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5 special operators injured in Nangarhar

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Five U.S. servicemembers were wounded in recent days fighting militants aligned with the Islamic State group in eastern Afghanistan, Army Gen. John Nicholson said Thursday.

The American special operators were accompanying Afghan special forces this week in southern Nangarhar Province, where the Afghans began a major operation that aimed to rout the militants from the country, said Nicholson, the top American commander in Afghanistan.

None of the injuries was life-threatening, he said. Two operators were quickly returned

to their units and three were evacuated from Afghanistan for further medical treatment.

“They are in good spirits and have talked to their families,” Nicholson said. “We expect a full recovery.”

The injuries appear to be the first time Americans have been wounded fighting the Islamic State group in Afghanistan, and they underscore the danger U.S. troops continue to face serving in the longest war in the nation’s history.

At the end of 2014, President Barack Obama formally concluded the United States’ combat role in Afghanistan, where it has been fighting since late 2001. But the United States has kept troops — about 9,800 now

— to train and advise Afghan forces and conduct counterterrorism operations.

Since January, the United States has been allowed to target Islamic State group militants in Afghanistan under those counterterrorism authorities. It has conducted about 180 airstrikes on terrorist groups there since January, Nicholson said. He did not specify how many of the strikes were against the Islamic State group.

Nicholson stressed the Afghan forces are leading the fighting in Nangarhar. The U.S. special operators, who have long accompanied Afghans on the battlefield, were aiding Afghan special forces in clearing operations in districts recaptured

from the Islamic State group, known in Afghanistan as Islamic State Khorasan Province.

The Americans were wounded by small arms and shrapnel during fighting that followed several airstrikes, Nicholson said.

Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani announced earlier this month that Afghan security forces would begin an offensive against the Islamic State group. The operation kicked off this week and targeted districts in southern Nangarhar controlled by the militants.

So far, it has been successful, said Nicholson, who added the Afghans vowed to completely destroy the terrorist organization in their country.

Report: Rising seas likely to swamp many US bases

Daily Press (Newport News, Va.)

When Hurricane Isabel pummeled Hampton Roads with 5- to 8-foot waves in 2003, low-lying Langley Air Force Base in Hampton was largely underwater, sustaining more than \$160 million in damage.

Now, a new Union of Concerned Scientists report warns that Isabel was just a grim taste of things to come.

That flooding and storm surge at Langley and other coastal military installations will only get worse — maybe a lot worse.

In fact, under the worst-case scenario of 6.9 feet of sea level rise for this region by the end of this century, the base stands to lose nearly 90 percent of its land to daily flooding as it essentially becomes part of the tidal zone.

Meanwhile, some 20 miles away along the James River, roughly 60 percent of Joint Base Langley-Eustis could be

lost to high tides — with even more lost to the extreme spring and king tides.

But, even if sea level rises by only 3 feet, scientists say it will threaten 128 coastal installations in this country, together valued at about \$100 billion.

Such dire analyses are part of “The U.S. Military on the Front Lines of Rising Seas,” released Wednesday by the independent science group.

In the report, scientists examine the risks that climate change poses to 18 military installations on the East and Gulf coasts, including four in Hampton Roads, if climate models bear out and no new action is taken.

“We’re now at the front end of the changes that will occur, with some installations already dealing with flooding during extreme high tides,” lead author Erika Spanger-Siegfried said in releasing the report. Spanger-Siegfried is senior analyst at

the UCS’s Climate and Energy program.

“Depending on how fast sea level rises in the second half of this century, tidal flooding will become a daily occurrence in some areas,” she added. “Those places become part of the tidal zone, as opposed to usable land.”

Coastal military installations in Hampton Roads have known for years they’re in the crosshairs of climate change. The region is a national hot spot for sea level rise, second behind New Orleans, as the Atlantic warms and expands, the land continues to sink and ocean currents shift.

Such changes will continue to drive the high tide line inland, while hurricanes and nor’easters push storm surge ever deeper into low-lying areas.

The report projects flooding exposure for the years 2050, 2070 and 2100 based on two

global sea level rise scenarios — intermediate and highest — from the National Climate Assessment.

The intermediate rise is 3.7 feet above 2012 global levels by the end of the century, while the highest is 6.3 feet above.

In hot spot Hampton Roads, though, the intermediate projection is 4.5 feet by 2100, and the highest is nearly 7 feet.

UCS scientists say the highest scenario becomes ever more plausible as recent studies indicate land-based ice sheets are melting at an ever faster rate.

Astrid Caldis at the UCS said she did a deep tour of Langley last month and found the base is being proactive in preparing for sea level rise and recurrent flooding. Together with neighboring NASA Langley Research Center, the base developed a tool to predict which buildings will flood during an upcoming event, the better to prepare and protect vulnerable areas.

Navy sued over live-fire sites

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Community members and an environmental group on Wednesday sued the U.S. Navy, the Department of Defense and the secretary of defense over a plan to turn two Pacific islands into live-fire testing sites.

The plan calls for using the islands of Tinian and Pagan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for war games.

The training would prevent Pagan's native people from returning to their home island, which was evacuated 35 years ago after a volcanic eruption, and would disrupt communities on Tinian, according to Earthjustice attorneys, who are representing complainants including the Center for Biological Diversity and local community organizations.

The groups filed the lawsuit in federal court in Saipan.

The lawsuit says the National Environmental Policy Act requires the military to

consider the potential effects on the islands and surrounding communities.

The Navy did not take into consideration the people involved or the wide-ranging environmental effects, according to the groups. They also allege the Navy failed to consider more suitable locations for the war games.

Tinian is a small island in the Northern Marianas with about 3,000 residents, mostly low-income indigenous Chamorro people. The military already uses a small plot on the island for sniper training, according to the lawsuit.

Expanding training would expose residents to "high-decibel training noise, permanent loss of 15 percent of the island's prime farmland soils, destruction of cultural and historic sites, and severe restrictions on access to traditional fishing grounds, cultural sites and recreational beaches," the lawsuit says.

"When the Northern Mari-

anas agreed to remain part of the United States, destroying the northern two-thirds of our island with live-fire training and bombing was never part of the deal," Florine Hofschneider, of the Tinian Women's Association, said in a statement. "We refuse to accept the Navy's plans to subject our children to nearly constant bombardment."

The training would destroy forests, coral reefs and wildlife on the volcanic island. And the indigenous Chamorro and Refaluwasch families who once called Pagan home would be prevented from returning, attorneys said.

"I spent many happy years of my childhood growing up on Pagan," Cinta Kaipat, of Pagan-Watch, one of the groups suing, said in a statement.

"Many of us want to return and resettle Pagan," Kaipat said. "For those who lived there, Pagan remains their homeland. We do not want to see it obliterated by the military."

President passes the baton

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Hillary Clinton has the stage.

Stepping out of the shadows of presidents past, the former first lady, senator and vanquished-candidate-turned-secretary-of-state appeared unannounced on the platform at her nominating convention, pointed a finger at President Barack Obama and gave him a hug.

Clinton had just been anointed the inheritor of Obama's legacy with his vigorous endorsement speech, the candidate who could realize the "promise of this great nation."

"She's been there for us, even if we haven't always noticed," Obama said Wednesday, urging the country to elect the woman he defeated eight years ago.

Obama said: "If you're serious about our democracy, you can't afford to stay home just because she might not align with you on every issue. You've got to get in the arena with her, because democracy isn't a spectator sport. America isn't about 'Yes he will.' It's about 'Yes we can.'"

Wednesday's was the picture of diversity that Democrats have sought to frame the whole week: a black man symbolically seeking to hand the weightiest baton in the free world to a woman.

It culminated a parade of speeches over the last 72 hours — from men and women, gay and straight, white, black and Hispanic, young and old — hoping to cast the Republicans as out-of-touch social conservatives led by an unhinged and unscrupulous tycoon.

Obama said the choice was between "a deeply pessimistic vision of a country where we turn against each other, and turn away from the rest of the world" and "the America I know."

"There is only one candidate in this race who believes in that future, and has devoted her life to it," Obama said.

US may be using anti-drone rifles

The Washington Post

A tweet posted last week by Peter Singer, a co-author of the book "Ghost Fleet" and a strategist at the New America Foundation, shows his book couched up against what appears to be a Battelle DroneDefender anti-drone rifle in a tent at Fire Base Bell outside Makhmour, Iraq.

The proliferation of small, cheap drones has had a lasting effect on the battlefields of the 21st century. From Syria to Ukraine, the devices have been used in myriad ways, from filming propaganda videos to observing enemy locations. The presence of a U.S. anti-drone system, while a seemingly sensible counter-measure against the Islamic State group's fondness for using the remote-controlled aircraft, is a small glimpse into how the American

military is adapting to evolving battlefield threats.

It is unclear when the picture was taken. Now renamed the Kara Soar Counter-Fire Complex, the outpost has been responsible for providing artillery support for Iraqi and Kurdish forces as they attempt to move northwest into the Tigris River Valley.

According to the manufacturer's description, the rifle takes "no extensive training" and "disrupts the adversary's control of the drone, neutralizing it so no remote action, including detonation, can occur." The "nonkinetic" rifle doesn't use bullets.

The system can disrupt the user's control link to their drone as well as its ability to sync with a GPS network. It is unclear what type of frequency the rifle

uses to attack its target, but the size of the dual front-mounted antennas suggest that the disruption pulse is distributed across multiple radio frequency bands. The rifle has a range of roughly 400 yards, will hit a drone in a 30-degree cone and can be ready to use and fire in less than a second, according to the site. Aside from the antennas and the attached battery pack, the anti-drone rifle appears to be very similar to the M-16/M-4 series of rifles carried by U.S. troops, including a similar stock and attachment system for accessories such as scopes and flashlights.

While small drones can be used to observe enemy locations, they can also be used to coordinate indirect-fire weapons such as mortars, rockets and artillery.

Ledecky shies from spotlight

Associated Press

NORTH BETHESDA, Md. — When an athlete is poised to become a huge Olympic star, it's only natural to wonder what might come next.

Hosting "Saturday Night Live," perhaps? Maybe a reality show?

Not so with Katie Ledecky.

She might be one of the world's greatest swimmers, but everything else about her seems downright ordinary.

There is zero interest in the spotlight, just an insatiable desire to keep going faster in the pool.

The 19-year-old doesn't have a driver's license yet, perfectly content to ride to practices and meets with her parents. She enjoys playing board games; no video games for her. She's worked with a charity that collects bicycles and ships them to developing countries. She's a big fan of Bruce Springsteen, despite the generation gap.

Talk about a parent's dream.

When someone brings up the idea of becoming a big star away from the pool — anyone up for a show called "Kickin' It With the Ledeckys"? — Katie and her father erupt in laughter.

"Yeah, that'll happen," the swimmer said, rolling her eyes.

"You've got to get to know us a little better," David Ledecky interjected.

"They can come watch us play a game of Scrabble," Katie added. "That's about it."

There's nothing ordinary about Ledecky when she dives into the pool. Four years ago, not long after arriving on the international scene, she stunningly captured her first Olympic gold medal with a dominating victory in the 800-meter freestyle at London.

Since then, she's basically been unbeatable in a growing repertoire of freestyle events. She captured four golds

at the 2013 world championships in Barcelona, five at the 2014 Pan Pacific Championships, five more at last year's worlds in Kazan. She holds the world record in the 400, 800 and 1,500 free (the latter a non-Olympic event). She won the 200, 400 and 800 free at the U.S. Olympic Trials last month to qualify for her second Olympics and will be among the favorites in all three events in Rio.

Her growing prowess in the 100 free gives her, at the very least, a shot at competing on two relay teams in Brazil, which could set her up for a haul of five gold medals. Only 10 athletes in the history of the Olympics have captured that much gold in a single games, a list that includes such towering figures as Michael Phelps, Eric Heiden and Paavo Nurmi.

More impressive to those she competes against is her ability to pull off historic times pretty much any time she's in the water.

Back in 2014, she eclipsed her own world records in both the 800 and 1,500 free at a low-level meet in suburban Houston. This past January, she set another mark in the 800 at a grand prix meet in Austin, Texas.

In a sport where swimmers normally taper their training to be at their best only for the biggest competitions, Ledecky has hit a reset button on the way things are done.

"It's been incredibly inspiring watching her," said fellow American star Missy Franklin, who won four gold medals in London. "I feel like she's really re-writing the rules of the sport."

In suburban Washington, D.C., Ledecky trains each day with coach Bruce Gemmell and the Nation's Capital Swim Club, a collection of mostly younger swimmers who can only dream of reaching her heights one day.

Over the course of a 2½-hour practice at the Georgetown Preparatory School, an elite boys academy that has turned out

famous alumni ranging from actor John Barrymore to former U.S. Sen. Christopher Dodd, she might swim close to 9,500 yards in the 25-yard pool, a monotonous, back-and-forth grind that separates the true champions from those who only think they're willing to pay the price.

Because there's no one in her class on the female side, she does most of her head-to-head training against the coach's son, Andrew Gemmell, who competed in the 1,500 free at London.

So, what makes Ledecky so special?

Katie comes from a family where high achievement is expected. Her father is an attorney. Her mother, Mary Gen Ledecky, was a top college swimmer. Her older brother, Michael, will be graduating from Harvard next month. In the fall, Katie will head off to Stanford to begin her college life, a transition she delayed a year to prepare for the Olympics, though she did take a couple of classes this past fall at Georgetown — History of China and Comparative Political Systems — just to stay in somewhat of an academic frame of mind. She is still pondering what her major might be, mentioning history and psychology as possibilities.

"Not surprisingly, I get asked to do a lot of talks on her," her coach said. "When I'm preparing to do the talk, I always say to my wife, half-kiddingly, that I want to say, 'She works her ass off and she's tough as nails. Does anybody have any questions?' My wife is like, 'They probably won't pay you for an hour's talk to say that.'"

Turning serious, Gemmell struggles to find the words to explain Ledecky's success.

"She has a real desire to get better," he finally said. "In some ways, I think it's as simple as that."

Nothing too flashy, that's for sure.

Which seems just right for Ledecky. It's just not her style.

Well, except in the pool.

Aussies move into village

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — A near-diplomatic incident — as Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes termed it — came to an end on Wednesday ahead of the Olympics.

The Australian delegation gave the mayor a tiny "boxing kangaroo" doll as the sign of a truce. It also said it's now happy with its rooms at Rio's Olympic Athletes Village.

The 700-member delegation refused to check in three days earlier because of water and gas leaks, electrical shorts, malfunctioning toilets and general filth.

The unfinished village, built at a cost of about \$1.5 billion, marks the first organizational crisis of South America's first Olympics, which open in just over a week. Attention now shifts to dozens of venues, which will be filling up in the next few days with thousands of athletes hoping to practice. Problems here could make village problems seem small.

"It was almost a diplomatic thing," the mayor said, speaking to Australian officials and members of the men's field hockey team at the 31-building village.

Paes apologized and acknowledged Australia's "was the worst building."

"Australia was right," he said. "It was not in good shape. That was a mistake of the organization. What we have to do now is go ahead and organize it. They've got their building now, and I hope things go well from now on."

As his offering, Paes gave delegation head Kitty Chiller the keys to the city, and a doll representing the official mascot Vinicius.

Australian officials said about 50 athletes were living in the village on Wednesday accompanied by almost 100 additional staff members.

Rio organizers said 2,902 people occupied the village on Wednesday — 849 of them athletes.

The village will accommodate 18,000 athletes and staff at its peak, but many delegations are still away at private training venues for a few more days. The crunch should come next week in the run-up to the opening ceremony on Aug. 5.

After battling leaks for a week, Australia complained openly on Sunday. Dozens of other delegations also flagged problems about their rooms, with many calling in their own workmen to fix the problems.

The complaints led to hundreds of cleaners, plumbers, safety inspectors and electricians working 24-7 to resolve the issues.

On Wednesday, Brazilian labor inspectors said they would fine the Rio organizing committee nearly \$100,000 for hiring workers without proper contracts required by law. Inspector Hercules Terra told the Globo network that about 630 workers did not enjoy benefits that protect them from workplace injuries.

The same inspector also said the organizing committee was going to be punished for withholding documents that would show how the employees were hired.

Depleted Russian team leaves for Rio

Associated Press

MOSCOW — A depleted Russian team departed for the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro on Thursday, missing dozens of athletes who were excluded amid the country's doping scandal.

Team members left on a charter flight from Moscow's Sheremetevo airport to Brazil, a day after an emotional farewell ceremony with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the Kremlin.

More than 100 athletes from what was originally a 387-strong team have been barred from competing in Rio by international sports federations under sanctions which most Russian athletes consider unfair.

"We're after medals, that's it," handball player Anna Sen said as she prepared to board the flight. "We need to fight for those athletes who were disqualified."

Volleyball player Sergei Tetyukhin, a four-time Olympic medalist, will be Russia's flagbearer for the opening ceremony in Rio, according to pole vaulter Yelena Isinbayeva.

Isinbayeva, a two-time Olympic gold medalist, has become a de facto spokeswoman for Russian athletes excluded from the Olympics and gave a tearful address to the team in the Kremlin on Wednesday.

No track and field athletes were among the contingent heading for Rio, since the entire track team is banned from competing, except for a single U.S.-based long jumper, following revelations of widespread doping.

The track team did, however, attend the ceremonial farewell with Putin on Wednesday, when the Russian president branded restrictions on Russia as "pure discrimination."

Hours after the plane carrying the Russian team took off, the track and field team gathered across town in a small stadium for what was billed as an Olympic consolation event.

World champions competed against

regional-level athletes in front of around 150 spectators in an event hastily organized after the track team's ban was upheld by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) last week.

Isinbayeva watched from the sidelines, vowing defiance and legal action.

"You can't break Russians," she said. "People have tried to break us down, but it's never worked ... What doesn't kill us makes us stronger."

"My conscience is clean," said long jumper Vasily Kopeikin, another athlete barred from Rio. "Time will show those people who suspended us."

While Russia avoided a blanket ban from the games at a meeting of the International Olympic Committee board on Sunday, the IOC imposed new restrictions on Russia. International sports federations must now remove any athlete previously banned for doping or who was implicated in last week's McLaren report alleging a mass cover up of failed drug tests.



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Chapman debuts in Cubs' win

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Chicago Cubs saved their scoring and drama until the later innings. Aroldis Chapman then capped it in his Cubs' debut, even in a non-save situation.

Javier Baez hit a tiebreaking two-run homer deep into Wrigley Field's left bleachers in the seventh, Addison Russell added a grand slam in a five-run eighth and the Cubs beat the White Sox 8-1 on Wednesday night.

Jason Hammel (10-5) allowed one run and five hits while striking out seven in seven innings. Hector Rondon pitched a perfect eighth, and Chapman pitched a 1-2-3 ninth — striking out Jose Abreu and Avisail Garcia — while hitting speeds of 103 mph.

The sellout crowd of 41,116 buzzed when the hard-throwing lefty entered the game. Afterward, Chapman's teammates were talking as much about him as the late homers.

"I thought we were getting a guy who threw 105. We only got 103," Hammel joked. "That's impressive, jaw-dropping to see."

Chapman had 20 saves in 21 chances this season with the Yankees before the Cubs acquired the hard-throwing lefty on Monday for a package of prospects.

Manager Joe Maddon said it was easier for Chapman to debut when the game wasn't on the line, especially after the lefty struggled answering reporters' questions on Tuesday related to an altercation last year with his girlfriend and ensuing 29-game suspension.

"Good for him to get through the last couple of days and get out there," Maddon said.

Chapman first balked at talking to reporters after the game, but after some negotiations, catcher Miguel Montero served as his translator.

"The adrenaline was pretty good even though it wasn't a save situation," Chapman said. "It was fun to hear the crowd cheering."

Reds 2, Giants 1: Jay Bruce homered in his career-high fifth straight game, connecting off Madison Bumgarner in

Cincinnati's victory over slumping host San Francisco.

Bruce broke a 1-1 tie in the seventh inning with his sixth homer during his five-game streak and 25th of the season.

Nationals 4, Indians 1: Stephen Strasburg shut down Cleveland for seven innings and bounced back from his only loss this season, leading visiting Washington past the Indians.

Strasburg (14-1) began the season with 13 straight wins before he was beaten by the Los Angeles Dodgers on July 21. The powerful right-hander shook off that blemish, holding the Indians to three hits. Strasburg walked one and struck out seven.

Cardinals 5, Mets 4: Yadier Molina and pinch-hitter Kolten Wong each had an RBI double in the ninth inning, and St. Louis rallied past host New York to end Jeurys Familia's saves streak at 52 games.

Yoenis Cespedes hit a go-ahead homer off Adam Wainwright to cap a three-run comeback in the seventh that gave the Mets a 4-3 lead. But then Familia, who hadn't blown a regular-season save opportunity since July 30 last year, finally faltered.

Familia's franchise-record saves streak was the third-longest in major league history behind Tom Gordon (54) and Eric Gagne (84). Jonathan Broxton (3-2) threw a scoreless eighth, and Seung Hwan Oh worked the ninth for his sixth save.

Rays 3, Dodgers 1: Matt Moore pitched four-hit ball into the seventh inning, Evan Longoria hit a two-run homer and Tampa Bay won at Dodger Stadium for the first time.

Tigers 4, Red Sox 3: Miguel Cabrera hit a tiebreaking home run in the ninth inning that bounced off the top of the wall and into Boston's bullpen, lifting Detroit past the host Red Sox for a three-game sweep.

James McCann also hit a solo homer, and Victor Martinez had four singles, a walk and drove in two runs for Detroit. The Tigers have won five of seven.

Rockies 3, Orioles 1: Nick Hundley broke up Dylan Bundy's no-hit bid with a sixth-inning homer, and Colorado used a strong pitching performance by Jon Gray

to beat host Baltimore.

Athletics 6, Rangers 4: Khris Davis homered twice, Coco Crisp also went deep and visiting Oakland beat AL West-leading Texas.

Oakland has won four consecutive series for the first time since May 2014. The A's are 9-4 since the All-Star break.

Marlins 11, Phillies 1: Giancarlo Stanton hit a two-run homer in the first inning to lead a 16-hit attack in host Miami's victory over Philadelphia.

Stanton hit his 22nd homer in support of Adam Conley (7-5), who pitched around eight hits and three walks to throw 6²/₃ scoreless innings.

Padres 8, Blue Jays 4: Adam Rosales hit a two-run home run, Alex Dickerson and Brett Wallace each hit solo shots and San Diego beat host Toronto to avoid a three-game sweep.

Pirates 10, Mariners 1: Gerrit Cole threw a three-hitter for his first career complete game and slumping Andrew McCutchen had a three-run home run and two other hits in host Pittsburgh's victory over Seattle.

Astros 4, Yankees 1: Lance McCullers struck out 10 in six innings, Colby Rasmus broke out of a slump with a two-run homer and host Houston beat New York.

Rasmus snapped an 0-for-29 skid when he sent an off-speed pitch from Masahiro Tanaka (7-3) into the seats behind the bullpen in right-center field to make it 4-0 with in the third.

Diamondbacks 8, Brewers 1: Yasmany Tomas hit two home runs, Archie Bradley pitched seven innings and Arizona took advantage of host Milwaukee's season-high five errors.

Brewers right fielder Kirk Nieuwenhuis had three errors, and shortstop Jonathan two.

Braves 9, Twins 7: Freddie Freeman homered, doubled and tied a career high with five RBIs and visiting Atlanta held off Minnesota for a two-game sweep.

LA's Scioscia protests loss to Royals

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Manager Mike Scioscia is not ready to acknowledge his Los Angeles Angels lost Wednesday night.

Scioscia officially protested the Kansas City Royals' 7-5 victory, claiming Raul Mondesi ran inside the line on a bunt single in the seventh inning, which led to a throwing error and two runners scoring.

Scioscia said he is "100 percent" certain the protest would be upheld.

"It's not a judgment call," Scioscia said. "I would not have protested if I was not 100 percent correct on this. This is a misinterpretation of a rule. It was very clear. Phil Cuzzi, the home plate umpire, had Mondesi running inside the line in jeopardy the whole way, and stated that it's OK because he was stepping back toward the bag, which is wrong."

Matt Shoemaker, who did not allow a base runner until the fifth inning, yielded singles to Alex Gordon and Paulo Orlando to start the seventh. Mondesi, who was called up Tuesday, put down a bunt and beat the throw to first as the throw by Shoemaker (5-11) ricocheted off Mondesi and sailed into right field.

"The question wasn't if the throw impeded him or he impeded the throw," Scioscia said. "It wasn't if he was running inside. It's what I believe is his misinterpretation of the rule, given the guidelines that he gave me. There's no judgment involved. He admitted that [Mondesi] was inside the line. In Phil's head he wasn't in jeopardy because he was stepping toward the bag, which is wrong. That's the basis of the protest."

Both runners scored and Mondesi wound up on third. Jarrod Dyson rifled a triple to right, scoring Mondesi and making all the runs earned. Dyson scored on Alcides Escobar's sacrifice fly.

After a 6 minute, 15 second review the call on the field was not changed.

Jets, Fitzpatrick reach 1-year, \$12M deal

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Fitz Magic has returned and — voila! — the New York Jets are heading into training camp with their starting quarterback under contract.

Finally. The Jets and Ryan Fitzpatrick agreed to terms on a one-year deal Wednesday night, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press. The deal, worth \$12 million guaranteed and could increase to \$15 million in incentives, ends months of speculation and uncertainty at the team's most vital position.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team had not yet announced the signing. ESPN and NFL Network first reported terms of the deal.

Fitzpatrick set the franchise record with a career-high 31 touchdown passes last season while helping lead the Jets on a playoff push in Todd Bowles' first season as coach.

The well-traveled 33-year-old veteran appeared to be a certainty to re-sign in the weeks leading to the start of free agency, but Fitzpatrick and the Jets be-

came locked in a contract stalemate over financial terms.

A deal appeared to be a better possibility two weeks ago, when New York signed defensive end Muhammad Wilkerson to a five-year contract extension. That deal created about \$5.7 million in salary cap space, giving the Jets some more room to work out a contract with Fitzpatrick.

With the Jets reporting to camp on Wednesday and their first practice scheduled for Thursday, both sides worked to hash out the long-expected deal.

Bowles and general manager Mike Maccagnan repeatedly said all offseason that they'd like to have Fitzpatrick back, with the coach saying the veteran would enter camp as the team's starter if he re-signed.

He threw for a career-best 3,905 yards while topping Vinny Testaverde's franchise mark of 29 TDs.

In other NFL news: ■ The Los Angeles Rams released quarterback Nick Foles on Wednesday after failing to find a trade destination for the disgruntled veteran.

The Rams announced the move one day

before their veterans report to training camp for their homecoming season in Southern California.

Foles hasn't been around the Rams since they traded up to choose California quarterback Jared Goff with the No. 1 pick in the draft this spring. The veteran skipped offseason workouts while Los Angeles attempted to trade him.

Foles spent just one disappointing season with the Rams, who acquired him from Philadelphia in a trade for Sam Bradford. Los Angeles also got a second-round pick in the deal, and they used it as part of the package to move up to grab Goff.

■ The Detroit Lions have signed wide receiver Anquan Boldin.

Detroit made the move just before opening training camp on Thursday.

Boldin bolsters depth at a position depleted by the retirement of Calvin Johnson.

Boldin ranks among the NFL's top 20 with 1,009 catches and 13,195 yards receiving. He has scored 75 touchdowns and started 182 games with Arizona, Baltimore and San Francisco over his 13-year career.

The 35-year-old Boldin started 13 games

last season with the 49ers, making 69 catches for 789 yards.

■ Dallas defensive end Randy Gregory is facing a longer suspension over another violation of the NFL's substance-abuse policy, and owner Jerry Jones says he doesn't expect to see the troubled player at training camp in California.

With Gregory already suspended for the first four games this season, Jones said Wednesday that the Cowboys haven't heard from the league about a possible 10-game ban for another failed drug test.

A day after reports that Gregory was in rehab, Jones confirmed the player was undergoing treatment.

"It's very disappointing," Jones said. "But it does point out the difficulty you have with addiction. And there is no question he needs the kind of help and care he is getting right now."

Considered one of the best pass rushers in the 2015 draft, Gregory slid to the Cowboys at the end of the second round after he tested positive for marijuana at the NFL combine. His first suspension was announced in February.