

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Residents near US bases in Japan face new fears

Associated Press

FUSSA, Japan — Residents living near U.S. military bases in Japan are facing a fresh reality: Their neighborhoods are on the front line of North Korea's dispute with America, and if Pyongyang were to attack they would have just minutes to shelter from incoming missiles.

A possible missile strike and what to do about it have dominated TV talk shows and other media in Japan in recent weeks as tension has spiked, with the North Korean regime continuing to test-fire rockets and President Donald Trump sending an aircraft carrier to near-by waters in a show of force.

North Korea has yet to meet its goal of developing a nuclear-tipped missile that can reach the U.S. mainland, but analysts believe its current arsenal is capable of striking the 50,000 U.S. troops stationed across

Japan. The government raised caution levels in March after Pyongyang said four ballistic missiles that landed a few hundred miles off Japan's coast were meant to simulate a nuclear strike on U.S. bases there.

While Japanese tabloids and television programs have reported on nuclear shelters ordered by a handful of rich people or touted gas masks as a more affordable option, it's largely business as usual in Fussa, a town of 58,000 people in Tokyo's western suburbs.

Visits to a government crisis management website surged to the millions in April from a previous record of tens of thousands in March as the government put out fresh instructions for what to do in a missile attack.

The instructions are simple: If you are outdoors, take refuge in strong buildings or underground shopping arcades, and

if no such facilities are nearby, drop to the ground and cover your head. A chemical weapon is possible, so the instructions advise covering your nose and mouth with a cloth and shutting doors and windows.

A missile attack drill was held in March in Akita prefecture in northern Japan, and the government recently instructed all 47 prefectures to draw up plans for similar drills.

Some think the risk is overblown.

North Korea is "mostly bluffing its military capability, and the missile scare is further hyped up largely by TV," said Hiroki Fujii, 40, a utility employee who lives near Yokota.

Akinori Otani worries more about a U.S. military plane crashing. At bases in Japan, residents have raised concern about the safety of the tilt-rotor MV-22 "Osprey" aircraft.

US eyes options for dealing with North Korea

Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is considering a range of options, including expanded economic sanctions and military action, as it asks allies to join in confronting North Korea's latest provocations, national security adviser H.R. McMaster said Sunday.

North Korea's ballistic missile test early Saturday was in "open defiance" of the international community, and the risk to the U.S. will not be tolerated, McMaster said.

"We do have to do something" with partners in the region and globally "that involves enforcement of the U.N. sanctions that are in place," McMaster said on "Fox News Sunday." "It may mean ratcheting up those sanctions even further. And it also means being prepared for military operations, if necessary."

North Korea's latest missile test came hours after U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson encouraged U.N. members Friday to put pressure on Kim Jong Un's regime. President Donald Trump stepped up pressure to prevent Kim from obtaining the capability to hit North America with a nuclear weapon, and he has threatened to act unilaterally if China does not do more to curb its neighbor's activities.

McMaster said Trump has been "masterful" in courting China, which accounts for the vast majority of trade with North Korea.

Trump, on CBS's "Face The Nation," called the latest launch "a small missile" while declining to say whether he'd take military action if Kim conducts a nuclear test.

Japanese warship to escort Navy supply vessel

By TYLER HLAVAC
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — A Japanese warship will escort a Navy supply vessel for the first time as the allies counter North Korean missile threats, Japanese media reports say.

The Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force helicopter destroyer JS Izumo departed Yokosuka on Monday to link up with the USNS Richard E. Byrd off the Boso Peninsula near Tokyo.

The ships will then head to the coast of Shikoku, one of Japan's four major southern islands, where the Byrd will resupply an unnamed Navy warship helping defend against North Korean missiles, according to Asahi and Mainichi newspaper reports citing unnamed Japanese government sources.

7th Fleet officials confirmed the Izumo and

the Byrd are traveling together but would not confirm mission details.

Although not officially an aircraft carrier, which are banned under Japan's constitution, the Izumo can launch helicopters and can accommodate V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft.

JMSDF declined to comment on the Izumo deployment, which marks the first time a Japanese warship has protected an allied vessel since new legislation was enacted to increase Japan's role in global security. Before the 2015 legislation, Japanese warships were allowed to use force only when directly under fire and weren't able to come to the aid of U.S. vessels under attack.

The allies, who are concerned about North Korean missiles, both have warships equipped with the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense System, which is designed to intercept enemy ballistic missiles.

Defense gets major boost in proposed spending deal

BY DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A bipartisan spending deal reached by lawmakers this weekend provides a \$25 billion increase for defense spending and, if passed, will jump-start the military buildup that President Donald Trump has promised.

The \$593 billion for defense spending was reached by lawmakers from both houses late Sunday after Trump signed off on the bill earlier in the day. Combined with the \$5.8 billion supplemental funding enacted by legislators in December, it brings 2017 defense spending to just under \$600 billion.

The defense spending portion, part of a \$1.16 trillion spending package known as the Omnibus Appropriations bill, preserves a 2.1 percent pay raise for the military; calls for an increase in troop numbers that overrides planned reductions; and funds operations, maintenance and research-and-development shortfalls that service chiefs have warned were reaching a critical point.

The Senate and House of Representatives must pass the bill this week to avoid a government shutdown Friday, when the weeklong extension of a

stopgap spending bill expires. So far, leaders on both sides call it a win.

“We couldn’t be more pleased,” Vice President Mike Pence said on CBS “This Morning” Monday. “It not only averted a government shutdown, it’s going to be a significant increase in military spending.”

While Pence touted added funding for border security and increases in defense, Democrats hailed their victories in removing Trump’s demands to insert funding for a border wall with Mexico, the inclusion of health care subsidies for the needy under the Affordable Care Act and funding for the National Institutes of Health and Planned Parenthood.

Government funding for the 2017 fiscal year, including for defense, has been coming in fits and starts since it began Oct. 1, with lawmakers passing stopgap measures that carried over last year’s spending temporarily while they haggled over a new bill.

With no corrections for inflation and no ability to plan out their operations, military service chiefs lamented that under years of stopgap measures — known as continuing resolutions — operations, training and modernization have been

taking hits, cutting deeply into readiness.

Trump took office promising a turnaround for the military. After compiling lists from each of the services, he called for a \$30 billion supplement to the 2017 spending bill to correct defense shortfalls. The proposed omnibus bill does not cover the entirety of that request but comes close, with a defense bill that is \$25.7 billion more than the 2016 fiscal year, according to documents presented by the House Appropriations Committee.

In order to cover the increase without busting spending caps that would trigger automatic budget cuts known as sequestration, appropriators raised the Overseas Contingency Operations funding, known as the war fund, to \$76.6 billion — a \$14.8 billion increase from its current funding.

In addition to defense, the bill includes 2,500 visas for Afghan civilians who worked with U.S. forces in Afghanistan and now are facing threats from anti-American forces.

The added defense funding will also provide for an increase of 1,000 active-duty soldiers, 1,000 active-duty Marines and 1,000 soldiers each to the National Guard and Reserves.

Pentagon says troops reporting more assaults

BY TARA COPP
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Military members were more willing to report sexual assault in 2016 compared with the year before, even as fear of retaliation continued to weigh on victims, the Pentagon said in a report released Monday.

Servicemembers reported 6,172 cases of sexual assault in 2016 compared with 6,083 the year before, according to data collected by the Defense Department’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office.

A senior defense official who briefed reporters in advance of the data’s release said that fear of retaliation continues to affect whether a servicemember reports an attack.

But the official was encouraged to see an increase in cases reported even as the total number of estimated sexual assaults in the military has dropped.

Reported cases in 2016 were less than half of the 14,900 incidents that DOD estimates happened to military members last year. For comparison, DOD estimates 20,400 servicemembers experienced some type of sexual assault in 2014.

A separate entity, the Defense Manpower Data Center, independently surveys the military to calculate how many actual incidents are taking place, to compare that to how many are being reported.

The official attributed the increase in reporting in part to the increasing number of cases DOD has been able to prosecute.

Of the 6,172 cases reported in 2016, DOD has already completed actions in 3,677 of them, the official said. Of those, 791 resulted in court-martial charges; 272 in non-judicial punishments and 268 in administrative actions.

First Global Hawk arrives at Yokota

BY SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — An RQ-4 Global Hawk surveillance drone landed at Yokota Air Base on Monday night, marking the start of a five-month deployment to Tokyo.

Five of the large military drones and 105 personnel from Detachment 1, 69th Reconnaissance Group, will fly out of the home of U.S. Forces Japan and

5th Air Force from May until October, the Air Force said in a statement.

Detachment 1 commander Lt. Col. Jeremy Fields watched the plane land smoothly on a darkened runway. “We love coming to Japan,” he said.

The drones and members of the detachment normally travel from their home at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, to operate out of Misawa Air Base in northern Japan during summer to

avoid typhoons, Fields said. That wasn’t possible last year or this year because of renovations to the runway at Misawa, he said.

The postponement until 2020 of a plan to base CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft in Tokyo made the Yokota move simpler for the Global Hawks.

“We’re using the hangar they will go to,” Fields said. Once the Misawa runway has been renovated, the Global Hawks will likely return there, he said.

US soldier killed by IED near Mosul ID'd

Stars and Stripes

The Pentagon has identified a U.S. soldier killed in Iraq after an improvised explosive device detonated during a patrol outside Mosul.

First Lt. Weston C. Lee, 25, of Bluffton, Ga., died Saturday from wounds sustained in the blast. The Army Ranger was a platoon leader in the 1st Battalion, 325th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, based at Fort Bragg, N.C. He had been conducting security as part of an advise-and-assist team supporting Iraqi security forces, the military said in a statement.

"First Lt. Wes Lee was an extraordinary young man and officer," Col. Pat Work, commander of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, said in the statement. "He was exactly the type of leader that our paratroopers

deserve. Our sincere condolences and prayers are with his family and friends."

Lee joined the Army in March 2015 and deployed to Iraq in December 2016. It was his first deployment, officials said. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and the Meritorious Service Medal. His other awards and decorations include the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Ranger tab, the Parachutist Badge and the Army Service Ribbon.

Lee's death marks the second American combat fatality in Iraq since the start of the U.S.-backed campaign to liberate Mosul from Islamic State six months ago. It is also the fifth combat death in Iraq since the U.S. launched military operations against ISIS in August 2014.

Leader: Al-Qaida fought on side of US-backed forces in Yemen

Associated Press

CAIRO — The leader of al-Qaida's branch in Yemen said his militants have often fought alongside Yemeni government factions — remarks that could embarrass the U.S.-backed coalition fighting the impoverished Arab country's Shiite rebels.

Qasim al-Rimi leads the group known as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, considered by Washington to be the most dangerous offshoot of the terrorist network. He succeeded Nasir al-Wuhayshi, who was killed in a U.S. drone strike.

Al-Rimi has been a top target of U.S. airstrikes, which have soared in the past four months in southern Yemen. He spoke on Sunday to AQAP's media arm, al-Malahem, from an undisclosed location in Yemen.

"We fight along all Muslims in Yemen, together with different Islamic groups," he said, adding that his followers

have teamed up with an array of factions — including the ultraconservative Salafis, "the Muslim Brotherhood and also our brothers among the sons of (Sunni) tribes."

Al-Qaida has emerged as a de facto ally of the government of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi and his backers, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, against the Houthis in a grueling civil war that has caused widespread hunger and has killed more than 10,000 since late 2014.

During the past decade, the terrorism group has built up ties of one degree or another with the country's many tribes — and has often used anger over civilians killed in American airstrikes to gain recruits.

The Muslim Brotherhood and Salafis are some of the key militias on Hadi's side, and regularly receive funds and weapons from the U.S.-backed Saudi-led coalition.

Photos of '13 Army accident released

BY MARCUS FICHTL

Stars and Stripes

The Army has released the final images taken by combat photographer Spc. Hilda Clayton moments before she died during a live-fire training accident in Afghanistan nearly four years ago.

The photos, which have been published in the May-June edition of the Army's Military Review journal, show the moment a mortar tube exploded, killing Clayton and four Afghan soldiers on July 2, 2013, in the eastern Afghan area of Qaraghahi.

Clayton, a visual information specialist attached to the 4th Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division based at Forward Operating Base Gamberi, was part of a training mission certifying Afghan forces on mortar operations.

The 22-year-old from Augusta, Ga., was tasked with documenting the event as well as training an Afghan Army photojournalist who also died in the accident. His photos of the blast

also were released.

"Not only did Clayton help document activities aimed at shaping and strengthening the partnership but she also shared in the risk by participating in the effort," the journal said in an article accompanying the photos.

Clayton was a member of the Army's storied combat camera unit, the Fort Meade, Md.-based 55th Signal Company, which has deployed soldiers to front lines across the globe.

She was the first Army combat documentation and production specialist to be killed in Afghanistan.

The unit has named its annual competition the SPC Hilda I. Clayton Best Combat Camera, or COMCAM, competition in her memory. Also, her name is etched into the Hall of Heroes at the Defense Information School in Fort Meade, where she graduated in 2012.

Clayton's family and unit approved of the release of the photos, an official from the Army University Press said.

US-backed Kurds capture more of Syrian town Tabqa

Associated Press

BEIRUT — U.S.-backed opposition fighters led by Syrian Kurdish forces captured more territory from Islamic State in the northern town of Tabqa on Monday, pushing the extremists to northern neighborhoods.

Tabqa is an important stronghold for the militants, located about 25 miles southeast of ISIS' de facto capital, Raqqa, and lies next to the ISIS-controlled Tabqa Dam.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces is the most effective ground force battling ISIS in Syria and most likely will lead the offensive to capture Raqqa.

A U.S. airlift of artillery and

Special Forces advisers that placed them behind ISIS lines in March was a turning point in the Tabqa offensive and underscored the closeness between Washington and the SDF.

The Kurdish-led group said in a statement Monday that its fighters captured three more neighborhoods in Tabqa, where they have been advancing since mid-April.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said ISIS fighters withdrew from the Tabqa neighborhood known as Thawra City and are now gathered in two quarters near the dam. It said Monday's fighting is concentrated in the only two remaining ISIS-held neighborhoods near the dam.

May Day marked with defiant worker rallies

Associated Press

ISTANBUL — Workers and activists marked May Day around the world Monday with defiant rallies and marches for better pay and working conditions. Here's a look at some of the May Day events:

■ **France.** A May Day march in Paris turned violent less than a week before the runoff French presidential election.

A few hundred protesters started throwing gasoline bombs and other objects at police at the front end of what started as a peaceful union march in the French capital on Monday.

Police responded with tear gas and truncheons. Riot police clubbed some protesters, who were pushed up against a wall on a tree-lined avenue.

The annual march to celebrate workers' rights this year included calls to block far-right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen from winning the presidency during a runoff election on Sunday.

The violent protesters were not carrying any union or election paraphernalia.

Video showed riot police surrounding the protesters disrupting the march after isolating most of them from the rest of the crowd near the Place de la Bastille. However, some continued to lob firebombs that exploded into flames in the street.

It was not immediately clear if anyone was injured in the incidents. They appeared to be from the same fringe groups that have targeted anti-government protests in the past.

The union activists continued to march separately, although police were interrupting to check bags for gasoline bombs.

■ **Turkey.** Police in Istanbul detained more than 165 people, most of whom were trying to march to iconic Taksim Square in defiance of a ban on holding May Day events there.

The square was declared off-limits to demonstrations for a third year running, and police blocked points of entry, allowing only small groups of labor union representatives to lay wreaths at a monument there.

Taksim holds a symbolic value for Turkey's labor movement. In 1977, shots were fired into a May Day crowd from a nearby building, killing 34 people.

Main trade union groups agreed to hold large rallies at government-designated spots in Istanbul and Ankara, but small groups were expected to try to reach Taksim.

■ **Cuba.** A protester briefly disrupted the start of Cuba's largest annual political event, sprinting in front of May Day marchers with a U.S. flag before being tackled and dragged away.

President Raul Castro watched along with other military and civilian leaders and foreign dignitaries as the man broke through security and ran ahead of the tens of thousands in the pro-government march. Plainclothes officers struggled to control the man and eventually lifted him off the ground and hauled him away in front of foreign and Cuban journalists covering the parade.

Monday's protest was a surprising breach of security at a government-organized event where agents line the route.

Castro has said he will step down as president in February, making this his last May Day parade as head of state.

■ **Spain.** Spain's two major unions called for marches in over 70 cities under the slogan "No More Excuses." The UGT and CC.OO unions on Monday demanded that Spain's conservative government roll back its labor reforms that made it cheaper to fire workers and increase wages and pensions.

CC.OO General Secretary Ignacio Fernandez Toxo said, "Spain has been growing for two years, and now it is time for the economy to align itself with the needs of the people."

He spoke at a march of several thousand people in Madrid, which he led alongside UGT leader Josep Maria Alvarez.

Thousands more marched in Barcelona, while other rallies were held in Seville, Valencia and other cities.

Under conservative Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, Spain's economy has rebounded and unemployment has dropped from 27 percent in 2013 to 19 percent. But that is still the second-highest unemployment rate in the 28-nation European Union, behind Greece.

■ **Philippines.** A few thousand left-wing activists and laborers marched and held noisy rallies to press for higher wages and an end to temporary contractual jobs that deprive workers of many benefits.

In sweltering summer heat, the crowds in Manila also protested alleged extrajudicial killings under President Rodrigo Duterte's drug crackdown.

The activists carried murals of Duterte and President Donald Trump, asking the Philippine leader to stay away from the U.S. president, who has invited Duterte for a U.S. visit.

Protest leader Venzer Crisostomo fears an "America First" policy would be disadvantageous to poorer countries like the Philippines. "We would not want Duterte to be in cahoots with Donald Trump in oppressing the country and in implementing policies."

Midwest, South brace for more severe weather

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Parts of the South and Midwest braced for flooding and possible tornadoes Monday following a weekend of deadly torrents and powerful winds that claimed at least 15 lives.

Heavy rain caused the roof of a furniture store in northern Oklahoma to collapse early Monday although no one was injured, and parts of the state remained under flood and flash flood warnings after excessive rainfall over the weekend. The Illinois River that snakes through the eastern part of the state crested Sunday night

at about 29 feet — well above major flood stage of 18 feet.

Tornado warnings were issued for parts of southeastern Alabama and central Georgia on Monday morning by the National Weather Service. A severe thunderstorm located over Fort Benning in Georgia was at risk for developing into a twister, the weather service said.

Severe weather was expected elsewhere in the South. Parts of the Florida Panhandle could be affected by severe thunderstorms or high winds and dangerous rip currents. In Mississippi, a wind advisory was in effect in the northwest. A flood

warning was in effect for rivers in Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Over the weekend, tornadoes hit several small towns in East Texas, killing four people. Flooding and winds killed five people in Arkansas, including a fire chief who was struck by a vehicle while working during the storm.

Three deaths were reported in Missouri, including a woman who drowned after rushing water swept away a car and a 78-year-old man who left his home to look at the floodwaters and was then carried away by the water. One of two deaths in

Mississippi included a 7-year-old who was electrocuted after unplugging an electric golf cart and dropping the cord in water on the ground. A 2-year-old girl died in Tennessee after being struck by a soccer goal post thrown by heavy winds.

The storms rolled through Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama on Sunday with strong winds causing isolated pockets of damage.

Middle Tennessee was hit by a strong line of storms that knocked down trees and power lines earlier Sunday. Wind and flood advisories were in effect for much of the state Monday.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Divers pull 100 pounds of beads from water

FL TAMPA — Two-dozen volunteer divers fished nearly 100 pounds of party beads out of a channel in the waters of Tampa Bay.

The Tampa Bay Times reported the beads likely ended up in the water during Gasparilla celebrations. Gasparilla is the city's signature pirate-themed party, similar to Mardi Gras, during which participants on boats throw strings of beads to those watching. Many of the beads don't make their way ashore.

To the tosser and would-be catcher, beads that sink amount to a fleeting moment of disappointment amid the revelry. But experts say the beads, which became a popular tradition in the 1980s, are as bad for the bay as fishing line or six-pack rings as fish and birds can become entangled in them.

Man guilty in Doritos bag bank robbery case

MT BILLINGS — A Montana man pleaded guilty to a bank robbery in which he pointed a borrowed semi-automatic handgun at a teller and handed her an empty Doritos bag in which to put the cash.

The Billings Gazette reported David Lee Brown Jr., 40, pleaded guilty Thursday to the Sept. 7 armed robbery of Valley Federal Credit Union in Billings. The \$2,700 he took was not recovered.

At the time of the robbery, Brown was on state probation for three felony convictions, including burglary and theft. He faces up to 25 years in prison for robbery and a mandatory consecutive minimum of seven years for the use of a firearm.

Woman ODs, man held, child found in police lot

PA PITTSBURGH — A woman apparently overdosed on drugs, a man is in custody and a child found in their car has been turned over to his grandparents after all three were found in a car parked in a Pittsburgh police station lot.

Police didn't immediately identify any of the people found in the car outside the Zone 1 station about 2:30 a.m. Wednesday. Officers noticed the car because it was parked oddly, then found the people inside along with unspecified drug paraphernalia.

Police have said the man — who was in the driver's seat — will face unspecified criminal charges. The woman also could be charged.

The child, a boy who was 5 or 6, was unharmed.

Bridge being dismantled after implosions fail

OH LEBANON — A state transportation agency says it will use a crane to tear down the remaining portion of a southwest Ohio bridge truss by truss after three implosion attempts failed to finish the job.

WCPO-TV reported workers tried again Sunday to bring down what's left of the old Jeremiah Morrow Bridge over the Little Miami River in Warren County after two blast attempts a week earlier.

An Ohio Department of Transportation spokesman said there will be no more implosions for the bridge that once carried Interstate 71 traffic and has been replaced by twin concrete spans. Like its predecessors, the new Jeremiah Morrow spans are Ohio's tallest bridges at 239 feet and nearly

the longest at 2,300 feet.

The bridges are 30 miles northeast of Cincinnati.

Moose rounded up by officers after stroll

MT BUTTE — A cow moose that went out on a stroll alarmed residents in western Montana before officers herded it safely out of town.

The Montana Standard reported several Deer Lodge residents started calling authorities on Saturday when the moose was first spotted on the north side of town.

The moose made its way through the city, passing a baseball field, a church and a high school.

Powell County Sheriff's Office dispatcher Jen Lee said authorities had been concerned the animal would join runners in a track meet going on at the time. She said two police officers and a deputy eventually rounded up the moose and let it go outside the city.

Police: Woman offered sex act for \$25, food

FL BRADENTON — Florida authorities charged a woman with prostitution after she agreed to perform a sexual act on an undercover detective for \$25 and chicken nuggets.

The Miami Herald reported Alex Direeno, 22, was being held Sunday without bond at the Manatee County Jail, charged with prostitution and possession of drug paraphernalia and on outstanding warrants.

Records allege that on April 25, as the undercover detective drove he told her that he wanted oral sex and she agreed to it for \$25 and McDonald's Chicken McNuggets.

Restaurant employees sing anti-police song

NC GARNER — The owner of a Smithfield's Chicken 'n Bar-B-Q restaurant in North Carolina apologized after a Facebook post said his employees sang the rap song "F--- tha Police" as officers from the Raleigh Police Department ate.

News outlets reported a post on the Raleigh Police Protective Association's page on Friday night said employees, including the manager, sang the N.W.A. song while the officers were eating at the restaurant in Garner, outside Raleigh.

Store owner David Harris later posted an apology saying he would investigate and fire anyone who showed a lack of respect for law enforcement.

Raleigh Police Protective Association President Matthew Cooper says the group has accepted the apology.

Professor wins award for book on cheese

VT MONTPELIER — A University of Vermont professor has won a James Beard Award for her encyclopedic work "The Oxford Companion to Cheese."

The book contains more than 850 entries related to cheese, including cheese regulations, cheese-making techniques, cheese history and cuisines.

The author is Catherine Donnelly, a professor in UVM's Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences. Donnelly spent four years working on the book.

The James Beard award is named after the late cookbook author, teacher and champion of American cuisine.

From wire reports

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Rendon leads Nats with 10 RBIs in win

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nationals third baseman Anthony Rendon said he'd never had a day like this one.

Not many players have.

Rendon exploded for 10 RBIs, three home runs and six hits as Washington took advantage of Noah Syndergaard's injury and mauled the New York Mets 23-5 on Sunday to set a franchise scoring record.

Rendon went a career-best 6-for-6 and scored five times while breaking the club mark for RBIs. He became the 13th player in major league history to drive in 10 or more runs in a game — the first since Garret Anderson did it for the Angels in 2007.

"I may have had three home runs in high school," Rendon said, "but never like that with the RBIs."

Matt Wieters added two homers, a single and two walks as the Nationals salvaged the finale of a three-game series between NL East rivals. Adam Lind and Bryce Harper also homered, and Harper scored four times.

Washington finished with a season-high 23 hits and scored the most runs in the history of the Expos/Nationals franchise. The Nationals' seven homers were their most since the team moved from Montreal to Washington in 2005.

Rendon began the day with no homers and five RBIs this season. After a two-run single in the first, he followed with a solo homer in the third and a three-run shot in the fourth. He ripped a three-run double off the right-center wall in the fifth and nearly had another RBI when he singled in the seventh, but teammate Daniel Murphy held up at third base.

Rendon, who raised his batting average from .226 to .278, capped his incredible day with a solo home run off Mets backup catcher Kevin Plawecki in the eighth. Harper and Lind went deep against Plawecki earlier in

the inning.

"You want balance up and down your lineup and you want everyone to get in on the hit parade," Nationals manager Dusty Baker said.

It was a miserable day all-around for the Mets, who won the first two games of the series after losing six straight. They gave up 17 consecutive runs after trailing 6-5 in the fourth.

Syndergaard, the team's hard-throwing ace, left in the second inning and was on his way back to New York for an MRI on Monday.

"The preliminary diagnosis is possible lat strain," general manager Sandy Alderson said, "which may or may not be related to his previous complaint, which was in the biceps. So we'll just have to wait and see what happens [Monday]."

Syndergaard (1-2) allowed five runs on five hits in the first inning. In the second, he threw a strike to Harper on his 38th pitch and grimaced while reaching for his right armpit. Mets manager Terry Collins and the team trainer immediately came out, and Collins summoned reliever Sean Gilmartin.

Syndergaard was making his first start since April 20. The right-hander was a late scratch from his last scheduled outing Thursday against Atlanta due to right biceps discomfort. But he threw a bullpen Friday, said he felt fine and refused an MRI.

Hours after Washington announced center fielder Adam Eaton has a torn knee ligament and is likely done for the season, Michael A. Taylor, Eaton's replacement, had two hits.

Trainer's room

Mets: Collins doesn't think he'll have 1B Lucas Duda (hyperextended left elbow) back Monday when he's eligible to come off the disabled list. Duda didn't play a rehab game Saturday and Collins said he wasn't scheduled to play Sunday.

Nationals: General manager Mike Rizzo said a date hadn't been set yet for Eaton's surgery.

O's top Yanks in 11th

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mark Trumbo hit a go-ahead single in a three-run 11th off Bryan Mitchell, who returned to the mound after an unusual inning at first base, and the Baltimore Orioles rebounded from another blown late lead to beat the New York Yankees 7-4 Sunday.

Didi Gregorius hit a two-run single off Donnie Hart with two outs in the ninth that tied the score 4-all. Logan Verrett (1-0), making his Orioles debut, escaped a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the 10th when he got Starlin Castro to hit ground into a forceout, with shortstop J.J. Hardy throwing home, then struck out rookie Aaron Judge.

Joey Ricard singled with one out in the 11th against Mitchell (1-1), stole second and, after an intentional walk, scored on Trumbo's two-out single. Wellington Castillo singled for a 6-4 lead, and Manny Machado got into a rundown and scored when third baseman Chase Headley bobbled the ball.

Verrett finished the 4-hour 37-minute marathon for the Orioles. New York stranded 16 runners and had its four-game winning streak end.

Red Sox 6, Cubs 2: Marco Hernandez scored the go-ahead run on Pedro Strop's wild pitch in host Boston's four-run eighth inning.

Hanley Ramirez hit a two-run homer for Boston, and Matt Barnes (3-0) worked one scoreless inning after completing his four-game suspension for throwing behind the head of Baltimore's Manny Machado.

Padres 5, Giants 2 (12): Wil Myers hit a three-run homer in the top of the 12th inning to send San Diego past host San Francisco.

Indians 12, Mariners 4: Michael Brantley homered and Francisco Lindor had a two-run double as host Cleveland scored eight times in the third inning against weary Seattle.

Nelson Cruz homered for the Mariners, who finished 4-6 on their 11-day road trip.

Marlins 10, Pirates 3: Justin Bour drove in six runs with four hits, both career highs, and host Miami rallied from a

three-run deficit to end a four-game losing streak by beating Pittsburgh.

Angels 5, Rangers 2: JC Ramirez got his first win as a starter on his fourth try after 111 career relief appearances, and Jefry Marte homered and hit a tiebreaking, two-run single to help visiting Los Angeles beat Texas.

Blue Jays 3, Rays 1: Russell Martin hit a go-ahead single during a three-run rally in the eighth inning and host Toronto posted back-to-back wins for the first time this year.

The Blue Jays started the day at 7-17, the worst record in the majors. A loss would've left them with the poorest winning percentage in March/April in team history.

Reds 5, Cardinals 4: At St. Louis, Joey Votto hit a tie-breaking single in the eighth inning and Adam Duvall doubled three times and singled for Cincinnati.

The Reds had lost eight of their previous nine games.

Brewers 4, Braves 3: Domingo Santana homered twice and drove in four runs as host Milwaukee ended Atlanta's four-game winning streak.

Tigers 7, White Sox 3: Jose Iglesias doubled and drove in three runs, helping host Detroit stop a four-game losing streak.

Astros 7, Athletics 2: Dallas Keuchel threw 7²/₃ solid innings and Marwin Gonzalez hit a three-run homer, leading host Houston to the victory.

Keuchel (5-0) struck out nine while allowing one run and three hits. The lefty became the second pitcher in Astros history to get five wins in April, joining Roger Clemens in 2004.

Twins 7, Royals 5: Miguel Sano homered and drove in five runs, helping visiting Minnesota hand Kansas City its ninth straight loss.

Dodgers 5, Phillies 3: Andrew Toles hit a three-run homer and Hyun-Jin Ryu pitched 5¹/₃ solid innings, helping host Los Angeles complete the three-game sweep.

Diamondbacks 2, Rockies 0 (13): Daniel Descalso hit a two-run homer into the Chase Field swimming pool in the 13th inning, lifting Arizona to the win.

Hayward, Jazz advance over Clippers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The young Utah Jazz have grown up quickly.

Gordon Hayward scored 26 points as the Jazz eliminated the Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday with a 104-91 victory, closing out the first-round series 4-3 to earn the franchise's first postseason victory since 2010.

"We've been through some pretty hard downs," said Hayward, a seventh-year veteran. "It definitely feels really good to go from 25 wins to where we were this year making the playoffs, winning a series."

In the most closely contested series of the first round — and the only to go seven games — the Clippers came up strangely flat with their season on the line. J.J. Redick didn't hit his first three-pointer until the game's final 3½ minutes, drawing the Clippers within eight.

"Late, when we did start scoring, we couldn't get stops," said Chris Paul, who had 13 points for the Clippers.

He couldn't muster any of his fourth-quarter magic, either. Paul went scoreless with three assists in the period after tweaking an ankle in the third.

"We made it difficult for Chris Paul to

get in the lane, get his little pullup jump shot," Hayward said. "Guys on the weak side were rotated, making them make the extra pass and make some other guys try to create for them."

In the fourth, the Jazz were well in command, ahead by 17 points and hardly feeling pressured by foul trouble for Rudy Gobert and Derrick Favors, who both fouled out after scoring 17 points apiece.

"I was struggling a lot this season with injuries and my teammates had to hold it down for me," Favors said. "I felt like I owed them, especially in this game."

The first six games between the fourth-seeded Clippers and No. 5 Utah were decided by eight points or less with Los Angeles outscoring Utah 98.8 points to 98.0 points. The teams had identical 51-31 records in the regular season.

But this one was all Utah in the second half.

The Jazz opened the third on a 23-9 run, extending their lead to 69-48 — largest in the series. Boris Diaw had eight points, Hayward added six and George Hill four as the Jazz had three three-point plays.

The Clippers got bogged down with a shot-clock turnover, a delay of game warning and Redick's airball on a three-point

attempt while the home crowd went silent.

This time, the Jazz didn't need the big-shot heroics of Joe Johnson or the presence of Gobert.

The Clippers, whose only lead was one point minutes into the game, shot 44 percent, and were outscored 56-46 in the paint and 12-9 on fast-break points.

"There's no excuses," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "We lost."

Winning on the road: The Jazz won three road games in the series, gaining valuable experience away from the confines of their loud, boisterous home arena.

"It's unusual," coach Quin Snyder said. "If we were going to be able to advance, in some ways it was fitting that it would be kind of through a difficult set of circumstances."

Farewell to 'The Truth': Paul Pierce's 19-year NBA career came to an end at the final buzzer. The 39-year-old forward had six points and three rebounds in 21 minutes for the Clippers. He averaged 11.1 minutes in the series.

Making up for Blake: Jamal Crawford, Luc Mbah a Moute and Austin Rivers combined to score 31 points while making up for the loss of Blake Griffin. They totaled 38 points in winning Game 6 on the road.

Celtics' threes bury Wizards in Game 1

Associated Press

BOSTON — Nothing it seems can stop Isaiah Thomas this postseason — be it pains big or small.

The All-Star led the Celtics to a first-round win over Chicago in a haze after learning the day before that series began that his younger sister, Chyna Thomas, had died in a car accident outside of his native Tacoma, Wash.

That pain persisted on the eve of Boston's second-round pairing with the Washington Wizards, when he flew cross-country to attend her funeral.

Then Sunday's game brought the latest dose of adversity, when he had one of his front teeth dislodged after an early-game collision. But as he's done all postseason, he continued to find a way to push through it.

Thomas had 33 points and nine assists as the Celtics made 19 three-pointers to beat the Wizards 123-111 and take a 1-0 lead in their Eastern Conference semifinal matchup.

"I got in at 4 a.m.," Thomas said of his second flight to Washington state in two

weeks. "It's tough, but it's the playoffs so there are no excuses. I decided to play and I just tried to give it all for my team."

The Celtics star flew to the funeral with Boston president of basketball operations Danny Ainge and assistant coach Jerome Allen.

During player introductions, Thomas pointed to the TD Garden rafters when his name was called.

Al Horford added 21 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists. Jae Crowder finished with career playoff-high 24 points.

Game 2 is set for Tuesday night.

The Wizards were more energetic at the outset, jumping out to a 16-0 advantage and leading by as many as 17 points. But the Celtics rallied with Thomas briefly sidelined while getting his tooth repositioned in the second quarter.

"I didn't know if we'd ever score and I didn't know if they've ever stop scoring," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said.

Bradley Beal led Washington with 27 points. John Wall added 20 points and 16 assists.

Washington starter Markieff Morris

played just 11 minutes before leaving with a sprained left ankle in the second quarter after landing awkwardly on Horford's foot.

The Wizards also had a tough time responding after Stevens started Marcus Smart in place of Gerald Green in the third quarter.

"They were a little more aggressive than we were," Beal said. "Our defense slipped a little. We lacked some IQ and focus."

A rivalry has been simmering between the teams since last year, when Boston swept the season series.

They split their four regular-season matchups this season, but each included intense moments. Sunday's matchup was played at just as high a level, with a frenzied pace at times and physical play underneath the basket.

After the Wizards' early flurry, Thomas lost his tooth but initially kept playing. He found it during a timeout, but started the second quarter in the locker room. His teammates went on a 13-2 run without him to cut into Washington's lead. Boston led by 15 by the end of the third.

Ducks get key road win

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — After scoring three goals in the first 12 minutes, Anaheim let the Edmonton Oilers tie the score midway through the second period. The Ducks then pulled away for a crucial win.

Jakob Silfverberg scored twice to lead Anaheim to a 6-3 victory over Edmonton on Sunday night, cutting the Oilers' series lead to 2-1.

"It's about getting ourselves back in the series, giving us a chance," said Ducks captain Ryan Getzlaf, who had a goal and an assist. "You never want to fall down 3-0 in any series. It's a long climb. We take this one, learn from what we did right and wrong and get ready for the next one."

Rickard Rakell got Anaheim on the scoreboard 25 seconds in, and Chris Wagner and Ryan Kesler also scored. John Gibson stopped 24 shots. The Ducks had lost the first two games of the series at home.

Just 48 seconds after Connor McDavid scored his first of the series to tie the score and rally Edmonton back from a 3-0 deficit, Wagner put the Ducks back ahead by firing a shot that deflected off Talbot's arm and in at 9:28 of the second period.

Silfverberg knocked in a feed from Josh Manson at 4:56 of the third to make it 5-3. The Oilers challenged the play for offside, but the goal stood after a video review.

"It's one of those, your eyes are telling you it's offside, but if you're the linesman you're

going 'I don't know for sure' and the call on the ice stands," Oilers head coach Todd McLellan said. "It's disappointing because they likely know it's offside, but they can't confirm it. Let's not kid ourselves. That wasn't the backbreaker. The backbreaker was the 25 seconds in."

Kesler swept in a rebound with 9½ minutes left to cap the scoring.

"The thing we're doing properly is responding to adversity," Getzlaf said. "We're not getting out of sorts. There's going to be ups and downs through every playoff game, every series and it's about controlling our emotions and using it to our advantage."

Patrick Maroon and Anton Slepyshev also scored and Kris Russell had two assists. Cam Talbot finished with 22 saves.

"Whatever luck we may have had in Game 2 definitely wasn't there tonight," McDavid said. "We did a good job battling back to tie it up, but ultimately we definitely didn't deserve to win that one."

Game 4 is Wednesday night.

Talbot was stellar in Game 2 with 39 saves, but the Ducks got to him early scoring on two of their first three shots of the game.

Rakell got a long pass from Getzlaf behind the Edmonton defense and scored on a breakaway 25 seconds in for the fastest playoff goal to start a game in franchise history.

Silfverberg got his stick on a loose puck to make it 2-0 at 5:33 when Oilers defenseman Adam Larsson failed to clear it away from Talbot.

Logano pulls away for win

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Joey Logano smiled as if he'd stolen something and got away with it, and that wasn't far from the truth.

Logano passed distracted and dominant Penske Racing teammate Brad Keselowski on one restart and then pulled away on another with about 20 laps to go to win the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race at Richmond International Raceway on Sunday.

"We were just fast enough to break through and kind of steal a win," Logano said. "We had a decent car. We were in the lead when the caution came out there and we looked like we were in pretty good shape, and then, obviously, to have the good pit stops and all that, I don't know if you'd call that stealing. We didn't get lucky. We were able to just do what we know how to do."

Logano, who qualified fifth but had to start 37th after making a transmission change, grabbed the lead when Keselowski had to make a defensive move to keep Kyle Busch from passing him on the inside. His 18th career victory came in his 300th career start.

"I was driving my guts out out there," Logano said in Victory Lane. "That's all I had. We won with a car that may not have been a winning car, so that's something to be very proud of as a team. That means the execution was there and we were able to put ourselves in position to race there hard at the end. Brad was the fastest car. He was so fast."

Keselowski got stuck behind some slower cars on the final restart, letting Logano pull away by nearly 2 seconds.

"I think what we needed was about 10 more laps," Keselowski said. He led six times for 110 laps.

On the final restart, Logano had to get around Kyle Larson and five others who stayed on the track when everyone else pitted. He made quick work of that challenge and pulled away while Keselowski and Denny Hamlin got caught in traffic dueling for the second position.

"That's part of how this racing deal works, and the fastest car doesn't always win," Keselowski said.

Keselowski, who had the dominant car for the second half of the race, held on for second, followed by Hamlin, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. and Kevin Harvick. Dale Earnhardt Jr., in his first race since announcing he will retire at the end of the season, finished 30th.

Predators bounce back to top Blues

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Nashville Predators finally had a chance to show how they would react to their first loss this postseason.

Returning home, they put their deep scoring on display and bounced back with a big victory.

Cody McLeod scored the game-winner early in the second period, and the Predators beat the St. Louis Blues 3-1 Sunday to grab a 2-1 lead in their Western Conference semifinal.

"It shows a lot of character coming off a loss last game," Predators goalie Pekka Rinne said. "We knew that coming in it's a huge game. Responded really well. It's a good feeling obviously, but you already start thinking about the next one and trying to keep this momentum going."

Defensemen Ryan Ellis and Roman Josi also scored, and Colton Sissons added two assists. The Predators outshot St. Louis 34-23, and they now are 6-1 this postseason.

Nashville coach Peter Laviolette said it was good to be home before a standing-room only crowd coming off a 3-2 loss in Game 2 on Friday night.

"It was awesome today," Laviolette said. "That's a credit to our fans and the energy that comes into this building. You guys see that and get to experience it just like we do, so that's a real positive for us. Nobody likes losing, probably on any team, and you look for a response, and I thought the response was good today."

Alexander Steen scored for the Blues, who lost for the first time on the road this postseason.

Blues goalie Jake Allen kept St. Louis in this game before being pulled by coach Mike Yeo for the extra attacker with more than 4 minutes remaining and took his timeout with 1:25 left.

"We had a decent start, but once they started to get to their game we didn't seem to have an answer for it," Yeo said. "They upped their game, they took their game to another level and we didn't match it."