

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Mattis: Troops in S. Korea not subject to negotiation

BY KIM GAMEL  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — The fate of U.S. troops in South Korea won't be up for negotiation during President Donald Trump's June 12 summit with North Korea, the U.S. defense secretary said.

Saturday's comments by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis came hours after Trump confirmed he would hold nuclear talks with Kim Jong Un in Singapore, reversing last month's announcement that he was canceling the summit.

Underscoring the sensitivity of the issue, the North on Sunday renewed its criticism of Seoul for planning to join Washington in military exercises, despite the allies' insistence that the drills are defensive in nature.

Mattis said "any discussion about the number of U.S. troops" would be between Washington and Seoul, and the issue was "separate and distinct from the negotiations that are going on with (North Korea)."

"That issue will not come up in the discussions with (North Korea) and as you all recognize, those troops are there as a recognition of a security challenge," he said Saturday.

Trump sought to lower expectations for the meeting, backing away from previous calls for the North to abandon its nuclear weapons program quickly in exchange for security assurances and other benefits.

"It will be a beginning. I don't say and I've never said it happens in one meeting," he said Friday after meeting with Kim Yong Chol, the most senior North Korean official to visit the United States in 18 years.

Kim delivered a letter from the North Korean leader.

"You're talking about years of hostility; years of problems; years of, really, hatred between so many different nations," Trump said. "Now we're going to deal, and we're going to really start a process."

In separate remarks Sunday, Mattis told his South Korean and Japanese counterparts that he hoped the diplomatic process would work but the militaries must remain strong.

"We can anticipate, at best, a bumpy road to the negotiations," the defense secretary said at the start of a trilateral meeting on the final day of the Shangri-La Dialogue.

He stressed that international economic sanctions aimed at punishing the North for its nuclear activities would remain in place until a deal is made.

"North Korea will receive relief only when it demonstrates verifiable and irreversible steps to denuclearization," he said.

The presence of some 28,500 American servicemembers in the South is the cornerstone of the alliance between the two countries that fought together against the communist-backed North in the 1950-53 Korean War.

Washington also extends protection to Japan and South Korea under its so-called nuclear umbrella.

Trump said last month that the troop presence would not be on the table, although he added that he would like to "save the money" in the future. That suggests he may reconsider the issue as part of bilateral negotiations over cost-sharing with the South.

North Korea has demanded

the removal of U.S. troops as a condition for peace in past negotiations.

Officials say North Korea hasn't raised the issue in the current talks, but it canceled a high-level inter-Korean meeting to protest joint military exercises on the divided peninsula last month.

Sunday's commentary in state-run media singled out international maritime drills beginning later this month in Hawaii and annual U.S.-South Korean war games known as Ulchi Freedom Guardian expected in August.

"The racket of seeking military confrontation with the compatriots in the north can never be justified as it is against the unanimous demand of all Koreans and the trend of the times," the Korean Central News Agency said, citing a commentary in the Minju Joson newspaper.

North Korea regularly denounces the military exercises, which it considers rehearsal for an invasion, but such criticism takes on added significance amid the flurry of diplomacy.

U.S. troops in South Korea as well as on bases in Japan and Guam also are seen as a counterbalance to Chinese influence in the region.

A key reason China, the North's main ally and economic lifeline, supports Pyongyang is to maintain a buffer zone between the Americans and its borders.

Mattis vowed to "hold the line" with South Korea as an ally and stressed the U.S. goal was the "complete, verifiable and irreversible ... denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," according to a Defense Department transcript.

## US Marine saves diver off Okinawa

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
*Stars and Stripes*

Gunnery Sgt. Scott Dahn was assisting his wife with an underwater rescue course last month at Maeda Point, Okinawa, when he noticed a Chinese scuba diver flailing in panic.

Ching-Yi Sze — who was honeymooning on the southern Japanese island prefecture during the May 20 incident — ripped off her mask. When a dive leader put it back on, she pulled out her regulator, which he also replaced, said Dahn, who initially assumed the two were training. But when the woman again removed her mask and regulator, Dahn — a 3rd Maintenance Battalion training chief based at Camp Kinser — immediately responded.

When Dahn reached Ching-Yi, who was 30 feet away, he put the regulator back in her mouth. She spat it out, so he grabbed it and pushed against her teeth until she opened up, he said. Dahn then held the regulator to her face and signaled to the dive leader they needed to head up.

By the time they reached the surface, Ching-Yi was unresponsive and barely breathing. Her lips were blue, her eyes had rolled back into her head and she was foaming at the mouth because of the saltwater she had ingested. Dahn inflated her buoyancy-control vest and began towing her to shore.

When they reached land, he carried her up several flights of stairs and helped her breathe through an oxygen tank while his wife, April, called for paramedics.

Ching-Yi made a full recovery after a short hospital stay and finished her honeymoon with a snorkeling trip before returning to Hong Kong, Dahn said.

# Sex assault survivor wins discharge battle

BY DIANNA CAHN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — His assailants were relentless.

Heath Phillips was 17 — a fresh, young sailor on his first Navy ship. There, a gang of six sailors zeroed in on their prey, raping and beating him repeatedly. He tried reporting them, but for 45 days, his superiors shrugged off his complaints and sent him back for more.

Terrified, Phillips went absent without leave. He got caught and sent back and was molested again, so he went AWOL again.

After five times, desperate to get out, he agreed to an “other than honorable” discharge from the Navy.

He’s been fighting to get that reversed ever since.

He told his story to anyone who would listen. He became the voice of male sexual trauma in the military. He helped advocate for other survivors and stood before Congress, testifying to his own shame and trauma as he pressed for reform.

He appealed three times to the naval corrections board to change his status to honorable. Three times he was rejected.

But Phillips, too, was relentless.

Last week, nearly 29 years after he was discharged, his doggedness paid off. In response

to his fourth try, the Board for Correction of Naval Records agreed on Wednesday to overturn his record and grant him an honorable discharge.

“For 25-plus years, I have been plagued with the stigma of having an other than honorable discharge because I was raped and retaliated against,” said Phillips, now 47, who struggled with anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, nightmares and alcoholism.

“I have 20 years of my life I won’t get back,” he said. “What pushes and drives me is that I don’t want anyone else to ever go through that.”

The board not only upgraded Phillips’ original discharge designation but it granted him more than he’d requested — giving him an RE-1J code, which means he was eligible to re-enlist, but he declined.

It was almost unheard of.

“Kind of like lightning striking twice,” said Col. Don Christensen, a former military judge and president of Protect our Defenders, which is fighting to end the scourge of rape in the military.

Christensen said the deck was stacked against Phillips when he opted for discharge rather than court-martial all those years ago — even if it was just to get away from his assailants.

But the fact that the case was

so old and attempts to overturn it had been rejected made the outcome all the more rare.

“That’s what makes his case in particular such an amazing success,” Christensen said, noting that to him, it showed that the perspective of military correction boards is changing.

“I think it’s a good sign they are moving in the right direction,” he said. “But the sad thing is the military isn’t getting the message, and we are still seeing people getting the same treatment Heath got back in the ’80s with a huge retaliation problem.”

According to the latest data released in January, 14,900 members of the military were sexually assaulted in 2016 — 8,600 women and 6,300 men. Many were assaulted repeatedly, nearly tripling the number of assaults. One in four women and one in three men were assaulted by someone in their chain of command.

Most cases still go unreported, and of those who do report, 58 percent of women and 60 percent of men faced retaliation — mostly from within their chain of command. A third of those who report sexual assault leave the military within a year, Christensen said. And victims receive harsher discharges, with 24 percent separated under less than honorable conditions — a

rate far higher than the general military population.

After he was released from the Navy, Phillips, still not 18, was not doing well. He was anxious all the time. He couldn’t sleep and had nightmares.

It wasn’t until 2009 — 20 years after his discharge — that Phillips sought help. It was the morning after he tried to kill himself by driving into a tree, he said. “It’s the road I still drive today — there are so many trees that are perfect,” he said. “I thank God I was too drunk to find one of them.”

After that, Phillips started fighting to take his life back. In 2015, he won his Department of Veterans Affairs rights through the board of veterans appeals in Washington. He is now rated a 100 percent service-connected disability for PTSD.

And he joined forces with other advocacy groups to reform the military’s treatment of rape and sexual assault cases and to protect those who report assault from retaliation.

Phillips took his fight public. He is one of a very few male victims of sexual assault who openly tells his story.

“When you see someone like Heath come forward and be public and then, ultimately, have success, it’s going to inspire other men that they can come forward, too,” Christensen said.

## Iwakuni dedicates health clinic to Vietnam War hero

BY JAMES BOLINGER  
*Stars and Stripes*

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — A health clinic that opened at the largest U.S. Marine base on mainland Japan on Thursday has been named for a hospital corpsman awarded a posthumous Navy Cross for valor during the Vietnam War.

The Robert M. Casey Naval Family Branch Clinic at MCAS Iwakuni honors the corpsman, who rendered aid to members of the 1st Marine Division de-

spite his own wounds on May 16, 1968.

The facility, funded by the U.S. Navy and the Japanese government, took two years to build and was supposed to open late last year, replacing an older clinic.

The opening was delayed by slower-than-expected construction and manning shortages, said Erika Figueroa, a spokeswoman for U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka.

The number of medical staff at Iwakuni has slowly increased as the Navy moved squadrons

from Carrier Air Wing 5 to the base.

“We wanted to make sure we had the right people in place and enough manning with civilian and military providers,” Figueroa said. “There will be surgeries performed there, specifically C-sections, so having the right people in place is important.”

The facility is the only one of its type in the Pacific that can deliver babies and provide obstetrical surgeries, Figueroa said. It began providing outpatient care last month and has a

24-hour maternal infant center with six labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum suites that weren’t available at the old clinic. It also has two obstetrics-related surgical suites.

“Enhancing and expanding the services available to our Marines, sailors and their families in this state-of-the-art health care facility results directly from Navy Medicine’s commitment to preserve the health and readiness of those entrusted to our care,” said Rear Adm. Paul Pearigen, chief of the Navy Medical Corps.

# Air Force boosting number of promotions

BY WILLIAM HOWARD

*Stars and Stripes*

The number of airmen who can earn immediate performance-based promotions will nearly double in the coming fiscal year, Air Force officials announced.

Available slots throughout the Air Force for the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program, or STEP, will rise to 180 in October from 96, the service said in a statement Thursday.

The Air Force will release full guidance and a breakdown of how many slots each command will receive on its person-

nel website at <https://mypers.af.mil>.

“Increasing STEP allocations is another way we’re empowering commanders at every level to identify and reward their top performers,” Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein said in a statement.

The STEP program allows major commands, field operating agencies, direct reporting unit commanders and senior Air Force officers with large enlisted populations to promote airmen to the ranks of staff sergeant through master sergeant.

Selections for STEP promotions are based on recom-

mendations from subordinate commanders with personal knowledge of airmen — the intent being to avoid time-consuming administrative boards.

“Not only does this help support our senior leaders’ focus on revitalizing squadrons but it also helps to save (airmen’s) time,” Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Kaleth O. Wright said in a statement.

Only one STEP promotion is allowed during an airman’s career, with selections based on multiple achievements rather than isolated acts of heroism.

Two examples of top performers from the Air Force’s STEP

guidelines include a technical sergeant who recruits three times the number of quality enlistees than in the previous year at an underperforming detachment while starting innovative programs for future recruiting, and a staff sergeant involved in long exercises who for six months filled her own position and that of a senior master sergeant. Her work unit was judged noteworthy based on major improvements to the exercise.

For STEP eligibility, airmen must meet minimum Air Force time-in-service requirements and have completed their professional military education.

## US Marine taken into custody after fatal crash

BY HANA KUSUMOTO

*Stars and Stripes*

TOKYO — An Okinawa-based Marine was in Japanese police custody Friday, days after his car collided with a motorcycle, killing its driver.

Cpl. Mauricio Ambriz Ca-

macho, 21, was driving in Nago city about 2 p.m. on May 27 when he reportedly crossed the center line of a curved roadway and ran head-on into an oncoming motorcycle, a Nago police spokesman said.

The motorcyclist — a 45-

year-old Okinawan man — was taken to a hospital and died later of hemorrhagic shock caused by whole-body contusion.

Camacho, who is assigned to Camp Hansen, was arrested on suspicion of negligent driving causing injury.

Because the motorcyclist later died, police last Tuesday referred the case to the prosecutors as negligent driving causing death, the spokesman said.

Police are investigating the incident but said alcohol was not involved.

## Young Marine in training dies a week after reporting

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS

*Stars and Stripes*

A teenage Marine died May 25 during a training run on Okinawa — just one week after arriving at his new duty station.

Donavan Macura, 19, of Kalispell, Mont., was on a 3-mile run when he suddenly dropped

to one knee, had a seizure and collapsed, according to the Daily Inter Lake newspaper, of Kalispell. Family members were unaware of any previous medical conditions that could have caused his death.

Macura — whose rank was not immediately available — had left Camp Pendleton,

Calif., for Okinawa on May 19, the Marine’s friends said on social media.

Macura enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school, according to the Flathead Beacon.

His high school wrestling coach told the Montana newspaper that Macura “stood for

what the Marines stand for: doing the right things, working hard, being disciplined, watching out for each other.”

Macura would have turned 20 years old on Thursday.

A Marine Corps spokesman called Macura’s death a “regrettable loss” and said the incident is under investigation.

## Large, newly renovated base exchange opens at Yokota

BY SETH ROBSON

*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — A massive, newly renovated base exchange officially opened Friday at the home of U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force in western Tokyo.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has added 25,000 feet of floor space to its largest facility at Yokota so that it can accommodate products that were sold at a BXtra shop on the west side of the installation that shut down last year.

Expanded to 70,000 square

feet, the store now sells everything from furniture, sporting goods and gardening supplies to electronics, clothing and alcohol.

Shops and restaurants that were on the second floor of the Yokota Community Center — a mall that accommodates

the exchange — have moved downstairs.

Crowds of shoppers flooded aisles during Friday’s “re-grand opening,” filling shopping carts with discounted products after officials cut a ribbon and a cake to reopen the facility.

# Lawyers: Trump can't be compelled to testify

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lawyers composed a secret, 20-page letter to special counsel Robert Mueller to assert that he cannot be forced to testify, while arguing that he could not have committed obstruction because he has absolute authority over all federal investigations.

The existence of the letter, which was first reported and posted by The New York Times on Saturday, was a bold assertion of presidential power and another front on which Trump's lawyers have argued that the president can't be subpoenaed in the special counsel's ongoing investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

The letter is dated Jan. 29 and addressed to Mueller from John Dowd, one of Trump's lawyers at the time who has since resigned. In the letter, Trump's lawyers argue that a charge of illegal obstruction is moot because the Constitution empowers the president to, "if he wished, terminate the inquiry, or even exercise his power to pardon."

Mueller has requested an interview with the president to determine whether he had criminal intent to obstruct the investigation into his associates' possible links to Russia's election interference. Trump had previously signaled that he would be willing to sit for an interview, but his legal team, including Rudy Giuliani, have pri-

vately and publicly expressed concern that the president could risk charges of perjury.

If Trump does not consent to an interview, Mueller will have to decide whether to seek a historic grand jury subpoena. His team raised the possibility in March of subpoenaing the president, but it is not clear if it is still under active consideration. Giuliani has told The Associated Press that the president's legal team believes the special counsel does not have the authority to do so.

A court battle is likely if Trump's team argues that the president can't be forced to answer questions or be charged with obstruction of justice. President Bill Clinton was charged with obstruction in 1998 by the

House of Representatives as part of his impeachment trial. And one of the articles of impeachment prepared against Richard Nixon in 1974 was for obstruction.

Topics of Mueller's obstruction investigation include the firings of both former FBI Director James Comey and former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn, as well as Trump's reaction to Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recusal from the Russia investigation.

Giuliani has said a decision will not be made about a possible presidential interview with the special counsel until after Trump's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un on June 12 in Singapore.

## Study: Breast cancer doesn't mean chemo

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Most women with the most common form of early stage breast cancer can safely skip chemotherapy without hurting their chances of beating the disease, doctors are reporting from a landmark study that used genetic testing to gauge each patient's risk.

The study is the largest done of breast cancer treatment, and the results are expected to spare up to 70,000 patients a year in the U.S. and more elsewhere the ordeal and expense of those drugs.

"The impact is tremendous," said the study leader, Dr. Joseph Sparano, of Montefiore Medical Center in New York. Most women in this situation don't need treatment beyond surgery and hormone therapy, and "the rest of them are receiving chemotherapy unnecessarily."

The study was funded by the National Cancer Institute, some foundations and proceeds from the U.S. breast cancer postage stamp. Results were discussed Sunday at an American Society of Clinical Oncology conference in Chicago and published by the New England Journal of Medi-

cine. Some study leaders consult for breast cancer drugmakers or for the company that makes the gene test.

Cancer care has been evolving away from chemotherapy in favor of gene-targeting therapies, hormone blockers and immune system treatments. When chemo is used now, it's sometimes for shorter periods or lower doses than it once was.

The breast cancer study focused on cases where chemo's value increasingly is in doubt: women with early stage cancer that has not spread to the lymph nodes, is hormone-positive (meaning its growth is fueled by estrogen or progesterone) and is not the type that the drug Herceptin targets.

The study gave 10,273 patients a test called Oncotype DX, which uses a biopsy sample to measure the activity of genes involved in cell growth and response to hormone therapy, to estimate the risk that a cancer will recur.

About 17 percent of women had high-risk scores and were advised to have chemo. The 16 percent with low-risk scores now know they can skip chemo, based on earlier study results.

## Fans line up for Wyo.'s 1st legal bare-knuckle match

Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — The first state-sanctioned bare-knuckle boxing match got a bloody ending Saturday night — and a big response from a raucous crowd.

Arnold Adams, 32, an MMA heavyweight, pounded ex-UFC fighter D.J. Linderman's face into a bloody mess in front of 2,000 rowdy fans at a hockey rink that usually hosts birthday parties and skating lessons in Wyoming's capital. Tens of thousands more tuned in for the pay-per-view event, which featured 10 bouts, including four heavyweight fights in a tournament format.

Fans were lined up outside the Cheyenne Ice and Events Center more than an hour before the first major bare-knuckle event in the U.S. since 1889. Forrest Peters, from Cheyenne, was among those in attendance. He came to cheer Estevan Payan — who served in the same Army unit as Peters — and to witness history.

Payan, of Tempe, Ariz., didn't disappoint, flooring Omar Avelar at 1:57 of the opening round

of a 145-pound match.

The quickest knockout occurred when Sam Shewmaker used one punch, an overhand right, to send Eric Prindle to the canvas 18 seconds into their heavyweight bout.

Bec Rawlings, 29, from Brisbane, Australia, won the only bout of the night featuring women, stopping Alma Garcia with a TKO in the second round.

Tony Lopez lost the most entertaining fight of the night, a five-rounder against fellow Californian Joey Beltran. The crowd was on its feet and roaring as the two heavyweights traded punches and slugged it out to the end, with both men bruised, cut up and bloodied.

Beltran and Shewmaker joined Ricco Rodriguez and Maurice Jackson in the semifinals of the heavyweight division tournament, which will be held in September, also in Cheyenne.

The International Boxing Hall of Fame said the last significant bare-knuckle bout was July 8, 1889, when John L. Sullivan went 75 rounds to beat Jake Kilrain.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Divers are sought to retrieve golf balls

**ID** COEUR D'ALENE — A northern Idaho golf course estimates that some 30,000 golf balls have accumulated on a lake bed over the last several years near a floating green that is an elusive target for many golfers.

Coeur d'Alene Resort officials told KREM-TV that the resort hasn't been able to come to terms with local divers to retrieve the balls in Lake Coeur d'Alene. Divers pay to collect the balls and then sell them.

The 14th hole is a par 3 with a floating green that can be moved on cables. From standard tees, the hole is about 150 yards long.

## 2 of 4 peacocks that escaped zoo found

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — Two of the four peacocks that escaped from the Philadelphia Zoo last week and took a stroll on a nearby highway have been found safe, a day after another was found dead on that stretch of road.

Zoo officials said a passerby spotted the two peacocks Friday morning near an equestrian center. The tipster stayed with them until zoo workers arrived to rescue the birds. They described them as "healthy if a little hungry."

The fourth peacock remains on the loose.

## Museum displays rare Civil War flag

**WI** GREEN BAY — A 157-year-old flag from the Civil War is on display at a Green Bay museum.

The flag with a "Great Star" pattern was hand-sewn by a

Green Bay woman and is on display at the Neville Public Museum, Wisconsin Public Radio reported. The flag is part of the "Our Brown County" display.

It's believed to have flown for a rally at the beginning of the Civil War and to have been displayed over what was Fort Howard in Wisconsin until about 1865.

The museum acquired the flag in 1934, museum curator Lisa Kain said.

It was recently rediscovered in the museum's archive, which has more than 300,000 physical items.

## Plane makes landing on residential street

**CA** HUNTINGTON BEACH — A pilot is being praised for setting down a small plane on a Southern California street while avoiding power lines and traffic.

Police told City News Service that the pilot reported engine problems Friday while heading for John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana.

She landed the Cessna 172 about 5 miles from the airport in a Huntington Beach residential neighborhood.

Nobody was hurt and the plane was undamaged.

## Court upholds ruling on custody of dog

**NE** OMAHA — The Nebraska Supreme Court routinely weighs in on custody cases — but not very often on battles over who gets the dog.

On Friday, the state's high court upheld a decision to grant custody of a French bulldog named Princess Pot Roast to an Omaha man locked out of a home he had shared with his boyfriend for five years.

A judge last year ruled the

dog, nicknamed Pavlov, was a gift from Jason Pratte to Peter Zelenka before the couple broke up in 2015. Pratte said he never intended the dog as a gift and appealed.

## Woman falls from car, is run over and dies

**GA** ATHENS — Police said a Georgia woman died after she fell out of her moving car and was run over by another vehicle.

The Athens Banner-Herald reported Quatilia Wilson, 23, was killed Thursday while driving on the city's perimeter highway. Athens-Clarke County police said Wilson fell from her car after it suddenly veered across a lane of traffic.

Police said Wilson's car left the roadway, struck a guardrail and then re-entered the road where it ran into a minivan, which then ran over Wilson. She was pronounced dead at a local hospital.

## Potato farm closing after 90 years

**VT** GUILDHALL — A potato farm and longtime symbol of Vermont's agricultural past has announced plans to auction off its equipment and close.

Peaslee's Vermont Potatoes will close after 90 years in business, The Caledonian Record reported. The Northeast Kingdom potato farm has been run by the Peaslee family for decades.

Co-owner Karen Guile-Caron said the next generation of the family does not want to operate the farm.

Guile-Caron's mother, Janice Peaslee, served as a Republican representative for Essex and Caledonia counties in the Vermont House from 1989 to 2013.

The family is selling the 64-acre property, which includes a farm house and potato barn, and equipment on Friday.

## New fisherman statue is placed at museum

**MS** BILOXI — A statue saluting the Mississippi Gulf Coast's fishing industry has returned.

The 7-foot-tall bronze sculpture was unveiled Thursday at the Maritime and Seafood Industry Museum in Biloxi.

The Italian bronze figure replaces the original 15-foot-tall golden fisherman monument. It was damaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and then stolen, dismantled and partially recovered.

The new statue is smaller and looks different but still features a man casting his net toward the water.

It stands on a granite base with plaques naming more than 800 seafood industry families.

## Emu that fled captivity returned to sanctuary

**ME** LISBON — A 19-year-old emu known as "The Bird" that got loose in a Maine town has been returned to its animal sanctuary.

Lisbon police, an animal control officer and much of the town searched throughout the day Thursday for the 5-foot-4-inch emu that escaped from the local sanctuary. A spokeswoman for the sanctuary said the bird was captured near a neighbor's house and it was then returned to its home.

The Bangor Daily News reported someone caring for The Bird was moving it to its summer residence when it bolted.

From wire reports

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# Caps take 2-1 lead in Stanley Cup Final

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In his first home Stanley Cup Final game after 13 long years checkered with as many disappointments as milestones, Alex Ovechkin was not going to be denied the opportunity to do something special.

He played with an edge. He played with joy. And he played with the leadership his Washington Capitals have come to expect.

Ovechkin dove to the ice to score his 14th goal of the playoffs, laid down to block shots, dished out hits and, along with Evgeny Kuznetsov, muscled the Capitals past the Vegas Golden Knights 3-1 on Saturday night to take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Showing the kind of emotion on the ice and the bench from his younger days, Ovechkin led the way and now has Washington two wins away from the first championship in the 43-year history of the franchise.

"It's the Stanley Cup Final," Ovechkin said. "What do you wanna do? It's all in for

everybody."

The Capitals suddenly look in complete control of the series thanks to Ovechkin and Kuznetsov, who fired a wrist shot past Marc-Andre Fleury that made it perfectly clear the injury that knocked him out of Game 2 was not bothering him. Kuznetsov said: "When you're hurt, you play a little better always."

It doesn't get much better than this for Kuznetsov and Ovechkin. As Kuznetsov flapped his arms in celebration of his goal on a 2-on-1 rush, Ovechkin screamed and raised his arms to the bench — showing the same emotion he did in the final minutes of Game 7 of the Eastern Conference final and when Braden Holtby made a stick save of a lifetime to preserve a 3-2 win in Game 2.

"It's just automatic. You just get excited," Ovechkin said. "It's huge moments for us. You just want to give emotion to your teammates and to yourself, as well."

Fired up for the first Cup Final game in Washington since 1998, the Capitals unloaded chance after chance on Fleury, who

made 23 saves but couldn't backstop a frazzled, disjointed team that lost two games in a row for the first time in the playoff and is trailing in a series for the first time.

At the other end, Holtby gifted Tomas Nosek a goal by giving the puck away but stopped the other 21 shots he faced from the Golden Knights, who looked nothing like the winners of 13 of their first 16 playoff games through the first three rounds.

"All year we've had a lot of guys going," Vegas defenseman Deryk Engelland said. "That hasn't been the case. Our goalie's been bailing us out with huge saves all night and we have to bear down and be better for him."

Vegas built some momentum on Nosek's goal, but Devante Smith-Pelly gave the Capitals an insurance goal with 6:07 left.

The Capitals have now pieced together consecutive wins against the hottest team in the playoffs and Game 4 is back in Washington on Monday night.

"We haven't been behind in any series," Fleury said. "It doesn't mean we're out of it."

# Cecchinato stuns No. 8 seed Goffin at French Open

Associated Press

PARIS — From never having won a Grand Slam match before last week, Marco Cecchinato has now won four in a row to set up a quarterfinal against Novak Djokovic.

With a 7-5, 4-6, 6-0, 6-3 upset victory against eighth-seeded David Goffin of Belgium on Sunday, the 72nd-ranked Italian became the lowest-ranked man to reach the quarterfinals at Roland Garros since Ernests Gulbis, then ranked 80th, in 2008.

The 25-year-old Cecchinato lost in the first round at his four previous majors. He came close to defeat in his first match this year at Roland Garros, losing the first two sets, before winning 10-8 in the fifth.

Djokovic equaled Roger Federer's mark of reaching nine consecutive quarterfinals at Roland Garros by beating No. 30 seed Fernando Verdasco 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

It's also Djokovic's 12th career trip to the round of eight

in Paris, a record for the 50-year professional era. Djokovic advanced to his 40th Grand Slam quarterfinal.

Rafael Nadal can pull even with a 12th French Open quarterfinal, too, by winning on Monday.

The straightforward victory for 2016 French Open champion Djokovic was his 200th career tour-level win on clay.

The Williams sisters, Venus and Serena, are out of the doubles tournament.

The third-seeded pairing of Andreja Klepac and Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez beat the Americans 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-0 to advance to the quarterfinals.

Serena Williams plays Maria Sharapova on Monday for a place in the women's singles quarterfinals.

American Sloane Stephens is into her first quarterfinal at the French Open, having stalled in the fourth round on four previous occasions.

Stephens, the U.S. Open champion in 2017, blew past

Anett Kontaveit of Estonia 6-2, 6-0 in just 52 minutes on Court Philippe Chatrier.

The 25th-seeded Kontaveit was unable to exert any pressure on the 10th-seeded Stephens with her error-strewn game.

Stephens faced no break points.

Dominic Thiem is into the quarterfinals for the third straight year, in what was becoming a steam-rolling of Kei Nishikori until the 19th-seeded player from Japan mounted a late fight-back.

"The first two sets were amazing," the seventh-seeded Austrian said of the 6-2, 6-0, 5-7, 6-4 win, "... then he raised his level."

Nishikori won just 14 points in the first set and even fewer, nine, in the second, as his serve and service returns ran cold on the sun-kissed Court Philippe Chatrier.

Thiem next plays second-seeded Alexander Zverev, who advanced the hard way, win-

ning his third back-to-back five-set match.

The second-seeded German won 4-6, 7-6 (4), 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 against Karen Khachanov, a 38th-ranked Russian, in their first-ever meeting on clay or at a major.

Zverev's previous Grand Slam best was reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon last year.

At 21, Zverev is the youngest quarterfinalist at Roland Garros since Juan Martin del Potro in 2009.

Zverev's youth and fitness regime — he says he spends three to four hours in the gym each day — have helped him overcome the fatigue of three-hour plus matches on the leg-pounding clay of Roland Garros.

He shrugged off a question about spending so much time on court, saying: "I'm young so I may as well stay on court to practice a little bit."

## NCAA Baseball Tournament roundup

# Mississippi State ousts Florida State

Associated Press

Mississippi State got some MacNamee Magic. For Florida State, it was more misery for Mike Martin.

The No. 7 Seminoles became the first national seed eliminated from the NCAA Tournament when Elijah MacNamee hit a three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning to give Mississippi State a 3-2 walk-off win in Tallahassee, Fla., on Saturday.

Florida State, which lost to Samford on Friday, went 0-2 in the regionals as a top-eight national seed for the second time in five years.

"Baseball. It hurts, guys, ladies. It hurts," Martin said. "Good Lord willing, I'll see the sun come up tomorrow, life will go on, but this one hurt."

Martin passed Augie Garrido as college baseball's all-time coaching wins leader last month. His two-year contract expires this year, and he said he would meet with athletic director Stan Wilcox to determine whether he will be back for a 40th season.

Mississippi State has had an emotional season as well. Andy Cannizaro resigned Feb. 20 for off-field conduct and pitching coach Gary Henderson took over as interim coach.

The Bulldogs had to play their first 11

games away from home — unusual for a team in the South — because of construction on Dudy Noble Field. They lost seven of their first nine Southeastern Conference games and went into May as no lock to make the conference tournament, let alone the NCAA Tournament.

They swept top-ranked Florida to finish the regular season, and after going one-and-out in the SEC Tournament, they lost 20-10 to Oklahoma in their regional opener.

Down to their last strike against Florida State, MacNamee sent Drew Parrish's 3-2 changeup over the left-field wall to keep the season alive and make Mississippi State 10-1 against teams ranked in the top 10.

"Parrish is one of the best pitchers we have seen all year," said MacNamee, 5-for-9 with two homers and six RBIs in two games. "I just believed in myself during that at-bat and it worked."

**A little payback:** The Oregon State Beavers didn't forget how their 2017 season ended, with LSU beating them 3-1 and 6-1 in the College World Series and holding them to a combined five hits.

They got some payback with their 14-1 win on their home field. It was LSU's most lopsided loss in an NCAA Tournament game since Cal State Fullerton beat the Ti-

gers 20-6 in the 1994 CWS.

**Marvelous on mound:**

■ Auburn ace Casey Mize, projected to be the No. 1 pick in the Major League Baseball draft Monday, allowed one run and four hits and struck out 11 in seven innings of a 12-1 win over Army.

■ Three other projected first-rounders carried their teams. Florida's Brady Singer gave up two runs over seven innings as the No. 1 national seed and defending champion Gators held off Jacksonville 3-2. Mississippi's Ryan Rolison struck out 13 and allowed four hits over seven innings in a 9-4 win over Saint Louis in a first-round game. Stetson's Logan Gilbert struck out 14 in seven innings of a 10-3 win over Oklahoma State.

■ Brian Brown scattered eight hits and struck out eight as North Carolina State bounced back from its first-round loss to Army to beat Northeastern 9-3.

**Big bats:**

■ Cal State Fullerton freshman Jace Chamberlin, nicknamed "Jumbo" at 6-foot-4 and 240 pounds, hit a pinch home run — the first homer of his career — with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to beat No. 2 national seed Stanford 2-1.

## Sports briefs

# DeChambeau leads Memorial; Tiger lurks

Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ohio — The cheers kept coming across Muirfield Village, even after Tiger Woods was done making another run up the leaderboard at the Memorial.

Patrick Cantlay made two eagles, including a hole-in-one.

Joaquin Niemann, the 19-year-old from Chile, took the lead with a 50-foot eagle putt and fell out of the lead when his bid for another eagle attempt landed in a tiny corner of a meandering creek.

Bryson DeChambeau ended an action-packed Saturday by making one of only six birdies on the par-3 16th hole, saving

par with a tough flop shot from behind the 17th green and finishing off a 6-under 66 with a 9-iron into 5 feet.

That gave him a one-shot lead going into the final round, which features Woods in the mix at Muirfield Village for the first time in six years.

The math favored physics-minded DeChambeau going into Sunday, but not by much. He was at 14-under 202

## Jutanugarn leads US Women's Open

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Ariya Jutanugarn turned a three-shot deficit into a four-shot lead after shooting 5-

under 67 Saturday at the U.S. Women's Open at Shoal Creek.

The 22-year-old from Thailand started the third round behind Australia's Sarah Jane Smith, but quickly gained ground, making two birdies on her first three holes.

Jutanugarn took the lead after Smith stumbled with back-to-back bogeys and then surged ahead with three straight birdies on the back nine. She was at 12-under 204 for the tournament.

## Packers' Matthews needs surgery on nose

GRAND CHUTE, Wis. — Green Bay Packers linebacker

Clay Matthews says he needs surgery on his nose after getting hit in the face with a line drive during a charity softball game.

Matthews was pitching during Saturday's game when offensive lineman Lucas Patrick hit the ball directly into Matthews' face, knocking him to the ground. The Green Bay Press Gazette reports that Matthews got up, covered his face with his glove, then walked to the dugout. He did not return to the game.

Matthews tweeted that he busted his nose and would have surgery after the swelling subsides.

## MLB

# Max Scherzer's pinch single lifts Nats

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Nationals ace Max Scherzer has had plenty of great moments as a three-time Cy Young Award winner.

Now he's delivered one with his bat, too.

Scherzer singled as a pinch hitter in the 14th inning and scored the tiebreaking run on Wilmer Difo's triple, sparking the Washington Nationals to a 5-3 victory over the Atlanta Braves on Saturday.

"For me to get in a tie game at a point and time where we needed to win against a team that's playing really good baseball, I got an opportunity," he said. "Holy cow. I got a hit and scored a run. That's too cool. I never thought in a million years it would happen."

In his third big league pinch-hit appearance, Scherzer singled up the middle against Miguel Socolovich (0-1) and sped home from first base on Difo's two-out hit to right-center field. Spencer Kieboom added an RBI single.

Scherzer touched off a dugout celebration after he scored.

"I just screamed," Scherzer said. "I didn't say any four-letter words. I'm usually pretty good for that — at least one, two, three or four of those — but I kept it pretty PG. That was a good outburst."

Justin Miller (2-0) struck out five in three innings, facing the minimum, and Sean Doolittle got three straight outs for his 14th save in 15 chances. Washington's bullpen has allowed two earned runs in its last 33 innings.

Jesse Biddle, the fifth Atlanta reliever, struck out eight of his 13 batters, including Juan Soto with the bases loaded to end the 11th. He walked two in three innings.

"It was good to see," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "A lot of these guys work their way up the ladder. It's games like that when you start giving him a little more high leverage situation."

Nationals starter Gio Gonzalez faced the minimum through four innings, striking out five, before Nick Markakis' leadoff single in the fifth. Tyler Flowers singled and Johan Camargo homered for a 3-2 lead, his third homer this week and fifth this season. Soto tied the score with a seventh-inning

homer off Sam Freeman.

Michael Taylor hit a two-run homer in the seven off Brandon McCarthy, who allowed four hits in six innings. McCarthy struck out seven and retired 15 of his final 17 batters.

Scherzer started getting ready to hit in the ninth, putting on his spikes, hitting off a tee and taking batting practice indoors. He estimated it's been "a couple of years" since he scored from first.

"I'm not going to hit the ball out of the ballpark," Scherzer said. "I know that. I've got a high school swing. I know it, but hey, it's good enough to get the ball in play and sure enough, something happens. With two outs, with the ball in the gap, you've got to score. Sure enough that's what happened."

## Roundup

# Cubs prevail over Mets despite 24 strikeouts

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Frustrated after his third straight strikeout, Albert Almora Jr. tried to break the bat over his knee. That was a swing and miss, too.

"Failed miserably," he said.

Eventually, Almora and his Cubs teammates made contact.

Despite striking out 24 times, Chicago beat the New York Mets 7-1 Saturday night, boosted by Almora's tiebreaking, two-run double in the 14th inning.

"That whole game was a grind," Almora said.

Cubs reliever Luke Farrell (2-2) struck out seven in five scoreless innings, with Brandon Morrow getting the final three outs.

Farrell also got his first two plate appearances in the majors, striking out both times. The Cubs didn't want to burn their bullpen, so manager Joe Maddon let Farrell hit, even with runners at the corners and one out in the 13th.

New York starter Jacob deGrom matched a career high by fanning 13, and combined with the bullpen to set a Mets franchise record for strikeouts.

Cubs pitchers struck out 15.

Despite all the whiffing, the 39 Ks were nowhere close to the big league record for strikeouts in a game. The Cubs and Yankees combined to fan 48 times in an 18-inning matchup on May 7, 2017.

**Yankees 8, Orioles 5:** Giancarlo Stanton and Miguel Andujar homered to help Masahiro Tanaka win his fifth straight decision, and visiting New York extended Baltimore's losing streak to seven games.

**Red Sox 5, Astros 4:** Andrew Benintendi and Christian Vazquez homered during a three-run seventh inning that lifted visiting Boston.

**Dodgers 12, Rockies 4:** Joc Pederson hit a pair of solo homers, Matt Kemp went deep during an eight-run seventh inning and Los Angeles routed

host Colorado.

**Brewers 5, White Sox 0:** Jhoulys Chacin combined with two relievers on a five-hitter, and visiting Milwaukee backed him with four home runs in a victory.

**Cardinals 3, Pirates 2:** Kolten Wong led off the bottom of the ninth inning with a home run off Richard Rodriguez, giving host St. Louis a win.

**Royals 5, Athletics 4:** Jorge Soler hit a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning, and the Royals bounced back after wasting a four-run lead to defeat visiting Oakland for their third win in four games.

**Twins 7, Indians 1:** Eddie Rosario hit a two-run homer and Brian Dozier drove in two runs to support Lance Lynn's third straight victory, leading host Minnesota past Cleveland.

**Tigers 7, Blue Jays 4:** John Hicks' two-run single in the eighth inning broke open a tie game and the host Tigers went on to beat Toronto.

**Reds 8, Padres 2:** Rookie left-hander Eric Lauer pitched five strong innings, drove in his first run and picked off Joey Votto to tie for the most in the majors with five, leading host San Diego.

**Giants 2, Phillies 0:** Andrew Suarez combined with two relievers to pitch a three-hitter, lifting host San Francisco over Philadelphia.

**Rangers 3, Angels 2 (10):** — Rongned Odor beat a throw home by left fielder Justin Upton on Ronald Guzman's single in the 10th, lifting visiting Texas over the Los Angeles.

**Mariners 3, Rays 1:** Marco Gonzales continued his run of excellent starts by pitching into the seventh inning and allowing just one run, and Ryon Healy hit his ninth homer as the host Mariners beat Tampa Bay.

**Diamondbacks 6, Marlins 2:** Paul Goldschmidt and David Peralta homered, Zack Greinke pitched into the seventh inning and host Arizona beat Miami.