

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Trump, Kim end summit with no deal

BY KIM GAMEL

*Stars and Stripes*

HANOI, Vietnam — President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un failed to reach an agreement on nuclear weapons Thursday, with Trump saying he had to “walk away” from a demand to lift economic sanctions in exchange for denuclearization.

However, in a move that was sure to be pleasing to the North Koreans, the president indicated he had no plans to resume full-scale joint war games with the South because they’re “very expensive.”

The surprise ending to the summit, which started Wednesday with high hopes, came after the leaders engaged in two days of talks in the Vietnamese capital amid pressure to draft a road map eight months after they first met in Singapore.

“It was a very productive two days,” Trump said at a press conference after parting ways with Kim. “But sometimes you

have to walk, and I think that this was one of those times.”

Before leaving for Washington, Trump told reporters the main obstacle to a deal was North Korea’s insistence that the United Nations lift all economic sanctions in return for closing only one nuclear facility.

However, North Korea’s Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho told an impromptu, late-night news conference that the North sought only partial sanctions relief and offered a permanent end to tests of its nuclear weapons and long-range missiles. The U.S. demanded “one more” step beyond dismantling its main nuclear facility in Yongbyon, the South Korean news agency Yonhap quoted Ri as saying. The agency said Ri insisted the North would not change its position even if the Americans ask for further talks.

The outcome was a disappointment to many who had predicted the leaders would agree to concrete measures

ranging from exchanging liaison offices to declaring a symbolic end to the 1950-53 Korean War. Trump and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo insisted the process would continue and said Kim had promised not to resume nuclear and missile tests, which raised fears of a new conflict in 2016-17.

But some experts said the effort to rid the North of its nuclear weapons, which began in force early last year after months of tensions, was in danger of losing steam.

“There was an opportunity here to make some gains by starting small. Instead, both parties chose to walk away empty-handed,” said Catherine Killough of the Ploughshares Fund, a global security foundation.

“The clock is ticking for Trump,” she said. “He will continue to spin all this as a victory, but if he loses interest in trying to engage Kim, momentum for negotiations at the

working level will peter out.”

The summit began Wednesday on a positive note, with both leaders vowing to make it successful as they talked one-on-one and had dinner with key aides.

But the mood erupted in confusion after several hours of talks on Thursday when the White House announced plans for a working lunch and a joint signing ceremony had been canceled.

Pompeo said the leaders were unable to push it over the finish line at the summit due to differences over sequencing and timing issues.

“We made real progress ... unfortunately we didn’t get all the way,” he said.

“It is regrettable that [Trump and Kim] were unable to reach complete agreement,” President Moon Jae-in’s office said in a statement. “However, it seems clear that they have made more meaningful progress than at any time prior.”

## Scaled-back spring exercise scheduled in South Korea

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military intends to hold a scaled-back version of its annual spring training exercise with South Korean troops in March, Pentagon officials said Thursday after the second meeting between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un abruptly ended with no nuclear agreement.

The simultaneous, command-level exercises, which have long been known as Foal Eagle and Key Resolve, were scheduled to continue as planned on a scaled-back level

designed to maintain military readiness without drawing the attention of the North Koreans, two defense officials said Thursday. One of the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the Pentagon was, for now, moving forward “status quo” in the wake of Trump and Kim leaving their summit in Vietnam early without a new deal to end the North’s nuclear programs.

The White House has not ordered the Pentagon to halt its planning for the scaled-back exercise, which would involve tens of thousands of American and South Korean troops, the officials said. One of the offi-

cials said some in the Pentagon had expected Trump to scrap the exercises altogether following the meeting, as he did last year after his first unprecedented talks with Kim. Trump has described such operations as expensive and provocative to the North.

Trump, in a news conference in Hanoi, Vietnam on Thursday after ending the meeting with Kim, again said the U.S.-South Korean exercises are expensive and questioned whether they were necessary.

The president claimed each large-scale exercise in South Korea cost the United States about \$100 million. Last year,

the Pentagon said the cancellation of its major fall exercise, Ulchi Freedom Guardian, which is comparable in size and scope to Foal Eagle and Key Resolve, saved taxpayers about \$14 million.

“Those exercises are very expensive,” Trump told reporters in the Vietnamese capital. “And I was telling the generals — I said: ‘Look, you know, exercising is fun, and it’s nice and they play the war games. And I’m not saying it’s not necessary, because at some levels it is, but at other levels, it’s not.’ But it’s a very, very expensive thing, and you know, we do have to think about that, too.”

## Russia says its buildup in Baltics due to NATO

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Russia will add new tank and missile defense units to its Baltic fleet this year along with more modern weaponry for forces positioned in the vicinity of NATO turf, the country's defense minister said.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu told Russian state media on Wednesday the moves were a response to NATO's growing presence in and around the Baltics.

"We are forced to provide an adequate response, carrying out strategic containment events with the plans of stepping up combat capabilities of military formations and units," said Shoigu, as quoted by the TASS news agency.

As part of a reorganization of its forces, Moscow wants to bolster its coastal defenses with a missile defense battalion, a tank regiment and two other army regiments, Shoigu said.

The military also will implement 142 unspecified "organizational measures," he said.

The Russian military also is moving forward with the construction of new garrisons for recently formed units in Russia's Western Military District, home to the newly formed 3rd and 144th motor rifle divisions of the 20th Army.

The Russian defense chief described the efforts as a counter to NATO's enhanced military presence in the Baltics, where the alliance now has multinational battlegroups in all three Baltic states and Poland.

While Moscow routinely lashes out at NATO's moves along the alliance's eastern flank, allies say Russia's aggressive moves are to blame. Russia's 2014 annexation of Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula rattled member states and launched a push inside NATO to elevate its combat readiness.

# Pompeo, Duterte to discuss China's anti-navigation acts

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Thursday he would discuss U.S. concerns about Chinese actions that threaten freedom of navigation in the disputed South China Sea with Philippine officials during an overnight visit to Manila.

Pompeo arrived late Thursday and immediately met with President Rodrigo Duterte at an air base. He discussed with Duterte unsuccessful talks between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Hanoi, Vietnam, which he also attended.

"We're worried that the Chinese are using their power in ways that will deny freedom of navigation in the region, and that's important to every country in Asia, and Philippines

included," Pompeo told reporters as he flew to Manila from Hanoi.

When asked if the U.S. was concerned about China's actions, Pompeo replied "absolutely," adding that Washington has a national security strategy to address the problem.

The long-seething territorial disputes are a key irritant between Washington and Beijing, which has turned several disputed barren reefs into islands with runways and other military facilities.

In addition to China, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei also claim ownership of the strategic waters, where U.S. Navy ships have sailed close to Chinese-occupied islands to assert freedom of navigation.

Philippine Ambassador to Washington Jose Romualdez

said by telephone that a proposed move to re-examine the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty between Washington and Manila was also expected to be discussed during Pompeo's meetings with Philippine officials.

Romualdez said the Philippines has sought a review of the 1951 treaty, which calls on the allies to come to each other's defense against an external attack, to update it. An initial meeting between Philippine Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and a Pentagon official will be held next month in Manila before formal talks begin, he said.

In the past, Filipino officials have tried to clarify whether the Philippines could invoke the treaty to seek U.S. help in case of an attack in the South China Sea.

## Coast Guard officer indicted; charges added

The Washington Post

A U.S. Coast Guard lieutenant accused of planning a domestic terrorist attack illegally possessed silencers among the arsenal of weapons prosecutors contend he stockpiled for his plot, according to new court filings.

A federal grand jury indicted Christopher Hasson, 49, of Silver Spring, Md., on Wednesday, adding two new charges related to unlawful possession of silencers to the drug and weapons counts he has faced since his initial Feb. 15 arrest.

Two silencers Hasson had in his possession did not have serial numbers and had not been registered as required by law, the U.S. attorney's office in Maryland said in announcing Hasson's indictment. The indictment did not indicate why the silencers lacked serial

numbers.

Hasson was taken into custody at work this month after a computer program the Coast Guard uses to search for insider threats flagged suspicious activity connected to him, federal authorities said.

After executing a search warrant at his home and office, law enforcement uncovered a cache of weapons from the basement apartment Hasson lived in, prosecutors said. Officers also found a spreadsheet of "traitors" and targets of politicians and media personalities he planned to attack. Prosecutors say Hasson used his government computer to plot an assault, studying the writings of mass shooters and bombers and conducting internet searches on where to find politicians in the Washington area.

Hasson's federal public defender, Julie Stelzig, argued at

his detention hearing that the government's accusations were "inflammatory" and that there was no indication he planned to carry out an attack. It is not a crime to have negative thoughts, Stelzig added.

In the same alleged plot, Hasson had been charged earlier with possession of firearms and ammunition by an unlawful user of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of Tramadol, a painkiller.

Last week, a federal magistrate judge ordered Hasson detained so prosecutors could consider additional charges. His next court hearing hasn't been scheduled.

Hasson has been in the Coast Guard for more than two decades and previously served in the Marine Corps and Army National Guard. His secret security clearance has been suspended, the Coast Guard said.



# Cohen returns for questioning

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's former lawyer returned to Capitol Hill on Thursday for hours of closed-door questioning after publicly branding his former boss a racist and a con man who lied about business dealings in Russia and directed him to conceal extramarital relationships.

Cohen was speaking privately Thursday to the House intelligence committee, the last of three appearances before Congress this week.

Cohen, who pleaded guilty last year to lying to Congress and soon reports to prison for a three-year sentence, gave harsh testimony about Trump on Wednesday. He said Trump knew in advance that damaging emails about Democrat Hillary Clinton would be released, something the president has denied, and accused Trump of lying during the 2016 campaign about a Moscow real

estate protect.

Cohen also said Trump directed him to arrange a hush money payment to a porn actress who said she had sex with the president a decade earlier. He said the president arranged to reimburse Cohen, and Cohen brought to the hearing a check that he said was proof of the transaction.

Cohen's matter-of-fact testimony about secret payments and lies unfolded as Trump was thousands of miles away from Washington, meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Trump said Thursday he tried to watch as much of Cohen's marathon congressional hearing as he could. He slammed the hearing as "fake" and said it was a "terrible thing" for Democrats to hold it during the summit.

He seized on Cohen's concession that he had no direct evidence that Trump or his aides colluded with Russia to get

him elected, the primary question of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation. Trump said he was a "little impressed" that Cohen had said that to the House Oversight and Reform Committee.

Cohen, shaking off incessant criticism from Republicans anxious to paint him as a felon and a liar, became the first Trump insider to pull back the curtain on a version of the inner workings of Trump's political and business operations. He likened the president to a "mobster" who demanded blind loyalty from underlings and expected them to lie on his behalf.

"My loyalty to Mr. Trump has cost me everything: my family's happiness, friendships, my law license, my company, my livelihood, my honor, my reputation and soon my freedom," Cohen said. "I will not sit back, say nothing and allow him to do the same to the country."

## Symbolism of 94-year-old cross under deliberation

BY NIKKI WENTLING

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court justices Wednesday questioned whether the historic and commemorative significance of a 40-foot cross should allow it to remain on public land in Bladensburg, Md., where it has stood for 94 years.

The Supreme Court is expected to decide whether the cross, a memorial dedicated to 49 local men killed in World War I, is in keeping with the Constitution's First Amendment and the separation of church and state. The outcome of the case could affect other veterans memorials nationwide.

While hearing from the cross' challengers and supporters, at least one of the court's liberal justices appeared willing to consider the cross a WWI symbol in addition to its religious meaning.

That secular symbolism would make the monument constitutional, argued Neal Katyal, a Washington lawyer representing Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which owns the land where the cross sits.

"World War I does have this history that this is how soldiers were memorialized," said Justice Nancy Kagan, President Barack Obama's former solicitor general.

Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, also in the court's liberal wing, were less willing to separate the cross from its meaning as a symbol of Christianity.

"Does the cross really have a dual meaning, Mr. Katyal?" Ginsburg asked. "It is the pre-eminent symbol of Christianity. People wear crosses to show their devotion to the Christian faith."

While the cross' supporters venerate the Peace Cross as a historical tribute to the war fallen, its opponents argue it promotes Christianity and excludes non-Christians.

## Congress blasts Trump plan to take military funds for the border wall

BY CLAUDIA GRISALES

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Several members of a House panel blasted a top military official during a contentious hearing Wednesday over President Donald Trump's plan to shift \$6.1 billion in Pentagon money to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

"What we are witnessing is a president who poses a direct threat to both our military families and America's national security," said Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla., chairwoman of the House Appropriations subpanel on military construction and other related issues. "This declaration undermines U.S. national security and the needs of our men and women in uniform."

Trump declared a national emergency on Feb. 15 as part of an effort to move \$3.6 bil-

lion from military construction projects and another \$2.5 billion from a drug interdiction account to fund construction of a southern border wall.

Wasserman Schultz argued that with border crossings at historic lows and illegal drugs largely moving through legal ports of entry, there is no crisis on the border.

Yet, Pentagon officials are now scrambling to shift the \$6.1 billion from the Pentagon's current fiscal year budget to wall construction in the face of growing political challenges.

On Tuesday, the Democratically controlled House approved a resolution by Rep. Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, to terminate Trump's emergency declaration. Thirteen Republicans broke ranks to support the move.

Robert McMahon, assistant defense secretary for sustainment, told the House subpanel

on Wednesday that it's too early to identify which military projects could be canceled this fiscal year in lieu of the wall. However, he said the Pentagon plans not to touch funding reserved for military housing, which has come under fire in recent months for extensive deficiencies across the country.

Texas Rep. John Carter, ranking Republican for the House Appropriations subpanel, said he is supportive of Trump, though he did not approve of the plan to shift funds away from military construction.

Wasserman Schultz suggested the move could threaten military readiness especially as the Defense Department faces a backlog of \$116 billion in facility improvements. An estimated 32 percent of military facilities are in poor or failing condition, she noted.

# Northern Calif. river floods 2,000 structures

Associated Press

GUERNEVILLE, Calif. — A Northern California river flooded 2,000 homes, businesses and other buildings and left two communities virtual islands after days of stormy weather, officials said Wednesday.

The towns of Guerneville and Monte Rio were hardest hit by water pouring from the Russian River, which topped 46 feet late Wednesday night, said Briana Khan, a Sonoma County spokeswoman.

The river frequently floods in rainy weather but it hadn't reached that level for 25 years and wasn't expected to recede until late Thursday night.

About 3,500 people in two dozen communities along the river remained under evacuation orders.

Jeff Bridges didn't leave even though he said the water was 8 feet deep in some

places. The co-owner of the R3 Hotel in Guerneville said he and others who stayed behind were well-prepared to ride out the storm. He and employees moved computers, business records and furniture to a second-floor room.

"As long as everybody is safe, dry and warm, it's all fine. You just ride it out," said Bridges, noting that this flood was the fourth he's experienced in 33 years.

"People in Florida have hurricanes; people in Maine have blizzards. We have floods," he said. "It's the price we have to pay to live in paradise."

The river was one of several in Northern California that was engorged by days of rain from western U.S. storms that also dumped heavy snow in the Sierra Nevada, throughout the Pacific Northwest and into Montana, where Gov. Steve Bullock

signed an emergency order to help keep up the supply of heating fuel amid frigid temperatures.

Two Amtrak trains together carrying nearly 300 passengers stopped and reversed directions because of an avalanche that closed railroad tracks in the Sierra Nevada.

In Idaho, the mountain town of Stanley became marooned Wednesday after all three highways leading to the town were closed because of drifting snow, avalanches and the risk of more slides.

Several areas in California set record-high rainfall totals in recent days, including nearby Santa Rosa, which had nearly 8 inches of rain in one day. The often-waterlogged Venado weather station 5 miles from Guerneville recorded more than 20 inches of rain in 48 hours.

## Water surrounds Miss. hamlet as rivers rise in South

Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. — Many Southern communities could face weeks of flooding, along with other disruptions, as recent rains have sent many streams over their banks.

In one Mississippi Delta hamlet, the mayor says water has cut off all but one road into the town and forced some residents to flee. Runoff is pooling behind a Mississippi levee and could cause record flooding. And the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers opened a spillway to relieve pressure on New Orleans.

Nearly the entire state of Tennessee has seen 10-20 inches of rain this month, the

National Weather Service said. The Tennessee Department of Transportation is building temporary lanes on Interstate 24 near Nashville after a landslide closed the highway's eastbound lanes Saturday.

Authorities Wednesday estimated 800-900 homes flooded in and around Knoxville.

The Tennessee River was cresting Wednesday at Perryville, Tenn., at the third-highest level ever, with waters predicted to fall gradually. Many riverside buildings are submerged in a string of small towns, and drinking water is cut off in a few areas.

"People are going to be shell-shocked when the water recedes," Hardin County

Mayor Kevin Davis told the Jackson Sun.

The Ohio River is predicted to crest this weekend at Cairo, Ill., also at the third-highest level ever. But the flow is far from over downriver, with crests at Vicksburg, Miss., and below unlikely until the middle of March.

In Glendora, Miss., the hamlet of 151 people was caught between the flooded Tallahatchie River and Black Bayou. Water is within inches of covering U.S. 49, the only unflooded route into town.

Mayor Johnny B. Thomas told The Associated Press that 12-15 houses in the small Delta hamlet are flooded. A shelter is open, although Thomas said many people are trying to stay home.

## Senator urges action on burn pit legislation, seeks hearing

By CLAUDIA GRISALES

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sen. Sherrod Brown on Wednesday renewed calls for new legislation and a congressional hearing to address the health concerns of servicemembers and veterans who were exposed to burn pits while deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Brown, D-Ohio, said Congress needs to hear directly from servicemembers and veterans who have suffered serious health problems related to the open-air burn pits used to dispose of toxic waste.

The burn pits exposed deployed servicemembers to dangerous chemicals and fumes that have been linked to a series

of deadly illnesses, said Brown, who is a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Hundreds of open pits were used at U.S. military bases in Iraq and Afghanistan — until banned by Congress in 2010 — to burn trash, human waste, petroleum, rubber and other debris and released hazardous smoke into the air. Some troops exposed to smoke from burn pits have attributed medical conditions, such as respiratory issues and cancer, to the toxic fumes.

"We need to pass this bill," Brown, who is weighing a run for the presidency, said Wednesday during an afternoon call with reporters. And "we need hearings on the Veterans Affairs committee."

The Burn Pit Accountability Act, S. 191, sponsored by Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn., who is a presidential candidate, was introduced Jan. 17 and co-sponsored by a bipartisan group of 30 senators including Brown.

The legislation requires the Defense Department to evaluate servicemembers for the toxic exposure during routine medical exams and directs more data collection.

"What this bill does is give us the data," said Navy veteran Art Davis, of Ohio, who was also on the call Wednesday with Brown. Davis is also a member of the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America organization, one of several veterans and military organizations supporting the legislation.



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

### Zookeeper hurt when rhino strikes her

**FL** JACKSONVILLE — A female zookeeper in Florida was seriously injured when a rhinoceros struck her.

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens Executive Director Tony Vecchio said the zookeeper was hurt by the rhino's horn during a "routine training session" Tuesday morning. Tom Francis, with the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, said she was taken to the hospital with serious injuries.

Vecchio said Archie the rhino, who is 50, remained in his enclosure and the public was never in danger. Zoo officials said they will investigate the incident.

### Man arrested in theft of kids' instruments

**NC** ASHEVILLE — Police in North Carolina arrested a man they allege stole several brass instruments from the Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club more than 1½ years ago, essentially placing the music program on hiatus.

Citing arrest warrants, The Asheville Citizen-Times reported that Alton Ferguson, 56, allegedly stole and pawned two horns, two euphoniums, two trombones, a custom-class trumpet and a cornet, worth a total of several thousand dollars.

The club's executive director, James Lee III, said security camera video showed the then-janitorial contract worker carrying instruments out of their closet on three trips in 2017. Ferguson was arrested Saturday.

Lee said most of the instruments are still missing or being held as evidence, which means the kids' music program can't resume.

### Woman, police: Driver caused her to flip car

**GA** ATLANTA — A woman and police both said a driver with road rage caused her to flip her car as she was trying to get on a highway in the Atlanta area.

Hilary Dickinson said she suffered bruising on her leg and a seat belt burn on her neck after her car landed on its roof Feb. 22.

Dickinson told WSB-TV she heard the woman behind her laying on her horn as she was waiting to turn onto Interstate 85. She and a DeKalb County police report said the woman followed her, sped around her and then braked in front of her.

Dickinson swerved, but overcorrected. The woman drove away as Dickinson's car rolled several times.

### Bobcat struck by police car recovering

**CA** LAKE FOREST — Officials said a bobcat is recovering after being struck by a police car on a canyon road in Southern California.

Laguna Beach Police Officer Thomas McGuire told the Orange County Register he initially thought he'd hit someone's pet when the cat darted in front of his vehicle Feb. 19. McGuire said when he got out to check, he realized the animal was bigger than a house cat.

Animal Control officers rushed the bleeding bobcat to an animal hospital, where it was diagnosed with head trauma. Dr. Kristi Krause, a veterinarian, told the newspaper she expects the 11-pound cat to be released back into the wild after it regains strength.

McGuire visited the bobcat last week. He joked that if he sees it again, he'll issue a ticket for jaywalking.

### 3 accused of taking LSU vehicle for joyride

**LA** BATON ROUGE — Louisiana State University police said three men stole a John Deere utility vehicle from the football locker room and took it for an early morning joyride.

Citing an arrest report, The Advocate reported security video from early Sunday showed the three men driving the vehicle on campus. When stopped, the men refused to tell police where they got the vehicle.

The Gator XUV is valued at more than \$10,000.

After agreeing to a field sobriety test, Daryl Lally, 21, was charged with driving while intoxicated. Lally; Tyler Jones, 22; and Robert Nicklas, 22, are charged with theft of a motor vehicle.

### Plane used by LBJ may one day be restored

**GA** WARNER ROBINS — There are plans to one day restore a dusty jet in a Georgia hangar — a jet that served as Air Force One during critical moments of U.S. history.

The Telegraph reported the blue-and-white airplane is housed in the back of a hangar at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins. The Lockheed VC-140B Jetstar carried President Lyndon B. Johnson on short trips while he was in office from 1963 to 1969.

The plane often took Johnson to his Texas ranch, since it could land on the short runway there.

Museum curator Mike Rowland said Johnson flew on it hundreds of times.

### 2 donkeys found killed on Louisville farm

**KY** LOUISVILLE — Officials in Kentucky said two donkeys were mauled to death on a farm in Louisville about 5 miles from where eight llamas were killed.

Louisville Metro Animal Services told news outlets that they don't know if the attacks are related.

The donkeys were found dead in a field Sunday, less than a week after the llamas were found dead with bite marks behind their ears and by their flanks.

Louisville Metro Animal Services said the llamas' wounds appeared "canine in nature." Spokeswoman Teeya Barnes said the donkeys suffered wounds that suggest a possible attack by a wild animal.

### Veteran's dog loses its tail after attack

**FL** SATELLITE BEACH — A Florida man is accused of felony cruelty to animals for an attack on a service dog that resulted in the amputation of its tail.

Brevard County Sheriff Wayne Ivey said in a Facebook post that he personally walked James Cordell Doughy Suthann into jail following his arrest Monday.

The incident occurred Feb. 6 at a grooming salon where Suthann worked. Ivey said Suthann was angry that an 8-year-old German shepherd service dog wouldn't stand during the appointment.

Video captured him grabbing the dog's tail while swinging the animal off the ground and twisting the tail. Emergency surgery was required.

The dog is owned by a disabled veteran.

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# Following LA visit, One Championship ponders global future

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Rich Franklin joined One Championship as a vice president nearly five years ago, and the former UFC champion has enjoyed the ride during the Singapore-based mixed martial arts promotion's rapid growth across Asia.

After signing several American fighters and inking a new broadcast deal with Turner Sports' B/R Live in the past few months, One's ambitions are becoming global.

While the promotion hasn't scheduled any events in the U.S. or Canada just yet, Franklin wants North American fans to keep their eyes on a company with a fresh approach to this inherently combative sport.

"We've got a different product than a lot of fans are used to in this part of the world," said Franklin, a former math teacher from Cincinnati. "This promotion really stands for the values of compassion, discipline, respect, honor — all the things that my dad wanted me to learn when he put me in karate."

One is traveling the U.S. West Coast this week, staging its first North American public appearances on turf long dominated by the UFC and Bellator. Franklin and Miesha Tate — another former UFC champion now working for One as an executive — watched Tuesday while Demetrious Johnson, Eddie Alvarez and Sage Northcutt threw punches and did backflips for a loud contingent of hard-core MMA fans enticed by free T-shirts and the chance to meet three well-known stars who left the UFC last year.

It's tough to fully demonstrate One's unique qualities in a brief open workout in a gym near the Los Angeles River's famed concrete basin, but One's shows are available online to

any North American fan — and they could be even closer in the near future.

One doesn't plan to schedule an MMA show in the U.S. this year, and Franklin promised nothing — but he won't be surprised if One takes a leap across the Pacific soon.

"I believe 2020 will be a good year for us to make some noise on this side of the world," Franklin said.

One Championship is making stops this week in Seattle, Los Angeles and Las Vegas, where it was Thursday — just two days ahead of UFC 235 on the Strip.

One believes it stands out with a version of MMA less concerned with championships and trash talk than athletic inspiration and gracious behavior.

Those principles appealed to Johnson and Alvarez, two recent UFC belt-holders who eagerly agreed to join One last year.

"I think we're doing something great that's going to threaten the North American market eventually," Alvarez said.

Alvarez, who lost his UFC belt to Conor McGregor in 2016, has already fought around the world for several promotions. The Philadelphia-based fighter said he had grown tired of "all the circus acts happening" in the UFC, from professional wrestlers getting prime promotional slots to the combative pre-fight posturing mastered by McGregor and others.

"There's a lot of people who want a sport with integrity," Alvarez said. "We have a want for honesty, and that's gone missing. I can get a title shot here, and how many followers I have on Twitter and Instagram doesn't matter. I don't have to be a WWF wrestler. I can just be good at fighting. Imagine how good that feels to all the good fighters out there."

## MLB players, management appear to be headed for early labor negotiations

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball players and management appear headed to early labor negotiations that could lead to significant economic changes in the collective bargaining agreement and possibly a new deal past the current expiration of December 2021.

Management backed off its desire for a pitch clock this year in a proposal to the players' association on Tuesday, putting off most on-field changes to 2020 at the earliest. The union quickly made a counteroffer Wednesday, and the biggest alterations still being discussed for this year are a single trade deadline, most likely on July 31, and lowering the number of mound visits without a pitching change from six to five.

While players have proposed major initiatives that impact economics, such as expanding the designated hitter to the National League and adding provisions that make rebuilding rosters with young players less attractive, management has been focused on on-field issues thus far. Management told the union it would be willing to discuss larger economic issues as part of talks that could lead to a longer labor contract.

Details were disclosed to The Associated Press by people familiar with the negotiations who spoke on condition of anonymity because talks were ongoing. Many aspects of management's latest proposal were first reported by ESPN.

Among the items put off until 2020 at the earliest are several where an agreement could be reached soon:

- A three-batter minimum for pitchers.

- Increasing active rosters from 25 to 26, including a maximum of 13 pitchers, and dropping them from 40 to 28, including a maximum 14 pitchers, from Sept. 1 through the end of the regular season.

- Increasing the minimum regular injured list and option recall period for pitchers from

10 days to 15.

- A new rule that position players could pitch only from the ninth inning on, or from the sixth inning on when their team trails by seven runs or more.

The sides remain in discussion over starting extra innings of the All-Star Game and of spring training games with a runner on second base and ending spring training games after 10 innings. They also are discussing experimenting with shorter between-inning breaks combined with televising the start of innings on split-screens alongside commercials.

A single trade deadline would replace the current rules, which have a July 31 deadline for trades without waivers and an Aug. 31 deadline to acquire players who would be eligible for that team's postseason rosters.

While unilaterally making the decision to experiment with a 20-second pitch clock during spring training this year, management has offered not to pursue a pitch clock in the regular season through 2021. Management has the right to implement a clock in games that count, but baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred has said he is reluctant to take that step without players' agreement.

Baseball has had 12 collective bargaining agreements starting with the first in 1968 and has never held mid-agreement talks that led to an extension or new deal. The only mid-agreement extension was reached in the settlement of the 1981 midseason streak, in which management gave players credit for major league service during the 50-day walkout in exchange for extending the deal by one year through December 1984.

The NFL and NBA have reached new deals in mid-agreement, motivated by uncapped final years in the football contract and opt-out provisions in the basketball contract.



# Tennessee survives scare from Ole Miss

Associated Press

OXFORD, Miss. — Grant Williams barreled through the lane through two Mississippi defenders, somehow willing himself into a position where he could get a short jumper to fall for the go-ahead bucket with four seconds remaining.

Nothing's coming easy for No. 7 Tennessee these days. But the Volunteers will take wins however they can.

Williams scored 21 points, including his clutch basket in the final seconds, to lift Tennessee over Ole Miss 73-71 on Wednesday night. The win keeps the Volunteers in a three-way tie with LSU and Kentucky atop the Southeastern Conference standings.

"I thought both teams just played their hearts out. You expect that this time of year," Tennessee coach Rick Barnes said. "I just thought our guys found a way to stay in it and get it done at the end."

Tennessee (25-3, 13-2 SEC) bounced back from a tough loss to LSU on Saturday with a hard-fought victory over the Rebels. Lamonte' Turner added 17 points and Admiral Schofield had 11.

The Volunteers trailed 39-34 at halftime, but used a 14-0 run early in the second half to jump back ahead. Ole Miss wouldn't go away, pushing in front 58-57 on Terence Davis' three-pointer with 10 minutes left.

From that point forward, it was a back-and-forth struggle. Ole Miss guard Breein

Tyree missed the front end of a one-and-one with 18 seconds remaining, Tennessee grabbed the rebound and Williams hit a driving, short jumper in the lane to make it 72-71.

"Those guys made the right plays down the stretch," Davis said. "You've got to tip your hat to them."

Ole Miss (19-9, 9-6) had one more opportunity in the final seconds, but Devontae Shuler was called for a charge after running into Schofield while shooting a deep three-pointer with a second left. Ole Miss coach Kermit Davis was given a technical for arguing the call and throwing his jacket, but by that point the game was already decided.

Immediately after the game, angry fans threw cups and other objects on the floor, including several things in the direction of the Tennessee bench. Kermit Davis expressed regret for throwing his jacket in the final seconds and said "that probably enticed the crowd so I apologize for that. I was just being competitive in the moment."

"Everybody's heartbroken in that locker room," Davis said. "But we've got to come back tomorrow, put that away, and get ready for Arkansas on Saturday."

Tyree and Terence Davis led the Rebels with 16 points each. Blake Hinson added 14.

Tennessee scored the first eight points and led for most of the first half. Ole Miss rallied in the final minutes to take its five-point halftime lead.

**The national anthem:** No Ole Miss players knelt for the national anthem before the game.

The minutes before the game were highly anticipated after eight Mississippi players kneeled during the anthem in response to a Confederacy rally near the arena before the Rebels' 72-71 victory over Georgia on Saturday.

But there were no obvious demonstrations before the Tennessee game, with players standing in their usual spot along the free throw line in front of the Ole Miss bench.

**Big picture: Tennessee:** It was a huge bounce-back win for Tennessee, which got the big shot it needed from Williams at the end. Turner's 17 points came on 8-of-12 shooting from the field. Tennessee shot nearly 52 percent, including 58 percent in the second half.

**Ole Miss:** A tough loss for the Rebels, who might have assured themselves a spot in the NCAA Tournament with a win. Bruce Stevens was a bright spot with 10 points and 10 rebounds. Ole Miss likely needs one more win to feel secure about its spot in the NAAs. The Rebels have three games left, against Arkansas, Kentucky and Missouri.

## College basketball roundup

# 'Nova denies Marquette share of Big East title

Associated Press

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Jermaine Samuels' point production mirrored Villanova's win total over the last three games: a big 0.

Samuels morphed from scoreless to sensational to deny No. 10 Marquette a piece of the Big East crown Wednesday night. He hit five three-pointers and scored a career-high 29 points as defending national champion Villanova snapped a three-game losing streak with a 67-61 win over the Golden Eagles.

Saddiq Bey hit the go-ahead three-pointer with 2:31 left to help the Wildcats (21-8, 12-4 Big East) keep their hopes alive for a conference title with a needed win in their final game this season at their on-campus arena.

**No. 2 Virginia 81, Georgia Tech 51:** Ty Jerome scored 19 points, De'Andre Hunter had 18 and host Virginia took command with a 25-4 first-half run and beat reeling Georgia Tech.

The Cavaliers (25-2, 13-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) trailed 11-7 before a three-pointer by Braxton Key sparked the eight-minute surge.

**No. 8 Houston 99, East Carolina 65:** Corey Davis Jr. matched his career high with 26 points to help Houston beat host East Carolina in a game that included multiple technical fouls against the Pirates and three ejections after halftime.

**No. 11 Texas Tech 84, Oklahoma State 80:** Davide Moretti had 20 points, including four free throws in the final 18 seconds of overtime, and host Texas Tech escaped Oklahoma State to move into a share of the Big 12 lead.

**No. 12 Nevada 89, UNLV 73:** Caleb Martin scored 24 points and host Nevada cruised past in-state rival UNLV.

**No. 14 Purdue 73, Illinois 56:** Carsen Edwards broke out of a shooting slump to score 23 points, and host Purdue got its fourth straight victory.

**Penn State 78, No. 17 Maryland 61:** Lamar Stevens scored 16 of his 24 points in the second half, and host Penn State had an easy time with Maryland.

**No. 23 Cincinnati 52, SMU 49:** Rashawn Fredericks put Cincinnati ahead to stay with his only two field goals, and the Bearcats (24-4, 13-2 American Athletic Conference) overcame a horrible shooting night to beat host SMU.

**Army 79, Loyola (Md.) 69:** John Emezie registered 14 points as host Army got past Loyola.

Matt Wilson had 13 points and nine rebounds for Army (13-17, 8-9 Patriot League). Lonnie Grayson added 11 points. Tommy Funk had seven assists.

**Navy 64, Bucknell 53:** Hasan Abdullah posted 17 points, eight assists and six rebounds as host Navy got past Bucknell.

John Carter Jr. had 12 points for Navy (10-18, 7-10 Patriot League). George Kieran added 10 points.

## NBA roundup

# Wade's three lifts Heat over Warriors

Associated Press

MIAMI — Dwyane Wade banked in a straightaway three-pointer as time expired and the Miami Heat wasted a 24-point lead before rallying to beat the Golden State Warriors 126-125 on Wednesday night.

Wade scored 25 points to help Miami snap a six-game home losing streak. Wade took a victory lap, waving a towel as the fans roared and "This Is My House" was displayed on the video boards.

Goran Dragic led the Heat with 27 points. Josh Richardson added 21, and Miami made 18 three-pointers.

Klay Thompson scored 36 points for the Warriors.

**Lakers 125, Pelicans 119:** LeBron James scored 33 points, Brandon Ingram added 23 and host Los Angeles weathered strong performances by Anthony Davis and Julius Randle.

Davis had 22 points and eight rebounds in the first three quarters after getting a warm pregame reception from Lakers fans who eagerly followed Los Angeles' fruitless pursuit of a trade for the superstar forward earlier this season.

**Rockets 118, Hornets 113:** James Harden scored 30 points, Clint Capela had 23 points and a career-high 17 rebounds and Houston won at Charlotte for its third straight victory.

In his first game since his streak of 30-point games ended at 32, Harden struggled from the field, missing his first eight shots from three-point range — even having one blocked by Nic Batum. Harden finished 10-for-29 from the field and 1-for-11 from three-point range, but made two free throws with 14.6 seconds left to put it away.

**Hawks 131, Timberwolves 123 (OT):** Trae Young matched

the career high he set earlier in the week with 36 points, John Collins had 34 and host Atlanta won in overtime.

**Trail Blazers 97, Celtics 92:** Damian Lillard scored 21 of his 33 points in the second half and Portland won at Boston, handing the Celtics their fourth straight loss.

**Spurs 105, Pistons 93:** LaMarcus Aldridge scored 24 points, DeMar DeRozan had 17 points and 13 points, and San Antonio returned home after a 25-day absence to beat Detroit and snap a three-game skid.

The Spurs returned to the AT&T Center for the first time since Feb. 2 after going 1-7 on their rodeo trip, the worst they have fared on their annual excursion.

**Bucks 141, Kings 140 (OT):** Eric Bledsoe scored five of his 26 points in overtime when Milwaukee played all but

the final 12 seconds without Giannis Antetokounmpo, and the Bucks won at Sacramento.

**Mavericks 110, Pacers 101:** Luka Doncic had 26 points and 10 rebounds in his final game as a teenager, fellow rookie Jalen Brunson scored a season-high 24 points and host Dallas ended a five-game losing streak.

**Jazz 111, Clippers 105:** Donovan Mitchell scored 32 points, Rudy Gobert had 20 points and 13 rebounds and host Utah beat Los Angeles.

**Wizards 125, Nets 116:** Bradley Beal scored 31 points, Trevor Ariza had 23 points and 10 rebounds and Washington won at Brooklyn.

**Bulls 109, Grizzlies 107:** Zach LaVine scored 12 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter to help Chicago win at Memphis for the Bulls' fourth victory in five games.

## NHL roundup

# Hedman's OT goal helps Lightning win 10th straight

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Victor Hedman scored at 3:25 of overtime and the Tampa Bay Lightning extended their winning streak to a franchise-record 10 games with a 4-3 victory over the New York Rangers on Wednesday night.

Tyler Johnson, J.T. Miller and Dan Girardi also scored for Tampa Bay, which has an NHL-leading 102 points. Nikita Kucherov added three assists to give him a league-leading 74. Andrei Vasilevskiy had 33 saves.

Jimmy Vesey had a goal and assist for the Rangers. Mika Zibanejad and Boo Nieves also scored. Alexandar Georgiev had 26 saves, including stopping Hedman on a breakaway earlier in overtime.

**Flames 2, Devils 1:** Johnny Gaudreau set up two second-pe-

riod goals and Western Conference-leading Calgary extended its season-high winning streak to seven games with a victory over host New Jersey.

Elias Lindholm and Mark Giordano scored for the Flames, who have points in eight straight games. David Rittich made 19 saves in improving to 22-5-5.

Kevin Rooney scored a short-handed goal for the Devils. Mackenzie Blackwood, who spent the last three weeks in the minor leagues, was outstanding in making 33 saves in his return to the NHL.

**Maple Leafs 6, Oilers 2:** Andreas Johnsson scored twice during his team's four-goal outburst in a seven-minute stretch to open the second period and host Toronto cruised past Edmonton.

Mitch Marner added a goal and two assists, while John

Tavares, William Nylander and Patrick Marleau all had a goal and an assist for Toronto. Frederik Andersen made 34 saves for the Maple Leafs, who turn their attention to Thursday night when they visit the Islanders in Tavares' return to New York.

Leon Draisaitl and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins scored for Edmonton. Mikko Koskinen allowed four goals on 16 shots before being replaced by Anthony Stolarz, who finished with 18 saves.

**Avalanche 3, Canucks 2 (SO):** Carl Soderberg scored in the sixth round of the shootout, Semyon Varlamov came up with big saves all night long and host Colorado beat Vancouver.

Soderberg knocked in the winner off the glove of Jacob Markstrom as the Avalanche improved to 2-12 in games beyond regulation. Varlamov

made 30 saves through overtime and five more in the shootout.

Mikko Rantanen had a goal and Nathan MacKinnon added his 33rd goal of the season to tie captain Gabriel Landeskog for the team lead. The Avalanche have gone 5-0-1 over their last six games to climb back into the playoff chase.

**Blackhawks 4, Ducks 3:** Patrick Kane scored with 16.1 seconds remaining on an odd-man rush and visiting Chicago rallied past Anaheim.

Alex DeBrincat scored two goals, Artem Anisimov had a short-handed goal and Corey Crawford made 29 saves as the Blackhawks snapped a two-game losing streak.

Devin Shore, Carter Rowney and Troy Terry scored for Anaheim, which has dropped its last four. Miller stopped 31 shots.