

STARS AND STRIPES®

Sunday, February 15, 2015

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Danish police kill terrorism suspect

The Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Danish police shot and killed a man early Sunday suspected of carrying out shooting attacks at a free speech event and then at a Copenhagen synagogue, killing a Danish documentary filmmaker and a member of the Scandinavian country's Jewish community. Five police officers also were wounded in the attacks.

"Denmark has been hit by terror," Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt said. "We do not know the motive for the alleged perpetrator's actions, but we know that there are forces that want to hurt Denmark. They want to rebuke our freedom of speech."

Jens Madsen, head of the Danish intelligence agency PET, said investigators believe

the gunman was inspired by Islamic radicalism.

"PET is working on a theory that the perpetrator could have been inspired by the events in Paris. He could also have been inspired by material sent out by (the Islamic State group) and others," Madsen said.

Islamic radicals carried out a massacre at the Charlie Hebdo newsroom in Paris last month, followed by an attack on Jews at a kosher grocery store, taking the lives of 17 victims.

At a news conference, Madsen also said investigators have identified the suspect and that he is someone who had been on the agency's "radar." He did not reveal his identity.

Later Sunday, at least two people with handcuffs were taken out by police from an Internet cafe in Copenhagen,

Danish media reported. Police spokesman Steen Hansen told The Associated Press that "the action was part of the police investigation" but declined to give further details.

The Danish Film Institute said the 55-year-old man killed at the free speech event was documentary filmmaker Finn Noergaard.

The institute's chief, Henrik Bo Nielsen, said he was shocked and angry to find out Noergaard was gunned down while attending a discussion on art and free speech.

Noergaard directed and produced documentaries for Danish television, including 2004's "Boomerang Boy" about an Australian boy's dreams to become a world boomerang champion, and 2008's "Le Le" about Vietnamese immigrants

in Denmark.

Denmark's Chief Rabbi, Jair Melchior, identified the Jewish victim as Dan Uzan, 37, a longtime security guard for the 7,000-strong community. He was guarding a building behind the synagogue during a bat mitzvah when he was shot in the head. Two police officers who were there were slightly wounded.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu decried the attack and said his government plans to encourage a "massive immigration" of Jews from Europe.

Other leaders also condemned the attacks, including British Prime Minister David Cameron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and European Union President Donald Tusk.

Navy tests robot for future use fighting fires on ships

The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The Navy has developed a prototype of a man-sized robot to do one of the most dangerous jobs aboard a ship: fight a fire.

Standing 5 feet, 10 inches and weighing in at about 140 pounds, the humanoid robot is capable of walking on an uneven ship floor and seeing through smoke, detecting a heat source and extinguishing a fire with a hose. Shipboard fires that aren't contained quickly can cause extensive damage and threaten the lives of crewmembers as well as the survivability of the ship itself. Having a robot as part of a firefighting crew would allow sailors to come in behind the two-legged humanoid after it has detected where the fire is coming from and has started spraying it with

water.

"In the civilian world, if the fire's too intense, the fireman can decide just to let it go. On the ship, you don't have that option. You've got to fight it," said Thomas McKenna, the Office of Naval Research's program manager for human-robot interaction and cognitive neuroscience.

The Navy estimates that it's at least five years away from getting the technology to a point where it's ready for procurement, but completing a series of tests aboard a ship in Mobile, Ala., in November was a significant milestone, McKenna said.

A video shot by the Navy aboard the former USS Shadwell — a decommissioned landing ship — shows the battery-powered robot walking

with a hose that it held in one of its mechanical arms and extinguishing a fire.

Virginia Tech students who developed the robot during the past four years are seen guiding it from computers, but they're already working on an upgraded version of the robot that would operate independently as part of a Defense Department competition to develop robots for natural disaster responses that are too dangerous for people.

Fighting a fire aboard a ship with a robot presents a unique set of challenges. That's because it has to be able to go up and down steep ladders and must step through some passageway doors that are elevated so they can be sealed off from water, making a wheeled robot less desirable.

At Virginia Tech, which has done work for the military developing robotic jellyfish, among other things, the school already had experience with legged machines because it had developed soccer-playing robots.

"Walking on two legs is really, really challenging," said Coleman Knabe, a Virginia Tech graduate student from Yorktown who had worked on a team developing the robot for four years.

Aside from its maneuverability aboard a ship, using a humanoid has other advantages. It can wear the same type of fire protection suits that human firefighters wear and no special tools need to be created for it to do its job. Ideally, it will be able to use drills or other equipment sailors already have available.

War vote confronts presidential hopefuls

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In 2002, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton cast a vote in favor of the Iraq War that would later come to haunt her presidential campaign.

Now, a new crop of senators eyeing the White House — Republicans Marco Rubio, of Florida; Rand Paul, of Kentucky; and Ted Cruz, of Texas — will face a similar choice over authorizing military action in the Middle East.

A vote in favor of President Barack Obama's use-of-force resolution would give the potential candidates a share of the responsibility for the outcome of military action. As Clinton learned well, the public's support for a military campaign can quickly fade, making the long-term implications of the vote difficult to predict.

Obama asked lawmakers last week to approve a three-year offensive against the Islamic State group and affiliated forces. His request includes no constraints on geographical boundaries but would bar "enduring offensive combat" — intentionally vague language that some lawmakers fear leaves open the prospect of a U.S.-led ground war.

So far, most of the 2016 hopefuls currently in Congress have sidestepped questions about how they would vote on Obama's measure, which could be amended before they have to say yes or no. Among Republicans, Rubio has been perhaps the most specific in outlining his views, saying he opposes the president putting constraints on his ability to use military force against an enemy.

Clinton, who is laying the groundwork for another presidential run, will also be pressed to take a position. But this time, she will have the advantage of weighing in from the outside, without the pressure of voting.

Snow, dangerous winds, cold strike again in New England

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Snow and dangerously high winds roared across parts of New England in the dark of night to face an army of road crews and emergency workers Sunday, who had readied themselves for the fourth winter onslaught in less than a month. The odds favored the ominous weather.

More than 6 feet of snow already stood in some areas from previous storms; a blizzard warning was in effect for coastal communities from Connecticut to Maine into Monday; and a bone-chilling blast of cold, with lows of minus-10 degrees, was in the Sunday night forecast in parts of the region.

Heavy snow had moved into parts of eastern Massachusetts by early Sunday, according to National Weather Service meteorologist Alan Dunham.

Between 3 and 8 inches of snow had fallen across parts of the region, with the heaviest in Boxford in Essex County, which recorded 13 inches, Dunham said. Boston also was getting hit with heavy snow. Winds across the area also were increasing in intensity.

Before it is all over, southern New England could get several more inches of snow and Maine could see up to 2 feet, weather forecasters said.

"On Sunday, the best thing people can do is stay home, stay indoors," said William Bab-

cock, another weather service meteorologist.

Transportation officials in the region had taken precautions. Nearly 400 Sunday flights were canceled at Boston's Logan International Airport, and none was scheduled Sunday morning. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority canceled all rail, bus and ferry service in the Boston area on Sunday.

Massachusetts called up hundreds of National Guard troops to assist with snow removal, and the Hanscom Air Force base outside Boston became a staging area for heavy equipment pouring in from eight other Northeast states to help in the effort.

GOP: Obama's giving 'amnesty bonuses'

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Millions of immigrants benefiting from President Barack Obama's executive actions could get a windfall from the IRS, a reversal of fortune after years of paying taxes to help fund government programs they were banned from receiving.

Armed with new Social Security numbers, many of these immigrants who were living in the U.S. illegally now will be able to claim up to four years' worth of

tax credits designed to benefit the working poor. For big families, that's a maximum of nearly \$24,000, as long as they can document their earnings during those years.

Some Republicans are labeling the payments "amnesty bonuses," one more reason they oppose Obama's program shielding millions of immigrants from deportation.

"I represent hard-working, law-biding Texans," said Rep. Sam Johnson, a senior Republican on the House Ways and

Means Committee. "I think these amnesty rewards, and that's what they are, need to be stopped."

Advocates argue that many of these immigrants pay taxes, so they should be able to claim the same tax credits as anybody else. During the past decade, immigrants in the U.S. illegally have paid an estimated \$100 billion in Social Security payroll taxes, even though few will ever be able to collect benefits, said Stephen Goss, Social Security's chief actuary.

Some schools including e-cigarettes in drug policies

RICHMOND, Va. — Some schools are getting tougher on e-cigarettes, even punishing possession of the devices more harshly than regular cigarettes.

The devices, which heat a nicotine solution to create vapor instead of burning tobacco, have passed traditional smokes in popularity among teenagers. Schools are clamping down because e-cigarettes, sometimes also known as vaporizers,

also can be used for illegal substances.

Most schools have folded e-cigarettes into their anti-tobacco policies, which typically punish students with detention, a letter home and sometimes a tobacco education class. But other schools in states including North Carolina, New Jersey, Washington and Connecticut, are grouping the devices with bongs and pipes, meaning students could face long suspensions and required drug tests and could have possession of drug paraphernalia on their school records.

From The Associated Press

Gordon's last year in NASCAR spotlight

The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.— Through driver changes, a new championship format and NASCAR's push to reinvent itself, the one constant for more than two decades has been Jeff Gordon behind the wheel every week of the iconic No. 24.

Now it's time to buckle up for what's going to be Gordon's final ride.

The four-time NASCAR champion will report to Daytona International Speedway this week to begin preparations for his final season-opening Daytona 500.

Gordon said last month he will give up full-time driving at the end of 2015, and while he didn't rule out racing a little in the future this will be his final appearance in the "Great American Race" that kicks off the season Feb. 22.

It will be the beginning of what will surely be a NASCAR season packed with tributes to Gordon, whose storied career includes pushing the sport into mainstream visibility.

Gordon does not want the focus to be on him every week for 38 races. He doesn't want it to become a sideshow.

"I am concerned about it. The statements and comments and accolades have already been overwhelming," he said. "But I want to race hard and be competitive and be focused at the race track. We're trying to do all that we can to talk to the tracks and talk to NASCAR about how we can maintain that level of focus."

Gordon has already offered to return to race tracks in 2016, when he's out of the car, to help with any tributes.

"I'm not going anywhere. I'm going to be here," he said. "And it only makes me sense for me to commit to the fans and the sport for all it's given to me, and I can't do that when I'm trying to be focused on the track."

Gordon has all the ingredients to top last season, which saw him come close to a fifth championship. He won four races and was one of the strongest drivers all year, but a sequence of events in the third segment of NASCAR's new elimination-round playoffs knocked him out of title contention.

He will need to be just as good this year to have a shot at reaching the finale in Homestead, where four drivers will race for the Cup.

The title last year went to Kevin Harvick, in his first season with Stewart-Haas Racing. Harvick and crew chief Rodney Childers were the class of the field all year, and their hard work was rewarded with the championship that team co-owner Tony Stewart promised to deliver if they moved to SHR.

Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano, who made Team Penske a two-driver threat last year, are expected to be just as strong this season. The only issue is if Keselowski, who sparred with many drivers last season, will be able to just race and set aside his off-track concerns.

The lineup is different at Joe Gibbs Racing, which expanded to a fourth driver by adding Carl Edwards. There was also an offseason crew chief overhaul in which only Matt Kenseth's crew remained intact. Not even Denny Hamlin, who came one caution away from perhaps beating Harvick for the title, was immune. Crew chief Darian

Grubb was moved to help Edwards.

At SHR, where Harvick was the one constant all season, teammates Danica Patrick and Kurt Busch will be looking for results. And Stewart? His swagger seems to have returned after two trying seasons.

Offseason surgery has the three-time champion walking without a limp for the first time since he broke his right leg in a 2013 sprint car accident, and he seems emotionally healed after the August death of sprint car racer Kevin Ward Jr., who was struck and killed by a car Stewart was driving.

"I'm not happy about the last two years of my life, by any means, but I've never questioned who I am or what I do," Stewart said. "It's probably made my desire stronger than ever."

The Cup cars this year have smaller spoilers, reduced horsepower and drivers will be able to make their own track bar adjustments from inside the cockpit. NASCAR has also replaced officials with 45 cameras that will police pit road. The cameras will be monitored from a command center, and it will be tough for teams to dispute calls.

With testing banned this offseason, the teams have not had a good look at the 2015 rules and won't until Daytona opens on Friday. Some haven't been in a car since the Nov. 16 finale.

"I'm itching to go, man," said six-time Sprint Cup champion Jimmie Johnson. "We're all really anxious to get into our race cars."

String of birdies help lift Furyk atop Pebble Beach

The Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Jim Furyk hasn't competed on the PGA Tour in seven months, so he kept his expectations to a minimum at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

That changed into pressure he knows all too well with one big round.

Furyk made seven birdies over his last 10 holes at Pebble Beach on Saturday, the last one with a wedge he spun back to tap-in range on the par-5 18th, for his best round in two decades playing this tournament. He had a 9-under 63 and a one-shot lead over Matt Jones and Brandt Snedeker going into the final round.

For the 44-year-old Furyk, it's another chance to end more than four years without a victory. He has had at least a share of the 54-hole lead eight times during that drought without converting. But at least he has another chance.

"Ultimately, I want to win golf tournaments and that's what's most important to me," said Furyk, who was at 18-under 197. "It's not hard to look you right in the eye and say, 'I want to win golf tournaments.' But it's hard to go out the next day and try to play the same way and not put extra pressure on yourself."

"We all expect a lot of ourselves and we all put pressure on ourselves on Sunday," he said. "But I think that the way maybe I was doing it in the past was a little counterproductive at times."

Jones made six birdies in a seven-hole stretch and built a three-shot lead late in the glorious afternoon until he made

bogey on his last two holes at Pebble Beach for a 67. Furyk caught up to him and then passed him with a wedge to a foot on the final hole. Brandt Snedeker, who went 47 holes before making his first bogey of the tournament, made a 20-foot birdie putt on his final hole for a 67.

"Didn't have my best stuff starting out today," Snedeker said. "I was able to gut out a good round. You kind of have to do that. ... You're going to have a stretch of golf where you're not playing your best, and hopefully, mine is behind me now."

Furyk had a stretch of great golf, and it carried him to his best round at Pebble Beach. He made an 8-foot birdie on the ninth hole and took off.

It was better than he imagined considering how long he has been away from competition. His last official tournament was the Tour Championship on Sept. 14 when he tied for second. He also played the Ryder Cup and filled in at the PGA Grand Slam of Golf, but otherwise took one of the longest breaks of his career.

Champions Tour: In Naples, Fla., Colin Montgomerie overcame a double bogey to shoot his second straight 6-under 66, holding onto a one-stroke lead after two rounds of the ACE Group Classic at TwinEagles Golf Club on Saturday.

Montgomerie birdied four of his last six holes and is 12-under 132 for the tournament. Lee Janzen also had a double bogey but shot a 7-under 65 and is one back at 11 under.

Teen Shiffrin defends her world slalom title

The Associated Press

BEAVER CREEK, Colo. — After such a big win, Mikaela Shiffrin was at a complete loss. Her quandary? How to celebrate.

Even after all her victories, she's never really learned the art of the post-race exultation. So she simply stood there at the finish, frozen by her emotions.

The fans roared anyway for the American teenager from just down the road.

Shiffrin became the third woman to win back-to-back slalom titles at the world championships with a strong burst near the end of a choppy course Saturday. She finished in a combined time of 1 minute, 38.48 seconds, edging Frida Hansdotter of Sweden by 0.34 seconds. Sarka Strachova of the Czech Republic earned bronze.

"I'm not that great at showing my emotions," said Shiffrin, who won the slalom two years ago at worlds in Austria. "Guess I have to work on that."

These days, that's about the only thing. With Lindsey Vonn done for the Beaver Creek championships, the 19-year-old Shiffrin, who's from nearby Eagle-Vail, slipped into the role of hometown favorite and didn't disappoint.

Leading after the first pass, Shiffrin fell behind in her final run, only to switch to another gear with the finish line in sight and make up ground on the last few gates in softer snow. A pretty impressive recovery to become the first female skier to capture a slalom title in her backyard at worlds since Italy's Deborah Compagnoni

at Sestriere in 1997.

"It does mean a lot — I'm admitting that now that the race is over," said Shiffrin, whose birthday is next month. "I can now admit how much I wanted this race."

"I found my rhythm and just kept going and it just got better and better," she said. "Everybody I talked to kept saying, 'Whoa, you almost killed us down here (with that run).'"

That's nothing compared to how she won her Olympic gold at the Sochi Games last February. In that slalom race, she briefly lost her balance, her left ski rising too far off the snow before finding a way to recover for the win.

Still, by being a little slower up top Saturday it gave Hansdotter a glimmer of hope of possibly earning a gold medal. Just a glimmer, though.

"Then the last part she was skiing really good and I knew she would take it," said Hansdotter, who leads the slalom standings this season on the World Cup circuit.

Shiffrin vows to work on her celebration. Maybe come up with something cool. You know, like Ted Ligety throwing his ski after winning the giant slalom Friday. Or how Lindsey Vonn falls to the snow after her big victories. Or maybe something like Tina Maze of Slovenia performing cartwheels.

"I feel like all the best racers had an epic finish celebration," Shiffrin said. "I come into the finish and I'm like, 'That was fun.' I'm not quite at that level yet."



Ship's Store official new car program

Exclusive Navy at-sea offers:

www.navyauto.com or nasinfo@navyauto.com

No. 1 Kentucky routs SC, equals best start at 25-0

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Willie Cauley-Stein scored 14 points, Aaron Harrison added 11 and No. 1 Kentucky matched the program's best start by routing South Carolina 77-43 on Saturday.

The Wildcats' 25-0 record equaled the 1953-54 squad that rolled through the regular season but declined an NCAA tournament bid.

This year's talented squad is thoroughly focused on winning the school's ninth national championship and took another step toward its quest for perfection by completing a season sweep of the overmatched Gamecocks (12-12, 3-9 Southeastern Conference).

After holding South Carolina to 23 percent shooting in last month's meeting, Kentucky limited the Gamecocks to just 13 of 55 from the field (24 percent) this time, their second-worst outing this season.

The Wildcats quickly built a 20-point lead in nearly 12 minutes. Dakari Johnson added 13 rebounds and 10 points for Kentucky, which shot 50 percent.

No. 2 Virginia 61, Wake Forest 60: Anthony Gill scored 19 points and Malcolm Brogdon stole the ball from Cody Miller-McIntyre to prevent a potential game-winning shot in the final seconds, preserving Virginia's victory against visiting Wake Forest.

No. 3 Gonzaga 56, Pepperdine 48: At Spokane, Wash., Kevin Pangos scored 19 points and Gonzaga took over in the second half to beat stubborn Pepperdine.

No. 4 Duke 80, Syracuse 72: Jahlil Okafor had 23 points and 13 rebounds for his ninth double-double of the season, outplaying Syracuse big man Rakeem Christmas to help Duke beat the

host Orange.

No. 6 Villanova 68, No. 18 Butler 65: Darrun Hilliard rallied Villanova in the second half and hit a three-pointer with 1.5 seconds left to give the Wildcats a victory over host Butler.

No. 8 Kansas 74, No. 16 Baylor 64: Kelly Oubre scored 18 points, including a clinching three-pointer in the final minutes, and host Kansas overcame a slow start to beat Baylor.

N.C. State 74, No. 9 Louisville 65: Anthony "Cat" Barber scored 21 points, hitting 10 of 13 free throws, to help North Carolina State upset host Louisville.

Trevor Lacey had 14 points and Ralston Turner 10 for N.C. State (15-11, 6-7 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Pittsburgh 89, No. 12 North Carolina 76: Sheldon Jeter scored a career-high 22 points and hot-shooting Pittsburgh dominated visiting North Carolina.

No. 14 Iowa State 79, No. 21 West Virginia 59: Monte Morris scored 19 points and 14th-ranked Iowa State overwhelmed visiting West Virginia to sweep the season series with the Mountaineers.

No. 15 Wichita State 68, Illinois State 62: Ron Baker scored 19 points and Wichita State overcame poor shooting with tenacious defense in holding off host Illinois State.

Kansas State 59, No. 17 Oklahoma 56: Marcus Foster made a tiebreaking three-pointer with 3.4 seconds left and scored 14 points in his return from a three-game suspension to lead host Kansas State past Oklahoma.

No. 19 Maryland 76, Penn

State 73: Dez Wells scored 22 points, Melo Trimble added 20 and Maryland used strong shooting in the second half to scramble past host Penn State.

No. 20 VCU 79, George Washington 66: Melvin Johnson scored 17 points, hitting five three-pointers, and visiting VCU snapped a two-game losing streak with a victory at George Washington.

TCU 70, No. 21 Oklahoma State 55: Amric Fields had 12 points and a big part in an upset-sealing run as last-place TCU beat visiting Oklahoma State.

Michigan State 59, No. 23 Ohio State 56: Michigan State's Denzel Valentine celebrated Feb. 14 in style, sinking a three-pointer with 3.2 seconds remaining to give host Michigan State a victory over Ohio State.

No. 24 Arkansas 71, Mississippi 70: Manuele Watkins hit a short jumper with 6.4 seconds remaining to lift visiting Arkansas over Mississippi.

No. 25 SMU 73, UConn 55: Markus Kennedy and Yanick Moreira scored 13 points apiece and the two big men combined for a couple of dunks that helped build a big first-half lead in SMU's win over visiting Connecticut.

Navy 70, Colgate 69: Worth Smith sank the game-winning basket with 13 seconds left as Navy rallied from a 10-point deficit to edge host Colgate.

Air Force 76, UNLV 75: Marek Olesinski scored 19 points, Zach Kocur had 18, making five of his six three-pointers in the second half, and host Air Force held off UNLV 76-75 on Saturday.

Curry, LaVine shine on All-Star Saturday

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stephen Curry honored a fallen fan the best way he knew how. Zach LaVine made a name for himself in a dunk contest that lacked star punch.

Curry bested Golden State Warriors teammate Klay Thompson and six others to win his first three-point contest, and LaVine put on a spectacular aerial display to take home the dunk competition during a memorable All-Star Saturday night.

Curry paid homage to one of the three victims of the shooting in North Carolina, writing a message to Deah Shaddy Barakat on his sneakers for the shooting stars competition, then swapping those for a different color pair for the three-point contest. Barakat was one of three Muslim college students killed Tuesday in Curry's home state.

Curry said there were several connections to the family that touched him.

He said Barakat did his wedding photo similar to a magazine cover featuring Curry and his wife, Ayesha. Barakat also wore a No. 30 jersey — Curry's number — in basketball leagues and some of Curry's family members even played pickup games with Barakat in North Carolina.

Barakat's wife, Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, and her sister, Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, also were killed in the attack. Craig Stephen Hicks, 46, has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder in their deaths.

Curry, the starting point guard for the Western Conference in Sunday's All-Star game at Madison Square Garden, scored 27 points in the final round. Curry connected on 13 consecutive shots until missing his final attempt.

Thompson, who had an opening-round best of 24, scored only 14 points in the final round. Cleveland's Kyrie Irving finished second with 17 points in the three-man final.

It was a rare year when the three-point competition had as much — if not more — intrigue heading into it than the dunk contest because of the notable names who were — and weren't — participating in each.

Even still, LaVine left a lasting impression few will forget.

The 19-year-old Timberwolves rookie scored a perfect 100 in the opening round. He highlighted his scintillating start with a through-the-legs, one-handed reverse slam, wearing a white No. 23 Jordan jersey for what he dubbed the "Space Jam" dunk.

On his second dunk, he tossed the ball up, put it behind his back in the air and threw down a powerful one-handed slam for another 50 from the Hall of Fame judges — Julius Erving, Walt Frazier, Nate Archibald, Bernard King and Chris Mullin.

LaVine had a final round score of 94 to overtake Orlando's Victor Oladipo, who finished with a 72 in the championship round. LaVine became the first Timberwolves player to win the dunk contest since Isaiah Rider in 1994.

Curry finally took home the three-point crown on his fourth try.

Chris Bosh, Dominique Wilkins and Swin Cash won their third straight shooting stars competition earlier. Houston's Patrick Beverley won the skills competition.

Kings top Caps in 4th straight win

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Defense created much of the offense for the Los Angeles Kings in a solid two-way performance against the Washington Capitals.

Trevor Lewis and Jarret Stoll scored third-period goals and Dwight King also found the net for the Los Angeles Kings in a 3-1 victory on Saturday night. Jonathan Quick made 27 saves.

"It was a pretty consistent 60 minutes," Lewis said. "There were a couple of things we can clean up, but overall I thought the effort was better. The physical play was there and we got our chances off of it. We're a good team when we're a good checking team, and limiting the other team's grade-A chances is big for us." The defending Stanley Cup champions have won four in a row.

"We were really good in our own zone," coach Darryl Sutter said. "We blocked some shots against (Alex) Ovechkin and Jonathan made some big saves. Three different lines scored, and we got some decent minutes out of our defensemen."

Ovechkin did score his 34th goal of the

season and 456th of his career. That tied Detroit Red Wings great Alex Delvecchip for 54th place on the all-time list.

The Capitals lost to the Kings for the eighth time in their last nine meetings with the exception being a 4-0 win on Feb. 3 at Washington.

Braden Holtby stopped 27 shots for the Capitals, who were coming off a 5-4 overtime victory at San Jose on Wednesday and had won four of their previous five.

Predators 3, Devils 1: Colin Wilson scored the tiebreaking goal on a tic-tac-toe play with 3:27 left, leading host Nashville to its fifth straight win.

Rangers 5, Coyotes 1: Rick Nash scored his NHL-best 35th goal early in a four-goal third period, and visiting New York gave coach Alain Vigneault his 500th career win.

Vigneault became the 21st coach in league history to reach the milestone, coming in his second season with the Rangers.

Jets 5, Red Wings 4 (SO): Drew Stafford scored the only shootout goal to lift visiting Winnipeg past Detroit.

Canadiens 2, Maple Leafs

1 (SO): Alex Galchenyuk and David Desharnais scored in the shootout to lift host Montreal.

Wild 6, Hurricanes 3: Thomas Vanek had two goals and an assist, and Devan Dubnyk stopped 24 shots to lift surging host Minnesota.

Senators 7, Oilers 2: Milan Michalek had two goals and an assist for host Ottawa.

Islanders 6, Blue Jackets 3: Josh Bailey scored two goals in the first period, John Tavares had two goals and two assists, and host New York fought off two rallies by Columbus.

Avalanche 4, Stars 1: Alex Tanguay had a goal and an assist and Semyon Varlamov stopped 24 shots for host Colorado.

Flames 3, Canucks 2: Sean Monahan scored twice and Lance Bouma got the tiebreaker early in the third period for host Calgary.