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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Fort Hood search ends; last bodies found

The Washington Post

FORT HOOD, Texas — A flight of helicopters lumbered slowly over Belton Lake here Friday, just downstream from where nine soldiers died when their vehicle overturned in a flash flood.

The incident occurred at about 11 a.m. Central on Thursday at a low-water crossing near the northeastern part of this sprawling Army base, one of the largest in the country. While three soldiers were rescued almost immediately, sonar-equipped boats and rescue crews worked through the night Thursday and all of Friday, searching flooded woods and engorged streams for signs of the four who had been swept away in the rising waters.

About 7 p.m. local time Friday, the Army announced that the bodies of those four soldiers had been found. Bodies of five soldiers were recovered on

Thursday. All the soldiers in the vehicle have now been accounted for.

The deaths of the soldiers in a seemingly avoidable accident are another blow to an Army post that has seen its share of tragedy in recent years. Last year, four soldiers were killed when their Black Hawk helicopter crashed on a routine training mission. In 2014, Spec. Ivan Lopez shot and killed four soldiers, including himself, and wounded 14 others in what was deemed a workplace-violence incident. The shootings by Lopez came five years after a terrorist attack by Maj. Nidal Hasan, who fatally shot 13 people in 2009, many of them soldiers, at one of the base's medical facilities.

The base has "had some big things in our careers that we've responded to," said Lt. Donnie Adams with the Bell County Sheriff's Department.

Chris Haug, a Fort Hood

spokesman, said Friday that base personnel were trying to close a road because it had started to flood when the soldiers' vehicle overturned. Haug said a dozen soldiers were learning to operate a light medium tactical vehicle when it was caught in the rising waters and flipped.

"We were in the process — at the moment of the event — of closing the roads," Haug said at a news conference outside the base Friday morning.

Although the ford point was a designated low-water crossing, Haug said troops regularly had passed through it in similar weather conditions, but he added that the water rose quickly, possibly catching the soldiers off guard.

"It was a tragic accident where we lost five of our soldiers," Maj. Gen. John Uberti, Fort Hood's deputy commanding general, said earlier Friday, while a search was still under-

way for four soldiers. "Due to the quick action of some other soldiers who were training, we were able to rescue three soldiers."

Haug said that personnel in a vehicle behind the tactical vehicle had rescued the three soldiers, who remain hospitalized in stable condition. They were released Friday evening.

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter said Friday that the military would learn from the rash of training accidents in the past week. On Thursday, the day the Fort Hood soldiers died, a U.S. Navy Blue Angel F/A-18 Hornet crashed in Tennessee, killing the pilot.

"[I]n training, we are going to make sure that we learn lessons that we can from investigations that we conduct after these incidents and take actions in the future to prevent such accidents," Carter told reporters during a visit to Singapore.

Troop drawdown in Afghanistan discouraged

BY CHAD GARLAND

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — A planned drawdown of U.S. troops in Afghanistan threatens to set back progress in the 15-year war and could allow extremists to establish a greater foothold there, a group of 13 retired U.S. generals and senior diplomats have warned President Barack Obama.

In an open letter published Friday in *The National Interest*, the former heads of U.S. military and diplomatic efforts in Afghanistan urged the president to maintain current U.S. troop levels in that country through the end of his term.

"It would likely have helpful

effects on refugee flows, the confidence of the Taliban, the morale of the Afghan military and Afghan people, the state of the Afghan economy and perhaps even the strategic assessments of some in Pakistan," they wrote.

The letter was signed by David Petraeus, a former U.S. Army general and CIA director who led U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan; Zalmay Khalilzad and Ryan Crocker, former ambassadors to Afghanistan; and 10 other generals and diplomats.

A troop reduction would have the opposite effects and could create greater insecurity by allowing al-Qaida and the Islamic State group to expand and

causing Afghanistan to "revert to the chaos of the 1990s," the officials asserted.

Their warning came days before U.S. Army Gen. John W. Nicholson was expected to issue a review of the situation for the 90 days since he became the top U.S. commander there. The country's international backers are also set to meet in Warsaw, Poland, in July and in Brussels in October to discuss their continued commitments.

Obama's latest plan, announced last fall, calls for a reduction of U.S. forces by nearly half, from roughly 9,800 to 5,500, by early 2017. He had long planned to pull out nearly all U.S. troops before leaving office.

But since the withdrawal of most international combat forces at the end of 2014, the Afghan military has struggled to beat back the Taliban, who are believed to control the most territory since 2001.

In recent months, military and political leaders have urged a drawdown based on conditions on the ground, rather than a deadline.

A troop-level freeze would allow Obama's successor to assess the situation and "adjust accordingly," the retired generals and diplomats wrote.

"This step would be seen as a positive reaffirmation of America's commitment to that nation, its people and its security."

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Battle for Iraqi town unusual

Associated Press

CAMP TARIQ, Iraq — The battle for Fallujah is shaping up to be unlike any of the other assaults in the Iraqi military's town-by-town war with the Islamic State group.

In the nearly two weeks since the operation began, airstrikes have been used sparingly, Shiite militias so far have been kept to the perimeter, and the initial advance on the symbolically important town has been slow.

U.S.-trained Iraqi counterterrorism forces, wary of coming street battles in the city, already are facing fierce resistance on the outskirts from well-trenched militants. Those fighters are believed to include many foreign jihadis who are considered better trained than the ones

in towns that have been retaken in recent months.

In Ramadi — the last major victory for Iraqi forces against the Islamic State group — many of the militants were able to flee to other strongholds along the Euphrates River valley. Now, all of that territory has been cleared, and the extremists have no escape route from Fallujah.

That suggests a long fight for the city less than an hour's drive west of Baghdad.

While Fallujah is smaller in area than Ramadi, an estimated 50,000 people are trapped in the city, twice as many as were in Ramadi when it was recaptured.

Aid groups say about 1,000 families have managed to flee the outskirts of Fallujah since

the operation began May 22. But the Norwegian Refugee Council, an international humanitarian group that does extensive work in Iraq's Anbar province, says none of the civilians trapped in the center of the city have made it out.

"There is a clear difference between the Fallujah and Ramadi operations," said Iraqi military Brig. Haider al-Obeidi.

The fighters his men are encountering are better trained than those in previous battles, al-Obeidi said.

Military commanders are reporting larger numbers of foreign fighters in Fallujah.

"Their snipers are smart; they hit essential parts of the bulldozers' engines and Humvees' wheels," he said.

US-backed fighters in Syria pushing to stronghold

Associated Press

BEIRUT — U.S.-backed fighters pushed ahead in their offensive in northern Syria on Friday, getting closer to a stronghold of the Islamic State group, opposition activists said.

The predominantly Kurdish Syria Democratic Forces took at least four more villages on the way to the Islamic State-held city of Manbij, according to two activist groups, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and the Local Coordination Committee.

A Russia- and U.S.-brokered truce in Syria began on Feb. 27, but fighting has continued to rage in many areas, particularly around the city of Aleppo, trapping civilians in the cross-fire between government and opposition forces. Syria's five-year civil war has left some 250,000 people dead.

On Wednesday, Syrian Democratic Force fighters, aided by U.S.-led airstrikes, launched their offensive on Manbij, which is on a key supply route linking the Turkish border to the city of Raqqa, the extremist group's de facto capital.

Some 20 Islamic State fighters and four from the SDF have been killed in three days of fighting, the Observatory said. It said that 34 villages are now under SDF control. The group said Abu Layla, the commander of one of the SDF factions known as Shams al-Shammal, was seriously wounded and evacuated to hospital in neighboring Iraq.

The fighting comes as the United Nations Security Council announced Friday it will formally ask Syria to allow humanitarian air drops to be sieged areas. U.N. humanitarian chief Stephen O'Brien warned that access to millions of Syrians in need of help is worsening amid the violence.

DOD official placed on leave after arrest

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A high-level Defense Department official has been placed on administrative leave following his arrest for stealing license plates in a dispute over a neighborhood parking permit, the Pentagon said Thursday.

Bryan Whitman, a civilian leader in the Pentagon's public affairs office, is on leave pending a legal review by human resources officials and has had his security clearance sus-

pending. The review will include questions about his ongoing access to classified information, according to U.S. officials. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

Whitman was charged with three counts of theft for stealing license plates from a car belonging to a neighbor's nanny and leaving a threatening note. The charges, which came to light Wednesday, stunned Pentagon officials and co-workers

and raised questions about a potential Defense Department investigation.

A former member of the Army's Special Forces, Whitman is the principal deputy assistant secretary for public affairs and had been overseeing the Pentagon's community relations office.

Whitman was charged on May 5, and on Tuesday he reached a deferred prosecution agreement with the court for the restitution and community service.

Videos show startling views of Chicago police

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Authorities released hundreds of videos Friday that offer startling glimpses into violent encounters involving Chicago police, including the fatal shooting of a robbery suspect speeding toward them in a van and an incident when an officer slammed his nightstick against a man's head at a party.

The more than 300 video clips — along with audio recordings and police reports — are from 101 incidents investigated by the Independent Police Review Authority. The agency examines misconduct cases and any instance — justified or not — of an officer firing a gun in a manner that could injure someone.

The release marks the start of a new city policy to make

public all video in police shootings and other incidents within 60 days as part of an effort to restore public trust in its beleaguered police force.

The video was captured by police dashcams and bodycams as well as surveillance cameras and bystanders recording on cellphones. Thirty of the 101 cases involve deaths, said IPRA spokeswoman Mia Sissac.

Legendary boxer, activist Ali dies at 74

Associated Press

He was fast of fist and foot — lip, too — a heavyweight champion who promised to shock the world and did. He floated. He stung. Mostly he thrilled, even after the punches had taken their toll and his voice barely rose above a whisper.

He was The Greatest.

Muhammad Ali died Friday at age 74, according to a statement from the family. He was hospitalized in the Phoenix area with respiratory problems earlier this week, and his children had flown in from around the country.

"It's a sad day for life, man. I loved Muhammad Ali, he was my friend. Ali will never die," Don King, who promoted some of Ali's biggest fights, told The Associated Press early Saturday. "Like Martin Luther King his spirit will live on, he stood for the world."

A funeral will be held in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. The city plans a memorial service Saturday.

Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer ordered flags lowered to half-staff to honor Ali.

"The values of hard work, conviction and compassion that Muhammad Ali developed while growing up in Louisville helped him become a global icon," Fischer said. "As a boxer, he became The Greatest, though his most lasting victories happened outside the ring."

With a wit as sharp as the punches he used to "whup" opponents, Ali dominated sports for two decades before time and Parkinson's disease, triggered by thousands of blows to the head, ravaged his magnificent body, muted his majestic voice and ended his storied career in 1981.

He won and defended the heavyweight championship in epic fights in exotic locations, spoke loudly on behalf of blacks, and famously refused to be drafted into the Army during the Vietnam War because of his Muslim beliefs.

Despite his debilitating illness, he traveled the world to rapturous receptions even after his once-bellowing voice was quieted and he was left to communicate with a wink or a weak smile.

"He was the greatest fighter of all time but his boxing career is secondary to his contribution to the world," promoter Bob Arum told the AP early Saturday. "He's the most transforming figure of my time certainly."

Revered by millions worldwide and reviled by millions more, Ali cut quite a figure, 6-foot-3 and 210 pounds in his prime. "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee," his cornermen exhorted, and he did just that in a way no heavyweight had ever fought before.

He fought in three different decades, finished with a record of 56-5 with 37 knockouts — 26 of those bouts promoted by Arum — and was the first man to win heavyweight titles three times.

He whipped the fearsome Sonny Liston twice, toppled the mighty George Foreman with the rope-a-dope in Zaire, and nearly fought to the death with Joe Frazier in the Philippines. Through it all, he was trailed by a colorful entourage who merely added to his growing legend.

"Rumble, young man, rumble," cornerman Bundini Brown would yell to him.

And rumble Ali did. He fought anyone

who meant anything and made millions of dollars with his lightning-quick jab. His fights were so memorable that they had names — "Rumble in the Jungle" and "Thrilla in Manila."

But it was as much his antics — and his mouth — outside the ring that transformed the man born Cassius Clay into a household name as Muhammad Ali.

"I am the greatest," Ali thundered again and again.

Few would disagree.

Ali spurned white America when he joined the Black Muslims and changed his name. He defied the draft at the height of the Vietnam war — "I ain't got no quarrel with them Viet Cong" — and lost 3 1/2 years from the prime of his career. He entertained world leaders, once telling Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos: "I saw your wife. You're not as dumb as you look."

He later embarked on a second career as a missionary for Islam.

"Boxing was my field mission, the first part of my life," he said in 1990, adding with typical braggadocio, "I will be the greatest evangelist ever."

Ali couldn't fulfill that goal because Parkinson's robbed him of his speech. It took such a toll on his body that the sight of him in his later years — trembling, his face frozen, the man who invented the Ali Shuffle now barely able to walk — shocked and saddened those who remembered him in his prime.

"People naturally are going to be sad to see the effects of his disease," Hana, one of his daughters, said, when he turned 65. "But if they could really see him in the calm of his everyday life, they would not be sorry for him. He's at complete peace, and he's here learning a greater lesson."

The quiet of Ali's later life was in contrast to the roar of a career that had breathtaking highs along with terrible lows. He exploded on the public scene with a series of nationally televised fights that gave the public an exciting new champion, and he entertained millions as he sparred verbally with the likes of bombastic sportscaster Howard Cosell.

Ali once calculated he had taken 29,000 punches to the head and made \$57 million in his pro career, but the effect of the punches lingered long after most of the money was gone. That didn't stop him from traveling tirelessly to promote Islam, meet with world leaders and champion legislation dubbed the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act. While slowed in recent years, he still managed to make numerous appearances, including a trip to the 2012 London Olympics.

Despised by some for his outspoken beliefs and refusal to serve in the U.S. Army in the 1960s, an aging Ali became a poignant figure whose mere presence at a sporting event would draw long standing ovations.

With his hands trembling so uncontrollably that the world held its breath, he lit the Olympic torch for the 1996 Atlanta Games in a performance as riveting as some of his fights.

A few years after that, he sat mute in a committee room in Washington, his mere presence enough to convince lawmakers to pass the boxing reform bill that bore his name.

Members of his inner circle weren't surprised. They had long known Ali as a humanitarian who once wouldn't think twice

about getting in his car and driving hours to visit a terminally ill child. They saw him as a man who seemed to like everyone he met — even his archrival Frazier.

"I consider myself one of the luckiest guys in the world just to call him my friend," former business manager Gene Kilroy said. "If I was to die today and go to heaven it would be a step down. My heaven was being with Ali."

One of his biggest opponents would later become a big fan, too. On the eve of the 35th anniversary of their "Rumble in the Jungle," Foreman paid tribute to the man who so famously stopped him in the eighth round of their 1974 heavyweight title fight, the first ever held in Africa.

"I don't call him the best boxer of all time, but he's the greatest human being I ever met," Foreman said. "To this day he's the most exciting person I ever met in my life."

Born Cassius Marcellus Clay on Jan. 17, 1942, in Louisville, Ky., Ali began boxing at age 12 after his new bicycle was stolen and he vowed to policeman Joe Martin that he would "whup" the person who took it.

He was only 89 pounds at the time, but Martin began training him at his boxing gym, the beginning of a six-year amateur career that ended with the light heavyweight Olympic gold medal in 1960.

Ali had already encountered racism. On boxing trips, he and his amateur teammates would have to stay in the car while Martin bought them hamburgers. When he returned to Louisville with his gold medal, the Chamber of Commerce presented him a citation but said it didn't have time to co-sponsor a dinner.

In his autobiography, "The Greatest," Ali wrote that he tossed the medal into the Ohio River after a fight with a white motorcycle gang, which started when he and a friend were refused service at a Louisville restaurant.

After he beat Liston to win the heavyweight title in 1964, Ali shocked the boxing world by announcing he was a member of the Black Muslims — the Nation of Islam — and was rejecting his "slave name."

As a Baptist youth he spent much of his time outside the ring reading the Bible. From now on, he would be known as Muhammad Ali and his book of choice would be the Quran.

Ali's affiliation with the Nation of Islam outraged and disturbed many white Americans, but it was his refusal to be inducted into the Army that angered them most.

That happened on April 28, 1967, a month after he knocked out Zora Folley in the seventh round at Madison Square Garden in New York for his eighth title defense.

He was convicted of draft evasion, stripped of his title and banned from boxing.

Ali appealed the conviction on grounds he was a Muslim minister. He married 17-year-old Belinda Boyd, the second of his four wives, a month after his conviction, and had four children with her. He had two more with his third wife, Veronica Porsche, and he and his fourth wife, Lonnie Williams, adopted a son.

During his banishment, Ali spoke at colleges and briefly appeared in a Broadway musical called "Big Time Buck White." Still facing a prison term, he was allowed to resume boxing three years later, and he came back to stop Jerry Quarry in three

rounds on Oct. 26, 1970, in Atlanta despite efforts by Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox to block the bout.

He was still facing a possible prison sentence when he fought Frazier for the first time on March 8, 1971, in what was labeled "The Fight of the Century."

A few months later the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the conviction on an 8-0 vote.

"I've done my celebrating already," Ali said after being informed of the decision. "I said a prayer to Allah."

Many in boxing believe Ali was never the same fighter after his lengthy layoff, even though he won the heavyweight championship two more times and fought for another decade.

Perhaps his most memorable fight was the "Rumble in the Jungle," when he upset a brooding Foreman to become heavyweight champion once again at age 32.

Many worried that Ali could be seriously hurt by the powerful Foreman, who had knocked Frazier down six times in a second round TKO.

But while his peak fighting days may have been over, he was still in fine form verbally. He promoted the fight relentlessly, as only he could.

"You think the world was shocked when Nixon resigned," he said. "Wait till I whup George Foreman's behind."

Ali pulled out a huge upset to win the heavyweight title for a second time, allowing Foreman to punch himself out. He used what he would later call the "rope-a-dope" strategy — something even trainer Angelo Dundee knew nothing about.

Finally, he knocked out an exhausted Foreman in the eighth round, touching off wild celebrations among his African fans.

By the time Ali was able to return to the ring following his forced layoff, he was bigger than ever. Soon he was in the ring for his first of three epic fights against Frazier, with each fighter guaranteed \$2.5 million.

In the first fight, though, Frazier had the upper hand. He relentlessly wore Ali down, flooring him with a crushing left hook in the 15th round and winning a decision.

It was the first defeat for Ali, but the boxing world had not seen the last of him and Frazier in the ring. Ali won a second fight, and then came the "Thrilla in Manila" on Oct. 1, 1975, in the Philippines, a brutal bout that Ali said afterward was "the closest thing to dying" he had experienced.

Ali won that third fight but took a terrific beating from the relentless Frazier before trainer Eddie Futch kept Frazier from answering the bell for the 15th round.

he fight — which most in boxing agree was Ali's last great performance — was part of a 16-month period on the mid-1970s when Ali took his show on the road, fighting Foreman in Zaire, Frazier in the Philippines, Joe Bugner in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and Jean Pierre Coopman in Puerto Rico.

For his part, Ali didn't complain about the price he had paid in the ring.

"What I suffered physically was worth what I've accomplished in life," he said in 1984. "A man who is not courageous enough to take risks will never accomplish anything in life."



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Muguruza stuns Serena in final

Associated Press

PARIS — Garbine Muguruza won her first Grand Slam title by beating defending champion Serena Williams 7-5, 6-4 at the French Open on Saturday, denying the American her record-equaling 22nd major trophy.

The fourth-seeded Muguruza, a 22-year-old from Spain, used her big groundstrokes to keep No. 1 Williams off-balance and overcame signs of nerves in the form of nine double-faults to pull off the surprise.

"I can't explain with words what this day means to me" Muguruza said, and that "for Spain and for me this is just amazing."

Muguruza also managed to deal with Williams' dangerous serve, breaking three consecutive times from late in the first set to early in the second.

Asked if she had some physical issues during her match, Williams said: "It was OK. I'm not one to ever make excuses and say, like, 'Oh, my adductor was hurting,' or whatever. At the end of the day I didn't play the game I needed to play to win and she did. Adductor or not, she played to win."

Williams was then asked about what made the difference in the match. Her verdict? Muguruza was the better player on important points.

"She won the first set by one point. I mean, that just goes to show you [that]

you really have to play the big points well, and she played the big points really well."

This was Muguruza's second major final; she lost to Williams at Wimbledon last year. But Muguruza has won her past two matches against Williams on the clay of Roland Garros, including in the second round in 2014.

For Williams, whose timing was not exactly right much of the afternoon, Saturday's loss delayed yet again her pursuit of matching Steffi Graf with 22 Grand Slam singles championships, the most in the Open era, which began in 1968. Margaret Court holds the all-time record of 24.

Williams got No. 21 at Wimbledon in 2015, her fourth major title in a row. But since then, she has been beaten in the semifinals at the U.S. Open by Roberta Vinci last September, in the final at the Australian Open by Angelique Kerber in January, and now by Muguruza. This is the first time in Williams' career she has lost back-to-back Grand Slam finals.

This year's visit to Paris hardly could have started off more inauspiciously for Muguruza: She lost the very first set she played in the tournament, against 38th-ranked Anna Karolina Schmiedlova.

But, oh, how Muguruza turned things around from there. She won the next 14 sets she played, displaying the deep groundstrokes and take-the-ball-early aggressiveness that flustered Williams.

The final began under a slate ceiling of clouds, but at least there was none of the heavy rain that led to flooding in Paris and a temporary shutdown of the Louvre museum. All those showers jumbled the tournament schedule, forcing Williams to be in action for a fourth straight day in the final.

Muguruza won the prematch coin toss and let Williams serve first, a fascinating choice given that Williams is widely regarded as the best server in the women's game, perhaps ever. And the decision seemed only more dubious as Muguruza managed to put the ball on play on only one of the first six points Williams served. On one early point, Muguruza whiffed completely on an attempted backhand return of an 89 mph high-kicking second serve.

And yet, it all wound up working out. Muguruza broke a total of four times, twice in each set.

Williams had difficulty putting shots right where she wanted, an unusual sight. She wound up with 39 forced errors, 18 more than Muguruza.

Muguruza held four match points while leading 5-3 as Williams served. But it would not end right there. Williams, resilient as they come, staved off the full quartet, forcing Muguruza to try to serve for the victory. And that she did, converting her fifth match point, the last she would need, with a delightful lob that landed right on the opposite baseline.

US blanked by Colombia in opener

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The United States would have preferred a far better first impression in the Copa America opener.

Now, the Americans find themselves under the pressure of needing to win.

Cristian Zapata scored his first international goal, James Rodriguez added a 42nd-minute penalty kick and Colombia beat the United States 2-0 Friday night.

"It's obviously disappointing and frustrating because I think they were there for the taking," defender Geoff Cameron said. "You want to get into the tournament with some momentum. ... We have two more opportunities to win out. You can't dwell on it."

U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann spoke about the importance of a strong showing in this special edition 100th anniversary Copa to create buzz for a potential 2026 World Cup bid. Instead, the 31st-ranked Americans began the biggest tournament at home since the 1994 World Cup with a dud as new FIFA President Gianni Infantino watched among the announced sellout crowd of 67,439.

"We always were maybe a step or two too late," midfielder Jermaine Jones said.

Cameron lost his mark on the first goal, and following a turnover by U.S. captain Michael Bradley, DeAndre Yedlin left a raised arm that led to a hand ball call and Rodriguez's penalty kick. Colombia attacked at every chance, with Carlos Bacca putting a shot of the crossbar in the 77th minute.

"That penalty decision was a major point in this game. But it is what it is, you cannot change it anymore," said Klinsmann, who considered "we were absolutely even" aside from two hard-luck goals.

The Americans will look to rebound on Tuesday against Costa Rica at Chicago. They close their group stage four days later against Paraguay at Philadelphia.

"Now the response has to be strong and the mentality has to be right," Bradley said.

Clint Dempsey, a 33-year-old veteran of three World Cups, had the three best U.S. chances in the Americans' first Copa appearance in nine years.

"Clint was a warrior out there giving everything he had," Klinsmann said. "He was really fighting that fight very positively 'til the very last second, so we wish that one goes in then you build on that one."

NC State beats Navy 13-8 in NCAA regionals

RALEIGH, N.C. — Chance Shepard hit a grand slam, one of North Carolina State's five home runs, and the Wolfpack beat Navy 13-8 in a game that ended early Saturday after a long weather delay.

Preston Palmeiro, Andrew Knizner, Brett Kinneman and Josh McLain homered for the top-seeded Wolfpack (36-20).

Four homers came during a seven-run fifth inning and advanced the Wolfpack to a matchup with second-seeded Coastal Carolina on Saturday night.

Shepard's drive came after fourth-seeded Navy (42-15-1) pulled to 8-5 with a five-run seventh.

After Knizner homered in the fifth, play was held up for 3 hours, 8 minutes while lightning and thunderstorms passed through. Once play resumed, Kinneman sent a pitch from Jett Meenach over the wall in right-center. McLain homered to left two batters later.

Robert Currie, Sean Trent and Stephen Born all had two RBIs for Navy.

Kim, Trumbo help Orioles rally past Yanks

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — South Korea's Hyun Soo Kim and teammate Mark Trumbo had three hits apiece and Chris Davis homered to lift the Baltimore Orioles to a 6-5 win over the New York Yankees on Friday night.

After the Yankees used three home runs to build a 5-2 lead, Baltimore turned it around against Nathan Eovaldi and the New York bullpen. The Orioles scored three runs in the sixth inning to pull even, then used two singles and a run-scoring groundout by Manny Machado to go ahead in the seventh.

Carlos Beltran, Alex Rodriguez and Austin Romine homered for the Yankees, who have lost seven of 10. Dellin Betances (2-3) took the loss in relief.

Angels 9, Pirates 2: Jered Weaver allowed two runs over six innings and Kole Calhoun homered to lead Los Angeles over host Pittsburgh.

Calhoun, Johnny Giavotella, Yunel Escobar, Mike Trout, Carlos Perez and Shane Robinson each had two of the Angels' 14 hits. Los Angeles scored in each of the first four innings.

Blue Jays 5, Red Sox 2: R.A. Dickey took a no-hit bid into the sixth inning and visiting Toronto stopped Xander Bogaerts' 26-game hitting streak and Boston with this win.

The Red Sox have lost six of their last nine games. Boston tied its longest losing streak of the season with its third consecutive defeat.

Dodgers 4, Braves 2: Corey Seager hit three solo homers, the second driving in the go-ahead run in the sixth inning, to help host Los Angeles beat Atlanta.

It was the second multi-homer game of Seager's career, with the young shortstop blasting two against the Cardinals on May 15. He became the first Dodgers rookie with three homers in a game since Don Demeter on April 21, 1959, against the

Giants at the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Cubs 6, Diamondbacks 0: John Lackey struck out nine while pitching into the seventh inning as Chicago pulled away late to beat visiting Arizona for its ninth win in 10 games.

Chicago improved to 7-1 on its 10-game homestand and 38-15 overall, the best record in the majors. The Diamondbacks lost for the eighth time in 11 games.

Reds 7, Nationals 2: Eugenio Suarez got his third homer in two games with the help of a replay overturn as Cincinnati spoiled manager Dusty Baker's homecoming by overpowering visiting Washington.

The Reds matched their season high with their third straight win — only the third time they've put together a streak that long. Zack Cozart and Adam Duvall hit solo shots for Cincinnati.

Mets 6, Marlins 2: Noah Syndergaard gave up a homer to Marcell Ozuna on a 100-mph fastball, but struck out nine in seven innings to help New York beat host Miami.

Indians 6, Royals 1: Danny Salazar allowed one run and struck out nine in eight innings to help host Cleveland defeat Kansas City.

The Indians have won four of five over the defending World Series champions and trail the AL Central-leading Royals by a half-game.

Rangers 7, Mariners 3: Adrian Beltre homered, doubled and drove in five runs, leading Yu Darvish and Texas over visiting Seattle in a matchup of AL West leaders.

Texas and Seattle, who play six times in 10 days, went into the game tied for the division lead. The Rangers have won five of six overall.

Giants 5, Cardinals 1: Johnny Cueto worked around a season-worst five walks to post his ninth win, tying for the major league lead, as visiting San Francisco beat St. Louis.

Cueto (9-1) allowed a run on four hits in six innings with one strikeout. He hadn't walked more than two in any of his first 11 starts for his new team. Cueto is among four nine-game winners, joining Stephen Strasburg, Jake Arrieta and Chris Sale. Six of Cueto's victories have come on the road.

Adam Wainwright (5-4) allowed two runs in seven innings. The Cardinals were held to one run for the second straight game.

Padres 4, Rockies 0: Matt Kemp hit a three-run homer estimated at 458 feet, matching the longest at Petco Park, and Drew Pomeranz pitched seven innings of two-hit ball as the San Diego Padres bounced back from Thursday night's meltdown to beat the Colorado Rockies.

The Padres won a night after a bullpen meltdown so big that manager Andy Green called it "borderline inexplicable." The Padres blew a 12-2 lead to the Seattle Mariners, who scored 14 times in two innings to win 16-13. It was the biggest comeback in Mariners history and the biggest collapse in Padres history.

Phillies 6, Brewers 3: Cameron Rupp homered and doubled and Andres Blanco also went deep to help host Philadelphia snap its season-worst seven-game losing streak with a victory over Milwaukee.

Tigers 10, White Sox 3: James McCann had three hits, including a triple and a homer, and Detroit went on to beat visiting Chicago.

Astros 12, Athletics 2: Evan Gattis tied a career high with four hits, including a homer, and had four RBIs on Friday night as host Houston took seven runs from Oakland starter Jesse Hahn in the first inning and cruised past the Athletics.

Rays 4, Twins 2: Brad Miller hit a tie-breaking single in the eighth inning as visiting Tampa Bay ended a five-game losing streak with a win over Minnesota.