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Trump makes US history in North Korea

BY KIM GAMEL
AND YOO KYONG
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — President Donald Trump shook hands with Kim Jong Un, then became the first sitting American president to step onto North Korean territory Sunday in an extraordinary impromptu summit aimed at boosting stalled nuclear talks.

Trump called it a “very legendary, very historic day” and said the two sides agreed to have designated teams resume negotiations in two to three weeks, which would be more than four months after their second meeting in Vietnam ended without agreement.

“We’re not looking for speed. We’re looking to get it right,” Trump told reporters after ending a nearly hourlong sit-down with Kim in the Demilitarized Zone.

However, experts noted that North Korea’s nuclear weapons program remains largely intact despite more than a year of grand gestures by the two unpredictable leaders, who have gone from trading personal insults and threats of war to professing friendship.

The encounter ended hours of suspense after Trump tweeted an invitation to Kim to hold a meet-and-greet at the DMZ. North Korea responded positively but did not make a firm commitment, and Trump played down expectations, saying any meeting would likely last no more than five minutes.

After touring other sights in the highly fortified area, Trump was driven in a convoy to the Joint Security Area, as the section that straddles the border in the truce village of Panmunjom is known.

He and Kim then appeared on their respective sides and

President thanks troops, families after Kim summit

BY KIM GAMEL
AND MATTHEW KEELER
Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — With the backdrop of a giant American flag, President Donald Trump thanked American troops and the families who support them on Sunday after his historic meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Trump flew to Osan Air Base, south of Seoul, directly from the Demilitarized Zone, where he held an extended talk with Kim.

He exited his Marine One presidential helicopter to cheers as he walked to the podium to address hundreds of troops assembled from all four branches in an Air Force hangar.

Organizers said more than 2,000 people were in the audience, including 25 specially selected participants from each branch of service who sat in reserved bleachers behind the president.

“To all of the service-

members from U.S. Forces Korea, today I’m here to tell you that 330 million American hearts beat with the gratitude for your selfless acts,” Trump said in his final appearance on the divided peninsula before flying home.

“We’re also joined by many amazing military spouses and families. Those families and those spouses, they keep you going. You wouldn’t be the same without them. We know that,” he added. “America is forever grateful for your service and for your devotion.”

Many troops said Trump appeared very personable and expressed excitement about meeting their commander-in-chief.

“I was feeling very privileged,” said Army Sgt. Mary Gian Barnes, 25, of San Diego, who immigrated to the United States from the Philippines.

“It’s nice to see him up there and talking to us directly,” she said.

began walking toward each other, meeting at the concrete curb that serves as the Military Demarcation Line.

The two leaders shook hands before Trump stepped across the curb and walked several feet with Kim into North Korea. The two men then walked back and Kim crossed into the South, where he shook hands with a waiting South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

“It’s a great honor to be here,” Trump said after returning to the South Korean side. He also said he was ready to invite Kim to the White House, and Kim responded that he’d like Trump to visit the North Korean capital Pyongyang.

Kim called the visit an expression of his willingness to work toward a new future.

The three men then walked into the South Korean building

known as the Freedom House, where Kim and Trump talked for about 50 minutes.

Trump noted that what had been expected to be a short meeting had extended into a lengthy sit-down.

“Leaving South Korea after a wonderful meeting with Chairman Kim Jong Un,” he tweeted as he flew home. “Stood on the soil of North Korea, an important statement for all, and a great honor!”

It was his third meeting with Kim since they met in another historic first on June 12, 2018, in Singapore. A second summit in late February in Hanoi, Vietnam, ended without agreement after the two sides failed to bridge a wide gap over U.S.-led economic sanctions.

The stakes were high as the U.S. administration has been seeking to break a deadlock in talks with North Korea over its banned nuclear weapons program.

Negotiations began in force last year after months of hostilities as the North displayed strong progress toward developing a nuclear weapon that could target the U.S. mainland.

The meeting underscored Trump’s determination to use his personal negotiating style to try to persuade the North to abandon its nuclear weapons. The two men were shown sitting before a row of interspersed U.S. and North Korean flags, suggesting the Americans had preplanned for the possibility of a sit-down.

Earlier, Trump and Moon were escorted to Operation Post Ouellette, which overlooks North Korea’s side of the heavy fortified border, a 2.5-mile wide, 155-mile long buffer zone that was carved after the 1950-53 Korean War.

Military discusses fuel spills at Yokota

BY SETH ROBSON
AND HANA KUSUMOTO
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Dozens of undisclosed accidents at this U.S. air base in western Tokyo that were exposed by a local media report didn't meet the threshold for reporting to Japanese authorities, U.S. military officials said.

A list of the accidents, including the fuel spills, at Yokota between 2010 and 2017 was highlighted Wednesday by Japan's Mainichi Shimbun following a freedom of information request.

The newspaper noted 134

accidents, including 42 spills involving 10 gallons or more of fuel, a spill of 734 gallons of diesel fuel from a tank in February 2012 and a midflight leakage of 2,790 gallons of jet fuel from a C-130 Hercules in September 2016.

The report said Japanese authorities were informed of only three accidents — a spill of about 10 gallons of jet fuel from a hose during the refueling of a KC-10 in July 2010; a leak of roughly 100 gallons of fuel from a C-130 in March 2017; and a spill of about 50 gallons of hydraulic fluid from a C-5 in July 2017.

U.S. Forces Japan told Stars

and Stripes in a statement Wednesday that most spills at Yokota are low volume, never leave the paved surface of the flight line and are quickly and easily cleaned up.

"Others may be more significant, and we deal with them appropriately," the statement said. "In reality, virtually all spills, both reportable and non-reportable, are quickly and easily cleaned up, do not result in permanent damage to the environment or hazards to humans and do not go beyond the confines of the base."

The U.S. government maintains responsibility for responding to fuel leaks within

facilities and areas granted to it within Japan and has consistently fulfilled those responsibilities, the statement said.

Bilateral agreements set out guidelines for reporting spills to the Japanese government, USFJ said.

"The primary criteria we use is whether or not the spill has the potential for significant impact to the off-base environment and community," the statement said. "The overwhelming majority of the spills that were highlighted in the Mainichi reporting did not meet the established bilateral criteria for reporting."

Military families still supporting tsunami victims

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — On a recent humid Tuesday morning, Masako Sullivan and several military families loaded bag after bag of donated children's clothing into a van she'd rented from the base.

They've been doing this annually for eight years.

The donations were headed to the cities of Fukushima and Ishinomaki, in the northeastern Japanese prefectures of Fukushima and Miyagi, the scenes

of a magnitude 9.0 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear power plant meltdown in March 2011.

Sullivan started Helping Hands for Tohoku — an annual donation drive and delivery named for the region where the triple disaster occurred — about a month later and keeps it going though she moved to the United States in 2012.

Nearly a decade after the disaster, victims continue rebuilding their lives in Tohoku, and Helping Hands is still involved. Many of the American volunteers have moved on to other posts around the world

while others are back on their second or third tours in Japan. The continuing recovery in Tohoku brings them together despite the many moves that come with military life.

Immediately after the disaster, Navy families in Yokosuka wanted to help but didn't know how. The language barrier was challenging for most, Sullivan said, so the Japan native created Helping Hands and acted as liaison between the base community and local shelters for victims.

"We collected and delivered tons of donations to shelters in

Yokohama and Kawasaki every week," Sullivan said. "We saw the evacuees smile and laugh every time Navy families visited them with donations and home-baked goods."

While weekly donations are not necessary eight years later, a great need still exists. Navy spouse Alli Krug is one of the newest volunteers, and on that Tuesday, she brought boxes of clothing, shoes and athletic gear donated by her son's ice hockey team. Krug said the need is still critical years after the tsunami that killed 19,000.

Black Hawk pilot receives Distinguished Service Cross

The Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer

When then-Chief Warrant Officer 3 Christopher C. Palumbo found out he couldn't get back to a battle in Afghanistan, he was so mad that he drop-kicked his flight helmet.

Palumbo, a Black Hawk helicopter pilot, received the Distinguished Service Cross Award on Thursday for his ac-

tions during that battle on April 11, 2005. The award is the Army's second-highest for valor. Palumbo initially received the Silver Star for his actions, but the award was upgraded after the military decided to review medals awarded for actions in Afghanistan and Iraq.

At the time of the battle, Palumbo was with Company

A, 3rd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment stationed in Germany.

He and his crew had reloaded with ammunition and were preparing to head back to a mountainous area where insurgents were attacking Special Forces soldiers.

After their bullet-riddled helicopter started leaking fuel, he

asked for another aircraft, but was denied.

One of the soldiers told Palumbo to leave. He replied with "not nice words" and put the helicopter between the enemy troops and the Special Forces team.

The Black Hawk had more than 50 bullet holes after the battle.

Afghan Taliban: Latest US talks 'critical'

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — The Taliban said Sunday that the latest round of peace talks with the United States is “critical” as the two sides “rewrite” a draft agreement in which American forces would withdraw from Afghanistan in exchange for guarantees from the insurgents that they would fight terrorism.

“We are working to rewrite the draft agreement and incorporate in it clauses that have been agreed upon,” Taliban spokesman Suhail Shaheen told The Associated Press on the second day of talks with U.S. peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad in Qatar, where the militant group maintains a political office.

He cautioned that while the work was continuing, it is “not finished yet.”

The two sides are trying to hammer out agreements that would see the eventual withdrawal of over 20,000 U.S. and NATO troops from Afghanistan and the end of America’s longest-running war. The agreements are expected to include guarantees that Afghanistan will not harbor groups like al-Qaida, which was based there in the lead-up to the Sept. 11 attacks, and that

the Taliban will continue fighting Islamic State, which has expanded its presence in recent years.

The latest round of talks began on Saturday and is expected to continue into this week.

The two sides sat down to negotiate just days after U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Washington was hopeful of reaching a deal by Sept. 1 to end Afghanistan’s protracted war.

“Getting a comprehensive peace agreement with the Taliban before Sept. 1 would be nothing short of a miracle,” said Michael Kugelman, deputy director of the Asia Program at the U.S.-based Wilson Center.

“That said, I could certainly envision a more limited deal being in place by Sept. 1 on a U.S. troop withdrawal, given that there’s already been ample progress on this issue.”

Pompeo and Khalilzad have both said the final accord will include not only agreements with the Taliban on troop withdrawal and guarantees of a nonthreatening Afghanistan but also agreement on intra-Afghan dialogue and a permanent cease-fire.

Until now the Taliban has refused direct talks with the Afghan government while holding two separate meetings with a wide array of prominent Afghans, including former President Hamid Karzai, members of the former northern alliance that fought the Taliban during its five-year rule and individual members of the government.

The Taliban view President Ashraf Ghani’s government as an American puppet but have said they will meet with members of his administration as individuals. The insurgents, who effectively control half the country, have refused a cease-fire until the U.S. withdrawal is complete.

The accelerated pace of negotiations and the sudden announcement of a Sept. 1 target date for an agreement could be linked to Ghani’s insistence on presidential polls scheduled for Sept. 28, analysts said.

His political opponents have objected to the election schedule, pointing to last October’s poorly run parliamentary polls. The voting was so badly mismanaged that Ghani fired the entire Independent Election Commission. Several parliamentary seats are still being contested.

50 years of LGBTQ pride showcased nationwide

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Five decades of LGBTQ pride was celebrated Sunday as crowds gathered outside New York’s historic Stonewall Inn to mark the 50th anniversary of the police raid that sparked the modern-day gay rights movement, as other cities throughout the country planned massive parades.

More than 2,000 people gathered Sunday morning outside the bar where patrons resisted a police raid in 1969 to kick off the countermarch prior to the larger parade slated to start later in the day.

The organizers of the Queer Liberation March said the larger pride parade has become too commercialized and heavily policed.

“What’s important to remember is that this is a protest against the monetization of the pride parade, against the police

brutality of our community, against the poor treatment of sections of our community, of black and brown folk, of immigrants,” said Jake Seller, 24, an Indiana native who now lives in Brooklyn and worked as one of the march’s volunteers.

Organizers said at least 150,000 people are expected to march, with hundreds of thousands more lining the streets to watch.

The pride march concluded a month of Stonewall commemorations in New York that included rallies, parties, film showings and a human rights conference. The celebration coincides with WorldPride, an international LGBTQ event that started in Rome in 2000 and was held in New York last week.

Other pride events took place Sunday around the U.S. and the world.

Schumer: ATF should probe Dominican Republic deaths

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Senate’s top Democrat called on the U.S. government Sunday to step up its efforts to investigate the deaths of Americans who traveled to the Dominican Republic and is asking the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to get involved.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said the agency should step in to lend investigative support to the FBI and local law enforcement officials after at least eight Americans died in the Dominican Republic this year. Family members of the tourists have called on authorities to investigate whether there’s any connection between the deaths and have raised the possibility the deaths may have been caused by adulterated alcohol or misused pesticides.

The ATF — the agency primarily investigates firearms-

related crimes but is also charged with regulating alcohol and tobacco — is uniquely positioned to provide technical and forensic expertise in the investigation, Schumer said. The agency also has offices in the Caribbean.

“Given that we still have a whole lot of questions and very few answers into just what, if anything, is cause for the recent spate of sicknesses and several deaths of Americans in the Dominican Republic, the feds should double their efforts on helping get to the bottom of things,” Schumer said in a statement to The Associated Press.

An ATF spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Francisco Javier Garcia, the tourism minister in the Dominican Republic, said autopsies show the tourists died of natural causes.

US, China facing tough task despite truce

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Once again, Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping have hit the reset button in trade talks between the world's two biggest economies, at least delaying an escalation in tension between the U.S. and China that had financial markets on edge and cast a cloud over the global economy.

But when U.S. and Chinese negotiators sit down to work out details, the same difficult task remains: getting China to convince the United States that it will curb its aggressive push to challenge American technological dominance — and then

to live up to its promises.

At the Group of 20 meeting in Osaka, Japan, Trump and Xi agreed to a cease-fire in the trade conflict.

Trump said Saturday he would hold off for the “time being” on plans to impose tariffs on \$300 billion more in Chinese imports — on top of the \$250 billion he’s already targeted. That decision will jumpstart trade talks that stalled last month.

Addressing another contentious issue, Trump said he will now allow U.S. companies to sell some components to Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei, which last month was put on an American blacklist

as a threat to national security. Trump said that Huawei will stay on the blacklist, however, and that its future won’t be decided until the end of the trade talks.

Neil Shearing, London-based chief economist at Capital Economics, predicted that financial markets will rally with relief when they reopen Monday. “But I don’t think this marks the turning of the tide,” he said. “Talks will ebb and flow, but the direction over the next 12 months will be toward renewed escalation because issues around industrial strategy will prove to be so intractable.”

The Trump administration says China is trying to

cheat its way to dominance in the cutting-edge technologies of the future such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing.

“This is a truce for now — for Xi, ahead of the Communist Party celebrations in October and for Trump, dependent on how his re-election campaign progresses,” said Diana Choyeva, chief economist at Enodo Economics.

“But as we’ve said before, fundamentally, this dispute is about much more than trade — it’s part of a longer-term Great Decoupling that stems from a conflict over technological supremacy and geopolitical power.”

Tens of thousands rally against army rule in Sudan

Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Tens of thousands of protesters took to the streets in Sudan’s capital and elsewhere in the country on Sunday calling for civilian rule nearly three months after the army forced out long-ruling autocrat Omar al-Bashir.

The demonstrations came amid a week-long standoff between the ruling military council and protest leaders. Talks between the two sides over a power-sharing agreement collapsed last month when security forces violently broke up a protest camp in Khartoum.

The ensuing clampdown killed at least

128 people across the country, according to protest organizers. Authorities say the toll was 61, including three security forces.

The marches, the first since the June 3 crackdown, also mark the 30th anniversary of the Islamist-backed coup that brought al-Bashir to power in 1989, toppling Sudan’s last elected government. The military removed al-Bashir in April amid mass protests against his rule.

The crowds gathered at several points across the capital and its sister city of Omdurman before marching toward the homes of those killed since the uprising began.

“This is a very important day for the Sudanese people,” protester Hamdi Kara-

mallah said.

On Sunday, protesters chanted anti-military slogans like “Burhan’s council, just fall”, according to video clips circulated online. Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan is head of the military council.

Video clips showed protesters running away from security forces in the streets of Khartoum and seeking shelter from clouds of tear gas. They waved Sudanese flags and chanted slogans calling for civilian rule.

Gen. Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, deputy head of the military council, said the generals want to reach an “urgent and comprehensive agreement with no exclusion.”

Venezuelan official: Talks to break deadlock set to resume

Associated Press

BOGOTA, Colombia — Negotiations aimed at breaking Venezuela’s political standoff will resume this week, likely on the Caribbean island of Barbados, according to three people familiar with the talks between representatives of President Nicolas Maduro and the U.S.-backed opposition leader, Juan Guaido.

The sources, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither side has yet publicly

confirmed its participation, said the location for the talks will be decided by the government of Norway, which is leading the mediation effort and hosted two previous rounds of exploratory talks in May.

The decision to resume talks came as Maduro’s government on Saturday released 59 Colombians who rights groups said were arbitrarily detained in 2016. The United Nations immediately praised the move, which came days after a visit to Caracas by its top human rights official, Michelle Bachelet. It

said it expects more prisoner releases in the coming days.

Guaido has downplayed the possibility of a breakthrough, insisting that the condition for any talks be early presidential elections — something Maduro has so far rejected.

But the 35-year-old is wary of walking away from the negotiating table and handing a symbolic victory to Maduro until it’s clear the embattled socialist has no real intention of yielding power. The opposition has complained that Mad-

uro has used past negotiations sponsored by the Vatican and others to buy time.

Maduro has insisted on dialogue with the opposition as the only way forward for Venezuela as crippling U.S. oil sanctions exacerbate a crisis marked by food, fuel and medicine shortages that have forced a whopping 4 million people — 10% of Venezuela’s population — to flee the country in recent years.

“I want the dialogue to continue, and it is going to continue,” he said Thursday.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Group wants used bras for turtles

NC INDIAN TRAIL — A North Carolina animal rescue group is appealing to women not to throw out their old bras but instead to send them to their agency to help turtles with broken shells.

News outlets reported Carolina Waterfowl Rescue is asking women through social media to remove the eye closures from the fasteners and mail them in. Rescue group worker Keenan Freitas said the eye closures basically help wire the turtle shell back together.

The nonprofit has been seeing as many as 40 turtles a week during the past month. It says many of them have been run over by cars, lawn mowers and boats.

2 charged with using BB gun in robberies

IL CHICAGO — Two teenagers who allegedly used a BB gun to rob four downtown Chicago businesses were arrested on federal charges.

The Chicago Sun-Times reported that Brantez Evans, 18, and Lamarr Brown, 19, are accused of robbing three Subway restaurants and one minimart in June.

Each federal robbery charge carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

They were charged federally because the robberies of the Subway restaurants is considered to be obstruction of interstate commerce.

Commissioners vote to ban swingers clubs

IN FORT WAYNE — Commissioners in north-eastern Indiana's Allen County voted to implement rules that

would prohibit swingers clubs and other businesses involving live sex acts.

WANE-TV reported that the regulations also would require licenses for new sexually oriented businesses.

The new regulations would allow commissioners to oversee the time, manner and place that sexually oriented businesses could operate in the county.

They do not apply to sexually oriented businesses in Fort Wayne, New Haven or Leo-Cedarville.

Commissioner Nelson Peters said the board decided to review its regulations after a business owner filed a federal lawsuit against Fort Wayne in 2018.

Driver strikes man mowing, leaves scene

NH DERRY — Police were looking for a driver who struck a Derry man while he was mowing his lawn and then drove away.

John Pothier suffered serious leg and arm injuries when he was hit. His wife, Paula Beverage, told WMUR-TV he also is fighting kidney failure but had been feeling upbeat about getting on a transplant list. She said he decided to mow the lawn because he was feeling a bit energetic that day.

Police said the car's passenger side mirror was left behind, and they believe it may have come from a Ford vehicle.

Ex-inmate's suit over prosthesis settled

WA EVERETT — Snohomish County agreed to pay a former jail inmate \$50,000 to settle a federal civil rights lawsuit alleging jail medical officials delayed providing him treatment for a badly fitting prosthetic leg because it would cost too much.

The Seattle Times reported Dylan Downey was booked into jail in 2016 on vehicular assault charges stemming from a motorcycle crash that hurt a passenger and resulted in his leg being amputated.

His lawsuit said Downey told jail officials that his prosthesis was painful and needed to be fitted or he risked future complications.

The lawsuit states Downey received adequate treatment once he was in the state's custody but continued to have problems because of the county's failure to act.

Antique engines on display at annual show

MA ORANGE — The 43rd annual Yankee Engine-uity Show featuring antique engines and tractors was held over the weekend.

The Recorder of Greenfield reported that this year's event, hosted by the Central Massachusetts Steam Gas & Machinery Association, featured antique engines and tractors, cars and trucks, steam engines and old machinery.

Organizer Grover Ballou said one of the highlights of this year's show was the 1893 Cagney Steam Train, which is currently being restored.

Visits limited at leaky Battleship Texas

TX LA PORTE — Public visits to the 107-year-old Battleship Texas near Houston will be limited during cataloging of thousands of artifacts on board amid plans for \$35 million in ship repairs.

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department announced that starting July 8, the vessel at the Battleship Texas State Historic Site in La Porte will close to visitors Monday through

Thursday. The ship will be open Friday through Sunday.

Department spokeswoman Stephanie Garcia said artifacts on board must be taken care of before the ship goes into dry dock to fix the leaking hull.

Fast food worker saves choking boy

GA FLOWERYBRANCH — Surveillance camera video shows a Chick-Fil-A employee jumping through a drive-thru window to save a choking boy in Georgia.

WSB-TV reported Chick-Fil-A employee Logan Simmons said he overheard a panicking mother yell that her son's seat belt was choking him.

Simmons can be seen in the video climbing through the window to get to the vehicle in the parking lot.

He said he used a pocket-knife to free the child, who was beginning to turn red.

The outlet reported that the boy's mother called Simmons to thank him again, calling him a hero.

Meow the cat is found after nearly 3 years

KS GARDNER — A cat named Meow was reunited with her suburban Kansas City owners after she went missing nearly three years ago.

The Kansas City Star reported that Meow escaped after Taylor Jezik moved to a new apartment complex in Gardner. She said her son, Charlie, was devastated.

Last week, she received a text message, saying her cat had been found. Gardner police said the cat was spotted outside after a rainstorm and taken to an animal hospital, where employees scanned Meow's microchip.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

New champs emerge for women as 'Big 3' men keep on rolling

Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — As the start of Wimbledon approaches, two recent trends capture the completely disparate states of men's and women's tennis at the moment.

Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic have combined to win the past 10 Grand Slam tournaments, while nine women collected trophies in that span — including a half-dozen first-time major winners.

And consider this: There hasn't been a first-time men's champ at any Slam tournament since Marin Cilic at the 2014 U.S. Open.

"If you start looking at the stats," said Kevin Anderson, the runner-up to Djokovic at Wimbledon last year, "it's really unbelievable."

At the All England Club, where play begins Monday, the superiority of that select group of men is particularly pronounced. One needs to go all the way back to 2002 to find a men's champion outside of the quartet of Federer, Nadal, Djokovic and Andy Murray, who will be playing only doubles this time as he works his way back from hip surgery.

Since Federer claimed his initial Grand Slam title at Wimbledon in 2003, he has won the grass-court tournament a men's-record eight times. Djokovic owns four trophies at Wimbledon; Nadal has two. They rank 1-3 in overall majors for men, with Federer atop the list at 20, Nadal next at 18 and Djokovic third at 15.

"We were happy to win one. Now, if you win one, you're a loser," said Pat Cash, the 1987 champion at Wimbledon and twice the runner-up at the Australian Open.

"It's absolutely mind-boggling to see the standard of ten-

nis that these guys are playing at this age. And the motivation. That's the thing: the motivation. Once I won a Grand Slam, I was (thinking): 'That's enough. I'll go hang out with my family.' They're motivated to keep going."

Federer turns 38 in August, Nadal is 33 and Djokovic 32.

For quite a while now, the questions have been: How long will the Big Three continue to rule the sport?

That same dynamic was in play for years in women's tennis, but with just one player dominating: Serena Williams. She accumulated title after title, only occasionally facing much resistance while raising her count to 23 singles majors, more than anyone in the Open era, which dates to 1968.

That left her one short of equaling Margaret Court's total of 24, accomplished against both amateurs and professionals.

Williams took a break from the tour after winning the 2017 Australian Open while pregnant and, not coincidentally, that was the start of the current anyone-can-win stretch, in which Ash Barty, Naomi Osaka, Simona Halep, Caroline Wozniacki, Sloane Stephens and Jelena Ostapenko each won her first major championship.

Barty's subsequent rise to No. 1 in the ranking highlighted another way in which men's and women's tennis have been different: She was the 17th player to sit atop the WTA since 2005; only four men — Federer, Nadal, Djokovic and Murray — have led the ATP in those years.

Despite a career record of 2-3 at Wimbledon, Barty is the bookmakers' favorite. Djokovic, Federer and Nadal are, not surprisingly, the top choices among men.

Williams' coach says seven-time Wimbledon winner is 'pain free'

Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — It's hard to know exactly what Serena Williams will be able to do over the next two weeks at the All England Club.

On the one hand, due at least in part to an injured left knee, Williams is short on matches and training time this season, factors she cited after her third-round exit June 1 at the French Open, her most recent tournament.

She has only 12 tour-level matches so far in 2019. Just four of the other 127 women in the Wimbledon field have fewer; 105 have at least twice as many.

Even Saturday — when she declared she's "feeling better" and her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, said the 37-year-old American "doesn't have pain anymore" — Williams let out a chuckle when she proclaimed, "I've had a good week and a half."

Hardly the ideal amount of practice to try to get ready for Grand Slam competition.

And yet, on the other hand, as Williams put it with a wry smile, "I know how to play tennis."

Yes. Yes, she does.

This is, after all, a seven-time champion and three-time runner-up, including last year, on the grass at Wimbledon, where play begins Monday. She also is the owner of 23 Grand Slam singles trophies in all, more than anyone else in the professional era and one shy of equaling Margaret Court's record for the most in tennis history.

"She didn't do anything, really, like what she usually does, in terms of results this year. Even in Australia, she lost quite early for her, the quarters. So she hasn't played her best," Mouratoglou said, before uttering a single sentence that speaks volumes: "But she's Serena."

"And," he added in an interview, "the weapons she has are probably even more efficient on grass than on any other surface."

After the French Open, and

her earliest loss at any major since 2014, Williams stuck around in Paris to see doctors.

Then, as usual, she skipped all tuneup events on grass. Williams started practicing in the middle of last week, starting with about a half-hour on court on Day 1 and working her way up to a couple of hours, plus gym time, by Day 4.

"The great news is she's pain-free now. In Roland Garros, she was in a lot of pain. The preparation was difficult because of that reason. So we were more trying to deal with the pain, rather than prepare for a Grand Slam," Mouratoglou said. "Here, it's different. We got rid of the pain 15 days after Roland Garros and we finally prepared the way we want to prepare. It was a bit short, but she's doing better every day. The surface is great for her. She doesn't have pain anymore. It's heaven."

Williams could get a chance to ease into things. Her first-round opponent is qualifier Giulia Gatto-Monticone of Italy, who will be making her debut in Wimbledon's main draw. Next might come another qualifier.

Then things should get more interesting. Quickly. In the third round, Williams could face No. 18 seed Julie Goerges, her semifinal opponent a year ago. Get past her, and defending champion Angelique Kerber might be waiting. Get through that test, and No. 1 Ash Barty could be next. And that would only be to make the quarterfinals.

Indeed, that entire quarter is the bracket's most challenging. Past Wimbledon champions Maria Sharapova and Garbine Muguruza are there, along with grass-court talents such as No. 13 Belinda Bencic, No. 22 Donna Vekic and Alison Riske.

"Everyone called it the 'Death Quarter,' so I had to look," Vekic said. "It's definitely a tough part of the draw."

Mouratoglou's take?

"It's tough for the others," he said. "I wouldn't want to be in the part of the draw that Serena's in."

Penguins ship Kessel to Coyotes

Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — The Arizona Coyotes were one of the NHL's best defensive teams last season while just missing their first playoff appearance in six years.

The biggest reason they came up short: Lack of scoring.

The Coyotes took a step toward shoring up their long-standing scoring woes on Saturday, acquiring productive winger Phil Kessel from the Pittsburgh Penguins for center Alex Galchenyuk.

Minor league defenseman Pierre-Olivier Joseph also will go to Pittsburgh and the Coyotes get minor league defenseman Dane Birks and a 2021 fourth-round draft pick.

"We felt the ability to add a scorer was the primary need for our group," Coyotes GM John Chayka said during a conference call. "Phil has been one of the best offensive producers in the league for a long time."

Arizona has been a defensive-minded team since Dave Tippett's eight seasons in the desert. The Coyotes rode the shutdown approach to the 2012 Western Conference Finals, but haven't been to the playoffs since — in part because they struggle scoring.

Kessel should give them a big boost.

The 31-year-old had 27 goals and 55 assists with the Penguins last season, his fourth with the team. He won Stanley Cup titles with Pittsburgh in 2016-17 with current Coyotes coach Rick Tocchet, then a Penguins assistant.

Kessel has scored at least 30 goals six times during a 13-year NHL career that includes stints with Boston and Toronto. He had 34 goals with the Penguins in 2017-18.

"I'm just coming in to do what I do best and try to help the team win as many games as possible," Kessel said. "I think they're an up-and-coming team, they've got a lot of pieces in place and I want to help them along."

Kessel's relationship with Tocchet helped spark Arizona's interest.

Tocchet was dubbed the "Phil Whisperer" during his time as an assistant with Pittsburgh from 2014-17 for his ability to reach Kessel, something head coach Mike Sullivan struggled to do during his three-plus year partnership with the talented forward.

"For all the noise that goes on about him, he's got two Stanley Cups," Chayka said. "Toc knows what we're getting."

Sweden advances to semis

Associated Press

RENNES, France — With Germany out of the way, Sweden believes it could win it all.

Stina Blackstenius scored the go-ahead goal just minutes into the second half and Sweden surprised Germany with a 2-1 quarterfinal victory Saturday night at the Women's World Cup.

It was Sweden's first victory over Germany in a major tournament in 24 years, and it sent the ninth-ranked Swedes into the semifinals against the Netherlands.

"We're going to go for it," Sweden coach Peter Gerhardsson said.

The second-ranked Germans, who won back-to-back World Cup titles in 2003 and 2007, were the presumptive favorites on their side of the bracket. Instead, they'll head home.

Germany coach Martina Voss-Tecklenburg said her team seemed to lose focus.

"We knew it was going to be difficult," she said. "We shall not let this bring us down. We have to make sure this process goes on despite the defeat, to keep on growing, to gain strength and channel this negative experience into something positive and to learn our lessons from it."

The eighth-ranked Dutch defeated Italy 2-0 earlier Saturday, setting up the semifinal Wednesday in Lyon. The United States plays England in the other semifinal on Tuesday. The final is July 7.

Sweden's victory came in a rematch of the 2003 World Cup final which Germany won 2-1 in Carson, Calif. The teams also met in the final at the 2016 Olympics, with Germany winning its first gold medal with a 2-1 victory.

Sweden's last win over Germany in a major tournament was in the group stage of the 1995 World Cup.

"We knew we had a chance, and then of course we had to play our best game of the tournament to be able to beat Germany," Gerhardsson said. "So I'm not surprised, but I knew we had to play and perform at our best on the offense and the defense. And I think we did."

Lina Magull's fantastic finish on a half-volley put Germany up in the 16th minute, with Sara Daebritz setting up the goal that veteran Sweden goalkeeper Hedvig Lindahl couldn't get to.

Sweden's Sofia Jakobsson tied it in the 22nd minute with a strike that went under the outstretched leg of German goalkeeper Almuth Schult.

It was the first goal the Germans had allowed at this World Cup, stopping a streak of 381 scoreless minutes. In 2007, Germany went a record 540 minutes without conceding a goal.

Blackstenius scored on a rebound off Fridolina Rolfo's header just about three minutes into the second half to break the stalemate.

"I'm really happy. I'm so proud of the team, the players in the game, the players sitting on the bench, the staff. We're doing this together," Jakobsson said. "I'm so grateful to be on a team like this."

With the win, Sweden also secured a spot in the 2020 Olympics, along with the Netherlands and Great Britain. The top three European teams at the World Cup qualify for an Olympic berth.

The Germans had won 12 straight matches going into the World Cup.

US coach Ellis: Scoping out hotel was preparation, not arrogance

Associated Press

LYON, France — Preparing for the Women's World Cup semifinal against the United States, coach Phil Neville was irritated to discover the Americans scoping out England's hotel.

U.S. coach Jill Ellis insisted it was a sign of good preparation rather than arrogance, but Neville suggested it could be a disciplinary matter for the staff dispatched to the hotel and bad etiquette.

As the designated home team, England had first choice of hotels and so will the winner of Tuesday's semifinal as they prepare for the final, which is also being played in Lyon.

A pair of U.S. staffers visited the Fourviere Hotel, which is close to the old town, while England was out at a practice session Sunday.

"I think that's important to do your job," Ellis said. "So in terms of arrogance I think that's got nothing to do with us. That's planning and preparation for our staff. So I think that's pretty normal."

Not so, according to Neville. He thinks Ellis should have been far tougher.

"I just thought, 'What are they doing?'" Neville said of the Americans. "It's not etiquette, really. It's not something I would allow from our organization."

Astros' Gurriel hits 2nd straight game-winner

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Yuli Gurriel's right ankle was bothering him after Houston's first baseman turned it running to first base in the seventh inning on Saturday night.

But manager AJ Hinch didn't want to take him out with the game tied after he'd hit the game-winning home run for a 2-1 win in the 10th inning over the Seattle Mariners a night earlier.

Hinch's instinct to leave Gurriel in the game paid off when he doubled in the 10th inning for his second straight last at-bat game winner, lifting the Astros to a 6-5 win over the Mariners.

"When the game's on the line

he has that (hitter) vibe to him that he's going to get a good pitch to hit and he's going to hit it hard," Hinch said. "Now what's going to happen, who knows ... but he's very experienced and very good at what he does. He was operating on basically on one leg; his ankle is bugging him a little bit from earlier in the game. It was an incredible at-bat."

The Astros hadn't scored since putting up five runs in the second when Michael Brantley singled to start Houston's 10th, ending a streak of nine hitless innings over eight appearances for Seattle closer Roenis Elias (2-1). It was the first hit he'd allowed since June 6.

Gurriel then hit a ball just out of reach of diving center fielder

Mallex Smith to score Brantley and give Houston the victory. Gurriel is the first Astro to have consecutive last at-bat, game-winning hits since Geoff Blum did it on June 10-11, 2009, against the Cubs.

"I'm not scared to fail, and I always have a positive mindset in these situations," Gurriel said in Spanish through a translator.

He said that his teammates have been joking with him a lot over the last two games about his clutch hitting, and that Jose Altuve told him that he called both of his game-winning hits this week.

"So let's see what he announces tomorrow," Gurriel said with a laugh.

Seattle manager Scott Ser-

vais was disappointed that his team couldn't close it out.

"Roenis tried to get a change-up, just left it up," he said. "Gurriel is a professional hitter, really good in those spots."

Houston's bullpen helped the Astros to the win in a game in which Justin Verlander had an uncharacteristically short outing. Collin McHugh struck out the side in the eighth and Roberto Osuna pitched a perfect ninth. Chris Devenski (2-0) allowed one hit in a scoreless 10th.

Verlander gave up five hits and tied a season high with four runs in five innings for his shortest start since going four innings in a loss to the Rangers on April 2.

MLB roundup

Yankees top Red Sox in slugfest in London

Associated Press

LONDON — Brett Gardner hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the third inning, Aaron Judge went deep to cap a six-run fourth and the New York Yankees outslugged the Boston Red Sox 17-13 on Saturday night in the first Major League Baseball game played in Europe.

Each team scored six runs in a first inning that stretched nearly an hour.

Aaron Hicks hit the first European homer, DJ LeMahieu had four hits and five RBIs as New York opened a 17-6 lead and Luke Voit had four hits, including three doubles, before leaving with an injury in the fifth inning.

Rookie Michael Chavis hit a pair of three-run homers for Boston and Jackie Bradley Jr. had four hits, also going deep.

Boston starter Rick Porcello and New York's Masahiro Tanaka both failed to finish the first inning.

Rockies 5, Dodgers 3: Jon Gray pitched effectively into the seventh inning and Charlie Blackmon homered to lead host Colorado past Los Angeles.

Gray (9-5) outdueled Los Angeles lefty Clayton Kershaw (7-2), who gave up five runs, four earned, struck out seven and didn't walk a batter.

Braves 5, Mets 4: Nick Markakis and Austin Riley hit consecutive solo homers to give visiting Atlanta the lead in the eighth inning, and the Braves spoiled the New York's celebration of the 1969 World Series champion Mets.

Orioles 13, Indians 0: Andrew Cashner threw seven innings of three-hit ball, Renato Nunez had two of host Baltimore's four home runs and the Orioles clinched their first series win since April. Anthony Santander and Chance Sisco also homered for Baltimore, which has outscored Cleveland 26-0 over the first two games.

Blue Jays 7, Royals 5: Danny Jansen hit a game-winning home run in the ninth inning, Cavan Biggio hit his first career grand slam and host Toronto beat Kansas City. Vladimir Guerrero Jr. added a solo home run for the Blue Jays, who recovered after blowing a one-run lead in the top of the ninth.

Tigers 7, Nationals 5:

Miguel Cabrera had three hits and three RBIs as host Detroit rallied twice and snapped an eight-game losing streak with a win over Washington.

Rays 5, Rangers 2: Brendan McKay took a perfect game into the sixth inning of his major league debut and host Tampa Bay beat Texas. McKay (1-0) didn't allow a baserunner until Danny Santana flared an opposite-field single to right with one out in the sixth.

Cubs 6, Reds 0: Javier Baez hit his first grand slam of the season, and Jose Quintana went six innings for his first victory since May 5, leading visiting Chicago over Cincinnati.

The benches and bullpens cleared after Pedro Strop hit Yasiel Puig in the thigh with a pitch in the eighth.

Marlins 9, Phillies 6: Neil Walker homered and drove in three runs as host Miami rallied from a five-run deficit and beat Philadelphia for the fifth consecutive time.

Twins 10, White Sox 3: Nelson Cruz and Max Kepler each hit two home runs, Miguel Sano went deep, and Michael Pineda threw six solid innings to lead

visiting Minnesota.

Cruz hit a pair of two-run homers, connecting against Ivan Nova (3-7) in the first and launching a 469-foot shot off Jose Ruiz in the ninth.

Brewers 3, Pirates 1: Brandon Woodruff cruised to his 10th win of the season, Eric Thames homered and tripled, and host Milwaukee beat Pittsburgh.

Woodruff (10-2), the NL leader in wins and strikeouts, allowed one earned run and six hits with six strikeouts.

Athletics 4, Angels 0: Brett Anderson pitched 7²/₃ dominant innings of two-hit ball, and Matt Chapman hit a two-run homer in visiting Oakland's victory over Los Angeles.

Padres 12, Cardinals 2: Manny Machado homered twice and drove in five runs, and Franmil Reyes also connected twice to back dominant rookie Chris Paddack in host San Diego's win over St. Louis.

Diamondbacks 4, Giants 3: Zack Greinke pitched seven shutout innings, Eduardo Escobar hit an RBI single to break a scoreless tie in the seventh as visiting Arizona beat San Francisco.