

STARS AND STRIPES[®]

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Trump vetoes resolution on border wall

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Unbowed by a congressional rebuke, President Donald Trump issued the first veto of his presidency on Friday in a demonstration that he is not through fighting for his signature campaign promise, which stands largely unfulfilled 18 months before voters decide whether to grant him another term.

Trump rejected an effort by Congress to block the emergency declaration he'd used to circumvent lawmakers as he tried to shake loose funds for his long-promised wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. The monthslong confrontation now moves to the courts, but not before marking a new era of divided government in Washington and Republicans' increasing independence from the White House.

"Congress has the freedom to pass this resolution," Trump

said, "and I have the duty to veto it."

A dozen defecting Republicans joined Senate Democrats in approving the joint resolution on Thursday as both parties strained to exert their power in new ways. It is unlikely that Congress will have the two-thirds majority required to override Trump's veto, though House Democrats will try nonetheless on March 26.

Despite the reproach, Trump seized the opportunity to publicly rebuff Congress and show his commitment to the border wall. In embracing the opportunity to deploy the constitutional power of the veto for the first time, he treated the occasion with all the traditional pomp of a bill-signing.

Trump was surrounded in the Oval Office by supporters, including law enforcement officials and the parents of children killed by people in the country illegally, who offered profuse

thanks and frequent applause. Trump dramatically signed his veto message and then held the document up for the cameras to capture.

Trump wants to use the emergency order to divert billions of federal dollars earmarked for defense spending toward the southern border wall. It still faces several legal challenges from Democratic state attorneys general and environmental groups who argue the emergency declaration was unconstitutional.

Those cases could prevent Trump from diverting extra money to barrier construction for months or longer. American Civil Liberties Union, which filed one of the challenges, said the veto is meaningless, like the declaration in the first place.

"Congress has rejected the president's declaration, and now the courts will be the ultimate arbiter of its legality. We look forward to seeing him in

court and to the shellacking that he will receive at the hands of an independent judiciary," said Executive Director Anthony Romero.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi called Trump's veto a "lawless power grab" and railed that, even after both chambers tried to stop him, Trump "has chosen to continue to defy the Constitution, the Congress and the will of the American people."

Trump, however, insisted the situation on the southern border is "a tremendous national emergency," adding, "our immigration system is stretched beyond the breaking point."

Many lawmakers said Thursday's vote was not necessarily a rejection of the president or the wall, but protections against future presidents — namely, a Democrat who might want to declare an emergency on climate change, gun control or any number of other issues.

President, national security team discuss Afghanistan

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump and his national security team had an hourlong, classified meeting on Afghanistan Friday, a day after a top Afghan official openly complained that the Trump administration was keeping his government in the dark about its negotiations with the Taliban.

The meeting in the secure room at the Pentagon called "the tank" included Vice President Mike Pence, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, CIA Director Gina Haspel and national security adviser John Bolton, among others. The session was a classified briefing about Afghanistan, according to a White House official who spoke on

condition of anonymity to discuss the subject of the private briefing.

The Pentagon has been developing plans to withdraw up to half of the 14,000 troops still in Afghanistan. Pat Shanahan, acting secretary of defense, said he has no orders to reduce the U.S. troop presence, although officials say that is at the top of the Taliban's list of demands in exploratory peace negotiations.

U.S. Special Representative Zalmay Khalilzad, the administration's main negotiator with the Taliban, recently concluded a 13-day session with leaders of the insurgent group to find a way to end the 17-year war.

Khalilzad said the two sides reached two "draft agreements"

covering the withdrawal of U.S. troops and guarantees that Afghanistan would not revert to a haven for terrorists.

But he was unable to persuade the Taliban to launch talks with the Afghan government.

The two sides seem to be in agreement about the withdrawal of American forces but divided over the timeline and whether a residual force would remain.

Taliban officials have told The Associated Press that the insurgents want a full withdrawal within three to five months, but U.S. officials say it will take 18 months to two years.

The Americans are likely to insist on a residual U.S. force to guard the American embassy and other diplomatic facilities

and may press for a counterterrorism force, as well.

Afghanistan's national security adviser, Hamdullah Mohib, visited Washington on Thursday to publicly complain that the Trump administration has alienated the Afghan government, legitimized the militant network and is crafting a deal that will never lead to peace. His blunt remarks prompted a scolding from State Department officials.

Mohib, the former Afghan ambassador to the United States, said talks about withdrawing troops should be conducted with the Afghan government, which has a bilateral security agreement with the U.S.

Film depicts war without the propaganda

BY PHILLIP WALTER
WELLMAN

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Former Marine Miles Lagoze said he hopes his film “Combat Obscura” will alter the “sanitized and sanctified view of the military” he said many Americans hold by showing them his view of what combat is actually like.

“It’s important because if you worship the military too much, you lose track of why we’re actually at war and the underlying issues that are causing it,” Lagoze told *Stars and Stripes* during a phone interview before the film’s release on Friday.

The documentary — a patchwork of scenes showing Marines smoking marijuana while on patrol in Afghanistan, defecating outside the homes of locals, swearing at children and talking lightly of killing innocent people — goes far to challenge the ubiquitous label of “hero” frequently bestowed on American servicemembers.

The cultural insensitivity on display may also give viewers the feeling that they’re getting an explanation, or at least part of one, as to why America’s longest war — now in its 18th year — hasn’t been won.

Footage used in the film was taken by Lagoze, then a lance corporal, and other combat cameramen during a deployment to Helmand province with the 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment between 2011 and 2012.

Lagoze’s job as a combat cameraman was to shoot and edit video of Marines at war. After being approved by the military, the footage was distributed to private news networks and the American Forces Network.

A video Lagoze shot of a November 2011 attack on Patrol Base Georgetown in Helmand’s Kajaki Sofla was picked up by CNN that winter and billed it as a “rare, firsthand glimpse into a battle with the Taliban” and an “unfiltered look” at the war.

The video shows a platoon taking indirect fire, 30 mm grenades and sniper fire. They’re

‘[T]he Marine Corps is full of the most [obscenity] individuals I’ve ever met. Just like me, you know?’

U.S. Marine

in scene from “Combat Obscura”

still beating back the attackers when they have to coordinate a medical evacuation for a wounded comrade.

The 5-minute video, one of several of his that the Pentagon publicly shared on its own websites, earned Lagoze a first place prize for combat documentary in the 2011 Visual Information Awards Program run by the military’s public affairs school. But the hourlong “Combat Obscura” includes footage the Marine Corps never approved for release.

“We filmed what they wanted, but then we kept shooting,” text at the beginning of the film reads. Its website calls it the “documentary the Corps does not want you to see.”

Marine Corps threats

Initial threats of legal action by the Marine Corps against Lagoze for using footage apparently shot on government equipment substantiate that claim.

Previously, Lagoze has said he hadn’t considered making the material into a full-length documentary until after he enrolled in film school at Columbia University and realized what he had.

Working with the Knight First Amendment Institute at the school, he pushed back against the military’s threats, a Columbia University statement said.

After a preliminary inquiry by the Naval Criminal Investigation Service, military officials have decided not to pursue litigation against Lagoze or any of those depicted in the film “at this time,” said Marine spokesman Maj. Brian Block in an emailed statement.

“The potentially criminal activity captured ... is inexcusable and selfish and endangered the

security of the Marines in that unit,” Block said. “Unfortunately, the statute of limitations for pursuing disciplinary action has passed.”

That activity includes Marines apparently smoking pot in several scenes, including one in which a Marine appears to be rolling a joint in front of Afghan children and his colleague jokes about marrying an underage girl.

“You join the Marine Corps, you think the Marine Corps is like a bunch of perfect people, you know, that don’t do anything bad,” another Marine says in a different scene after smoking. “But the Marine Corps is full of the most [obscenity] individuals I’ve ever met. Just like me, you know?”

The speaker is the only person in the film who asked to have his face blurred, according to Lagoze, who said most of the men in the movie were happy for the public to see what their combat experience was actually like.

“I think ... veterans of this war are at a point where we’re sick of the hero worshipping and the sugarcoating of the experience and a lot of us are sick of people saying, ‘thank you for your service,’ without actually getting in a real conversation about what we did and what happened,” Lagoze said.

Disturbing scenes

Distributed by Oscilloscope Laboratories, the film is being released in a small number of theaters and became available to buy or rent on iTunes on Friday.

While images of Marines smoking marijuana and swearing will be seen as a blemish by some on the branch’s image, other scenes in the

film are more disturbing and consequential.

“I don’t care right now about their customs or their courtesies,” a Marine says in one part of the film before his men interrupt a religious service at a rural compound. After detaining the men there for what appears to be several hours, it’s revealed the “high-value individuals” being sought are not there.

In another scene, a patrol arrives to examine the body of a suspected Taliban fighter who has been shot dead. “Just like a deer,” one Marine says of the corpse as others talk to the lifeless body. The group quickly realizes the man was an unarmed shopkeeper.

The Marines discuss covering up the killing as the man’s body is shown being wrapped in a carpet, with one saying, “This is no good for people to see.”

Due to a lack of narration giving context to the raw footage, it’s often unclear exactly what is happening during the seemingly arbitrary assortment of scenes. But as the film progresses, a sense of the troops’ insensitivity and hubris becomes palpable.

The Marines in the film appear unsuited to the counterinsurgency strategy that U.S. commanders were pursuing at the time, focused on winning the trust of the Afghans.

“The behavior and actions depicted in this film do not live up to the high standards we expect of our Marines and do not represent the experience or attitudes of the vast majority of Marines who deploy and served with honor and distinction in Afghanistan,” said Block, the spokesman.

Lagoze admitted that “there are a lot of different types of guys in the military,” but that his film is an accurate experience of his deployment to Afghanistan as a 21-year-old, seven years ago.

“I thought it was important to document as much as I could,” Lagoze said. “It was important to the guys who I was filming that I was capturing as much of the reality as possible.”

Locals reach out to Muslims after attack

Associated Press

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand — New Zealand's stricken residents reached out to Muslims in their neighborhoods and around the country on Saturday, with a fierce determination to show kindness to a community in pain as a white supremacist stood silently before a judge, accused in mass shootings at two mosques that left 49 people dead.

Brenton Harrison Tarrant, 28, appeared in court amid strict security, shackled and wearing all-white prison garb, and showed no emotion when the judge read him one murder charge. The judge said "it was reasonable to assume" more such charges would follow.

Tarrant, who posted an anti-immigrant manifesto online and apparently used a helmet-mounted camera to broadcast live video of the slaughter in the city of Christchurch, appeared to make a hand sign, similar to an OK sign, that is sometimes associated with white nationalists.

The massacre during Friday prayers prompted a heartfelt response from Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, who pronounced it "one of New Zealand's darkest days" and said the shooter, an Australian native, had chosen to strike in New Zealand "because we represent diversity, kindness, compassion."

Her fellow countrymen seemed to want to prove her

right by volunteering acts of kindness. Some offered rides to the grocery store or volunteered to walk with their Muslim neighbors if they felt unsafe.

In online forums, people discussed Muslim food restrictions as they prepared to drop off meals for those affected.

"Love always wins over hate. Lots of love for our Muslim brothers," read a handwritten card on a wall of flowers in a historic part of the city that stretched a full block.

Still, Muslims were advised to stay away from mosques while the nation's security alert remained at the second-highest level a day after the deadliest shooting in modern New Zealand history.

Ardern said 39 survivors remained hospitalized Saturday, with 11 critically wounded. But updates were slow to come, and many families were still waiting to hear whether their loved ones were among the victims.

New Zealand, with a population of 5 million, has relatively loose gun laws and an estimated 1.5 million firearms, or roughly one for every three people. But it has one of the lowest gun homicide rates in the world. In 2015, it had just eight.

Ardern said Tarrant was a licensed gun owner who bought the five guns used in the crimes legally.

"I can tell you one thing right now, our gun laws will change," Ardern said.

Major storm causes massive Midwest flooding, evacuations

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Flooding in the central U.S. on Friday swamped small towns, forced some residents along waterways to evacuate, threatened to temporarily close a nuclear power plant and shut down stretches of a major river and an interstate highway, foreshadowing a difficult spring flooding season.

The high water, prompted by a massive late-winter storm, pushed some waterways to record levels in Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota. The flooding was the worst in nearly a decade in places, though the situation was expected to improve quickly in many places over the weekend, according to Mike Gillispie, National Weather Service hydrologist in Sioux Falls.

But in eastern Nebraska, flooding worsened Friday and remained a big concern in the lower Missouri River region — which is a major source for the Mississippi River — with the weather service issuing warnings of high water along the river and its tributaries from southeastern South Dakota to

St. Louis in Missouri.

About 45 miles northwest of Omaha, the town of North Bend — home to nearly 1,200 along the banks of the Platte River — emergency workers used boats to evacuate residents. Also Friday afternoon, officials asked residents of Valley, home to nearly 1,900 people just west of Omaha, to evacuate. Within hours of that request, anyone left in the city found all access in and out cut off by floodwaters from the Elkhorn River.

Officials in eastern Nebraska said more than 2,600 people living along the Missouri, Platte and Elkhorn rivers there had been urged to evacuate, as waters breached levees in several rural spots.

Wisconsin's governor declared a state of emergency Friday as flooding worsened, and Iowa's governor expanded an emergency proclamation issued a day earlier.

The U.S. Coast Guard shut down all traffic on the Missouri River from about 50 miles south of Omaha, Neb., downstream to St. Joseph, Missouri on Friday, a stretch of about 70 miles.

Boeing challenged to prove 737 Max jets safe

Associated Press

Aviation regulators worldwide laid down a stark challenge for Boeing to prove that its grounded 737 Max jets are safe to fly amid suspicions that faulty software might have contributed to two crashes that killed 346 people in less than six months.

In a key step toward unearthing the cause of the Ethiopian Airlines crash, flight recorders from the shattered plane arrived Thursday in France for analysis, although the agency in charge of the review said it was unclear whether the data could be retrieved.

The decision to send the recorders to France was seen as a rebuke to the United States, which held out longer than most other countries in grounding the jets.

Boeing executives announced that they had paused delivery of the Max, although the company planned to continue building the jets while it weighs the effect of the grounding on production.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration grounded the

planes Wednesday, saying regulators had new satellite evidence that showed the movements of Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 were similar to those of Lion Air Flight 610. That flight crashed into the Java Sea off Indonesia in October, killing 189 people.

The Max jets are likely to be idle for weeks while Boeing tries to assure regulators around the world that the planes are safe.

At a minimum, aviation experts say, the plane maker will need to finish updating software that might have played a role in the Lion Air crash. Regulators will wait for more definitive evidence of what caused both crashes. Some industry officials think the plane maker and U.S. regulators may be forced to answer questions about the plane's design.

Boeing said it supports the grounding of its planes as a precautionary step, while reiterating its "full confidence" in the safety of the 737 Max. The company has previously characterized the software upgrades as an effort to make a safe plane even safer.

New research rekindles debate over eggs

Associated Press

The latest U.S. research on eggs won't go over easy for those who can't eat breakfast without them.

Adults who ate about 1½ eggs daily had a slightly higher risk of heart disease than those who ate no eggs. The study showed the more eggs, the greater the risk. The chances of dying early were also elevated.

The researchers say the culprit is cholesterol, found in egg yolks and other foods, including shellfish, dairy products and red meat. The study focused on eggs because they're among the most commonly eaten cholesterol-rich foods. They can still be part of a healthy diet, but in smaller quantities than many Americans have gotten used to, the researchers say.

U.S. dietary guidelines that eased limits on cholesterol have helped eggs make a comeback.

The study has limitations and contradicts recent research but is likely to rekindle the

long-standing debate about eggs.

The new results were published online Friday in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Researchers at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine and elsewhere pooled results from six previous studies, analyzing data on almost 30,000 U.S. adults who self-reported daily food intake. Participants were followed for roughly 17 years, on average.

The researchers calculated that those who ate 300 milligrams of cholesterol daily — about 1½ eggs — were 17 percent more likely to develop heart disease than those who didn't eat eggs.

The researchers based their conclusions on what participants said they ate at the start of each study. They took into account high blood pressure, smoking, obesity and other traits that could contribute to heart problems.

Risks were found with eggs and chole-

sterol in general; a separate analysis was not done for every cholesterol-rich food.

Dr. Bruce Lee, of Johns Hopkins University, said nutrition studies are often weak because they rely on people remembering what they ate.

"We know that dietary recall can be terrible," said Lee. The new study offers only observational data but doesn't show that eggs and cholesterol caused heart disease and deaths, said Lee, who wasn't involved in the research.

Senior author Norrina Allen, a preventive medicine specialist, noted that the study lacks information on whether participants ate eggs hard-boiled, poached, fried or scrambled in butter, which she said could affect health risks.

Some people think, "I can eat as many eggs as I want" but the results suggest moderation is a better approach, she said.

Admissions scandal shows cynicism about morality

Associated Press

NEW YORK — In some ways, the college-admissions bribery scheme newly revealed by federal prosecutors seemed almost inevitable. Ethics experts say Americans these days are barraged with accounts of corruption, greed and amoral behavior to the point that many likely wonder, "Why should I play by the rules?"

Whether it's gaming the system to secure entry to an elite college or circumventing laws and ethical norms to evade taxes, swindle customers or pocket illicit gains, unethical behavior has always been among America's national pastimes. Yet a strong case can be made that this moment is distinctive, with its constant stream of high-profile scandals entangling bankers, drug companies, sports organizations, government officials and others.

"There's a rawer pursuit of opportunities and benefits than there once was," said Cal Jillson, a political science professor at Southern Methodist University. "It was always there, but now it's broader, and there are

elements of society that once responded to social and professional restraints that no longer do so."

The admissions scandal, as outlined last week by federal authorities, is the biggest such scam ever prosecuted by the Justice Department. Fifty people were charged in a scheme in which wealthy parents allegedly paid an estimated \$25 million in bribes to college coaches and other insiders to get their children into elite schools.

"I don't think anyone is shocked that children of the wealthy have an easier time getting into top schools," said Nick Smith, a philosophy professor at the University of New Hampshire.

"What is new here is that all of those considerable advantages apparently aren't enough for some, and they will go to any length to directly buy their way in," Smith said. "It's like the veneer of fairness is cracking all around us, and corruption is increasingly on the surface of our most esteemed institutions."

WWE's Evans credits Marines for her success

(Peoria, Ill.) *Journal Star*

PEORIA, Ill. — For World Wrestling Entertainment wrestler Lacey Evans, the key to her success was forged during her time in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Evans, who served in the Corps as a military police officer and was on a special response team, said the work she did there prepared her for the stress of being a sports entertainer.

"It takes a lot of nerves to be a sports entertainer and to be in front of those big crowds. The military and the Marine Corps prepared me to be numb to the stress," she said in a recent interview.

Evans and other superstars with the WWE will descend upon the Peoria Civic Center on Sunday as part of the "Road to WrestleMania" tour. The card includes Randy Orton clashing against AJ Styles. Charlotte Flair, the daughter of the legendary Ric Flair, will face off against the up-and-coming Asuka.

Evans served in the Corps for five years. It was a staff sergeant who was running a small,

local promotion in Georgia that got her hooked on wrestling. She found the small crowd, full of passionate fans, to be a lot like her.

Since then, she's done well, developing in the NXT wrestling circuit before moving up to the WWE. She was in the "Royal Rumble" in January and lasted almost 30 minutes. That, she said, was a major highlight.

"It was nerve-racking. I was the first one out and even had a promo," Evans said of the experience. "It was so much fun. It had a huge crowd, and what an experience."

Evans, who is married and has a daughter named Summer, 6, said the show is terrific family entertainment — so much so that she brings her daughter on the road with her during shows.

"She travels to almost every show with me and my husband," Evans said. "She tells everyone who will listen that her mother is in the WWE. They are my biggest supporters."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man killed when couple act out movie scene

MO FULTON — A Missouri woman was accused of accidentally killing her boyfriend as they acted out a movie scene involving a gun, only to have the gun go off.

Kalesha Marie Peterson of Fulton was charged with second-degree murder and unlawful use of a weapon in the death of David Dalton.

Peterson called 911 on Thursday and officers found Dalton in a bedroom with a gunshot wound to the head.

Police said Peterson told investigators that the two were watching a movie and drinking when Dalton suggested they play out a movie scene involving a firearm. Police did not identify the movie.

Farmer charged after 38 dead cows found

IN WEST COLLEGE CORNER — An eastern Indiana farmer faces charges after 38 dead cows were found on his property.

The (Richmond) Palladium-Item reported Rodney Sintz, 42, of West College Corner was charged with three counts of failure to properly dispose of a dead animal and three counts of cruelty to an animal.

Court documents said an Indiana State Board of Animal Health field veterinarian found the dead cows in various stages of decomposition on March 5. Under state law, animals must be properly disposed of within 24 hours of an owner's knowledge that they have died.

Teacher accused of running 'fight club'

CA CLOVERDALE — A Northern California high school teacher allowed

multiple "fight club" type brawls during school hours in his classroom of a dozen students, authorities said.

Federico Vargas, 41, a special education teacher at Cloverdale High School in Sonoma County, was arrested Saturday on suspicion of five counts of endangering a child and 13 counts of contributing to the delinquency of minors.

Cloverdale Police Sgt. Chris Parker said there were multiple fights on different days, with Vargas refereeing some of the mixed-martial arts type fighting. He said multiple students were injured, including one who needed medical attention.

DNA confirmed Bundy killed missing teen

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Authorities said DNA testing helped them confirm notorious serial killer Ted Bundy also murdered a northern Utah teen.

KSL-TV reported Bountiful Police Sgt. Shane Alexander announced that investigators retrieved a human patella bone, or kneecap, three and a half years ago that authorities had given to the family of Debra Kent.

Alexander said DNA testing on the bone confirmed it belonged to Kent.

Alexander said Bundy, 36 hours before his 1989 execution, confessed to killing Kent and other young women and told police where he left Kent's body.

Teacher's slavery game prompts investigation

NC WILMINGTON — A slavery-themed game played at a North Carolina elementary school during Black History Month prompted an investigation.

News outlets reported the New Hanover County Board of Education released a statement Monday saying using a game to teach about slavery was inappropriate. A fourth-grade teacher had students at Codrington Elementary play a role-playing game called "Escaping Slavery," revolving around the Underground Railroad.

According to WECT-TV, the game included a "Freedom Punch Card" that would send teams that had accrued too many penalties "back to the plantation to work as a slave."

Drunken man drives Maserati into house

MA SOUTHBOROUGH — Police said a man who crashed his 2011 Maserati into a house in Massachusetts was drunk and speeding.

Authorities said Felipe Deafilvapaiheiro, of Rockland, struck the Southborough home just after 5 a.m. Sunday.

Police Chief Kenneth Paulhus said Deafilvapaiheiro's car traveled across a driveway and struck a tree after hitting the house.

He said the evidence shows the man was driving at an "extremely high rate of speed."

No one inside the home was injured, but the damage to the home was extensive.

Intruder barricades self in basement, starts fire

ND GRAND FORKS — A man faces criminal charges after police said he entered a home in Grand Forks, barricaded himself in the basement and started a fire.

Authorities said the man was armed with a knife when he entered the residence, threatened its residents and made his way to the basement. A short time later smoke detectors went off.

Residents left the home and police found the man barricaded in the basement where he had started a fire.

KFGO reported the 33-year-old man was arrested several hours later.

Barefoot suspect arrested for burglary

NV RENO — A suspected burglar was arrested north of Reno after sheriff's deputies following his footprints said they found his shoes stuck in the mud.

Washoe County Sheriff's spokesman Bob Harmon said a resident who reported a burglary in a Sun Valley neighborhood saw the suspect run away.

Deputies spotted footprints on the wet ground, which led them to a shoe stuck in deep mud. They followed the trail and found another shoe and some of the stolen property.

Harmon said Donovan Taylor-Blower, 23, had some of the stolen property in his possession along with methamphetamine when he was arrested.

Activist arrested after projection on wall

DC WASHINGTON — For the first time, police in the nation's capital arrested and criminally charged a member of a local activist group for projecting a phrase onto a famous District facade near the U.S. Capitol.

The Washington Post reported Robby Diesu, 30, was arrested and charged with a misdemeanor after projecting "discrimination is wrong" on the Rayburn House Office Building. U.S. Capitol police spokeswoman Eva Malecki said his charge relates to demonstrating in a prohibited area.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

Zion Williamson powers Duke past UNC

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Zion Williamson didn't hesitate when he saw his shot for the lead coming off the rim late in a tense game with Duke's fierce rival. He bounced right back up in traffic for the kind of play that only he can make with his athleticism and size.

Yes, the Blue Devils' fresh-

man star now has his delayed big moment against North Carolina.

Williamson tipped in his own miss to put the fifth-ranked Blue Devils ahead for good, and Duke survived a final-play shot to beat the third-ranked Tar Heels 74-73 on Friday night in the Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament semifinals.

"That is just my competitive

spirit," Williamson said of the tip-in. "So when I saw it miss, my instinct was to get the rebound and go back up, but I realized I could just tip it in. It went my way."

Williamson — who barely played in one regular-season loss to UNC and not at all in the second due to a knee sprain — finished with 31 points and 11 rebounds in his second game

back for the Blue Devils (28-5). And it came with Duke facing the prospect of losing three times in a season to North Carolina (27-6) for the first time in 43 years.

North Carolina had its chances. Cameron Johnson had 23 points for the Tar Heels, but he also missed a stepback three-pointer for the lead before Barrett's missed free throws.

College basketball roundup

Michigan State moves into final of Big Ten Tournament

Associated Press

CHICAGO — No. 6 Michigan State has its sights set on a sixth Big Ten Tournament championship and a deep NCAA run. The Spartans are off to a good start.

Cassius Winston scored 18 points, Foster Loyer provided a lift off the bench with a career-high 14 points, and Michigan State gave Hall of Fame coach Tom Izzo his 600th career win, a 77-70 victory over Ohio State in the Big Ten Tournament quarterfinals on Friday.

The Spartans (26-6) pulled away in the second half for their third win over the Buckeyes (19-14) this season and will meet No. 19 Wisconsin — which beat Nebraska 66-62 — in the semifinals on Saturday.

As for Izzo and his milestone?

"They asked me what that means," he said. "And I said, it means good things. You're getting old, and you're 600 shy of Mike Krzyzewski and Jim Boeheim. It keeps you humble and it makes you realize you haven't accomplished that much yet."

With a 600-231 record, seven Final Fours and an NCAA championship, Izzo has accomplished quite a bit in 24 seasons. But he's actually more than 800 wins shy of Krzyzewski and Boeheim.

No. 12 Florida State 69, No. 2 Virginia 59: At Charlotte, N.C., David Nichols scored

14 points and the Seminoles knocked off the Cavaliers to advance to Atlantic Coast Conference championship game.

Phil Cofer had 11 points and 7-foot-3 center Christ Koumadje added nine points and nine rebounds for Florida State (27-6).

No. 4 Kentucky 73, Alabama 55: At Nashville, Tenn., Tyler Herro scored 20 points and the Wildcats started their bid for a fifth straight Southeastern Conference Tournament title, beating the Crimson Tide in the quarterfinals.

No. 8 Tennessee 83, Mississippi State 76: At Nashville, Tenn., Admiral Schofield scored 20 points and the Volunteers beat the Bulldogs in the Southeastern Conference quarterfinals.

Florida 76, No. 9 LSU 73: At Nashville, Tenn., Andrew Nembhard hit a three-pointer with a second left and the Gators overcame a 13-point deficit in the second half to upset the Tigers in the Southeastern Conference quarterfinals.

No. 10 Michigan 74, Iowa 53: At Chicago, Xavier Simpson sparked his team's balanced attack with 10 points on perfect shooting and 11 assists, and the Wolverines picked apart the Hawkeyes in the Big Ten quarterfinals.

No. 11 Houston 84, Uconn 45: At Memphis, Tenn., Corey Davis Jr. scored 22 points and the Cougars routed the Hus-

kies in the American Athletic quarterfinals.

Minnesota 75, No. 13 Purdue 73: At Chicago, Jordan Murphy scored 27 points, Amir Coffey added 21 points and the Golden Gophers beat the Boilermakers to advance to the Big Ten semifinals.

San Diego State 66, No. 14 Nevada 56: At Las Vegas, Devin Watson had 20 points and five assists and the Aztecs held the Wolf Pack scoreless for nearly seven minutes late in their victory in the Mountain West Conference semifinals.

Iowa State 63, No. 15 Kansas State 59: At Kansas City, Mo., Marial Shayok hit back-to-back three-pointers right in front of his own bench to give his team the lead in the final minute, and the Cyclones held to beat the Wildcats in the Big 12 semifinals.

No. 17 Kansas 88, West Virginia 74: At Kansas City, Mo., Dedric Lawson poured in 24 points, Quentin Grimes added 18 before leaving late with cramps and the Jayhawks roared away from the Mountainers at the Big 12 semifinals.

No. 18 Buffalo 85, Central Michigan 81: At Cleveland, C.J. Massinburg dropped a spinning layup and made four free throws in the final 32 seconds to help the Bulls advance to the Mid-American Conference title game.

No. 19 Wisconsin 6, Nebraska 62: At Chicago, Nate

Reuvers and Khalil Iverson each scored 14 points, D'Mitrik Trice hit a three-pointer with 58 seconds left and the Badgers beat the pesky Cornhuskers to advance to the Big Ten Tournament semifinals.

No. 22 Auburn 73, South Carolina 64: At Nashville, Tenn., Jared Harper scored 27 points to help the Tigers beat the Gamecocks in the Southeastern Conference quarterfinals.

Seton Hall 81, No. 23 Marquette 79: At New York, Myles Powell sparked Seton Hall with 18 second-half points and Big East player of the year Markus Howard came up short on a potential winning three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Pirates a chippy and foul-filled victory over the Golden Eagles in the Big East Tournament semifinals.

No. 24 Cincinnati 82, SMU 74: At Memphis, Tenn., Jarron Cumberland had two late three-point plays and finished with 26 points to help the Bearcats beat the Mustangs in the American Athletic Conference quarterfinals.

No. 25 Villanova 71, Xavier 67 (OT): At New York, Phil Booth scored 28 points, Jermaine Samuels hit a trio of critical three-pointers and the Wildcats rallied past the Musketeers in overtime to reach their fifth consecutive Big East championship game.

Is Vettel down to his last chance in F1?

Associated Press

PARIS — After collapsing under pressure in the past two seasons, this may be Sebastian Vettel's last chance to show he can deliver a long-awaited Formula One title for Ferrari.

Otherwise the Italian team may throw its backing behind the young and ambitious Charles Leclerc, touted as F1's next big star along with Red Bull's Max Verstappen.

The season-opening race is next Sunday at the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne.

Vettel challenged strongly during the first half of 2018, when Ferrari surpassed Mercedes for speed. But just like in 2017, Ferrari made uncommon errors for such a proud team and Lewis Hamilton ruthlessly punished them as he sped to a fifth world title, his fourth with Mercedes.

Calamitous mistakes saw Vettel crashing in the rain during the German Grand Prix to gift Hamilton victory and then botching qualifying in Hungary

when the skies opened again.

Ferrari's list of errors was long, including when a mechanic's leg was broken in Bahrain following a pit stop and when the team forgot to attach Kimi Raikkonen's drinks bottle during the heat-scorched Hungarian GP.

They ultimately cost team principal Maurizio Arrivabene his job and he was replaced by Mattia Binotto, who was previously Ferrari's chief technical officer.

The 39-year-old Raikkonen, who won Ferrari's last drivers' title in 2007, has gone back to Sauber, where he started his F1 career in 2001.

It means Vettel is out of his comfort zone, for his relationship with Raikkonen was perhaps too comfortable.

Raikkonen's public indifference to even his own success saw him apparently shrug off his podium finishes with trademark nonchalance, and an impressive victory at the U.S. Grand Prix inspired little more than a grunt of satisfaction.

Raikkonen simply did not seem to have the hunger to push Vettel. But Leclerc does, and early success for the Monégasque driver could either bring the best out of Vettel or prompt Ferrari to revise its hierarchy.

"Obviously, the two will be free to fight," Binotto said. "If there is any ambiguous situation at the start of the season, Sebastian is the one who's got today more experience, many years he's with us, he's already won championships, so he's our champion."

Binotto's caution is rooted in the fact Ferrari wasted countless points when Arrivabene did not prioritize Vettel over Raikkonen, even though Vettel was fighting for the title. After the Italian GP, Vettel was exasperated by his team's poor strategy.

The 31-year-old German driver remains locked on four world titles, all during Red Bull's dominant era from 2010-13.

Hamilton took over after that, and broke Michael Schumacher's pole position record along the way.

Last season was arguably Hamilton's best, and took him to 73 GP wins — within 18 of Schumacher's F1 record.

As good as Hamilton undoubtedly was against Vettel, he was also on easy street inside his team.

Teammate Valtteri Bottas never won a race and was even less of a rival to Hamilton than in 2017, when at least he won three GP races. Even when he threatened to win one, Mercedes gave Hamilton clear priority over Bottas.

The only year Hamilton lost the title with Mercedes was in 2016, when teammate Nico Rosberg won nine races and pressured him. The 29-year-old Bottas faces huge pressure to prove he can keep his seat for 2020.

Bottas needs wins and this might not be good news for Hamilton.

Sports briefs

Chiefs receiver Hill linked to domestic battery case

Associated Press

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. — The Kansas City Chiefs are investigating an incident in which star receiver Tyreek Hill was involved in a domestic battery episode in suburban Kansas City earlier this week.

The team said in a statement to The Associated Press that it was aware of a police report filed Thursday by the Overland Park Police Department that lists Hill's address and identifies a juvenile as the victim. Hill's fiancée, Crystal Espinal, is identified among "others involved."

The couple has a 3-year-old son, Zev.

Overland Park police Officer John Lacy said the case has been turned over to prosecutors for review. No charges

have been filed against Hill, and Johnson County prosecutor's spokeswoman Kristi Bergeron didn't immediately return a phone message seeking comment.

Chiefs spokesman Ted Crews said Friday the team has been in contact with local authorities and the NFL as it gathers more information but declined further comment.

The 25-year-old Hill has a history of domestic violence.

While starring at Oklahoma State in 2014, Hill allegedly punched and choked Espinal when she was pregnant with their son. He was kicked off the team and pleaded guilty to domestic assault and battery by strangulation and received three years of probation in the case.

The two-time All-Pro had 87 catches for 1,479 yards and 12 touchdowns last season, helping quarterback Patrick Mahomes win league MVP honors and the Chiefs win a third consecutive AFC West title. They advanced to the conference title game before losing in overtime the Super Bowl-champion Patriots.

Shiffrin, Pinturault set World Cup records

SOLDEU, Andorra — Mikaela Shiffrin went faster in her second slalom run and higher in the World Cup all-time lists by being stronger than Wendy Holdener to win an intense duel.

Shiffrin's 40th career victory in World Cup slaloms tied her

with Swedish great Ingemar Stenmark's record for wins in the discipline.

On a record-setting day in sun-bathed Andorra, Alexis Pinturault earlier won the final men's giant slalom of the season.

Pinturault became the most prolific French skier in World Cup history with his 23rd career victory.

Shiffrin had trailing 0.28 seconds behind first-run leader Holdener and won by just 0.07 after both racers visibly pushed their limits slicing through the gates.

Holdener's unlucky defeat extended her own unwanted World Cup record with a 22nd career podium finish in slalom without a victory.

NBA roundup

Bucks rally from 20 down, rout Heat

Associated Press

MIAMI — Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 33 points, and the Milwaukee Bucks rallied from a 20-point halftime deficit to beat the Miami Heat 113-98 on Friday night.

Antetokounmpo also had 16 rebounds and nine assists for the Bucks, who became the first team in NBA history to trail by at least 20 points at the half and win by more than 11. Khris Middleton scored 21 and Eric Bledsoe had 17 for the NBA-best Bucks, who improved to 52-17.

Milwaukee outscored Miami 71-36 in the second half.

Justise Winslow had all of his 20 points in the first half for Miami, which had its lead over Orlando and Charlotte for the No. 8 spot in the Eastern Con-

ference trimmed to just one game.

Rockets 108, Suns 102: James Harden had 41 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds, and Houston outlasted visiting Phoenix.

It's Houston's franchise-record 10th straight win over the Suns, and the Rockets have won 10 of their last 11 games overall.

Trail Blazers 122, Pelicans 110: Damian Lillard scored 24 points and became the second-leading scorer in franchise history as Portland beat host New Orleans.

Lillard passed LaMarcus Aldridge (12,562) on the team's list, giving him 12,584 and leaving only Clyde Drexler ahead of him with 18,040.

76ers 123, Kings 114:

Joel Embiid had 21 points and 17 rebounds and made some big plays on both ends of the court late in the fourth quarter, Jimmy Butler scored 22 points and Philadelphia beat visiting Sacramento.

The 76ers won their third in a row to pull even with idle Indiana for the No. 3 seed in the Eastern Conference. Philadelphia holds the tiebreaker with the Pacers.

Spurs 109, Knicks 83: LaMarcus Aldridge had 18 points and 11 rebounds, and host San Antonio beat New York to extend its season-best winning streak to seven games.

DeMar DeRozan and Bryn Forbes each had 13 points for San Antonio, whose previous season high was five straight victories.

Pistons 111, Lakers 97:

Andre Drummond had 19 points and 23 rebounds, and Detroit took advantage of LeBron James' absence, beating visiting Los Angeles.

The Lakers, who have fallen well off the pace in the Western Conference playoff race, have been managing James' minutes, and he sat out this game entirely. Los Angeles played at Toronto the previous night.

Clippers 128, Bulls 121: Danilo Gallinari scored 27 points, Montrezl Harrell added 26 and Los Angeles rallied in a third quarter that saw both coaches ejected for arguing to beat visiting Chicago.

Hornets 116, Wizards 110: Kemba Walker scored 28 points and Charlotte beat host Washington in a matchup of teams chasing the final Eastern Conference playoff berth.

NHL roundup

Bobrovsky makes 46 saves as Jackets blank Hurricanes

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 46 shots — including 22 in the second period — to get his sixth shutout of the season, and the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the Carolina Hurricanes 3-0 on Friday night.

Adam McQuaid, David Savard and Josh Anderson scored for the Blue Jackets, who pulled even with the Hurricanes for the two wild cards in the Eastern Conference. Both teams are four points behind third-place Pittsburgh in the Metropolitan Division.

Bobrovsky set a franchise record for saves in a shutout.

Petr Mrazek, who had won his last six starts, didn't have a whole lot to do after the Blue Jackets tallied twice in the first period, especially in the second when Carolina kept the puck mostly in its offensive zone. He

finished with 17 saves.

Maple Leafs 7, Flyers 6: Auston Matthews scored twice in the third period as host Toronto held on after rallying from a three-goal deficit.

Jake Muzzin had two goals and an assist, and Patrick Marleau, Zach Hyman and Martin Marincin also scored to for the Maple Leafs, who had five consecutive goals to take the lead after trailing 5-2. Toronto snapped a two-game skid and pulled two points behind Boston for second place in the Atlantic Division. Frederik Anderson finished with 23 saves.

Golden Knights 2, Stars 1: Ryan Reaves scored the tie-breaking goal early in the third period, and visiting Vegas beat Dallas.

Max Pacioretty scored in the opening minute of the game for Vegas, and Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 40 shots — including 16 in the third period — for his

35th win. The Golden Knights have won seven of eight to remain third in the Pacific Division.

Ducks 5, Avalanche 3: Corey Perry scored twice, including the go-ahead goal with 56.9 seconds remaining, to lead visiting Anaheim past Colorado.

Perry knocked in the winner shortly after Mikko Rantanen was whistled for a high-sticking penalty. Hampus Lindholm added an empty-netter to seal the victory.

Flames 5, Rangers 1: Matthew Tkachuk scored two goals and had a career-high five points to lead host Calgary.

Johnny Gaudreau, Garnet Hathaway and Michael Frolik also scored for Calgary, which moved one point ahead of San Jose for the Pacific Division lead with 11 games to go. David Rittich had 24 saves.

Tkachuk had 10 points (six goals, four assists) on the

Flames' 3-0-0 homestand. The hot streak comes after an extended cold stretch during which he had just six points in the previous 18 games. Neal Pionk scored for the New York, which is winless in its last six on the road. Alexandar Georgiev made 27 saves to fall to 10-12-3.

Devils 3, Canucks 2 (SO): Damon Severson scored in the seventh round of the shootout to give visiting New Jersey a win after rallying from two goals down.

Kevin Rooney and Stefan Noesen scored 7:53 apart in the third period to tie the score. MacKenzie Blackwood stopped 25 shots as New Jersey won its second straight after a seven-game skid (0-6-1).

Elias Pettersson and Tanner Pearson scored for Vancouver, and Bo Horvat had two assists. Jacob Markstrom finished with 31 saves.