13-for-29 from long range.

Phoenix closed the first quarter by making seven straight field goals and Taurasi capped the first-half scoring with a three-pointer for a 53-49 advantage. Phoenix opened a double-digit lead early in the third and outscored Dallas 26-15 in the frame.

Skylar Diggins-Smith scored 23 points for No. 8 seed Dallas (15-20). Elizabeth Cabbage had 22 points, 12 rebounds and six assists in her playoff debut.

# Surging Cardinals roll past Dodgers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Even when the Cardinals run into each other, they can't lose.

Yadier Molina and Marcell Ozuna slugged two-run homers and St. Louis overcame a lack of communication in the outfield to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 5-2 on Tuesday night.

The Cardinals improved to a major league-best 16-4 in August and moved atop the NL wild-card standings by a half-game over Milwaukee.

They also climbed to 2½ games back of the NL Central-leading Cubs.

"We're cooking on all cylinders right now," winning pitcher Luke Weaver (7-11) said. "We feel very confident about where we're at. We're kind of riding the wave right now and just bouncing off each other, keeping that positivity going."

The Cardinals have homered in 14 straight games. They won the opener 5-3 on consecutive ninth-inning homers by Jedd Gyorko and Matt Carpenter. This victory clinched their eighth consecutive series, equaling their longest streak since April 10-May 7, 2015.

Jose Martinez tied it with an RBI single in the third. Molina followed with a two-run shot to right center to make it 3-1, snapping an 0-for-17 skid and leaving him one hit shy of his 11th straight season with 100 or more.

With two outs in the seventh, Daniel Hudson hit Tyler O'Neill, setting the stage for Ozuna's two-run homer that extended the Cardinals' lead to 5-1.

The Dodgers' runs came in the second when Daniel Ponce de Leon hit Yasiel Puig with the bases loaded and in the seventh on Manny Machado's 29th homer.

The Dodgers have stranded 25 runners in the first two games of the series.

"We should definitely be playing better baseball," Machado said. "Eventually things will turn around. Once we turn that corner, I don't think anyone is going to hold us back."

For now, though, the Dodgers dropped 3½ games behind the NL West-leading Diamondbacks, the farthest Los Angeles has been out of first place since July 1. The Dodgers fell to 32-32 at home.

"I'm as frustrated as the guys in there are," manager Dave Roberts said. "It doesn't feel good right now."

In his second major league start, Ponce de Leon allowed one run and five hits in four innings. He struck out a career-high eight and walked one pitching not far from his hometown of Anaheim.

## Roundup

# Allen's impressive catches boost Indians

Associated Press

BOSTON — Cleveland pitcher Shane Bieber was sure to thank fellow rookie Greg Allen for making his debut at Fenway Park a successful one.

The rare times Bieber made a mistake, Allen was there to cover — no matter the distance — with a pair of catches in deep center field that helped the Indians beat the Boston Red Sox 6-3 Tuesday night.

"He does it night after night. It's incredible," Bieber said of Allen. "You can't really count him out. He's so fast and gets such good jumps and has such a good feel for playing the outfield, he's always got a chance."

Allen, who hit a go-ahead home run in the seventh inning to beat Boston on Monday, came back to double, single and drive in a run.

But he made the biggest impact in this matchup of AL division leaders with his glove.

First, Allen raced back and slammed into the padded wall to take away an extra-base hit from Xander Bogaerts leading off the fifth inning.

Then, with the Red Sox trying to rally in the seventh, Allen

again came through.

The Red Sox had already scored once to make it 5-1 and had two on with no outs when Mitch Moreland hit a long drive toward the dirt triangle way back in center.

Allen slid to a stop as he caught the ball over his shoulder — it was a sacrifice fly and finished Bieber, but thwarted Boston's momentum.

"That dude's like a ballhog out there. He wants everything," said catcher Yan Gomes, whose solo homer in the eighth also helped simmer down the Boston fans.

Melky Cabrera homered for the second straight game and Yan Gomes also connected for Cleveland, which improved to 15-4 in August.

**Yankees 2, Marlins 1 (12):** Giancarlo Stanton had two hits in his homecoming but closer Aroldis Chapman left the game accompanied by a trainer as visiting New York beat Miami in 12 innings.

**Braves 6, Pirates 1:** Dan-sby Swanson had two homers and four RBIs, Kevin Gausman (8-9) breezed through eight innings to lead visiting Atlanta

past Pittsburgh.

**Rays 4, Royals 1:** Blake Snell (15-5) helped Tampa Bay match a team record with 27 consecutive shutout innings and host Tampa Bay beat Kansas City.

**Tigers 2, Cubs 1:** Jordan Zimmermann (6-5) pitched six effective innings, Victor Martinez had three hits and host Detroit beat slumping Chicago.

**Blue Jays 8, Orioles 2:** Justin Smoak and Kendrys Morales hit back-to-back home runs, Aledmys Diaz and Billy McKinney also connected, and host Toronto improved to 9-0 at home against struggling Baltimore.

**Mets 6, Giants 3:** Rookie Jeff McNeil went 4-for-4 and hit a go-ahead double with two outs in the eighth inning that lifted host New York past San Francisco.

**Padres 4, Rockies 3:** Eric Hosmer and Austin Hedges homered off Tyler Anderson (6-6) and visiting San Diego cooled off surging Colorado.

**Astros 3, Mariners 2:** Josh Reddick homered to give his team the lead and visiting Houston held on to beat Seattle.

**Diamondbacks 5, Angels 4:**

Los Angeles pitcher Cam Bedrosian threw wildly after fielding a sacrifice bunt attempt in the bottom of the ninth inning, allowing Jon Jay to score and give host Arizona the win.

**Athletics 6, Rangers 0:** Khris Davis homered for the second straight night to move him two away from a third straight 40-homer season, backing Brett Anderson's gem as host Oakland beat Texas.

**Twins 5, White Sox 2:** Michael Kopech's anticipated debut for host Chicago was cut short by a rain delay, and Eddie Rosario led Minnesota to the win.

**Nationals 10, Phillies 4:** Andrew Stevenson and Wilmer Difo hit back-to-back home runs in a five-run sixth inning and host Washington rallied for the win hours after Daniel Murphy and Matt Adams were traded.

**Reds 9, Brewers 7:** Scooter Gennett burned his former team in a big way, hitting a tie-breaking solo homer with two out in the ninth as visiting Cincinnati prevented Milwaukee from gaining ground in the National League playoff race.