

STARS AND STRIPES®

Saturday, March 17, 2018

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

FBI deputy director fired by Sessions

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Jeff Sessions says he fired Andrew McCabe, a former FBI deputy director who was a regular target of President Donald Trump's anger, just two days before McCabe's scheduled retirement date. McCabe suggested the move was part of the Trump administration's "war on the FBI."

The dismissal Friday was made on the recommendation of FBI disciplinary officials. An inspector general's report is expected to conclude McCabe authorized the release of information to the media and was not forthcoming with the watchdog office as it examined the bureau's handling of the Hillary Clinton email investigation.

McCabe said his credibility had been attacked as "part of a larger effort not just to slander me personally" but also the FBI and law enforcement.

"It is part of this administration's ongoing war on the FBI and the efforts of the special

counsel investigation, which continue to this day," he added, referring to Robert Mueller's probe into potential coordination between Russia and the Trump campaign. "Their persistence in this campaign only highlights the importance of the special counsel's work."

McCabe asserted he was singled out because of the "role I played, the actions I took, and the events I witnessed in the aftermath of the firing of James Comey," whom Trump fired as FBI director in May.

Mueller is investigating if Trump's actions, including firing Comey, constitute obstruction of justice. McCabe, a Comey confidant, could be an important witness.

McCabe said the release of the findings against him was accelerated after he told congressional officials that he could corroborate Comey's accounts of conversations with the president. McCabe spent more than 20 years as a career FBI official and played key roles in

some of the bureau's most recent significant investigations. Trump repeatedly condemned him as emblematic of an FBI leadership he contends is biased against his administration.

In a tweet early Saturday, Trump said it was "a great day for Democracy" and "a great day for the hard working men and women of the FBI." He asserted without elaboration that McCabe "knew all about the lies and corruption going on at the highest levels of the FBI."

McCabe had been on leave from the FBI since January, when he abruptly left the deputy director position. He had planned to retire on Sunday, and the dismissal probably jeopardizes his ability to collect his full pension. His removal could add to the turmoil that has enveloped the FBI since Comey's firing and as the FBI continues its investigation into the Trump campaign.

The firing stems from an inspector general review into how the FBI handled the Clinton

email investigation. That inquiry focused not only on specific decisions made by FBI leadership but also on news media leaks.

McCabe came under scrutiny over an October 2016 news report that revealed differing approaches within the FBI and Justice Department over how aggressively the Clinton Foundation should be investigated. The watchdog office concluded McCabe authorized FBI officials to speak to a Wall Street Journal reporter for that story and that McCabe had not been forthcoming with investigators. McCabe denies it.

In his statement, McCabe said he had the authority to share information with journalists through the public affairs office, a practice he said was common and continued under current FBI Director Christopher Wray. McCabe said he honestly answered questions about whom he had spoken to and when, and that when he thought his answers were misunderstood, he corrected them.

Navy's new attack sub Colorado set to join the fleet

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The U.S. Navy's newest attack submarine, the USS Colorado, went into service Saturday at the Naval Submarine Base in Connecticut.

Cmdr. Reed Koepp, the Colorado's commanding officer, said it's an exciting time for the crew, shipbuilders, the local community in Connecticut and the state of Colorado. The submarine is "ready to protect the homeland and project our power forward," he added.

"We're really looking forward to ... when we can introduce the Colorado as an official naval

asset," Koepp said.

The 377-foot-long sub weighs about 7,800 tons submerged. It can fight submarines and surface ships, conduct surveillance and deliver special operations troops. It has two large tubes that can launch six Tomahawk missiles each.

The Colorado is the first attack submarine where sailors use an Xbox controller to maneuver the photonics masts, which replaced periscopes, Koepp said. Other submarines have joysticks. Using commercial off-the-shelf technology saves money, and young sailors report to the submarine know-

ing how to use it, Koepp said.

Koepp leads 130 men, including crewmembers from Brighton, Conn., Denver and Littleton, Colo. Women serve on submarines, but they haven't been assigned to the Colorado. One-fifth of submarine crews are integrated.

It took submarine supply businesses nationwide and thousands of shipyard employees in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Virginia to build the Colorado, the 15th member of the Virginia class of submarines.

Attack submarines are built in a partnership between General Dynamics Electric Boat in

Connecticut and Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia. They cost about \$2.7 billion apiece.

"Compared to prior generations of submarines, Colorado is bigger, faster and overall much more capable and should serve as a compelling deterrent to our adversaries," said U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, a Connecticut Democrat who welcomed the audience at Saturday's ceremony.

U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., gave the keynote address. He talked about the work the submarine's crew will carry out and how proud he is of the state of Colorado's role in the nation's defense.

Funds an issue in base youth assault cases

Austin (Texas)
American-Statesman

For decades, sexual assaults committed by juveniles at Fort Hood, Texas, fell into what some former prosecutors have described as a jurisdictional black hole that stymied legal action.

A 2015 Austin American-Statesman investigation found that 39 juvenile sexual assault allegations at the 215,000-acre Central Texas military installation between 2006 and 2012 resulted in no federal prosecutions and just a few cases sent to local county prosecutors.

"This routine failure by the federal government to prosecute these cases resulted in numerous juvenile sex offenders escaping any sort of accountability for their crimes," an internal Fort Hood memo read. "It left just as many juvenile victims and their families without justice."

After the report, local lawmakers including Sen. John Cornyn and Rep. John Carter called for action, and Fort Hood

officials began a series of meetings with the U.S. attorney's office in Waco and prosecutors in surrounding Bell and Coryell counties to create a system to fix the situation.

After coming to an agreement with both counties in 2017, officials now say they are hopeful that the formal mechanism to refer cases to local prosecutors will ensure juvenile cases on Fort Hood get prosecuted, either in the federal or county system.

With the agreements, Fort Hood joins just a small number of military installations that have formally addressed the issue of juvenile sexual assault prosecutions. A recent Associated Press investigation found at least 600 juvenile sex assault cases on military bases, many of which did not result in prosecution. In Texas, AP found 41 cases at Fort Hood since 2007, and 10 at Fort Bliss, in El Paso.

Deborah Critten, of San Antonio, whose story was chronicled by the Statesman after neither federal nor local authorities

prosecuted the boy accused of molesting her son, called the agreement a good beginning.

"I am encouraged," she said. "They've come a long way from where they started. ... I'm happy that they are at least admitting that there's a problem and that there needs to (be) a solution."

Prosecutions aren't solely a question of justice; they can trigger services for victims and lead to treatment and rehabilitation for young offenders.

The problem lies in the layers of jurisdiction found on most military bases. While the military justice system governs active-duty soldiers on installations like Fort Hood, it has no authority over civilians, including juveniles. Federal prosecutors assume that responsibility, but the federal system is in many ways ill-equipped to handle juvenile cases.

The Fort Hood agreement notes that in some instances, the federal criminal justice system "lacks the facilities, resources and expertise" to rehabilitate juveniles, and that state authori-

ties "may be better equipped to address juveniles' needs."

But the agreement comes with a big caveat that could hinder local prosecution: Local governments won't receive any additional funding from Fort Hood or the federal government. The agreement acknowledges the lack of funding might prevent counties from taking all cases referred to them and says federal authorities would pick up prosecution in those instances.

Coryell County Assistant District Attorney Scott Stevens said his county's limited budget for treating juvenile offenders would make it impossible to take every case.

"In an ideal world, would there be more funding? Sure," he said.

So far, no new cases have been funneled to the counties under the new agreement, and it's not yet clear how often that clause would be invoked, said Waco-based Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark Frazier.

Some troops killed in Iraq helo crash ID'd

BY CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

At least four of the seven U.S. service-members killed Thursday night in a helicopter crash in western Iraq have been identified.

Newsday and Southampton Press reported some of the casualties were members of the New York Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing, based in Westhampton Beach on Long Island. Guard officials declined to confirm the reports, citing Pentagon policy of withholding details until all families had been officially notified.

However, a post on the Facebook page for Long Island's Commack Fire Department paid respects to Christopher Raguso, a lieutenant with the department's Company 4 and the New York Fire Department. The Air Guardsman was a flight engineer on the chopper, the post read.

In a statement to The Associated Press, Commack fire Commissioner Jerome Quigley called Raguso "a great father and great role model."

Raguso leaves a wife and two daughters, ages 6 and 5.

Fire marshal Christopher "Tripp" Zanetis, a New York City firefighter since 2004, was identified by The Associated Press and FDNY as another victim of the crash.

Raguso and Zanetis, were "truly two of New York City's bravest," New York Mayor Bill de Blasio said in a statement.

New York City Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro said Raguso and Zanetis "bravely wore two uniforms in their extraordinary lives of service" with the fire department and the U.S. armed forces.

"He was a very stand-up, moral, ethical person, up one side and down the other," Zanetis' father told the New York Post. "He just wanted to be of service. He served people in the fire department and in the military and was going to do the same thing as a lawyer."

Also aboard the helicopter was Staff Sgt. Dashan Briggs, according to his cousin Briana Thompson, who spoke to Stars and Stripes via Facebook Messenger. In a post that included a video of members of the unit

rescuing a baby in Houston following Hurricane Harvey, she said Briggs was a husband and father of two children.

"I'm so proud of your accomplishments," she wrote. "You were such an amazing man all around."

Air Force Staff Sgt. Carl Enis, 31, a Pinecrest, Fla., native, was also identified by media reports as among those killed.

Enis served as a pararescueman and was a member of the 308th Rescue Squadron from Patrick Air Force Base in Florida, according to reports.

"I am speechless and I am heartbroken," Dan Sherraden, one of Enis' friends, posted on Facebook on Friday.

The HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter crash did not appear to be the result of enemy activity, according to a statement from the U.S.-led operation battling Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

Used by the Air Force for combat search and rescue, the Pave Hawk was on a routine transit flight when it went down near the town of Qaim in Anbar province, near the border with Syria, officials said.

Senators want docs on spy declassified

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Gina Haspel's long spy career is so shrouded in mystery that senators want documents declassified so they can decide if her role at a CIA black site should prevent her from directing the agency.

Haspel's upcoming confirmation hearing will be focused on the time she spent supervising a secret prison in Thailand. The CIA won't say when in 2002 Haspel was there, but at various times that year, interrogators at the site sought to make terrorism suspects talk by slamming

them against walls, keeping them from sleeping, holding them in coffin-sized boxes and forcing water down their throats — a technique called waterboarding.

Haspel also is accused of drafting a memo calling for the destruction of 92 videotapes of interrogation sessions. Their destruction in 2005 prompted a lengthy Justice Department investigation that ended without charges.

Even if Haspel was at the prison site for just a few months, Steven Watt, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney, said

she was deeply involved in the interrogation program. For much of its existence, Haspel was deputy director of the CIA's counterterrorism center that ran the program using "enhanced interrogation techniques."

Several colleagues and former intelligence officials have come to her defense.

Mike Morell, who was an acting director of the CIA, worked closely with Haspel from 2006 until he retired in 2013. Morell has described her as a "warm and engaging" colleague with a "self-deprecating" sense of humor. She's a "simply excep-

tional" person who gets things done in a "quiet, yet effective way" and is "calm under fire."

"The media is also likely to refer to a moment in her career when she drafted a cable instructing a field station to destroy videotapes of CIA interrogations of senior al-Qaida operatives," Morell wrote when Haspel became deputy CIA director last year. "She did so at the request of her direct supervisor and believing that it was lawful to do so. I personally led an accountability exercise that cleared Haspel of any wrongdoing in the case."

Lawyer: Stormy Daniels has been threatened

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A porn actress who said she had sex with Donald Trump before he became president has been threatened with physical harm, her attorney said Friday.

Stormy Daniels, whose real name is Stephanie Clifford, has been seeking to invalidate a nondisclosure agreement she signed days before the 2016 presidential election in order to discuss their relationship, which she said began in 2006 and continued for about a year.

Lawyers for Trump, in a filing late Friday, claimed Clifford

could owe more than \$20 million in damages for violating the agreement.

Clifford's attorney, Michael Avenatti, told The Associated Press his client had been "physically threatened," but he didn't provide details. He would not comment on whether the threats came from anyone tied to the president, the Trump campaign or the Trump Organization.

Clifford will discuss the threats during a segment on CBS' "60 Minutes," which is scheduled to air later this month. Avenatti said he was confident that people would believe her after watching her interview.

"There's the act and there's the cover-up, and the American people are going to learn about both in the interview and beyond," the lawyer said during an interview with MSNBC's "Morning Joe" on Friday.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told reporters Friday that she had no knowledge of the situation and hadn't spoken with the president about it.

But, she said, "obviously, we take the safety and security of any person seriously" and "certainly would condemn anyone threatening any individual." Sanders previously has said

Trump has "made very well clear that none of these allegations are true."

Clifford filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles the week before last that sought to invalidate the agreement so she could "set the record straight" and has offered to return the \$130,000 she was paid for agreeing not to discuss the relationship. Clifford's lawsuit claimed the "hush agreement" she signed in October 2016 is legally invalid because it was signed only by Clifford and Trump's attorney, Michael Cohen, but was not signed by Trump.

4 suspects in Ind. charged in fraudulent charity scheme

BY DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Using a variation on the name of one of the most well-known veterans charities, four suspects in Indiana have been charged with bilking people out of \$125,000, according to federal and local law enforcement in Indiana.

The scheme involved collecting donations for two fraudulent organizations, the "Wounded Warrior Fund" and the "Wounded Warrior Foundation" — both

plays on the legitimate Florida-based Wounded Warrior Project, according to the indictment, unsealed Friday.

The case was investigated by the Clark County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Secret Service field office in Louisville, Ky. The suspects were indicted by a grand jury Feb. 28.

According to the indictment, the scheme was led by James Linville, 44, of Clark County, Ind., who incorporated the Wounded Warrior Fund in 2011 and Wounded Warrior Founda-

tion in 2014. He and three accomplices — Thomas Johnson, 42, and Joanie Watson, 38, along with Linville's girlfriend, Amy Lou Bennett, 40 — are under arrest, officials said. Three have pleaded guilty. The suspects face more than 70 charges of attempted and actual wire and mail fraud and conspiracy to commit fraud.

"Our American veterans have dutifully served this country through many wars and deserve better than to be deprived of donations from giving donors,"

Josh Minkler, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, said in a statement.

In his incorporation filings, Linville identified the two scam organizations as nonprofits serving Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio, and listed himself as president and Johnson as vice president.

Bennet and Watson are suspected of picking up the donations. Neither Linville nor Johnson have served in the military, the Secret Service said.

Budget talks at critical stage

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top-level congressional talks on a \$1.3 trillion catchall spending bill are reaching a critical stage as negotiators confront immigration, abortion-related issues and a battle over a massive rail project that pits President Donald Trump against his most powerful Democratic adversary.

The bipartisan measure is loaded with political and policy victories for both sides. Republicans and Trump are winning a long-sought budget increase for the Pentagon, while Democrats obtain funding for infrastructure, the opioid crisis and a wide swath of domestic programs.

The bill would implement last month's big budget agreement, providing 10 percent increases for both the Pentagon and domestic agencies when compared with current levels. Coupled with last year's tax cut measure, it heralds the return of trillion-dollar budget deficits as soon as the budget year that starts in October.

While most of the funding is-

sues in the enormous measure have been sorted out, fights involving a number of policy "riders" — so named because they catch a ride on a difficult-to-stop spending bill — continued into the weekend. Among them are GOP-led efforts to add a plan to revive federal subsidies to help the poor cover out-of-pocket costs under President Barack Obama's health law and to fix a glitch in the recent tax bill that subsidizes grain sales to cooperatives at the expense of for-profit grain companies.

Trump has privately threatened to veto the whole package if a \$900 million payment is made on the Hudson River Gateway Project, a priority of top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer, of New York. Trump's opposition is alarming northeastern Republicans such as Gateway supporter Peter King, R-N.Y., who lobbied Trump on the project at a St. Patrick's luncheon in the Capitol on Thursday.

The Gateway Project would add an \$11 billion rail tunnel under the Hudson River to complement deteriorating, cen-

tury-old tunnels that are at risk of closing in a few years. It enjoys bipartisan support among key appropriations panel negotiators on the omnibus measure who want to get the expensive project on track while their coffers are flush with money.

Most House Republicans voted to kill the funding in a tally last year, however, preferring to see the money spread to a greater number of districts.

"Obviously, if we're doing a huge earmark ... it's troubling," said Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., a leader of House conservatives. "Why would we do that? Schumer's pet project, and we pass that under a Republican-controlled Senate, House and White House?"

Schumer has kept a low profile, avoiding stoking a battle with the unpredictable Trump.

There's also a continuing battle over Trump's long-promised U.S.-Mexico border wall. What's pending now is \$1.6 billion for earlier designs involving sections in Texas that double as levees and 14 miles of replacement fencing in San Diego.

Warning of bridge cracking not heard

Associated Press

MIAMI — An engineer left a voicemail two days before a catastrophic bridge failure in Miami to say some cracking had been found at one end of the concrete span, but the voicemail wasn't picked up until after the collapse, Florida Department of Transportation officials said Friday.

The voicemail left on a landline wasn't heard by a state DOT employee until Friday because the employee was out of the office on an assignment, the agency said in an email.

In a transcript released Friday night, Denney Pate, with FIGG Bridge Group, said the cracking would need repairs, "but from a safety perspective, we don't see that there's any issue there, so we're not concerned about it from that perspective."

The bridge collapsed Thursday, killing at least six people. Authorities are slowly removing the debris, looking for more victims.

At a news conference Friday night, officials from the National Transportation Safety Board said they have just begun their investigation and cannot yet say whether any cracking contributed to the collapse. They also said workers were trying to strengthen a diagonal member on the pedestrian bridge at Florida International University when it collapsed.

Robert Accetta, the investigator in charge for the NTSB, said crews were applying post-tensioning force, but investigators aren't sure if that's what caused the bridge to fall.

In a news release late Friday, FIGG Bridge Engineers said it "continues to work diligently" to determine the cause of the collapse and is examining the steps its team has taken. It added, "The evaluation was based on the best available information at that time and indicated that there were no safety issues."

Russia retaliates, expels 23 British diplomats

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia on Saturday announced it is expelling 23 British diplomats and threatened further measures in retaliation amid a growing diplomatic dispute over a nerve agent attack on a former spy in Britain.

Also, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement that it is ordering the closure of the British Council, a government organization for cultural and scientific cooperation, and that it is ending an agreement to reopen the British consulate in St. Petersburg.

It ordered the diplomats to leave within a week.

The announcement followed on the heels of Britain's order last week for 23 Russian diplomats to leave the U.K. because Russia was not cooperating in the case of Sergei Skripal and his daughter, both found on

March 4 poisoned by a nerve agent that British officials say was developed in Russia. The Skripals remain in critical condition.

Britain's foreign secretary accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of personally ordering the poisoning of the Skripals. Putin's spokesman denounced the claim.

The Russian statement said the government could take further measures if Britain takes any more "unfriendly" moves toward Russia. British Ambassador Laurie Bristow was called to the Foreign Ministry Saturday morning to be informed of the moves.

"We will always do what is necessary to defend ourselves, our allies and our values against an attack of this sort, which is an attack not only on the United Kingdom but upon the international rules-based system on which all countries, including

Russia, depend for their safety and security," Bristow told reporters after being informed of the expulsions.

"This crisis has arisen as a result of an appalling attack in the United Kingdom, the attempted murder of two people, using a chemical weapon developed in Russia and not declared by Russia at the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, as Russia was and is obliged to do under the Chemical Weapons Convention," he added.

A Russian lawmaker warned Britain against escalating the crisis. "It is possible that [Britain] will continue to respond; we are ready for this. But London must understand that this will not do anything. It is useless to talk with Russia with such methods," Vladimir Dzhabarov was quoted as saying by the state news agency RIA Novosti.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Sheriff used inmate funds for beach house

AL GADSDEN — An Alabama sheriff legally used more than \$750,000 of funds meant to feed inmates to purchase a beach house.

Etowah County Sheriff Todd Entrekin told The Birmingham News he followed a state law passed before World War II that allows sheriffs to keep “excess” inmate-feeding funds for themselves.

Entrekin reported on state ethics forms that he made “more than \$250,000” each of the past three years through the funds.

The sheriff’s annual salary is more than \$93,000. He and his wife purchased a four-bedroom house with a pool and canal access in September for \$740,000.

Entrekin got a \$592,000 mortgage. The home is one of several properties with a total assessed value of more than \$1.7 million the couple own together or separately.

Motorists stop sled team without musher

AK ANCHORAGE — McKenna Wall was driving home last weekend in Fairbanks when she noticed something odd about the sled dog team running on the highway’s shoulder.

These dogs had no musher on their sled to guide them.

Her fiancé Wyatt Dunlap stopped their vehicle in front of six dogs, and other motorists boxed them in to stop them from running more.

Former Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race competitor Gwen Holdmann said two of her children were giving a friend a ride in the sled. Holdmann

was ahead of them, riding what she called a “snow moped” that looks like a motor scooter on skis, in case anything went wrong.

The dog sled skidded on river ice and the children spilled out. The sled righted itself and the dogs continued running.

All six dogs piled into a Subaru to wait for Holdmann. She had searched unsuccessfully for the dogs in the neighborhood, and when she called police, they knew where to direct her.

Man on video steals officer’s sunglasses

RI CRANSTON — Rhode Island authorities said a man walked into a funeral home, took a police officer’s sunglasses, put them on and walked out.

Police said the theft happened at the Nardolillo Funeral Home in Cranston around 10:45 a.m. Friday.

The officer was part of a motorcycle escort for a funeral procession, and Cranston police Maj. Todd Patalano said officers typically remove their sunglasses inside the parlor and place them on a table before paying their respects.

Surveillance video captured a man going to the table and picking up the officer’s \$250 pair of sunglasses before leaving.

Dog sent overseas by mistake returned

KS WICHITA — A dog mistakenly flown to Japan is back with his family in Kansas.

The German Shepherd, named Irgo, arrived at a Wichita airport Thursday night after a flight on a private plane from Japan.

Kara Swindle and her two children were flying on United Airlines from Oregon to Kansas City, Mo., earlier this week during a move to Wichita, Kan.

When they went to pick up Irgo, they instead were given a Great Dane.

United said in a statement that the dogs were somehow put on the wrong flights during a connecting flight in Denver.

Man finds photo of Kennedy handshake

MA BOSTON — A Massachusetts man said he can finally prove to his friends that he shook Robert F. Kennedy’s hand at the Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade 50 years ago.

Alex MacDonald told The Boston Globe he met the former senator in 1968 when Kennedy marched with his brother Ted Kennedy in South Boston.

MacDonald reached out to archivists at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum hoping to find a photo of the senator. One image shot by a photographer covering Kennedy’s campaign captured MacDonald wearing his distinctive fur-lined coat as he shook hands with Kennedy.

Beaver chews tree, turns out lights

KY PIPPA PASSES — An electric utility said a beaver gnawed a tree that fell on a power line and caused an outage affecting roughly 1,000 customers in Kentucky.

Kentucky Power said in a statement that the customers’ electricity was out for roughly half an hour Thursday after the tree fell near Pippa Passes in Knott County. The company’s reliability manager, Mike Lasslo, said animals cause outages often but that snakes, birds and

squirrels are more frequent culprits than beavers.

Kentucky Power said animal guards have been placed atop transformers and also behind fencing at some substations to protect equipment and limit outages, but not much can be done to deter beavers.

2 officers shovel walkway for woman

NH BARNSTEAD — Two police officers in New Hampshire came to the aid of an elderly woman by shoveling her walkway so she could get to her doctor’s appointment.

WMUR-TV reported the woman called Barnstead Police on Thursday because she could not get out of her house due to the accumulated snow. Police said two officers quickly responded and shoveled out the woman’s walkway so she could make her scheduled doctor’s appointment.

Man eats at Chipotle for 500 days straight

OH TIFFIN — An Ohio man who ate Chipotle every day for the past 500 days said he is finally ready to eat something new.

Bruce Wayne ended his streak Wednesday after grabbing a meal at the Tiffin Chipotle branch.

Wayne broke the record for the most consecutive meals at the Mexican fast food restaurant in December at 426 days. Chipotle pledged a \$4,260 donation to Seneca-based Financial Assistance for Cancer Treatment, in honor of the \$10 a day average Wayne spent over the 426 days.

In a post on his Instagram Tuesday, Wayne says “it isn’t just the end of one adventure; it’s the start of a new one.”

From wire reports

STARS AND STRIPES

On a mission to provide credible reporting and daily news to America’s military, wherever they serve.

Mobile apps available: www.stripes.com/apps.

UMBC knocks off top-seeded Virginia

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jairus Lyles couldn't suppress a smile, knowing that a school known more for chess than hoops had finally made it happen — a 16 ousting a 1 in March Madness.

The University of Maryland-Baltimore County stunned the sports world by pulling off the most surprising upset in college basketball history, trouncing Virginia 74-54 on Friday night to become the first No. 16 seed ever to beat a No. 1 seed in the men's NCAA Tournament.

The Retrievers secured their underdog legacy in sports lore, alongside Buster Douglas, the 1980 United States Olympic hockey team and Joe Namath's Jets.

Virginia entered the NCAA Tournament as the No. 1 overall seed after going 31-2 in the regular season, including 20-1 in ACC competition.

Frankly, the question wasn't whether the Cavaliers would

win this game, but if they'd get to the Final Four and win it all.

But UMBC — an afterthought for fans who filled out brackets — didn't just beat Virginia, it dominated throughout the second half, dismantling the 20½-point favorites by 20 points. UMBC scored 53 points in the second half — 1 point shy of how many Virginia scored in the entire game.

Lyles scored 28, the Retrievers cruised and then raced off the floor together in their yellow-and-black uniforms, fingers pointed toward the ceiling to celebrate the victory.

"These are the moments that you dream of," Lyles said. "It's always exciting to make history."

In a chaotic UMBC locker room after the game, players shouted: "All brackets gone! No perfect brackets! Put that in the news!"

Others talked about the need for a 30 for 30 special.

UMBC's Jourdan Grant said it was hard to put his emotions into words.

"It felt like my soul left my body, man," Grant said. "When I walked over to the sideline and up in front of the sea of yellow of our fan section, they were going crazy with us. And to look back and see my teammates going crazy, too, man it's unbelievable."

A 77-72 stunner by NAIA team Chaminade over Ralph Sampson and No. 1-ranked Virginia in 1982 in Hawaii was generally considered the most remarkable upset in college basketball. But that was the regular season and almost nobody watched it as it actually played out.

This came when it mattered the most — in the NCAA Tournament.

No. 1 seeds in the NCAA Tournament were 135-0.

"Unbelievable — it's really all you can say," said UMBC

coach Ryan Odom, who grew up in Charlottesville, Va., and whose father Dave Odom was a former assistant coach at UVA.

Before Friday night, UMBC was better known for making runs at a different Final Four — in college chess.

Its powerhouse program gives scholarships to players from around the world and competed in the President's Cup, informally known as the Final Four of chess, for 15 straight years before the streak ended in 2016.

On the other side of the floor, there were tears as some Cavaliers players walked off with their jerseys over their eyes.

Virginia's Ty Jerome, when asked if he knew that a No. 16 seed had never beaten a No. 1 before in men's play, said: "I think everyone is aware of that."

"Thanks for bringing that up again, but I was aware of it," he said.

South Regional

Martin gets hot in OT, helps Nevada hold off Texas

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nevada's Caleb Martin had just missed a potential game-winning shot at the buzzer and didn't feel all that disappointed. The junior forward just knew his team would finish the job in overtime.

And then he helped make it happen.

Martin shot 3-for-3 from three-point range in overtime and finished with 18 points Friday as Nevada rallied to beat Texas 87-83 for its first NCAA Tournament victory since 2007.

"We were comfortable," Martin said. "It's one of those things where you could tell the other team didn't want to go into overtime with us. You could kind of feel the energy on the floor when we walked back out there. You kind of knew it

was kind of in our favor."

The Wolf Pack, seeded seventh in the South Region, advanced to a Sunday matchup with No. 2 seed Cincinnati (31-4).

Nevada (28-7) erased a 14-point, second-half deficit and rallied again after trailing Texas by four early in an overtime session that featured combined 34 points. Nevada made all six of its field-goal attempts in overtime after Texas forward Mohamed Bamba fouled out with 3.8 seconds left in regulation.

Kansas State 69, Creighton 59: At Charlotte, N.C., Barry Brown scored 18 points and the ninth-seeded Wildcats posted a wire-to-wire victory over the No. 8 Bluejays despite playing without leading scorer Dean Wade.

Mike McGuirl added 17 points and Kamau Stokes had

11 as the Wildcats won a first-round game for the first time since 2012.

Wade had been expected to play after suffering a stress fracture in the quarterfinals of the Big 12 Tournament, but never got on the floor. His teammates picked him up, particularly on defense.

Creighton came into the game ranked 10th in scoring in Division I at 84.3 points per game, but the Wildcats (23-11) limited the Bluejays to 59 points, tying their season low. Creighton (21-12) shot just 33.8 percent from the field.

Cincinnati 68, Georgia State 53: At Nashville, Tenn., Jarron Cumberland had 27 points and 11 rebounds to set career highs in both categories as the Bearcats recovered after blowing a 10-point lead in the second half to beat the pesky Panthers.

Cincinnati, the No. 2 seed in the South Region, won its eighth game in a row and advanced to a Sunday matchup against seventh-seeded Nevada.

After trailing 42-32 early in the second half, Georgia State (24-11) rallied to take a pair of one-point leads, its last one coming on a driving bank shot from D'Marcus Simonds with 9:30 left.

Cincinnati (31-4) answered by reeling off 10 straight points.

Gary Clark, the American Athletic Conference player of the year, put Cincinnati back in front by sinking a three-pointer with 9:02 left. Kyle Washington added two straight baskets before Jacob Evans III provided the exclamation point by sinking a baseline three-pointer that gave the Bearcats a 56-47 edge with 6:19 remaining.

West Regional

Seminoles eliminate No. 8 Tigers

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Ninth-seeded Florida State has lots of guys who can score, and the Seminoles used that depth to win their fourth straight NCAA Tournament opener.

Or as coach Leonard Hamilton calls it, a team effort.

Mfiondu Kabengele scored 14 points, and Florida State beat No. 8 seed Missouri 67-54 on Friday night in the West Region.

Florida State (21-11) will play No. 1 seed Xavier in the second round on Sunday.

PJ Savoy had 12 points and Phil Cofer scored 11. A total of 10 Seminoles scored at least two points apiece — by halftime — as they wore out Missouri, which had only eight healthy players available.

Xavier 102, Texas Southern 83: At Nashville, Tenn., Xavier looked every bit like a No. 1 seed its first time around in the role at an NCAA Tournament.

J.P. Macura scored 18 of his career-high 29 points in the first half, and Xavier routed No. 16 seed Texas Southern in its tournament opener.

North Carolina 84, Lipscomb 66: Kenny Williams scored 18 points and defending national champion North Carolina took its time before opening up to beat Lipscomb in Charlotte, N.C.

Theo Pinson had 15 points and flirted with a triple-double for the second-seeded Tar Heels (26-10). North Carolina next plays Texas A&M.

Texas A&M 73, Providence 69: At Charlotte, N.C., Admon Gilder scored 18 points to help Texas A&M hold off Providence.

Robert Williams and Tyler Davis both had double-doubles for the seventh-seeded Aggies (21-12). The teams were tied at 50 with about 9 minutes left but Texas A&M responded with a 12-2.

East Regional

Marshall wins for first time

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Marshall Thundering Herd celebrated like never before.

For the first time in six tries during 62 years, the Thundering Herd won an NCAA Tournament game.

Jon Elmore scored 27 points and Jarrod West hit a huge three-pointer with three minutes left to help No. 13 seed Marshall topple fourth-seeded Wichita State 81-75 in the East Region.

When the buzzer sounded, West raised his arms in the air and joyously ran practically the length of the court before joining his teammates in celebration.

“Long time!” coach Dan D’Antoni said moments later.

Was it ever.

The Thundering Herd (25-10) made their first NCAA tourney appearance in 1956 and made their most recent one in 1987, losing all five along the way. The 1987 loss was later vacated due to infractions. Their only postseason victories were in

the NIT in 1967, when D’Antoni was on the team.

Purdue 74, Cal State Fullerton 48: At Detroit, Carsen Edwards scored 15 points and the second-seeded Boilermakers eventually shook off the rust from a long layoff and routed the Titans to advance to the second round.

Playing for the first time in nearly two weeks after losing to Michigan in the Big Ten Tournament final, Purdue (29-6) struggled to make shots down low and beyond the three-point line and simply looked out of sync.

The Titans (20-12) led midway through the first half, and then Edwards took over. He had a go-ahead layup and scored seven more points to help Purdue lead 31-20 at halftime.

Butler 79, Arkansas 62: At Detroit, Kelan Martin scored 27 points and Kamar Baldwin added 24 to lift the 10th-seeded Bulldogs over the seventh-seeded Razorbacks.

Butler (21-13) raced to a 21-2 lead in the opening minutes. Although Arkansas wiped out

that entire deficit before halftime, Butler took control again early in the second.

Jaylen Barford scored 15 points for Arkansas, but the Razorbacks (23-12) struggled in the paint — 6-foot-11 freshman Daniel Gafford managed only two field goals.

West Virginia 85, Murray State 68: At San Diego, Jevon Carter scored 21 points, had eight assists and six steals, Teddy Allen added 16 points and the No. 5 seed Mountaineers overwhelmed the 12th-seeded Racers.

West Virginia (25-10) pulled away in the second half and advanced to the round of 32 for the third time in the past four seasons as four players finished in double figures.

Next up for West Virginia: A Mountain State showdown with 13th-seeded Marshall far away from home.

Carter had 13 points in the second half and was the trigger of a second-half surge by the Mountaineers after Murray State had trimmed a 14-point lead down to five.

Midwest Regional

Orange shuts down 6th-seeded TCU

Associated Press

DETROIT — Forget the matchup between the Syracuse defense and TCU’s offense. That was no contest.

The question was whether the Orange could score enough to take that smothering zone to another round.

“We just wanted to stay poised down the stretch,” guard Frank Howard said. “We didn’t want to get frustrated or start to force anything.”

Howard’s jumper with 1:27 remaining gave 11th-seeded Syracuse a five-point lead, and the Orange held on for a 57-52 victory over sixth-seeded TCU on Friday night in the Midwest

Region of the NCAA Tournament. Marek Dolezaj scored 17 points before fouling out, and Syracuse imposed its will defensively.

Clemson 79, New Mexico State 68: At San Diego, Shelton Mitchell scored a season-high 23 points, Gabe DeVoe had 22 and Clemson beat New Mexico State to out a perfect first round for No. 5 seeds.

The 5-12 line is usually one of the top spots for March Madness upsets, but Clemson (24-9) shot 56 percent from the field while advancing out of the first round for the first time since 1997.

Michigan State 82, Bucknell 78: Miles Bridges outlasted

Zach Thomas, scoring 29 points and grabbing nine rebounds to help third-seeded Michigan State beat Bucknell in Detroit.

Thomas fouled out on a technical with 6:06 left and finished with 27 points. He put on a show in the first half, scoring 20 points.

Auburn 62, College Of Charleston 58: At San Diego, Jared Harper made a clutch three-pointer with 1:17 to go — his only basket of the game — and Auburn held off No. 13 College of Charleston.

The Tigers (26-7) avoided being the second No. 4 seed to be upset at Viejas Arena. Marshall beat fourth-seeded Wichita State earlier in the day.

NBA roundup

Raptors stretch winning streak to 11

Associated Press

TORONTO — DeMar DeRozan made the game-winning basket in overtime and the Toronto Raptors rallied to match the longest winning streak in franchise history, topping the Dallas Mavericks 122-115 on Friday night for their 11th consecutive win.

DeRozan scored 29 points and Jonas Valanciunas had 21 points and 12 rebounds as the Eastern Conference-leading Raptors (52-17) won for the 18th time in 19 games. Delon Wright had 15 points and Fred VanVleet scored 14, helping Toronto improve to an NBA-best 29-5 at home.

Dallas had won three of four. Harrison Barnes scored 27 points for the Mavericks, and Dennis Smith Jr. had 19.

Kings 98, Warriors 93: Buddy Hield made three free

throws over the final 27.5 seconds, Willie Cauley-Stein had a late dunk and Sacramento won on Golden State's home floor for the second time this season.

Hield finished with 22 points, seven assists and seven rebounds.

Quinn Cook scored a career-high 25 points on 10-for-13 shooting for Golden State, making his initial seven shots and also hitting a career-best five three-pointers after Kevin Durant was lost to a broken rib in a discouraging pregame announcement for the defending champions.

Thunder 121, Clippers 113: Corey Brewer scored 22 points to help host Oklahoma City to its fifth straight win.

Oklahoma City's Russell Westbrook had 16 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists for his 22nd triple-double of the season and the 101st of his career.

Paul George scored 19 points and Steven Adams added 18 points and 14 rebounds for the Thunder, who swept all three games from the Clippers this season.

Tobias Harris scored 24 points and Austin Rivers added 23 for the Clippers. DeAndre Jordan had 11 points and 21 rebounds.

76ers 120, Nets 116: Joel Embiid had 24 points and a career-high 19 rebounds on his 24th birthday, leading host Philadelphia to the victory.

J.J. Redick added 23 points and Ben Simmons had 21 points, 12 assists and eight rebounds for Philadelphia (38-30).

Rondae Hollis-Jefferson scored 21 points for the Nets (21-48), who lost their third straight and 19th in the last 22 games.

Heat 92, Lakers 91: Goran Dragic scored 30 points, in-

cluding a go-ahead jumper in the final seconds, and Miami snapped a nine-game road losing streak.

Miami trailed 91-90 after Kyle Kuzma made a three-pointer for Los Angeles with 1:23 left. But Dragic got the lead back for the Heat with about 15 seconds remaining and Isaiah Thomas missed a 10-foot fallaway jumper for the Lakers.

Julius Randle led the Lakers with 25 points and 12 rebounds.

Celtics 92, Magic 83: Terry Rozier and Greg Monroe each scored 17 points, helping Boston to the road win.

Boston stopped a two-game losing streak despite shooting just 37.8 percent from the field. Al Horford had 15 points for the Celtics, and Abdel Nader finished with 11.

NHL roundup

Predators hold off Avalanche, wrap up playoff berth

Associated Press

DENVER — The Nashville Predators didn't break out the bubbly or anything rowdy like that after becoming the first NHL team to clinch a playoff spot this season.

"Business as usual," defenseman Ryan Ellis said of the low-key celebration that included some pizza. "Back to work."

Colton Sissons and Filip Forsberg each scored twice, backup goaltender Juuse Saros stopped 33 shots and the Predators secured their postseason berth by beating the Colorado Avalanche 4-2 on Friday night.

The streaking Predators are 13-0-1 in their last 14 games and haven't lost in regulation since Feb. 17 against Detroit.

"The guys knew with a win tonight we would clinch and I think they fought hard for it,"

coach Peter Laviolette said. "I really liked our game tonight."

Starting goalie Pekka Rinne was given the night off after helping Nashville to a win Thursday at Arizona. The team didn't miss a beat with Saros in net.

Nathan MacKinnon and Gabriel Landeskog had the goals for a Colorado team that returned home after earning two straight road wins, including Thursday in St. Louis.

Capitals 6, Islanders 3: T.J. Oshie, Nicklas Backstrom and Matt Niskanen scored as host-Washington swept a home-and-home set against slumping New York.

Alex Chiasson had a goal and two assists for the Capitals, who hammered the Islanders 7-3 in New York on Thursday. Jakub Vrana's goal gave Washington a 5-1 lead with 9:04 remaining.

Lars Eller added an empty-netter, and Braden Holtby made 22 saves.

Wild 4, Golden Knights 2: Jason Zucker, the only NHL player raised in Nevada, scored a goal and assisted on another to lead visiting Minnesota over Vegas.

The Wild, who had lost two in a row and four of seven, completed a 3-0 season sweep of the Pacific Division leaders. Charlie Coyle, Matt Dumba and Zach Parise also scored for the Wild, and Alex Stalock stopped 26 shots.

Ducks 4, Red Wings 2: Corey Perry scored a tiebreaking goal late in the second period, John Gibson made 28 saves and host Anaheim defeated skidding Detroit.

Nick Ritchie, Derek Grant and Ryan Kesler each had a goal for the Ducks, tied with

Los Angeles for third place in the Pacific Division. Anaheim has 84 points — also the same amount as Colorado and Dallas, which hold the two wild-card spots in the Western Conference.

Sharks 7, Flames 4: Evander Kane scored four goals to lead visiting San Jose past Calgary.

Tomas Hertl had a goal and an assist for the Sharks, who have won three straight and four of five. Kevin Leban and Eric Fehr also scored, and Martin Jones made 30 saves.

Senators 3, Stars 2 (OT): Mike Hoffman scored at 3:26 of overtime and Ottawa beat Dallas to win its third game in a row for just the second time this season.

Marian Gaborik and Matt Duchene also scored for the Senators, and Craig Anderson made 23 saves.