

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## North Korea hails powerful rocket engine

BY KIM GAMEL

*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea—North Korea said it successfully tested a powerful new rocket engine this past weekend, signaling defiance as the U.S. secretary of state wrapped up his first official trip to the region.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un observed the ground test of a new high-thrust engine at the Sohae satellite launching station, the state-run Korean Central News Agency reported Sunday.

It quoted him as declaring “a new birth of the Juche-based rocket industry,” and hinted the engine could be used in a long-range missile. Juche, or self-reliance, refers to the communist state’s official ideology.

The test coincided with Secretary of State Rex Tillerson’s trip to Beijing, the final stop on his first official tour of the region, which included stops in South Korea and Japan.

In Seoul, Tillerson issued the new U.S. administration’s strongest warning yet to North Korea, declaring that former President Barack Obama’s policy known as “strategic patience” is dead.

Tillerson said the administra-

tion is considering all options, including military action, as it develops a new strategy to deal with North Korea’s nuclear weapons program.

“Certainly, we do not want things to get to a military conflict,” he said during a press conference with his South Korean counterpart.

“But, obviously, if North Korea takes actions that threatens the South Korean forces or our own forces, then that would be met with an appropriate response,” he added. “If they elevate the threat of their weapons program to a level that we believe that requires action, that option is on the table.”

Tillerson also ruled out a return to negotiations, at least for the time being.

President Donald Trump has repeatedly called on China, a traditional ally of North Korea, to do more to rein in its communist protégé.

On Friday, Trump tweeted “North Korea is behaving very badly. They have been ‘playing’ the United States for years. China has done little to help!”

Beijing, which has shown growing impatience over North Korea’s defiance, insists it has

done what it can, including signing onto U.N. Security Council sanctions aimed at punishing Pyongyang.

It also suspended coal imports from the North last month. But China fears the possibility of a North Korean regime collapse, which could lead to a refugee crisis.

Beijing also considers North Korea a buffer between its territory and the presence of nearly 30,000 U.S. forces stationed in South Korea.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi has urged Washington and Pyongyang to show restraint, comparing the two sides to “two accelerating trains coming towards each other.”

Tillerson met with Yi on Saturday and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Sunday before heading home.

North Korea has emerged as a top security challenge as its reclusive leadership has stepped up efforts to develop a nuclear-tipped missile that could reach the U.S. mainland, although experts are divided on how close the country is to reaching that goal.

The North has conducted five nuclear tests, including two last year. It also has test-fired more

than two dozen missiles since last year.

It also has expressed anger over annual U.S.-South Korean war games, which are underway on the divided peninsula.

The “Korean-style” engine was developed by the Academy of the National Defense Science, KCNA said.

“The results of the test confirmed the stable maintenance of technical indices of all systems such as starting and stopping features,” it said.

The report stressed the engine was made with North Korean technology.

KCNA also said the engine would help the country develop “world-level” satellite delivery capabilities, indicating it could potentially be used in a long-range missile.

Kim “noted that the success made in the current test marked a great event of historic significance as it declared a new birth of the Juche-based rocket industry,” the report said.

“He emphasized that the whole world will soon witness what eventful significance the great victory won today carries,” it added.

## Rubio bill seeks to impose South China Sea sanctions

BY TYLER HLAVAC

*Stars and Stripes*

Sen. Marco Rubio has proposed legislation that would penalize Chinese nationals or organizations that participate in China’s artificial island-building projects in the South China Sea.

Rubio, R-Fla., a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and its East Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, introduced the bill on Wednes-

day. It’s co-sponsored by Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Md.

The bill would “impose sanctions and prohibit visas for Chinese individuals and entities who contribute to construction or development projects, and those who threaten the peace, security or stability of the South China Sea or East China Sea,” according to a statement from Rubio’s office.

The measure would bar American citizens from making

investments in Chinese groups under sanction. It also would restrict foreign aid to countries that recognize China’s claim to sovereignty over maritime claims in the region if contested by neighboring nations.

Taiwan, which receives U.S. security aid but has China as its top trading partner, would be exempt from foreign aid restrictions within the bill.

China claims Taiwan as a breakaway province, but nu-

merous Taiwanese polls have shown support for reunification with China in the single digits.

The bill is still in its early stages and has yet to be reviewed by committees.

China maintains claims to nearly 90 percent of the South China Sea and its islands based on “historical discovery,” despite a ruling by an international tribunal last year that deemed a map of its claims invalid under international maritime law.

# Chile to command sea forces in largest maritime exercise

By WYATT OLSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

Chile will command the combined-forces sea component for next year's Rim of the Pacific, making it the first non-founding member of the world's largest maritime exercise to do so.

"The Chilean navy earned this responsibility through years of observation, participation, mastery and leadership at RIMPAC," Adm. Scott H. Swift, the Pacific Fleet commander, said in a speech he gave last week at the Chilean Naval War College in Valparaíso, Chile.

Command of the maritime forces for the two-month, biennial exercise — which were first held in 1971 — had alternated among the navies of the United States, Australia and Canada.

Last year, 26 nations, more than 40 ships and submarines, 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel joined the drills.

Chile has participated in RIMPAC 12 times, Swift said. Last year, its navy sailed the frigate CNS Almirante Cochrane to Pearl Harbor for several drills.

"At RIMPAC, I had several positive interactions with Cochrane's commanding officer and was especially impressed by his crew's seamanship," Swift said.

Swift added that he has

"every confidence" in the Chilean navy's ability to lead. Such leadership is needed in the region, Swift said, because "one of the most pressing challenges naval leaders face in the Pacific Rim is the potential erosion of the rules-based system."

Without mentioning the country by name, Swift criticized China for "bullying" with its assertive claims over much of the South China Sea, where it has been dredging sand to create artificial islands. It has built airstrips and facilities on the land, developments that U.S. officials have called militarization.

"It's my sense that some nations — and the naval forces, coast guards and militia under their command — view the international laws that underwrite that system as up for grabs, especially at sea," Swift said. "They see opportunities to impose national laws in international space, to pile coral sands on rocks in contested waters, and to build fortifications designed to control and coerce — projecting national power into international seas and skies with what are dubious intentions in the minds of many."

China was invited to last year's RIMPAC despite the tensions in the South China Sea. It sent five vessels, including the guided-missile destroyer Xian.

# Top Okinawa base opponent released

By CHIYOMI SUMIDA  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A leader of anti-U.S. base demonstrations whose five-month detention garnered international protests and condemnation from human rights groups like Amnesty International is free on bond.

The Fukuoka High Court on Saturday upheld a decision by the Naha District Court to release Hiroji Yamashiro, 64, chairman of a group opposed to relocating Marine Corps Air Station Futenma within Okinawa, on a bail of about \$64,000.

Judges dismissed an appeal filed by the Naha District Public Prosecutor's Office, Yamashiro's family said.

The Okinawa Peace Activity Center leader had been detained since Oct. 17, when he was taken into custody after police said he cut a strand of barbed wire on a perimeter fence at Okinawa's Northern Training Area while protesting the construction of helicopter landing pads.

Three days later, police added other charges stemming from incidents they said happened months before. Those include obstructing officers and causing injuries after a scuffle between police and protesters, and the forcible obstruction of business — keeping officers from performing their duties — after Yamashiro was accused of blocking a Camp Schwab construction gate with more than 1,000 concrete blocks.

At an opening hearing on

Friday, Yamashiro pleaded not guilty to most of the charges but admitted to cutting the barbed wire.

"I have been detained unjustly for an extensive period of time," he told the Naha District Court's three-judge panel. "I am seriously concerned that what has happened to me will be repeated in the future to those who fight for anti-war and peace activities on Okinawa. I ask the court to never allow it to happen."

Yamashiro's lawyers argued such a long detention for what they say are minor offenses is a clear violation of Yamashiro's right to freedom of expression.

"I heartily thank the support I have received all these days, from you, all the people from Okinawa, mainland Japan and all the way from New York, Washington and London," Yamashiro told supporters outside the Naha Detention Center on Saturday. "I will continue to fight until I win innocence."

The U.S. and Japanese governments consider the base relocation on Okinawa a critical component of U.S. military force realignment in the Asia-Pacific region, despite calls from protesters like Yamashiro to move the base off the island.

Moving Futenma's forces out of Okinawa would separate the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit from its helicopters and aviation assets.

Yamashiro's trial is set to resume on March 27.

# Contractor dies after incident on USS Ronald Reagan

*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A civilian contractor died Friday after a medical emergency aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan,

Navy officials in Japan said.

The identity of the contractor, who worked for the services company IAP, is being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

Medical workers adminis-

tered care to the contractor, who is an American citizen, aboard the carrier between noon and 1 p.m., Navy officials said.

He was taken by ambulance to U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, where he was pronounced

dead.

Details on the circumstances of the man's death were not immediately available.

The cause of death is under investigation, Navy officials said.



## Afghan soldier shoots 3 US troops, is slain

Associated Press

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — An Afghan soldier opened fire Sunday inside a base in the southern Helmand province, wounding three U.S. soldiers, before being shot dead.

Navy Capt. Bill Salvin, a U.S. military spokesman, said coalition forces had killed the soldier “to end the attack,” but Col. Mohammad Rasoul Zazai, an Afghan army spokesman, said the soldier had made a “mistake” and had not fired deliberately.

Several U.S. troops have been killed in Afghanistan in recent years in so-called insider attacks carried out by Afghan police or soldiers. In October, an Afghan man in a military uniform shot dead a U.S. soldier and an American civilian contractor inside a military base in Kabul before being killed.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, Taliban insurgents attacked a district headquarters in the Kandahar province using a suicide car bomb, said Samim Kholwak, a spokesman for the governor. He declined to say how many people were killed or wounded.

A security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release information, said six police were killed and five others were wounded in the assault, which was claimed by the Taliban.

In the southern Zabul province, an army operation killed 13 Taliban and wounded 11 others, said Gen. Sadiquallah Saberi. He said two Afghan soldiers were killed and three others were wounded by a roadside bomb during the operation.

Two Taliban commanders were killed in an apparent U.S. drone strike in the Barmal district of the eastern Paktika province, said Mohammad Rahman Ayaz, a spokesman for the provincial governor. Another 10 insurgents were killed in a separate drone strike in the Dand-e Patan district of neighboring Paktia province, said Gov. Zelmai Wessa.

## Iraqi troops advance on mosque in Mosul

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi forces battling Islamic State militants in Mosul have approached the mosque where the leader of the group declared its self-styled caliphate in the summer of 2014.

Black smoke billowed from the area around al-Nuri mosque, also known as the Great Mosque, as helicopters hovered overhead and fired down. At least two large mushroom clouds were seen rising from what are believed to be car bomb explosions, according to live Associated Press footage.

Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi delivered a sermon in al-Nuri mosque in July 2014 after the group seized almost a third of Iraq and parts of Syria, declaring an Islamic caliphate in the areas under his group’s control.

## Navy officers convicted in scandal have pensions

The Washington Post

Robert Gilbeau is in a heap of legal trouble. In June, he became the first active-duty Navy admiral in modern history to be convicted of a felony. Next month, he faces sentencing and could land in federal prison for up to five years.

Yet the disgraced officer can count on one thing: a military pension that pays him about \$10,000 per month. He collected his first check last fall.

Gilbeau, 56, is one of seven current or former Navy officers who have pleaded guilty in an epic corruption-and-bribery scandal but are still eligible for generous retirement benefits, courtesy of U.S. taxpayers.

The Navy has yet to make a final determination on how much the other convicted officers will receive.

How the Navy decides to act could have repercussions for dozens of others who remain under investigation for their entanglements with Leonard Glenn Francis, a Singapore-based defense contractor who resupplied U.S. warships in Asia for a quarter-century.

Known as “Fat Leonard” for his 350-pound physique, Francis has pleaded guilty to bribing “scores” of Navy officials over a decade with prostitutes, cash, hedonistic parties and other gifts. In exchange, according to federal prosecutors, the officials provided Francis with classified or inside information that enabled his firm, Glenn Marine Defense Asia, to gouge the Navy out of tens of millions of dollars.

Twenty-seven people have been charged with crimes since the investigation became public in 2013, including eight Navy officers indicted this month. Authorities say the case is still unfolding and that more than 200 people — including 30 admirals — have come under scrutiny.

Navy officials declined to comment on specific cases but said they are reviewing conditions of discharge, including potential retirement benefits, for those convicted in the investigation.

“These are serious matters, and the Navy engages in the diligence demanded in considering each case individually,” said Capt. Amy Derrick, a Navy spokeswoman at the Pentagon.

Retirement perks for veterans can be substantial. Troops qualify for pensions after 20 years of service; annual payouts can exceed \$150,000 for generals and admirals. Military retirees

are also entitled to heavily subsidized health insurance.

Traditionally, the armed forces have been reluctant to eliminate benefits for felons, according to experts on military law. They said the services view pensions as sacrosanct partly because they don’t want to penalize spouses or other family members who made their own sacrifices for the military.

Military personnel found guilty of serious misconduct are usually demoted and are forced to retire. Because pension values are based on rank, losing a star or a stripe leads to a partial reduction in retirement income.

In exceptionally rare cases, military officers who are sentenced to prison or classified as deserters can be “dropped from the rolls” — the harshest category of discharge — and their rank, privileges and benefits erased completely.

During the past decade, the Navy has dropped just four reserve officers from the rolls. Among them were a murderer, a drug dealer and a child pornographer.

But Gary R. Myers, a New Hampshire-based military defense attorney, said the Navy probably would consider applying the unusual punishment to officers convicted in the Fat Leonard scandal, given their abuse of the public trust.

“It would be a response to the egregious nature of what was done and the breach of faith with the American people by Navy personnel,” Myers said. “This is a monumental embarrassment to the Navy, and the Navy does not like to be embarrassed.”

David P. Sheldon, a defense attorney from Washington, said there are few guidelines for when the penalty should be imposed. He once represented a Marine major who was dropped from the rolls for a comparatively mild crime: concealing financial transactions.

“The bottom line is it’s very, very rare, but it’s really up to their discretion,” Sheldon said of the military leadership. “You have officers who have committed very, very serious misconduct but are not dropped from the rolls.”

Derrick, the Navy spokeswoman, declined to say whether the Navy was considering dropping officers from the rolls for their connections to Fat Leonard. She said she would not comment on “internal decision-making and deliberative processes.”



# Rock 'n' roll legend Berry dies

Associated Press

Rock 'n' roll was more than a new kind of music, but a new story to tell, one for kids with transistor radios in their hands and money in their pockets, beginning to raise questions their parents never had the luxury to ask.

Along with James Dean and J.D. Salinger and a handful of others in the 1950s, Chuck Berry — who was 90 when he died Saturday at his suburban St. Louis home — helped define the modern teenager. While Elvis Presley gave rock 'n' roll its libidinous, hip-shaking image, Berry was the auteur, setting the narrative for a generation no longer weighed down by hardship or war. Well before the rise of Bob Dylan, Berry wedded social commentary to the beat and rush of popular music.

"He was singing good lyrics, and intelligent lyrics, in the '50s when other people were singing, 'Oh, baby, I love you so,'" John Lennon once observed.

"Classic rock" begins with Chuck Berry, who had announced late last year that he would release his first new album since 1979, called "Chuck," sometime this year. His core repertoire was some three dozen songs, but his influence was incalculable, from the Beatles and Rolling Stones to virtually every garage band or arena act that called itself rock 'n' roll.

In his late 20s before his first major hit, Berry crafted lyrics that spoke to young people of the day and remained fresh decades later. "Sweet Little Sixteen" captured rock 'n' roll fandom, an early and innocent ode to the young girls later known as "groupies." "School Days" told of the sing-song trials of the classroom ("American history and practical math; you're studying hard, hoping to pass ...") and the liberation of rock 'n' roll once the day's final bell rang.

"Roll Over Beethoven" was an anthem to rock's history-making power, while "Rock and Roll Music" was a guidebook for all bands that followed ("It's got a back beat, you can't lose it"). "Back in the U.S.A." was a black man's straight-faced tribute to his country at a time there was no guarantee Berry would be served at the drive-ins and corner cafes he was celebrating.

"Everything I wrote about wasn't about me, but about the people listening," he once said.

"Johnny B. Goode," the tale of a guitar-playing country boy whose mother tells him he'll be a star, was Berry's signature song, the archetypal narrative for would-be rockers and among the most ecstatic recordings in the music's history.

The song was inspired in part by Johnnie Johnson, the boogie-woogie piano man who collaborated on many Berry hits, but the story could have easily been Berry's, Presley's or countless others'.

Commercial calculation made the song universal: Berry had meant to call Johnny a "colored boy," but changed "colored" to "country," enabling not only radio play, but musicians of any color to imagine themselves as stars.

Johnny B. Goode could only have been a guitarist. The guitar was rock 'n' roll's signature instrument and Berry the first guitar hero. His clarion sound, a melting pot of country flash and rhythm 'n' blues drive, turned on at least a generation of musicians, among them the Stones' Keith Richards, who once acknowledged he had "lifted every lick" from Berry; the Beatles' George Harrison; Bruce Springsteen; and the Who's Pete Townshend.

He received a Grammy for lifetime achievement in 1984 and two years later became a charter member of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, along with Presley, Buddy Holly, Little Richard and others. In the 1990s, Berry began giving monthly concerts in the intimate setting of the "Duck Room" of the Blueberry Hill club in St. Louis, drawing visitors from around the world. At times he was joined by his son, guitarist Charles Berry Jr., and daughter, Ingrid Berry Clay, on vocals and harmonica. He married their mother, Themetta Suggs, in 1948. They had four children.

Charles Edward Anderson Berry was born in St. Louis on Oct. 18, 1926. As a child he practiced a bent-leg stride that enabled him to slip under tables, a prelude to the trademark "duck walk" of his adult years. His mother, like Johnny B. Goode's, told him he would make it, and make it big.

# Secret Service detains driver

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A motorist was detained by the Secret Service late Saturday night after driving a vehicle that appeared to be suspicious up to a checkpoint near the White House, authorities said. An "ongoing criminal investigation" was under way, a Secret Service spokesperson said early Sunday.

The vehicle was driven to a Secret Service checkpoint at 15th and E streets NW about 11:05 p.m., according to the spokesperson, and the driver was detained by officers from the Secret Service Uniform Division.

They "declared his vehicle suspicious" and "increased their posture of readiness," the spokesperson said. The checkpoint, with a Secret Service kiosk, is at the southeastern corner of an outer perimeter that encloses the grounds of the White House.

Driving through the checkpoint does not offer access to the White House grounds. The closest part of the South Lawn is about 100 yards away. The White House itself is about a quarter-mile away.

It was not clear what caused the motorist to be detained or the vehicle to be declared suspicious.

Because of the ongoing investigation, the spokesperson said early Sunday, no further details would be provided.

Two people this month have been taken into custody and accused of trying to breach White House security. The more recent event took place earlier Saturday when someone climbed over a crowd-control barrier outside the White House.

In a more serious incident on March 10, a man made it onto the White House grounds and reportedly spent 16 minutes there before being arrested.

# SpaceX capsule returns with science samples

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A SpaceX capsule is back on Earth with a full load of space station science samples.

The Dragon cargo ship parachuted into the Pacific on Sunday off the Southern California coast. Astronauts had set it free

from the International Space Station 5½ hours earlier.

The Dragon flew to the space station a month ago from the same Florida launch pad used for NASA's Apollo moonshots. It took up more than 5,000 pounds of supplies and brought back just as much in completed ex-

periments and used equipment.

NASA's other supplier, Orbital ATK, plans to launch its own supply ship Friday, also from Cape Canaveral, Fla. That one, however, burns up on re-entry.

The space station is home to one Frenchman, two Americans and three Russians.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## NYPD rescues duck from subway line

**NY** NEW YORK — New York City officers found themselves chasing down a duck that strayed onto the tracks at a Brooklyn subway station Friday morning.

Police arrived at the Jefferson Street station on the L line about 9 a.m. to find the duck down in the tracks and worked to rescue it.

The New York Police Department's Transit Bureau posted video on Twitter of the officers carrying the bird along the platform and later releasing the duck in a park from a police-tape-wrapped box.

The bird hopped out and waddled off down a snowy path.

## Robber who breaks leg calls for help, arrested

**VA** ALEXANDRIA — A robber in Virginia ruined his own getaway — first by breaking his leg in a jump off a balcony and then by calling the authorities to help him.

Police said Leoul Yosef, 21, faces a burglary charge for allegedly robbing an Alexandria apartment Wednesday and jumping off the second-story balcony after the owner returned home.

Officers said they were following tracks left in the snow when they received a 911 call from a man in the vicinity saying he'd broken his leg. Responding officers matched the identity of the caller to the burglary suspect.

## Hamsters left off list of mascot finalists

**MA** AMHERST — Amherst College has whittled its list of possible new athletic mascots to five and the Hamsters didn't make the cut.

Hamsters was on the list of 30 semifinalists selected out of about 600 initial suggestions by a committee put together to come up with a new mascot for the Massachusetts school.

The five finalists announced this month are the Fighting Poets, the Mammoths, Purple and White, the Valley Hawks, and the Wolves. The committee said all five have connections to the school or region.

Alumni, students, faculty and staff can vote for their favorite finalists starting Monday.

## Zebra born during storm named Blizzard

**NY** CHITTENANGO — A baby zebra born at a central New York wild animal park during last week's snowstorm has been given a fitting name: Blizzard.

Jeff Taylor, owner of The Wild Animal Park in Chittenango, near Syracuse, told The Post-Standard the foal was born about 6 a.m. Tuesday, when a major storm that eventually would dump more than 2 feet of snow on the area was underway.

Taylor asked for suggestions on Facebook on what to name the baby. Blizzard was the most popular suggestion.

## Ex-judge asks cop to produce wife's texts

**NC** RALEIGH — A former North Carolina trial judge says he illegally offered a law enforcement officer beer and money to produce text messages he believed would show his wife was having an affair.

Former state Superior Court Judge Arnold Ogden Jones pleaded guilty Thursday to a federal charge of promising gratuities to a public official.

A jury in October convicted

Jones of crimes including bribery, but a different judge ordered a new trial. Two charges were dropped in return for Jones' guilty plea.

Jones lost a re-election bid in November.

Prosecutors said Jones promised cases of beer and \$100 to an officer who would pressure his wife's mobile phone provider to provide text message records.

## Woman gets prison over meth in toilet

**MS** GULFPORT — A woman arrested after federal agents drained buckets of meth-laced toilet water from her home is heading to prison.

The Sun Herald reported a judge gave Chiquita Acker, 40, of Pearlinton, Miss., the maximum of 10 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine after she pleaded guilty to sale of a controlled substance.

Federal agents arrested Acker in April 2016 as they said she tried to sell methamphetamine at a Gulfport truck stop. Other agents went to her house and heard a toilet flushing. They ripped open the pipe and drained three gallons of toilet water, which tested positive for meth.

Tosh "Bugga" Humphrey, 36, of Slidell, La., and Roy "Red" Tatum, 41, of Palestine, Texas, also were arrested and are serving five-year sentences.

## Doughnut shop sued over fatal reaction

**LA** LAFAYETTE — A Georgia man is suing a Louisiana doughnut shop over claims that his father died of an allergic reaction after eating an apple fritter made with walnut flour.

The son's attorneys on

Thursday filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Dynasty Donuts LLC, a Lafayette company doing business as Rickey Meche's Donut King.

The federal suit claims the business was negligent for selling Brian Allen Sr., 50, an apple fritter without any warning that it was made with walnut flour. The suit says Allen was allergic to walnuts and died after eating the doughnut at his hotel room.

The Atlanta man's son — Brian Allen Jr., of Norcross, Ga. — is seeking unspecified damages from the business and its insurer.

Meche on Saturday denied the allegation and said walnut flour was not used.

## DUI suspect is driven home, held for gunfire

**RI** COVENTRY — A Rhode Island man is facing felony charges of shooting a firearm while drunk.

Police said Shawn Lavoie, 25, of Coventry, was arrested for driving under the influence early Thursday morning and was given a ride home by officers because it was his first DUI offense. But police said they were called back to Lavoie's home just minutes later for reports of gunfire.

They found Lavoie wearing body armor and several spent rifle casings on the ground. They also later discovered he'd posted several threatening and racist remarks on Facebook directed at the officer who drove him home.

He was arraigned, released on personal recognizance and ordered to undergo a mental health evaluation.

Police said they're reviewing whether or not the incident rises to the level of a hate crime.

From wire reports

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# Repeat dreams dashed

Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The crown may have been too heavy for Villanova.

One title will have to do.

Saddled with huge expectations and external pressure to repeat as NCAA champions, the Wildcats wilted down the stretch on Saturday and were knocked out of the tournament 65-62 by eighth-seeded Wisconsin, a team with an even richer March résumé.

The end came quickly, but not necessarily unexpectedly for Villanova, which struggled in its opening-round win over Mount St. Mary's — a game that foreshadowed a quick exit.

It was not meant to be, and with the gap between the Davids and Goliaths in college basketball growing closer and star underclassmen jumping to the NBA more frequently, a team winning back-to-back championships becomes more unlikely.

It's just hard to do.

While coach Jay Wright and the Wildcats (32-4) did their best to duck any discussions about whether they could win it all again, the possibility hung over them almost from the moment they cut down the nets in Houston last year.

They were attempting to become only the third repeat champion since UCLA's dynastic run in the 1960s and 1970, joining Duke (1991-92) and Florida (2006-7).

Instead, Villanova became another No. 1 seed toppled by the Badgers, who probably deserved

a higher seed and are strolling into the Sweet 16 for the fourth consecutive year.

"I say this every year at Villanova, we can't take it for granted," Wright said. "It's so special to be a part of it. To me, there's no dishonor in losing in this tournament — and we've lived through it. You are judged by how you play in this tournament and that's the reality of it. So, you have to accept it."

It's a hard pill to swallow, but it was evident from the opening moments of Thursday night's game against No. 16 seed Mount St. Mary's — a team that had to win in the First Four to get a crack at the defending champions — that Villanova might not be around for very long.

The well-oiled offense looked rusty, and there were uncharacteristic lapses on defense. They committed silly fouls and forced shots.

But no player exemplified an overall tightness more than senior forward Kris Jenkins, last season's title game hero who dropped the game-winning shot that will long live as one of the most iconic in hoops history.

Jenkins followed up a 2-for-13 shooting performance against the Mount by going 2-for-9 against the Badgers, who seemed to be willing to let him fire away. He missed all eight three-point attempts in his two games in Buffalo.

After averaging 15.5 points in last year, Jenkins averaged just 6.5 this March and the Wildcats didn't have enough firepower to compensate.

The champions are going home.

Their title is up for grabs.

## Markkanen leads Arizona over Gaels

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Lauri Markkanen and Allonzo Trier combined for 30 points as Arizona rallied to defeat Saint Mary's 69-60 and advance to the Sweet 16 in the West Regional on Saturday night.

The Wildcats, seeded No. 2, were on the ropes in the first half but found life in the second half to pull away for the win.

"These guys really knew how Saint Mary's was," Arizona coach Sean Miller said.

"Not until you're actually playing against them do you realize how physical they are, how good they are."

"I look at this as one of the great wins we've had in the tournament because of the team that we beat."

Markkanen finished with 16 points and 11 rebounds while Trier scored 14 points. Miller said Trier seemed to lose his confidence early but was one of the biggest differences in the game once he got going.

Australian Jock Landale battled with Markkanen and Arizona's bigs throughout and had his 17th double-double of the season with 19 points and 11 rebounds for the Gaels.

However, he was held to just seven points after halftime.

"I just tried to be as physical as I can and don't let [Landale] get the ball," Markkanen explained.

Saint Mary's took a 30-29 lead into halftime as the No. 7 seeds controlled the tempo and locked down Arizona defensively for much of the half.

Saint Mary's used a 10-2 run started by a three-pointer by another of their Australians, Tanner Krebs, to take a 24-14 lead but Arizona found life late in the half and finished on a 15-6 run.

"Our advantage was driving," Miller said. "Our advantage eventually was able to get the ball inside. Getting the ball to the basket whether it be on drive or post catch, we delivered. We scored. We got fouled. That was the big difference."

## 'Zags survive Northwestern rally

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Chris Collins was right. It was goaltending all the way.

The Northwestern coach was also wrong. At the worst time possible.

After not getting the call, Collins stomped onto the court and drew a technical foul with 4:54 left in Saturday's game, sucking life out of a frenetic comeback that fell short in a 79-73 loss to top-seeded Gonzaga.

What a strange, heartbreaking way to close out the school's first-ever trip to the NCAA Tournament.

Adding to the awkwardness: The NCAA released a statement acknowledging the call was missed, and Collins was sitting at the postgame news conference when he learned about it for the first time.

"I appreciate the apology," Collins said, the venom practically dripping off his tongue. "It makes me feel great."

Nigel Williams-Goss finished with 20 points, eight rebounds and four assists to power Gonzaga (34-1), which led by as many as 22 points in the first half, then saw the lead dwindle to five with a little more than 5 minutes left.

The arena, drenched in purple, was rocking, and all the momentum was in Northwestern's corner.

The eighth-seeded Wildcats (24-12) got the ball down to Derrek Pardon for a point-blank shot that was on its way in. Gonzaga 7-footer Zach Collins reached up through the net and deflected the ball out. No whistle blew. Gonzaga got the rebound and started down court. Collins ran onto the court toward the ref-

eree and gestured as if he were knocking a ball out of the hoop from the bottom.

An automatic "T." The NCAA's postgame statement also said Collins was hit with the technical for violating "bench decorum" rules by stepping onto the court with the ball in play.

On the other end, Williams-Goss made both free throws. Northwestern never got closer after that.

Zags coach Mark Few wasn't pinning Gonzaga's win on that single turn of events. But he more than understood the emotion of the moment.

"You guys feel it and see it when it comes to these games," he said. "You lose, your season's over. You win, in Northwestern's case, it's probably the best thing they've done in the history of the school. You react spontaneously and stuff happens."



# Xavier upsets No. 3 seed Seminoles

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Xavier Musketeers didn't have the regular season they hoped to have. They are making up for it now.

The 11th-seeded Musketeers dominated third-seeded Florida State 91-66 during Saturday's second round of the NCAA Tournament. Their second upset in the West Region put them back into the regional semifinal round for the second time in two years and eighth time in program history.

"I'm so excited for the guys next to me and the guys in the locker room. They earned it," Xavier coach Chris Mack said from the post-game podium. "Our team's gone through a lot of adversity this year, and we stayed the course."

But the Musketeers (23-13) found little adversity Saturday as they dominated the bigger and more athletic Seminoles

throughout the game. Trevon Bluiett led Xavier with 29 points while Kaiser Gates came off the bench to add 14.

Xavier, which knocked off No. 6 Maryland in the first round, hit big shots on perimeter and then forced FSU to try to shoot long range by sitting in a 2-3 zone much of the game. Led by Gates' four three-pointers, the Musketeers converted 11 of 17 from beyond the arc, nearly 65 percent shooting.

The Seminoles, meanwhile, hit just 4 of 21 three-point attempts as they struggled to make up ground.

**Purdue 80, Iowa State 76:** When Purdue needed him the most, when the Boilermakers were on the brink of a heart-breaking loss, Caleb "Biggie" Swanigan lived up to his nickname — over and over again.

Swanigan had 20 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists, and Purdue reached the Sweet 16

for the first time in seven years.

The Cyclones erased a 19-point deficit in the second half, taking their first lead of the game on Deonte Burton's two free throws with 3:11 left. But P.J. Thompson responded with a critical three-pointer for the Boilermakers, and Swanigan made several huge plays in the final minutes.

## West Regional

**West Virginia 83, Notre Dame 71:** Jevon Carter scored 24 points, and West Virginia is headed to the Sweet 16 for the third time since 2010 following a win in Buffalo, N.Y.

Tarik Phillip added 12 points and Esa Ahmad had nine rebounds for the Mountaineers (28-8), the West region's fourth-seeded team.

Notre Dame's Bonzie Colson hit 10 of 15 shots, scored 27 points and had eight rebounds.

## South Regional

**Butler 74, Middle Tennessee State 65:** Kelan Martin scored 19 points, and Butler limited Middle Tennessee's athletic scorers at Milwaukee with smothering defense to advance to the regional semifinals.

The Bulldogs (25-8) are going to the Sweet 16 for the first time since 2011.

## East Regional

**Florida 65, Virginia 39:** Devin Robinson had 14 points and 11 rebounds, the fifth double-double of his career, and No. 4 seed Florida handled fifth-seeded Virginia.

Justin Leon added 14 points and 10 rebounds for the Gators (26-8), who advanced to the Sweet Sixteen for the 11th time in school history and fifth in the last seven years. They will play Wisconsin in the East Regional in New York City on Friday.

# Baylor gets most lopsided victory in history

Associated Press

WACO, Texas — By doing the things that coach Kim Mulkey had been emphasizing since a rare Big 12 Tournament loss, the Baylor Lady Bears opened the women's NCAA Tournament with an overwhelming record-setting performance.

Beatrice Mompremier had 22 points with 11 rebounds, Kallani Brown scored 21 points and freshman post Lauren Cox had 17 as the Lady Bears defeated Texas Southern 119-30 on Saturday night in the most lopsided women's NCAA Tournament game ever. Baylor's 119 points were the most ever in regulation of a tournament game.

The 89-point margin shattered the previous record 74-point win by Tennessee over North Carolina A&T (111-37) in 1994. Baylor's 119 points was the third most in tournament history and the most in regulation, surpassing the 116, first set by Ohio State in 1998 and twice matched by UConn, including earlier Saturday.

**Texas A&M 63, Penn 61:** The Aggies staged the biggest comeback in NCAA Tournament history, rallying from 21 points down in the fourth quarter to stun the Quakers.

Khaalila Hillsman scored 27 points, including the go-ahead basket with 19.1 seconds left as the fifth-seeded Aggies finished the game on a 25-1 run to beat the 12th-seeded Quakers.

The rally surpassed the previous record for largest comeback at 16 points that happened twice in the tournament.

## Bridgeport Regional

**UConn 116, Albany 55:** Napheesa Collier and Kia Nurse each scored 24 points as top-seeded UConn routed Albany.

**Syracuse 85, Iowa State 65:** Brittney Sykes scored 28 points and Alexis Peterson added 25 to lead eighth-seeded Syracuse.

**Oregon 71, Temple 70:** Ruthy Hebard hit a jumper with 5.5 seconds remaining to lift Oregon past Temple.

**Duke 94, Hampton 31:** Rebecca Greenwell had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Duke routed Hampton.

**UCLA 83, Boise State 56:** Monique Billings scored 19 points and Jordin Canada had 15 points and 16 assists to help fourth-seeded host UCLA roll.

## Oklahoma City Regional

**California 55, LSU 52:** Asha Thomas scored 18 points and made a tiebreaking three-pointer with 1:19 left to end a long California scoring drought, and the Bears held on.

**Louisville 82, Chattanooga 62:** Asia Durr scored 27 points to lead fourth-seeded host Louisville to a victory.

**Tennessee 66, Dayton 57:** Diamond DeShields scored 24 points to lead Tennessee.

**Oklahoma 75, Gonzaga 62:** Vionise Pierre-Louis had 17 points, nine rebounds and nine blocked shots and Oklahoma used its early hot shooting to hold off 11th-seeded Gonzaga.

**Washington 91, Montana**

**State 63:** Kelsey Plum scored 17 of her 29 points in the second half, and Chantel Osahor had her 28th double-double of the season with 16 points and 19 rebounds.

## Lexington Regional

**Stanford 72, New Mexico State 64:** Alanna Smith had 19 points and 11 rebounds, Karlise Samuelson hit five three-pointers and finished with 17 points, and Stanford survived a spirited upset bid.

**Kansas State 67, Drake 54:** Breanna Lewis had 23 points and 11 rebounds, Kindred Wesemann added 16 points for seventh-seeded host Kansas State.

## Stockton Regional

**Quinnipiac 68, Marquette 65:** Jennifer Fay scored 20 points and 12th-seeded Quinnipiac held on in a frantic final minute to upset Marquette.

**Miami 62, Florida Gulf Coast 60:** Keyona Hayes scored 16 points, including the go-ahead basket with 1.5 seconds left.



## Jones, Stanton carry US into WBC semis

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The United States is going to the semifinals of the World Baseball Classic for the second time thanks to another impressive home run by Giancarlo Stanton at Petco Park and a spectacular catch at the fence by hometown favorite Adam Jones.

Stanton hit a go-ahead, two-run shot into the third-level balcony of the Western Metal Supply Co. Building in the left-field corner in the fourth inning and Jones robbed Baltimore Orioles teammate Manny Machado of a home run in the seventh to help the Americans beat the Dominican Republic 6-3 on Saturday night, eliminating the defending champions.

Team USA will face Japan on Tuesday night at Dodger Stadium for a spot in the championship game.

Stanton's homer gave the United States a 4-2 lead and put a charge into the sellout crowd of 43,002.

The slugger's shot was reminiscent of his Home Run Derby victory at Petco Park on July 11, when he peppered the far reaches of the big downtown ballpark, including hitting one onto the top of the 108-year-old brick warehouse.

"Yeah, it did kind of feel like the Home Run Derby," Stanton said.

Three innings later, Jones leaped and reached over the fence in the deepest part of the park in right-center to rob Machado of a home run. Machado tipped his helmet to Jones.

"I'm still in kind of shock that I even got to that ball," said Jones, who played at Morse High about 8 miles east of Petco. "I mean, off the bat I'm just like, 'This ball's hit really far, so just keep going, keep going. You know this California air's going to slow it down and just never quit.' That's just the style I play with. I don't mind running into a wall or two. I just kept going after the ball."

"I saw the replay after the game. It was a hell of a catch," he added.

# Capitals clinch postseason berth

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — T.J. Oshie had three goals and an assist, Justin Williams and John Carlson had early third-period goals, and the Washington Capitals clinched a playoff spot by beating the Tampa Bay Lightning 5-3 on Saturday night.

Oshie scored twice, including an early power-play goal, as the Capitals took a 2-0 lead midway through the first. He completed the hat trick with an empty-netter during the final minute. Oshie has 10 goals and 19 points in 14 games against Tampa Bay.

Williams had a redirection goal 3:14 into the period before Carlson swatted a thigh-high puck home to make it 4-2 at 5:30.

Washington also got four assists from Nicklas Backstrom. Braden Holtby stopped 26 shots.

**Rangers 3, Wild 2:** Oscar Lindberg had a goal and an assist, Antti Raanta made 25 saves and visiting New York held on to beat Minnesota.

Brady Skjei and Jimmy Vesey also scored for the Rangers, who are 7-1 in their last

eight road games and have a league-high 26 victories away from home this season.

**Blues 3, Coyotes 0:** Jake Allen stopped 31 shots for his fourth shutout of the season to lead playoff-contending St. Louis past host Arizona.

Scottie Upshall, Alex Pietrangelo and David Perron scored to help the Blues win for the seventh time in eight games.

**Blue Jackets 3, Islanders 2:** Cam Atkinson scored 1 minute, 19 seconds into overtime to lift visiting Columbus over the New York Islanders.

Oliver Bjorkstrand and Josh Anderson scored 14 minutes, 48 seconds apart in the second period for Columbus, which won for the seventh time in March and improved to 46-18-6.

**Blackhawks 2, Maple Leafs 1:** Ryan Hartman scored with 17 seconds left in overtime to lead visiting Chicago past Toronto.

Corey Crawford stopped 25 of 26 shots for Chicago, which holds the top spot in the Western Conference following its fourth straight win.

Auston Matthews had a goal to snap a seven-game drought for the Maple Leafs, who hold the final wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference with 79 points.

**Oilers 2, Canucks 0:** Cam Talbot made 33 saves for his sixth shutout of the season and host Edmonton topped Vancouver.

**Ducks 2, Sharks 1:** Patrick Eaves and Jakob Silfverberg scored goals and visiting Anaheim kept pressure on San Jose in the Pacific Division race with a win over the Sharks.

**Red Wings 5, Avalanche 1:** Tomas Tatar scored twice, including the go-ahead goal early in the third period that host Detroit past Colorado.

**Canadiens 4, Senators 3:** Paul Byron and Alexander Radulov scored in the shootout to lead visiting Montreal past Ottawa in the first half of the teams' home-and-home series. They were to meet again Sunday at Montreal.

**Hurricanes 4, Predators 2:** Jeff Skinner scored in each of the first two periods and host Carolina beat Nashville.

## Westbrook, Thunder top Kings

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Russell Westbrook didn't get a fifth straight triple-double, but the Oklahoma City Thunder won their fifth straight game and that was all he cared about Saturday.

Westbrook had 28 points, eight rebounds and 10 assists to help the Thunder roll past the Sacramento Kings 110-94. Oklahoma City has the longest current winning streak in the NBA.

"We're getting it together, man," Westbrook said. "We had new guys coming in fresh off trades. We just had to find ways to get guys going. It's not always easy to be able to do that."

Westbrook had a triple-double in each of the first four

games of the streak to raise his season total to 34. He needs seven more in the final 13 games to tie Oscar Robertson for the NBA season record, set in the 1961-62 season.

**Clippers 108, Cavaliers 78:** Blake Griffin scored 23 points as host Los Angeles capitalized on Cleveland's decision to rest LeBron James, Kevin Love and Kyrie Irving with an easy victory.

**Grizzlies 104, Spurs 96:** Mike Conley had 19 points, seven rebounds and six assists while Zach Randolph added 18 points as Memphis extended its winning streak to four by beating visiting San Antonio.

**Rockets 109, Nuggets 105:** James Harden scored 40 points and finished with a triple-double as Houston snapped

host Denver's four-game winning streak.

**Warriors 117, Bucks 92:** Stephen Curry scored 28 points with six three-pointers as Golden State overcame a sluggish start to beat visiting Milwaukee.

**Bulls 95, Jazz 86:** Jimmy Butler scored 23 points and Bobby Portis added a career-high 22 in host Chicago's victory over Utah.

**Hornets 98, Wizards 93:** Cody Zeller scored 19 points as Charlotte snapped a three-game losing streak with a victory over visiting Washington.

**Trail Blazers 113, Hawks 97:** Damian Lillard scored 27 points as Portland took control with a dominant opening quarter to beat host Atlanta.