

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Review finds junior deck officers lacking

BY DIANNA CAHN

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Nearly 84 percent of Navy first-tour junior deck officers randomly tested were not competent to drive their ships without raising concerns, particularly when “immediate action” was required “to avoid collision,” according to findings the Navy released Wednesday.

Instead, many of the 164 junior officers who were qualified to be officer of the deck were not able to demonstrate “critical thinking and decision-making skills” when facing dangerous situations, the Navy review of seamanship and ship-handling skills found.

The results of the evaluations, conducted in the wake of two deadly Pacific Fleet ship collisions last year, were “sobering,” said Vice Adm. Richard Brown, the head of Naval Surface Force Pacific, who ordered the review.

Only 27 of the officers per-

formed without raising any concerns. The vast majority — 108 officers — completed with some concerns, while 29 had significant concerns, Brown wrote in a memo addressed to commodores and commanding officers. The Navy shared the memo after Defense News reported on it.

The findings highlighted weaknesses in the training of young officers who come onto ships for the first time and are expected to be able to drive the vessels. They also underscored some of the weaknesses that played out last year in collisions involving the USS Fitzgerald and the USS John S. McCain that left 17 sailors dead.

Brown said the results were not surprising. In an interview with Stars and Stripes, he said that many of the junior officers in the competency checks were new to their first ships.

The review was ordered to help the Navy identify weaknesses as it creates a new course for junior officers of the deck,

to be introduced next year. It will be included in officer-of-the-deck training at two new centers — in San Diego and in Norfolk, Va. — to open in 2020 and 2021 at a cost of \$68 million. The centers also will offer hands-on scenario training on deck and in the Combat Information Center, where officers monitor electronic and radar equipment and man weapons.

The findings showed “glaring deficiencies” in knowledge of radar and related equipment, and a shortfall in applying navigation rules in real-life encounters. When officers found themselves in dangerous situations, most were not skilled enough to avoid collision. Even though 91 percent of them performed well on the written test, more than half struggled to correctly apply the same rules in real-time scenarios.

Brown noted that the shortfalls in radar operations follow similar proficiency gaps in mishaps in 2012 and after. As a result, training on radar was

increased in 2017 and led to tangible improvement, he said.

But that wasn’t enough. The Navy plans to increase its budget to add two weeks of Coast Guard-certified radar observer and computer-assisted radar data processing systems training. Brown said that simulator scenarios will address “decision paralysis,” which the junior officers demonstrated in the review.

The Navy began implementing training improvements in 2012, he said, recognizing that cutbacks and efficiencies were damaging readiness. After the collisions, the Navy decided to add even more.

“Given the events of 2017, we couldn’t wait to see if the changes we had made are taking effect,” he said.

In describing the findings, Brown said the Navy “must be realistic in confronting the systemic shortfalls that they revealed in core proficiencies across the junior qualified members of the force.”

## Former Scott AFB commander facing misconduct claims

*Belleville (Ill.) News-Democrat*

Charges against ousted Scott Air Force Base commander Col. John Howard indicate that he was accused of sexual misconduct at or near at least two separate military bases over more than a year.

The 18th Air Force released the charges Monday.

The first charge dates to between July 1 and Sept. 16, 2016, when a senior airman claims Howard rubbed his groin against the airman’s torso and made sexually explicit comments at RAF Mildenhall in the United Kingdom, an Air Force base roughly 80 miles northeast of London.

The charge does not specify whether the airman is male or female, though other charges reference a reputed female victim.

On Sept. 17 that same year, a senior airman accused Howard of making additional sexually explicit comments, saying “every time I see you, there it is,” referring to his erection.

Another charge stems from April 2017, when a female senior airman claims Howard committed a sexual act on her without her consent at or near Bangor, Maine, where there is an Air National Guard base.

Two additional charges accuse Howard of fraternization

and conduct unbecoming an officer between March 2016 and November 2017.

Those charges don’t specify the location of the suspected misconduct, only saying they were “in the Northern Hemisphere.”

Names are redacted in the charges, so it wasn’t clear whether there was more than one accuser involved in the case.

Howard took command of the 375th Air Mobility Wing at Scott Air Force Base in July 2017, but none of the charges specifically indicates any suspected abuse happened at the base.

Howard served as vice commander of the 100th Air Refueling Wing at Mildenhall from July 2015 to July 2017, according to his Air Force biography, which has since been removed from Scott AFB’s website. Two years is the usual term of service at a base for a member of the Air Force.

Howard’s biography shows no record of his serving at the Maine base.

A public preliminary hearing is set for July 6, when a preliminary hearing officer will review the charges and evidence, according to Capt. Ryan DeCamp, a spokesman for the 18th Air Force.

# Deal could prove elusive at Trump-Kim meeting

By KIM GAMEL  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will make history when they meet next week in Singapore for the first summit between the rival nations after decades of hostilities that sometimes have brought the world to the brink of war.

That's about the only sure thing when it comes to two unpredictable leaders of nuclear-armed countries who have gone from trading personal insults and threats to talking peace in a matter of months.

At stake are the threat of nuclear war, America's strategic position in Northeast Asia, the future of U.S. military forces in South Korea and Trump's stature as a global leader.

Nevertheless, expectations for a breakthrough in talks over the North's nuclear weapons program are low. Many experts say they will be happy if the two sides could agree on the definition of one word — denuclearization.

Trump lowered the bar in announcing last week that the on-again, off-again June 12 summit was back on just days after abruptly canceling it following angry statements from the North.

"We're not going to go in and sign something on June 12th and we never were. We're going to start a process," he said, reversing the administration's previous calls for an all-or-nothing deal to scrap the North's nuclear weapons program.

A multistage process would be the best-case scenario, observers say.

"It's pretty clear that there's a strong inclination by both leaders to have a good show, a good PR opportunity, and this is where it gets risky and dangerous," said Duyeon Kim, a senior research fellow at the Seoul-based Korean Peninsula Future Forum.

"Kim Jong Un, his game plan will be to try to go the peace route. That's another way to get to loosening sanctions and another route to rid U.S. forces from the peninsula and eventually break the U.S.-South Korea alliance," she said during a panel discussion hosted by The Heritage Foundation in Washington.

The two leaders will meet at the Hotel Capella, a luxury resort on Sentosa Island.

## Strategic ramifications

Meanwhile, other countries, including China and Russia, are maneuvering to influence the summit's outcome, which will have strategic ramifications far beyond the Korean Peninsula.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in reportedly is poised to jump onto a flight to

Singapore for a possible trilateral summit with Trump and Kim as he pushes for a deal to formally end the Korean War, which was suspended but not officially concluded by an armistice in 1953 after three years of fighting.

"Three-way discussions among the South, the North and the U.S. are underway on the declaration of an end to the war," Foreign Ministry spokesman Noh Kyu-duk said Thursday at a news briefing in Seoul.

And Kim, 34, the formerly reclusive North Korean leader, who, until the recent flurry of diplomacy, hadn't left his country since taking power in 2011, has emerged as an in-demand statesman.

He traveled twice to China to meet with President Xi Jinping, held two summits with Moon in the Demilitarized Zone and has received an invitation to visit Russia in the fall.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with Trump on Thursday at the White House to try to make sure his country's security isn't compromised in the process. Tokyo also wants the president to press the North to release Japanese citizens who were abducted in the 1970s and 1980s.

## Define denuclearization

A key sticking point is the U.S. demand for the complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantling of North Korea's nuclear weapons apparatus, frequently referred to by the acronym CVID.

North Korea has declared a commitment to denuclearization but seeks a "phased and synchronous" approach that would include economic incentives and other rewards for each step.

Trump made the right move by signaling he's prepared for a longer process, said Eric Gomez, a defense analyst with the Washington-based libertarian think tank the Cato Institute.

"Trump has signaled a lot more flexibility in his approach and has lowered his expectations for the summit," Gomez said in a phone interview.

"It won't produce any sort of big, lasting solution, but it will start getting the U.S.-North Korean relationship in a better place overall and, hopefully, create opportunities to keep talking and to keep diplomacy active," he added.

North Korea has an estimated 60 nuclear warheads and has made strong advances in developing delivery systems, although technical hurdles remain. It test-fired three intercontinental ballistic missiles and conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test last year.

Former diplomats say it's highly doubtful that Kim Jong Un would be willing to

give up his hard-won weapons, which he sees as regime security.

But Kim also has vowed to improve the economy of his impoverished nation and is eager to get relief from U.S.-led international sanctions aimed at depriving him of much-needed foreign currency.

Robert Gallucci, a Georgetown University professor who was the chief negotiator with North Korea during the Bill Clinton administration, said Trump will score a win if he gets Kim to agree on a definition for denuclearization.

But he stressed the end goal must be not only for the North to give up its nuclear weapons but also the components to make them.

"We want no enrichment, we want no reprocessing, so we want no fissile material production capability, no nuclear weapons," Gallucci said during a recent forum sponsored by the 38 North website.

Joseph Yun, who served as Trump's main envoy to North Korea until retiring in February, said the president should use the summit to demand a detailed declaration of all nuclear sites and fissile material.

"Without knowing what they have, how are you going to negotiate with them?" Yun said Tuesday during a congressional hearing.

He said the U.S. could offer in return an end-of-war declaration, regime security assurances and the opening of liaison offices to begin normalizing relations.

## Early gains

One of the early casualties of the diplomatic process appears to be the Trump administration's maximum-pressure campaign, which the president has touted as a key factor in bringing the North to the table.

Trump said last week that he no longer wants to use that term and decided to suspend plans to impose what he described as hundreds of unilateral sanctions that had been readied.

The tough measures that have been slapped on the North as tensions rose in recent years stand, but experts say there's evidence that China and other North Korean allies already have moved to relax the implementation that had begun to have an effect.

"North Korea in this process has very little to lose," Yun Sen, a co-director of the East Asia program at the Stimson Center, said in a phone interview.

"It has manipulated the diplomatic situation to force China to re-engage," she said. "I think on the U.S. side, I don't think North Korea has really given up anything other than its provocative policy."



## Navy begins Malabar training with India, Japan

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
*Stars and Stripes*

The Navy kicked off a nine-day training exercise with India and Japan one week after U.S. Pacific Command changed its name to U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

Malabar 2018 began Thursday on Guam and will continue through June 16, with naval ships, aircraft and personnel from the three countries training on land and at sea.

Malabar began 26 years ago as an exercise between the U.S. and India, with Japan joining the annual training permanently in 2015.

In past years, the exercise included countries such as Australia and Singapore. Australia hoped to rejoin Malabar again this year but was not invited, according to a U.S. Naval Institute report. Some Indian and Australian analysts have said the decision could have something to do with Chinese pressure on India.

# Afghanistan leader announces cease-fire through Ramadan's end

BY J.P. LAWRENCE AND CHAD GARLAND  
*Stars and Stripes*

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Thursday announced a week-long cease-fire with the Taliban beginning next week, lasting through the end of Ramadan and into one of the holiest periods of the year for Muslims.

Both U.S. forces and Afghan security forces will unilaterally cease operations against the Taliban beginning on Tuesday but will continue to target Islamic State in Afghanistan, al-Qaida and other foreign-backed groups, Ghani and the U.S. military said.

Ghani linked the cease-fire to a ruling by 2,000 religious scholars in Kabul on June 4 that declared that the war in Afghanistan was “forbidden under the Islamic law.” The Taliban denounced the clerics’ declaration; subsequently, an attack on the gathering claimed by ISIS killed 14 people and wounded many others.

“This cease-fire is an opportunity for Taliban to introspect that their violent campaign is not winning them hearts and minds but further alienating the Afghan people from their cause,” Ghani said.

The cease-fire will continue until five days after Eid, which marks the end of the Muslim month of fasting, on June 20. Afghanistan’s Muslims celebrate the Eid holiday for several days, giving gifts, doing works of charity and visiting bazaars to buy new clothes, sweets and snacks.

A Taliban spokesman said Thursday they soon

would issue a statement.

Gen. John Nicholson, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan and the NATO-led Resolute Support commander, said they “will adhere to the wishes of Afghanistan for the country to enjoy a peaceful end to the Islamic holy month of Ramadan and support the search for an end to the conflict.”

In a statement, the U.N. Assistance Mission in Afghanistan welcomed the announcement and urged the Taliban to reciprocate.

Afghan and Western diplomats have intensified their efforts to enter into peace talks with the Taliban since at least early spring.

In February, Ghani offered the Taliban recognition as a legitimate political group as part of a process to open talks and to end the nearly 17-year conflict. He proposed a cease-fire, a release of prisoners, a constitutional review and new elections in which the Taliban could participate.

His offer followed a reconciliation-and-amnesty deal with Hezb-e-Islami, Afghanistan’s second-largest insurgent group, led by the exiled Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a U.S.-designated “global terrorist” who was blamed for brutal killings during Afghanistan’s civil war in the 1990s.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Wednesday discussed the need for political reconciliation in Afghanistan in a call with Pakistan’s chief of army staff.

Islamabad has participated in efforts to bring the Taliban to the table, but that work largely has been unsuccessful since 2015, when talks fell apart after the death of Mullah Mohammad Omar belatedly was made public.

## Guantanamo leaders seek new prison with hospice care

*Miami Herald*

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — The U.S. military’s mission at Guantanamo is shifting to permanent detention for al-Qaida and other war-on-terrorism detainees, commanders told reporters this week in a rare public pitch for Congress to fund a new \$69 million, wheelchair-accessible prison — complete with a hospice-care cellblock — for the five accused 9/11 plotters and 10 other captives who, in some instances, were tortured in secret overseas CIA prisons.

“Picture in your mind elderly detainees, brothers taking care of one another. That is the humane way ahead,” said prison spokeswoman Navy Cmdr. Anne Leanos.

Guantanamo detention center leaders said Tuesday that they are shifting their mission because President Donald Trump’s January executive order canceled President Barack Obama’s mandate to close

the prison. During the Obama administration, the prison camp made few building improvements, “putting a Band-Aid” on structural problems, said prison operations commander Rear Adm. John Ring.

Ring; Army Col. Steve Gabavics, chief of the guard force; and the prison’s top engineer described the vision for the new “high-value detainee” prison:

Two wings would have wheelchair-accessible cells and communal space, which they currently do not. A third wing would be for hospice care, a first for overall prison operations begun Jan. 11, 2002. And the new prison would have attorney-client meeting rooms instead of a remote site where their special guards, Task Force Platinum, bring them in restraints inside a windowless van. It would be called Camp 8.

Military planners have been asking for \$69 million to build the new prison since February 2014, and the commanders ac-

knowledged that with design still underway, a new Camp 8 likely would cost more. The Obama administration refused to back the plan and Congress so far has refused to fund it despite a formal request from the Trump White House.

The House did not include it in its version of the defense policy bill for fiscal 2019, and the Senate Armed Services Committee’s version, released Wednesday, shows it did not either. Absent special legislation, the last chance to fund it would be when the full Senate takes up the National Defense Authorization Act later this year.

All but one of the 15 men now held in Guantanamo’s clandestine, hillside, high-value prison, called Camp 7, are in their 40s and 50s. The eldest is suspected al-Qaida commander Abd al Hadi al Iraqi, believed to be 57, who relies on a wheelchair and a walker after a series of emergency spine surgeries for a degenerative disc condition.

## Team screening Americans in China for illness

Associated Press

GUANGZHOU, China — A U.S. medical team was screening more Americans who work in a southern Chinese city as the State Department confirmed evacuating a number of government workers who experienced unexplained health issues like those that have hurt U.S. personnel in Cuba and China.

The evacuations of the workers in Guangzhou followed medical testing that revealed they might have been affected. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said “a number of individuals” have been brought to the U.S. but didn’t say how many were affected or evacuated. One case in Guangzhou had been disclosed last month.

She said tests are being offered to “any personnel who have noted concerning symptoms or wanted baseline screening.”

The incidents have raised fears the unexplained issues that started in Cuba in 2016 have expanded. The U.S. government has deemed those incidents “specific attacks” on American workers but hasn’t publicly identified a cause or culprit. Most of the incidents were accompanied by bizarre, unexplained sounds that initially led U.S. investigators to suspect a sonic attack.

Symptoms have included dizziness, headaches and an inability to concentrate. The American government worker who was removed from China earlier reported “subtle and vague, but abnormal, sensations of sound and pressure.”

## House GOP makes 11th-hour push for immigration accord

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fractured House Republicans huddled privately Thursday as leaders tried pushing them toward consensus on immigration, racing the clock and trying to defuse a civil war within the party that threatens their effort to keep control of the chamber in November’s elections.

But even as they gathered in a Capitol basement meeting room, there were no indications that a deal mending the party’s chasm over immigration was at hand and no definitive details of where middle ground might be. If leaders fail to find a solution, that would give momentum to moderates seeking to stage election-year votes in just three weeks on the issue, a showdown that leaders want to head off.

Both conservative and moderate lawmakers, the two factions at odds over the issue, said they didn’t know what to expect as they entered the session.

“I don’t know. That’s why I’m on time here, for once,” joked Rep. Leonard Lance, R-N.J., a moderate who’s joined the leadership-opposed rebellion aimed at forcing immigration votes.

GOP lawmakers emerged from the office of Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., on Wednesday saying he would present the rank and file with broad ideas for resolving a dispute that has split Republicans for years, damaging the party with Hispanic

and moderate voters.

“There’s some loose consensus right now,” said Rep. Carlos Curbelo, R-Fla., a leader of centrists threatening to force votes if they can’t strike a deal with conservatives. He said leaders would unveil “an outline of a potential bill,” while conservative leader Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., said Ryan would present “concepts.”

Curbelo, Rep. Jeff Denham, R-Calif., and other moderates need just two more GOP signatures on a petition to require immigration votes, assuming all Democrats sign on. If Thursday’s meeting doesn’t produce an accord, the moderates could reach that threshold quickly.

The major hang-up in GOP talks has been how, as the moderates have demanded, to offer a chance for citizenship to young “Dreamer” immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children. Conservatives have opposed creating a special pathway for them to become citizens, calling it amnesty.

“We’ve got the rule of law in this country, and nobody gets special consideration,” said Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., a member of the conservative House Freedom Caucus.

Rep. Mark Walker, R-N.C., said a large group of conservatives he leads has discussed providing a pathway to citizenship to Dreamers in exchange for giving President Donald Trump nearly all the \$25 billion he wants to build his proposed wall with Mexico.

## Police: Guardsman who took vehicle was on drugs

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — An Army National Guard officer accused of stealing an armored personnel carrier from a Virginia base and leading police on a more than 60-mile chase was driving under the influence of drugs, police said Wednesday.

Joshua Philip Yabut, 29, of Richmond, was charged with eluding police and unauthorized use of a vehicle, the Virginia National Guard said in a news release.

The vehicle, which drives on tracks like a tank, was stolen Tuesday evening from Fort Pickett in Blackstone. Police chased it for about two hours at speeds as high as 40 mph before the driver stopped and surrendered near Richmond City Hall, Virginia State Police said.

The Guard said the personnel carrier was driven away during routine training at Fort Pickett and has been returned to

the base. The vehicle wasn’t equipped with any weapons, but Yabut had his personal weapon with him without any ammunition, the Guard said.

Police said an investigation is ongoing and declined to comment on a motive for stealing the vehicle, but said he was under the influence of drugs.

In a Wednesday evening phone call from Virginia’s Central State Hospital, Yabut told The Associated Press he was authorized to take the vehicle on a pre-planned route as part of a training exercise to gauge the police response. Yabut said his brigade commander, whom he declined to name, told him to take the vehicle. The psychiatric hospital is in Petersburg, Va, and its patients include people receiving court-ordered mental health evaluations and treatment.

Yabut also denied authorities’ claim that he was under the influence of drugs during the incident. “That’s a big ‘NO’ with capital

letters,” he said.

No bond was set when he appeared Wednesday in Richmond General District Court via video link from the city jail. Yabut’s attorney, Assistant Public Defender Thomas Wieworka, did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

The Guard said Yabut is a first lieutenant assigned as company commander of the 276th Engineer Battalion and has more than 11 years of service. He deployed to Afghanistan from 2008 to 2009 with the Illinois National Guard.

“We are extremely grateful that there were no injuries as a result of this incident, and we appreciate the great work of the Virginia State Police, Richmond Police Department and other law enforcement and first responders who safely brought this situation to a close,” Maj. Gen. Timothy P. Williams, the adjutant general of Virginia, said in a statement.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Obituary divulges woman's affair

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — A revealing obituary divulging a woman's affair in a small Minnesota town in the 1960s has gotten more exposure than its writers may have imagined.

The death of Kathleen Dehmlow, 80, in Springfield was published this week in the Redwood Falls Gazette. The obituary begins with Dehmlow's birth in 1938 and notes her marriage in 1957 to Dennis Dehmlow in Wabasso and the arrival of children Gina and Jay.

Then it takes a bitter turn and describes how she became pregnant by her husband's brother, moved to California and abandoned her children. The paid obituary goes on to say that she will not be missed by Gina and Jay, who understand "this world is a better place without her."

## Students get bikes for perfect attendance

**TN** MEMPHIS — Dozens of children with perfect attendance in a Tennessee school district are getting a gift to enjoy on summer break: a bicycle.

The Shelby County district attorney's office in Memphis said more than 150 students who didn't miss a day and had no tardies on their records this school year are eligible to receive a bike Saturday.

## Truck spills chickens onto highway shoulder

**DE** MIDDLETOWN — A chicken truck spilled its contents onto the shoulder of a Delaware highway, causing some commuters minor delays.

WDEL-FM cited a news release from the Delaware Department of Transportation

that said the driver of the tractor-trailer hauling the chickens lost control on a curve early Wednesday and overturned. Multiple pallets of live poultry were spread across the shoulder and the grassy edge of the roadway on southbound Delaware 896 at Summit Bridge Road.

## Man alarmed by fireworks shoots self

**VT** SOUTH BURLINGTON — A Vermont man who mistook the sound of fireworks for gunfire and opened fire inside a South Burlington gun store faces state and federal charges.

Police said they responded to the gun store Friday after a report that a customer had been wounded by gunfire. WPTZ-TV reported the 41-year-old St. Albans man was treated at the scene for a minor leg wound.

Police said Tuesday that the man mistook fireworks going off across the street for gunfire. Store owner Vince Dattalio said the man was hit by a ricocheting bullet.

## DeVito takes cutout of fan to set of show

**PA** CARLISLE — Actor Danny DeVito took a cardboard cutout of a Pennsylvania high school student, who had taken a cutout of him to her prom, to the set of "Always Sunny in Philadelphia."

DeVito's co-star, Rob McElhenney, posted a picture to Instagram on Monday of the actor posing next to a cutout of Carlisle High School student Allison Closs on set. Closs tweeted that she was "SHOCKED" and thanked DeVito and McElhenney.

Closs took a cardboard cutout of the funnyman to the prom last month. She purchased the cutout online along with a scooter she used to move it with.

## Second elk attack reported at park

**WY** CHEYENNE — An elk attacked somebody in Yellowstone National Park on Tuesday, the second such attack in a three-day period.

The National Park Service said a female elk with a calf attacked Penny Allyson Behr, 53, of Cypress, Texas, behind the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel.

Yellowstone officials said the elk surprised Behr as she walked between cabins. The elk followed Behr as she backed away, then kicked her in the head and body.

On Sunday, a female elk with a calf kicked Charlene Triplett, 51, of Las Vegas, in the head and body behind the same hotel.

## Man jailed after sausage argument

**LA** MARION — Louisiana authorities said an argument between a man and woman over a Vienna sausage ended with the man in jail.

News outlets reported Donald L. Traylor, 28, has been charged with aggravated second-degree battery for the Saturday fight.

Union Parish Sheriff Dusty Gates said deputies were told a neighbor of Traylor wanted a Vienna sausage but Traylor refused to share. Traylor told deputies that the woman hit him and nearly knocked him out of his electric wheelchair.

Traylor said he pulled out a knife, but didn't stab the victim. Traylor said the woman lunged at him, cutting her nose.

## Man shot when gun fires inside oven

**OH** WARREN — Police said they've solved a shooting in Ohio that left a man wounded. The oven did it.

The Vindicator in Youngstown reported Robin Garlock, 44, received wounds to both shoulders while trying to retrieve a handgun he'd hidden inside the broiler unit of his oven. Warren police said Garlock put the gun in the broiler because children were coming over.

His girlfriend, unaware of the gun's presence, turned on the oven to bake. Police said she called out to Garlock when she thought she heard a gunshot. Garlock was struck by bullets or bullet fragments when they exploded inside the gun.

## High schools start video gaming teams

**IL** DECATUR — More than two dozen Illinois schools have started e-sports teams as the Illinois High School Association has recognized video gaming as an emerging high school sport.

The season will run October through January, with practices starting in August. Teams compete in multiplayer games over the internet but play in person for the state level competition.

The teams will have jerseys, practices and championships.

## Police seek 4 animals missing from college

**FL** GAINESVILLE — Officials said seven of the 11 animals reported missing from a teaching zoo at a Florida college have been found. But two gopher tortoises and two box turtles are still missing.

A Santa Fe College news release said three Florida box turtles, two red-foot tortoises and a squirrel monkey were found in an apartment near the campus. The animals were taken during the overnight hours of May 29-30.

From wire reports

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# Warriors one victory from title

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Kevin Durant stood calmly near midcourt — and a very familiar spot — as teammates Stephen Curry and Draymond Green screamed at him in celebration.

Another momentous shot for Durant.

And soon, probably another NBA championship.

Durant scored a career play-off-high 43 points, draining a long three-pointer in the final minute to cap his magnificent performance, and the Warriors beat LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers 110-102 in Game 3 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday night to move within a victory of a sweep, their second straight title and third championship in four years.

The Warriors are on dynasty's doorstep.

Afterward, the defending champs could be heard loudly celebrating inside their locker room, perhaps a warmup for a bigger party to come.

The Cavaliers, meanwhile, are in a hole that might as well be 6 feet deep. Teams that have fallen behind 3-0 in the playoffs are 0-131.

It might be time for the guys from Northern California to order some champagne from Napa Valley.

With the Cavs down 103-100, Durant stood defiantly and almost motionless after dropping his 33-footer — just a few feet from where he made one in Game 3 last year — and effectively ended the fourth straight Finals matchup between two teams who have gotten to know each other well since 2015.

After Durant scored, Curry and Green rushed to his side and the trio walked back toward Golden State's bench where the other Warriors were hugging and high-fiving.

As always Durant stayed cool.

"I don't want to downplay anything, but I don't want to act like this is the end of the road," Durant said. "So just get back to work tomorrow and figure out a better game plan."

Durant said the similarity with last year's shot — a mo-

ment that helped define his first championship — didn't occur to him.

"No, not at all," he said. "I just took the shot."

There was nothing James or the Cavs could do but think about what might have been after losing two games that were within their reach.

"Tonight will be tough," said James, who scored 33 and rolled his right ankle in the first half. "Tomorrow I'll replay some plays and some moments and things of that nature. When I wake up Friday morning I'll be locked in on the game plan of what needs to be done to help our team win. That's just who I am."

Golden State will now have four chances to wrap up its title starting with Game 4 on Friday night. The Warriors are trying to join a select list of teams to win three championships in four years.

Kevin Love added 20 points for the Cavs, who have fallen into a hole in which no team has ever emerged. Cleveland came back from a 3-1 deficit to stun the Warriors in the 2016 finals, but that was when Durant was in Oklahoma City and James had a different supporting cast.

The Warriors won despite a 3-for-16 shooting performance from Curry, who did come up big down the stretch as the Cavs were trying to salvage their season.

Now Cleveland could be down to one final game with James, who recorded his 10th triple-double in the finals. The three-time champion can opt out of his \$35.6 million contract and test free agency this summer, and it may be time for the 33-year-old to find a team capable of beating the Warriors.

These Cavs can't figure it out.

Durant, who tilted this rivalry toward the West Coast when he signed with the Warriors as a free agent before last season, was brilliant from the start. He helped offset a rough night for Curry, who made a finals-record nine three-pointers in Game 2, but was just 1-for-10 from behind the arc and didn't

score his second field goal until there were under three minutes left.

Curry's scoop shot put the Warriors up 98-97 and defensive specialist Andre Iguodala, who didn't play in Games 1 or 2 because of a knee injury, came up with a steal under the basket. Curry finally buried a three and after James matched him with a long shot, Iguodala drove the lane for a thundering dunk.

Moments later, Durant delivered his dagger to silence Cleveland's crowd.

"No, that wasn't the same shot," James said when asked to compare Durant's three to last year's. "The one he made tonight was about four or five feet behind the one he made last year. He's an assassin. That was one of those assassin plays right there."

Durant scored 24 in the first half, when the Warriors attempted 13 free throws to zero for the Cavs, a disparity that induced further wrath on the officials from Cleveland fans still stinging from the now infamous reversed call in Game 1.

James arrived at 6 p.m. dressed more casually — camouflage pants, purple hoodie, "Billionaire Boys Club" baseball cap — than on the road where he and the Cavs have been wearing suits during the postseason.

Everything is more relaxed and familiar at home for James and his teammates, who were counting on a return to their own noisy building, where they play better and shoot better, to get them back into the series.

The Warriors had other plans.

**Comeback kid:** Iguodala, the 2015 finals MVP, scored eight points and made one steal in 22 minutes, but his impact went beyond those numbers.

"It was good just having him, settling the game down," guard Shaun Livingston said. "His defense was strong, whoever he was up against — LeBron or someone else — and his toughness makes everyone out there better."

## Briefly

### Colangelo out as 76ers GM

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Bryan Colangelo resigned Thursday as president of basketball operations for the Philadelphia 76ers in the wake of what an investigation found was "careless and in some instances reckless" share of sensitive team information.

The independent review by a law firm did not determine that Colangelo operated or was even aware of Twitter accounts that anonymously trashed some of his own players and fellow executives, and defended him against criticism from fans and the sports media.

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP said evidence supported the conclusion that Colangelo's wife, Barbara Bottini, operated the four accounts it investigated, and she admitted to doing so.

But the team says it had "become clear Bryan's relationship with our team and his ability to lead the 76ers moving forward has been compromised" and that it had accepted his resignation.

In other NBA news:

■ Two people familiar with the decision say Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry has agreed to a two-year extension running through the 2020-21 season.

The people spoke to The Associated Press Thursday on condition of anonymity because the agreement has not been announced.

### Owens declines to attend HOF ceremony

Terrell Owens says he will not attend the induction ceremony for the Pro Football Hall of Fame in August, an unprecedented decision by an enshrinee.

Owens was voted into the hall in February. The hall confirmed that the former All-Pro receiver informed them he would not be on hand Aug. 4 for the enshrinements. Owens heavily criticized the voting process when he failed to be elected to the hall in his first two years of eligibility.

# Halep, Stephens make French final

Associated Press

PARIS — Simona Halep emphatically ended the impressive French Open run of 2016 champion Garbine Muguruza with a 6-1, 6-4 victory in the semifinals on Thursday.

Halep's fourth chance to win her first Grand Slam title will come against reigning U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens, who beat a mistake-prone Madison Keys 6-4, 6-4 in the first all-American semifinal at Roland Garros since 2002.

Halep assured herself of retaining the No. 1 ranking and reached her third final in Paris. She lost both of the previous ones in three sets, to Maria Sharapova in 2014 and to Jelena Ostapenko in 2017.

"I will try my best," Halep told the crowd at Court Philippe Chatrier, "and hopefully I will be better than last year."

The Romanian also came up one victory shy of a major championship at the Australian Open in January, beaten there by Caroline Wozniacki.

That means Saturday's final

at the French Open will be Halep's third title match in the past five Grand Slam tournaments.

"I'm happy," she said, "that I can have another chance."

The 10th-seeded Stephens had never made it past the fourth round in Paris until now. After sitting out nearly a year because of an injured right foot that needed surgery in January 2017, she has soared up the rankings and now made it to her second major final in the past ninth months.

"Another great opportunity on Saturday, and I'm really looking forward to it," said Stephens, whose late father, John, was the 1988 NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year with the New England Patriots.

She improved to 3-0 against her longtime pal and Fed Cup teammate Keys, including their U.S. Open final last September.

"It's always hard playing someone from your country and such a good friend," Stephens said, "so I was really pleased to be able to get through that and play some good tennis."

Like Halep, Stephens is an

incredibly talented defensive player, and she kept stretching points until Keys would err. In all, Keys made 41 unforced errors, 30 more than Stephens.

Muguruza, a two-time major champion, entered the semifinals having not lost a set in the tournament. She also was coming off a lopsided victory in the quarterfinals a day earlier, overwhelming five-time major champion Maria Sharapova 6-2, 6-1.

But it took Muguruza quite a while to get going against Halep, who managed to keep sending ball after ball back over the net.

Backed by fans who loudly chanted her first name between games, Halep went ahead 3-0 in only 15 minutes with the help of only one winner. Of her first 14 points, 13 arrived via errors by Muguruza — nine unforced, four forced.

It was 5-0 by the time Muguruza eventually claimed a game.

Muguruza's last stand came at 4-all in the second set, a 13-

minute game in which she held three break points. But she failed to convert any of those, and Halep held there, before breaking at love to end it.

In two rain-interrupted men's quarterfinals that were suspended on Wednesday evening, No. 1 Rafael Nadal completed a 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 comeback over 11th-seeded Diego Schwartzman, and No. 5 Juan Martin del Potro defeated No. 3 Marin Cilic 7-6 (5), 5-7, 6-3, 7-5.

"Totally different guy yesterday," Schwartzman said of Nadal. "Maybe the day when you can beat Rafa was yesterday."

Nadal reached his 11th French Open semifinal as he bids for a record-extending 11th title at the clay-court major. Del Potro got back to the semifinals in Paris for the first time since 2009.

They will play each other on Friday, when the other men's semifinal is No. 7 Dominic Thiem of Austria against 72nd-ranked Marco Cecchinato of Italy.

## Justify arrives at Belmont for run at Crown

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Justify arrived in New York on Wednesday ahead of this weekend's Belmont Stakes, in which the colt will try to sweep the Triple Crown.

Justify traveled smoothly to Belmont Park via a flight from Louisville, Ky., and a van ride from an airport on Long Island. He was greeted by a throng of media recording every step as he walked into Barn 1, the same place American Pharoah stayed before ending the sport's 37-year drought with a Triple Crown sweep in 2015 and becoming the 12th horse to achieve the feat.

"It's just a different vibe," said Bob Baffert, who also trained Pharoah. "It's like we know it can be done."

Justify will face nine rivals on Saturday in the 1½-mile Belmont, the longest and most grueling of the three-race series. He brings a 5-0 career record to the race in which the colt is the morning-line favorite

at 4-5 odds.

"Now he has to just close the deal," Baffert said. "It's a lot of pressure, too. You're in New York. The place is going to be rocking. You want to see superstars."

Justify was greeted with squeals from horses already in the barn of trainer John Terranova, who hosts Baffert's out-of-town runners.

"He got their attention somehow. He must give off something," Baffert said. "When he got off the van, he was just dragging me around there."

Baffert was the victim of a bite on his hand from Justify the other day while walking the horse.

"He's a tough horse," the trainer said. "For about four seconds, you can love on him, but that's it."

Baffert had yet to decide exactly what the colt will do on Belmont Park's deep, sandy surface, although it won't be anything of consequence; his major training has been completed.

Justify won the Derby and Preakness on

sloppy tracks. Baffert prefers a dry, fast track.

Some of Justify's rivals have already tested the track after arriving earlier in the week.

Hofburg, the early 9-2 second choice, galloped on Wednesday and visited the paddock where he will be saddled on race day. Bravazo, the Preakness runner-up, also galloped.

Justify and Bravazo are the only horses that will compete in the Derby, Preakness and Belmont. Justify's half-length victory in the Preakness allowed Baffert to tie D. Wayne Lukas with his 14th victory in a Triple Crown race, the most by any trainer.

Now, Bravazo and Lukas will try to upend history.

"I think it'll get down to which horses have the pedigree and the stamina to finish," Lukas said.

That won't be known until Saturday because none of the horses has ever run 1½ miles in a race, and likely won't be asked to again in their careers.



# Ace Colon ties Marichal with 243rd win

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Bartolo Colon has always admired Hall of Fame pitcher and fellow countryman Juan Marichal.

Now the 45-year-old portly right-hander known as “Big Sexy” has matched the “Dominican Dandy” for the most wins by a pitcher born in the Dominican Republic.

Colon got his 243rd career victory after working five innings Wednesday night as the Texas Rangers beat the Oakland Athletics 8-2.

“It’s a little different tonight because I tied the mark of a Hall of Famer. I feel very proud and honored to do that,” Colon said through a translator. “It means a lot. He’s Dominican and the first guy from the Dominican to become a Hall of Famer.”

In his fourth attempt at the milestone

victory, Colon (3-3) got it against one of the 10 other major league teams he has pitched for since his big league debut in 1997 with Cleveland. He allowed two runs with one strikeout and two walks.

“Really incredible moment for Bartolo, for this team,” manager Jeff Banister said. “More importantly, I think for Bart, just continue to write his name in the history books and some legacy. ... To sit and watch a guy like this go out and compete every time he takes the ball, it’s incredible to watch.”

Colon leads all active pitchers with 243 wins and 3,383<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings pitched. His 2,499 strikeouts are third among active pitchers, behind CC Sabathia and Justin Verlander — all three are former AL Cy Young Award winners. Nicaragua’s Dennis Martinez, with 245, is the only Latin Amer-

ican native with more wins than Colon.

“Milestones are very important. That’s why I keep playing,” Colon said. “It’s not the money. It’s something I try to fulfill. That’s why I keep playing, to meet these goals.”

Marichal was 243-142 in 471 games (457 starts) for three teams from 1960-75, spending the first 14 of those 16 seasons with the San Francisco Giants. Colon is 243-179 in 550 games (539 starts)

Jurickson Profar homered twice, while Joey Gallo and Ronald Guzman also went deep for the Rangers in the first four innings against Oakland right-handed starter Daniel Mengden (6-5). Profar had his first multihomer game, and added a two-run single in the seventh for a career-high five RBIs.

## MLB roundup

# Judge, Stanton power Yankees’ offense

Associated Press

TORONTO — Aaron Judge hit a two-run homer to snap a scoreless tie in the 13th inning, Giancarlo Stanton went deep moments later and New York blanked Toronto 3-0 for a two-game sweep.

Yankees starter Sonny Gray allowed two hits in eight sparkling innings. Judge ended an 0-for-15 slump by connecting off Joe Biagini (0-5) for his team-leading 17th home run. Stanton added a laser shot to left field, his 14th, as New York won for the seventh time in eight games.

David Robertson (4-2) worked one inning and Aroldis Chapman finished for his 15th save in 16 opportunities.

Judge returned to the lineup after sitting out Tuesday. He went 0-for-9 with a record eight strikeouts in Monday’s doubleheader at Detroit.

The Yankees are the only major league team that hasn’t been shut out this season.

**Red Sox 7, Tigers 1:** Andrew Benintendi and Christian Vazquez each hit a solo homer and had an RBI double to back a strong start by Eduardo Rodriguez, carrying host Boston

over Detroit.

Xander Bogaerts added a two-run double during a four-run third inning for the Red Sox, who won their fourth straight game and improved their major league-best record to 43-19.

**Nationals 11, Rays 2:** Anthony Rendon had four hits and drove in three runs, Tanner Roark pitched six innings and host Washington routed Tampa Bay to sweep the two-game series.

Michael A. Taylor had three hits and three RBIs, while Trea Turner and Juan Soto had two hits each for Washington, which has won 11 of its last 15 games. Roark (3-6, 3.56 ERA) allowed two runs on six hits.

**Astros 7, Mariners 5:** Evan Gattis hit a two-run homer early and Yuli Gurriel added a two-RBI single in a four-run seventh inning that lifted Houston over visiting Seattle.

The victory ends a three-game skid for Houston and snaps a five-game winning streak by the Mariners, who still have a one-game lead over the Astros atop the American League West standings.

**Orioles 1, Mets 0:** Manny Machado had a sacrifice fly,

Dylan Bundy was stellar over seven scoreless innings and major league-worst Baltimore beat host New York to sweep a two-game interleague series.

**Indians 3, Brewers 1:** Carlos Carrasco struck out 10 and allowed one run in seven innings, and Cleveland defeated visiting Milwaukee.

**Padres 3, Braves 1:** Matt Strahm and four relievers combined on a four-hitter and host San Diego beat Atlanta to take two of three from the Braves.

**Rockies 6, Reds 3:** At Cincinnati, Ian Desmond hit a two-run homer, and Gerardo Parra and Tony Wolters each drove in a pair of runs as the bottom of Colorado’s batting order powered the Rockies past the Reds.

The Reds fell to 21-41 overall. They’ve matched the 1950 team for second-worst start in franchise history.

**Giants 5, Diamondbacks 4 (10):** Pinch-hitter Alen Hanson had a tying, two-run homer off Brad Boxberger with two outs in the ninth inning, Brandon Crawford singled home Andrew McCutchen in the 10th and host San Francisco beat Arizona for its sixth win in seven games.

**Pirates 11, Dodgers 9:** Josh

Harrison went 2-for-3 with a bases-clearing double, David Freese and Gregory Polanco drove in two runs each and host Pittsburgh broke out of an extended offensive funk by outlasting Los Angeles.

Corey Dickerson had three of Pittsburgh’s 10 hits and scored four times as the Pirates won for just the fifth time in 18 games to avoid dropping below .500 for the first time all season.

**Angels 4, Royals 3:** Justin Upton homered for the third time in four games and Los Angeles defeated visiting Kansas City after Shohei Ohtani was removed early because of a blister on his pitching hand.

**Marlins 11, Cardinals 3:** Derek Dietrich homered and had four hits to lead Miami past host St. Louis.

**White Sox 5, Twins 2:** Tim Anderson had two hits and drove in two runs and Hector Santiago earned the victory against his former team as visiting Chicago beat Minnesota.

**Cubs 7, Phillies 5:** Jason Heyward hit a game-ending grand slam off Adam Morgan with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning to give host Chicago a victory over Philadelphia.