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In Israel, Trump expresses hope for unity

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — President Donald Trump opened his first visit to Israel on Monday saying he sees growing recognition among Muslim nations that they share a “common cause” with Israel in their determination to counter the threats posed by Iran.

Arriving directly from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Trump expressed his hope for cooperation among U.S. allies in the Middle East. His second stop on the nine-day tour aimed to test the waters for reviving the dormant Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Trump, who previously had suggested that it would be easier than anticipated to solve the conflict that has vexed his predecessors for decades, said that conditions were right in both Israel and the Arab world to strike what he has called “the ultimate deal.”

“We have before us a rare opportunity to bring security and stability and peace to this region and to its people,” Trump said upon his arrival in Tel Aviv.

Trump’s first stop was a meeting in Jerusalem with Israeli President Reuven Rivlin. In a statement following the meeting, Trump addressed his meetings the previous day with Arab and Muslim leaders in Saudi Arabia, and said that there is growing realization that they share a “common cause with you” in their determination to defeat extremism and to deter “the threat posed by Iran.”

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Trump “a true friend” to Israel and expressed optimism about the president’s role in the Middle East peace process. But obstacles have emerged that may complicate the relationship between the White House and the Knesset.

Trump, wearing a yarmulke,

Iran’s leader: Relations with US ‘a curvy road’

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran’s newly re-elected president, Hassan Rouhani, on Monday called relations with the U.S. “a curvy road,” saying he hoped the Trump administration will “settle down” enough for his nation to better understand it.

Rouhani also criticized Saudi Arabia after it just hosted President Donald Trump’s first foreign trip, saying that the kingdom “has never seen a ballot box” while Iran just hosted a successful presidential election in which more than 40 million people voted.

“The Americans do not know our region; that’s what the catch is,” Rouhani said in response to a question from The Associated Press. “Those who provide consultations or advice to the Americans, unfortunately, they are the rulers who either push America awry or with money, they just buy some people in America.”

Rouhani decisively won a presidential election on Friday, securing another four-year term. The vote served as a referendum on Iran’s 2015 nuclear deal with world

powers, as well as a vote of confidence that his government will be able to help the country’s sputtering economy. Trump has threatened to try to renegotiate the deal.

Rouhani said that Iranians are “waiting for this government to become stable intellectually” and that “hopefully, things will settle down ... so we could pass more accurate judgments.”

“Unfortunately, Americans have always made mistakes in our region,” Rouhani said. “When they attacked Afghanistan (and) Iraq, when they made sanctions against Iran. In Syria, they made mistakes, and also in Yemen.”

Rouhani further criticized the Saudi summit that Trump attended on Sunday, describing it as a “show-off” that “will not have any political and practical values.”

“The issue of terrorism cannot be solved through giving money to superpowers,” Rouhani said.

Rouhani made a point to stress that Trump’s visit came amid Iran’s presidential election, saying that such elections “are not in their (Saudis’) dictionary.”

stop in Saudi Arabia, as well as questions from Israeli officials about revelations that he disclosed sensitive Israeli intelligence to Russian officials.

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, speaking to reporters aboard Air Force One, said the U.S. could provide clarifications to Israel about the disclosure but said, “I don’t know that there’s anything to apologize for.”

White House aides have tried to play down expectations for significant progress on the peace process during Trump’s stop, casting the visit as symbolic. Tillerson referred to the visit as “a moment in time” and suggested that the U.S. would take a more active role in the future in brokering a deal if both sides make serious commitments.

Trump, whose unorthodox approach has spurred some hope on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, has done no such managing of expectations. He boldly stated in a March meeting with Abbas that achieving peace is “something that I think is, frankly, may be not as difficult as people have thought over the years.”

“But we need two willing parties,” he said then. “We believe Israel is willing. We believe you’re willing. And if you both are willing, we’re going to make a deal.”

Trump made one symbolic gesture Monday in bridging the gap between Israel and the Arab world: His flight on Air Force One was believed to be the first direct flight between Saudi Arabia and Israel, nations that have limited diplomatic relations. Even the White House press corps making the trip on a separate plane from Riyadh to Tel Aviv had to make a technical stop in Cyprus before proceeding to Israel.

Netanyahu said he hoped an Israeli prime minister soon could make the same flight.

on Monday became the first sitting president to visit the Western Wall. Trump touched it in prayer and, adhering to tradition, placed a note in a deep crevice. He also toured the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which is believed to be where Jesus was crucified and the location of his

tomb. On Tuesday, he is set to meet with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in the West Bank and to deliver a speech at the Israeli Museum.

But Trump may face concerns from Israelis over the new \$110 billion arms deal he announced during his previous

Afghans conflicted about more US troops

Los Angeles Times

KABUL, Afghanistan — President Donald Trump is expected to decide this month whether to send more U.S. troops to Afghanistan, where a Taliban insurgency threatens the 15-year war effort.

Pentagon officials are drawing up plans to add 3,000 to 5,000 personnel to the U.S.-led NATO mission, arguing that the extra troops could work more closely with Afghan soldiers and police, who are suffering heavy casualties, and force the Taliban to the negotiating table.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and his top lieutenants support a U.S. troop increase as the Taliban has grabbed control of roughly 40 percent of the country since Afghan forces took responsibility for security in January 2015.

About 9,800 U.S. troops are in Afghanistan, the fewest since the months immediately after the 2001 American-led invasion. President Barack Obama increased the U.S. troop presence to nearly 100,000 before beginning a withdrawal in 2012.

For Afghans, the prospect of more U.S. troops is controversial. Some view it as a needed lifeline for a flailing government; others worry it will extend a war that already has killed

more than 30,000 civilians.

Ahmad Shaheer, a social activist in Kabul, said more troops won't necessarily mean greater security. Afghanistan, he said, once had 10 times the number of U.S. troops and more international military equipment — and they did not bring peace.

Shaheer also believes that Afghanistan's economic struggles and persistent unemployment help the insurgency recruit jobless young Afghans to its cause.

Retired Gen. Atiqullah Amarkhail, a Kabul-based military analyst, said Afghanistan's 350,000 soldiers and police remain dependent on U.S. funding.

"It's good for the Afghan security forces to get more support," Amarkhail said. But the benefits could be limited because of the resilience of the Taliban and allied insurgents."

Fariha Khoshiwal, an agriculture student at Kabul University, said more U.S. troops will only prolong the conflict.

"Whenever the decision to send more international troops comes out, the Taliban intensify their attacks," said Khoshiwal. "In any military operation by the Afghan security forces or U.S. troops, or in terrorist attacks by the Taliban or Islamic State, it is mostly civilians who suffer casualties."

Commanders expect tough fight in Mosul

The Washington Post

MOSUL, Iraq — The handful of neighborhoods held by Islamic State in Mosul will likely be the most difficult to retake despite eight months of street-by-street fighting, the U.S. officer in charge of advising Iraqi forces in the area predicted.

It's going to be "extremely violent," Col. Patrick Work, commanding officer of the 2nd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, said during a phone interview Saturday.

"The hardest days are still in front of them," he said.

Some Iraqi officers have said the battle could be over by the end of the week in conjunction with the start of Ramadan, a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer.

Yet with some of the most difficult areas of the city held by militants, and tens of thousands of civilians trapped in their homes, the fighting could likely last well into the weeks ahead.

Iraqi forces are now wrapping up the final stages of an operation launched earlier this month that saw them retake nearly the entirety of the northwestern part of the city. A previous offensive that started in February stalled after coming up against

heavy resistance in the southern part of the city.

The Iraqi military is usually mum about its casualty numbers, but Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Friday that the Iraqis had suffered heavy losses during the course of the Mosul Operation, with about 980 killed and over 6,000 wounded.

ISIS holds only about 5 square miles of Mosul, including the al-Zanjili neighborhood and the Old City, which is the site of the Great Mosque where ISIS' leader, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, declared a "caliphate" in 2014 across parts of Iraq and Syria.

Both Zanjili and the Old City are far more cramped than the rest of Mosul, with narrow side streets and alleys that will restrict Iraqi vehicle movement and give ISIS fighters a clear advantage when it comes to launching their signature bomb-laden suicide vehicles.

The close quarters will probably force Iraqi troops to rely more heavily on their own resources rather than U.S.-led airstrikes and artillery.

It is unclear how many fighters are left in the city or what type of resources they still have at their disposal.

Haley assures Syrian refugees of more support

Associated Press

ZAATARI REFUGEE CAMP, Jordan — His skull and jaw wrapped in bandages, the young, Syrian refugee stared into a small, black box at a supermarket in this sprawling, dust-swept refugee camp. The box scanned his iris to identify him, charged his account and sent him on his way.

If the boy noticed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley watching intently from just a few feet away, he didn't show it. But Haley later would tout the iris scanners as a fraud-cutting tool boosting efficiency for the more than \$6.5 billion the U.S. has spent helping those whose lives have been upended by Syria's civil war.

Yet as Haley pledged the U.S. would increase support, her message was diluted by President Donald Trump's vow to put "America First," his planned budget cuts and position on admitting refugees.

It was a theme the outspoken ambassador returned to over and over in Jordan at the start of her first trip abroad since taking office. In her stops here and in Turkey Haley is witnessing firsthand the strains placed on countries absorbing the more than 5 million Syrians who have fled Islamic State, President Bashar Assad's government, or both.

She climbed into the trailer of an 18-wheeler at the Ramtha border crossing less than 0.6 miles from Syria, inspecting boxes

of peas, tuna and canned meat stacked shoulder high. The truck was to join 19 others in a convoy into opposition-held territory in Syria, carrying supplies from U.N. agencies and other groups, many U.S.-funded.

As president, Trump tried to bar Syrian refugees from the U.S., describing them as a national security threat.

And Trump has called for cuts to U.S. funding for the United Nations and its agencies — such as those aiding people still in Syria and those who've fled. Trump plans to release his budget blueprint Tuesday, but his initial proposal called for a one-third cut to diplomatic programming while boosting the U.S. military by \$54 billion.

Source: Flynn to invoke the 5th

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former national security adviser Michael Flynn will invoke his constitutional right against self-incrimination on Monday when he declines to hand over documents to a Senate panel investigating Russia's meddling in the 2016 election, The Associated Press has learned.

Flynn is expected to cite Fifth Amendment protections in a letter Monday to the Senate Intelligence Committee, according to a person with direct knowledge of the matter. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to publicly discuss private interactions between Flynn and the committee.

The letter was expected to stress that Flynn invoking his constitutional protections was not an admission of wrongdoing but rather a response to the current political climate in which Democratic members of Congress are calling for his prosecution, the person said.

The letter does not fully close the door on Flynn's future cooperation with the committee. Flynn's attorney, Robert Kelner, said in March that Flynn wants to tell his story "should the circumstances permit." At the time, Kelner noted it would be unreasonable for Flynn to agree to be questioned by the committee "without assurances against unfair prosecution."

Flynn's decision comes less than two weeks after the committee issued a subpoena for Flynn's documents as part of its ongoing investigation into possible collusion between Russia and President

Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign. In addition to the Senate investigation, Flynn is also being investigated by other congressional committees, as well as an ongoing FBI counterintelligence probe and a separate federal criminal investigation in northern Virginia.

Representatives for the Senate committee's Republican chairman, Sen. Richard Burr, of North Carolina, and ranking Democrat, Sen. Mark Warner, of Virginia, didn't immediately respond to calls and emails inquiring about the committee's next steps.

Flynn's decision was the second time he has declined to cooperate with requests for documents from the Senate committee. Flynn also turned down an April 28 request that was similar to ones received by other Trump associates, including former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort, Trump associate Roger Stone and former Trump foreign policy adviser Carter Page. According to copies of letters sent to Page and Stone, the committee sought electronic and paper records involving any contacts between people associated with the Trump campaign and Russian officials and businesses.

Legal experts had said Flynn was unlikely to turn over the documents without immunity because doing so might compel him to waive some of his constitutional protections. The retired Army lieutenant general and former director of the Defense Intelligence Agency was fired from his national security post in February.

Stabbing probed as possible hate crime

The Washington Post

The University of Maryland student arrested in a fatal stabbing that authorities are investigating as a possible hate crime was expected to appear in court Monday afternoon for a bail review hearing.

The hearing was to be the first time Sean Urbanski, 22, appeared before a judge since his arrest in the slaying of Bowie State University student Richard Collins, 23.

Urbanski, of Severna Park, Md., was charged with first- and second-degree murder and first-degree assault in what police called a "totally unprovoked" attack that occurred on the College Park campus.

On Sunday, University of Maryland police announced the FBI's involvement in the case to determine whether the attack on Collins, who was black, was a hate crime.

Urbanski, who is white, was part of an online Facebook group that posts racist material, police and FBI officials said.

Friends, family and fellow students were planning to honor Collins with a candlelight vigil on Bowie State's campus on Monday evening and with a moment of silence before Tuesday's commencement, when Collins was set to graduate.

Collins, from Calvert County, Md., was airborne certified and a member of the university's ROTC, said a family spokesman, the Rev. Darryl Godlock. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army last week.

"The parents are totally devastated that their young son, that was at the peak of his career about to take off, and his life was taken away senselessly," said Godlock, a pastor at Calvert County Baptist Church in Prince Frederick, Md.

An attorney for Urbanski declined to comment.

'Greatest Show on Earth' bows out

Associated Press

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — With laughter, hugs and tears — and the requisite death-defying stunts — the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus received its final standing ovation Sunday night as it performed its last show after 146 years of wowing audiences.

"We are, forevermore, the Greatest Show on Earth," boomed Johnathan Lee Iversen, who has been the ringmaster since 1999. His son, who also performed, stood by his side. The show was held at the Nassau County Coliseum in Uniondale, N.Y., about 30 miles east of New York City.

It was an emotional 2½ hours for those who worked on the circus. Many of Ringling's employees are second-, third- and even fourth-generation circus performers, while others met their spouses while touring. All

spent months on the road, traveling from city to city in Ringling's train cars and describing themselves as a giant family, albeit one with many clowns.

Over the years, animal rights activists had targeted Ringling, saying that forcing animals to perform and transporting them around the country amounted to abuse. In May 2016, the company removed elephants from its shows, but ticket sales continued to decline. People, it seemed, didn't want to see a circus without elephants.

Ringling's parent company, Feld Entertainment, announced in January it would close the show, citing declining attendance and high operating costs.

Feld Entertainment CEO Kenneth Feld said that "we all have to embrace change."

Feld's father and uncle bought the circus in 1967. It was sold

to Mattel in 1971, but the Feld family continued to manage the shows. The Felds bought the circus back in 1982.

Once a mainstay of entertainment in small towns and big cities across the country, Ringling had two touring circuses this season, one of which ended its run earlier this month in Providence, R.I.

In the end, Feld executives said they knew the circus couldn't compete with iPhones, the internet, video games and massively branded and carefully marketed characters. Their other productions — "Frozen on Ice," "Marvel Live," "Supercross," "Monster Trucks," "Disney on Ice" — resonate better with younger generations.

But that didn't stop the circus from giving the performance of their life, one last time, to one last crowd.

4 climbers die in tragic weekend on Mount Everest

Associated Press

KATHMANDU, Nepal — The body of an Indian climber was spotted on Mount Everest on Monday, the fourth fatality on the mountain during a busy, tragic weekend on the world's highest peak.

Sherpa rescuers spotted the body of Indian climber Ravi Kumar, but it was impossible to retrieve the body, said Thupden Sherpa, of Arun Treks and Expedition. It appeared that Kumar had fallen some 650 feet below the route, he said.

Climbers from the U.S., Slovakia and Australia also died on the mountain during the weekend.

Kumar fell sick on his way down from the summit on Saturday and did not make it to the nearest camp, though his accompanying Nepalese Sherpa guide did reach camp.

The guide was sick but had managed to drag himself to the camp at South Col, located at 26,247 feet.

Kumar and his guide reached the 29,035-foot-high summit about 1:30 p.m. Saturday, which is considered late, and not many climbers were around when they were returning back.

Tourism Department official Kamal Prasad Adhikari confirmed that American climber Roland Yearwood, 50, from Georgia, Ala., died Sunday, but it was not clear whether or when his body would be brought down.

N. Korea says it is ready to deploy, produce new missile

Associated Press

TOKYO — North Korea says it's ready to deploy and start mass-producing a new medium-range missile capable of reaching Japan and major U.S. military bases there following a test launch it claims confirmed the missile's combat readiness and is an "answer" to U.S. President Donald Trump's policies.

The solid-fuel Pukguksong-2 missile flew about 310 miles and reached a height of 350 miles Sunday before plunging into the Pacific Ocean. North Korea's media said more missiles will be launched in the future.

Trump, traveling in Saudi Arabia, had no immediate public comment.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ordered the launch and watched from an observation post, state media reported Monday. The Korea Central News Agency said the test verified technical aspects of the weapon system and examined its "adaptability under various battle conditions" before it is deployed to military units.

Kim reportedly said the launch was a success, "approved the deployment of this weapon system for action" and said that it should "be rapidly mass-produced."

North Korea has speeded up its missile tests significantly during the past year or so and appears to be making tangible progress

toward developing an arsenal that poses a threat not only to South Korea and Japan — which together host about 80,000 U.S. troops — but also toward an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of reaching the U.S. mainland.

It's moving ahead with its nuclear weapons program as well.

The North conducted two nuclear tests last year. It claims one was a hydrogen bomb and the other device created a more powerful explosion than any the North has tested previously. Satellite imagery suggests it could be ready to conduct its next test — which would be its sixth — at virtually any time.

Pyongyang's often-stated goal is to perfect a nuclear warhead that it can put onto a missile capable of hitting Washington or other U.S. cities.

In an interview with "Fox News Sunday" U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the ongoing testing is "disappointing" and "disturbing."

South Korea held a National Security Council meeting after the launch, and its Foreign Ministry said the launch "throws cold water" onto efforts to ease tensions on the peninsula.

At the request of diplomats from the U.S., Japan and South Korea, a United Nations' Security Council consultation on the missile test will take place Tuesday.

Philippine official downplays China war threat

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines' top diplomat sought Monday to downplay President Rodrigo Duterte's pronouncement that Chinese President Xi Jinping told him China would go to war with Manila if the Philippines insists on drilling for oil in the disputed South China Sea, saying they were not threatening each other but talking about preventing conflict.

Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano told reporters there was no bullying, and the context of frank talks last week in China — the details of which he said he could not discuss — "was on how to avoid conflict" and "how to increase trust and mutual respect."

"There was no language or even tone that would lead any of the two presidents to believe that there was disrespect for them or their country," he said.

Cayetano said Duterte apparently talked about his meeting with Xi just to respond to a barrage of criticisms that he has been soft on China and has refused to raise the Philippines' arbitral victory last year that invalidates most of China's claims in the South China Sea.

Cayetano said that after his return next week from a trip to Russia with Duterte, he will explain the context of the two leaders' exchange to lawmakers and a Supreme Court justice, who have urged the Philippines to file a diplomatic protest over the alleged war threats and to ask the United Nations to demand that China comply with the arbitral ruling.

"My interpretation in the meeting is that there was no bullying or pushing around, or it wasn't a threat," Cayetano said.

He said Duterte is committed to "protect every single inch of our territory" and Filipinos should trust him on how he will do it.

Duterte said in a speech late Friday at a coast guard event in southern Davao city that he raised the Philippines' arbitral victory against Chinese territorial claims in the South China Sea and told Xi that Manila intends to drill for oil there.

"I said when we were face-to-face, 'That is ours and we intend to drill oil there.' No beating around the bush," Duterte said. He said the reply was: "Well, we are friends. We do not want to quarrel with you. We would want to maintain the present, warm relationship. But if you force the issue, we will go to war."

"Please do not do that because that is ours," Duterte further quoted Xi as saying. He said he replied, "But I have the arbitral (award)." Xi then reportedly said: "Yes, but ours is historical, and yours is legal of recent memory. We had that since the Ming dynasty."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

New police K-9 named after NFL's Gronkowski

MA ATHOL — Gronk will soon be tracking down criminals, sniffing for drugs and acting as the furry face of a Massachusetts police department.

No, not New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski. This Gronk is the Athol Police Department's new dog. The year-old German shepherd is undergoing a 14-week training program.

Chief Russell Kleber said Gronk will be the department's first K-9 officer in seven or eight years. He said he wanted to name the dog after a Boston sports figure and recalled that the real Gronk has a connection to the town.

After attending a nearby charity event in February, the Patriots player stopped by an Athol Subway shop and ordered a footlong chicken, cheese and guacamole sandwich that the restaurant's owner dubbed the Big Subkowski.

Human blood found on shrapnel from 1778

NJ FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP — Human blood has been found on shrapnel discovered on a Revolutionary War battlefield in New Jersey.

Members of the Battlefield Restoration and Archaeological Volunteer Organization working in Freehold Township found the canister shot used by the Continental Army against British troops during the Battle of Monmouth in 1778. They sent the lead to Colorado for testing, and it came back positive for human blood protein, the Asbury Park Press reported.

Dan Sivilich, who is president of BRAVO, told the Asbury Park Press he believes this is the only piece of Revolutionary

War canister shot ever found that's been positively tested for human blood.

Dog that got pardon could take up sledding

ME WATERVILLE — A dog that was ordered to be euthanized despite a pardon issued by Maine's governor could get a second chance at life as a sled dog.

The Waterville Morning Sentinel reported that a state prosecutor agreed with the dog's previous owner and the owners of two dogs it killed to send the animal to a training shelter in New Hampshire. The dog's current owner, who adopted the husky after the attacks but before the euthanization order, is not on board.

The dog, Dakota, became a celebrity after being pardoned by Republican Gov. Paul LePage on March 30. But the state prosecutor said the governor lacked the authority to do so.

Sheriff's office to take Bible verse off cars

VA CHRISTIANBURG — A Virginia sheriff's department is removing Bible verse decals that have adorned the backs of its patrol cars since March.

The Roanoke Times reported that Montgomery County Sheriff Hank Partin's announcement Thursday that the decals would come off came after county officials began asking questions and amid criticism from the Freedom From Religion Foundation and the Virginia branch of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The decals said "Blessed are the peacemakers ... Matthew 5:9."

The ACLU of Virginia and the Freedom From Religion

Foundation raised concerns that the decals could be seen as promoting one religion over another.

Hole Patrol aims to protect nesting turtles

SC HILTON HEAD ISLAND — The Spartina Sea Turtle Stranding Response is gathering community members to join Hole Patrol, a new program to monitor Hilton Head Island beaches.

The Island Packet reported the initiative comes as an increase in large sandcastles and holes on the beaches have caused "false crawls." Spartina Sea Turtle Stranding Response Director Amber Kuehn described the phenomenon as when a nesting sea turtle on the beach is startled into returning to the ocean without laying its eggs. The holes can also act as traps for the baby turtles.

The Hole Patrol will monitor nesting turtles and hatchlings every morning and report large holes and sandcastles to Kuehn, who will assign a volunteer to flatten them.

Woman makes dress out of candy wrappers

PA ELIZABETHTOWN — A Pennsylvania woman has made a dress from more than 10,000 Starburst candy wrappers given to her by her high school sweetheart-turned-husband.

Emily Seilhamer is an artist and upcycler — meaning she recycles items by creating new things out of them.

The Mount Joy Township woman posted a picture of her dress last week on her Facebook page.

Seilhamer met her husband, Malachi, when he offered her a pack of Starburst, his favorite candy. He kept giving her the

candies and once she told him she wanted to make a dress, he started bringing her wrappers, which she divided by their bright colors

Boy, 10, treated after eating marijuana candy

NY RAMAPO — Authorities said a 10-year-old boy in Rockland County was sent to the emergency room after eating cannabis-infused candy.

Police said it happened May 14 after the child's father let the boy sit alone in the family's car, where he found a package of sour gummies laced with medical marijuana.

Police said the Ramapo boy ate some of the candy and was taken to a hospital in Suffern, where he was treated and released.

The boy's father, Ephraim Zagelbaum, 37, of Spring Valley, was arrested on charges of endangering the welfare of a child.

Hospital hosting talk show on mental health

CT NEW CANAAN — A Connecticut psychiatric hospital is launching its own talk show, which will focus on mental illness and addiction.

Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan is partnering with the HAN Network, a local news streaming service, which will run the "Straight Talk with Tracey" program on its website.

It is hosted by Tracey Massella, a licensed clinical social worker at Silver Hill. She will have guests and answer questions from the audience on various topics dealing with mental health and addiction.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

Indy begins new century with faster cars, wide-open field

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis 500 is embarking on its second century much as it did its first: Nobody really knows what to expect in next weekend's race.

Pole-winner Scott Dixon posted the fastest four-lap qualifying average at Indy in 21 years Sunday. But with the first rows filled by three race winners, three 500 runner-ups and a two-time Formula One champion, picking a favorite is anybody's guess.

"I think the hardest part of the week leading up to the 500 is you're basically trying to predict things," Dixon said. "Everybody asks you how do you think you're going to do, how is the race going to go? It's so hard to talk about the race continuously before you've even done it. You know, you have to be positive, but there's always some doubts in your mind."

This year is particularly confounding after Dixon qualified with a four-lap average of 232.164 mph — the fastest attempt since Arie Luyendyk's track record 236.986 in 1996.

Many around the track, including second-place qualifier Ed Carpenter, think increasing the speeds is long overdue and something fans have been craving.

"It's cool to see the speeds going back up, to hear the crowd roar when Scott did those laps, when everyone put up big times" Carpenter said Sunday. "It's part of the mystique of this place is pushing the limits of the cars and us as drivers. So I enjoy that part of it. It's thrilling when it goes well and when it goes poorly like we saw (Saturday's crash), but that's part of what makes IndyCar special."

But even with one of IndyCar's best career drivers leading the way, there are no sure things at Indy.

Dixon won after claiming his first Indy pole in 2008. Two years ago, after getting his second, the New Zealander finished fifth because of an overheating car. He's the fifth driver in race history with three pole wins and now faces a 33-car field with talent, experience and fast cars.

Carpenter, a two-time Indy pole winner, will start from the inside of the front row after going 231.664.

Defending champ Alexander Rossi was the fastest car in Andretti Autosport's six-pack. He'll start third after posting a 231.487.

Japan's Takuma Sato, Rossi's teammate, will start fourth. He is best remembered for trying to make a dangerous first turn pass for the lead on the final lap at the 2012 race. Instead, he touched wheels with Dario Franchitti and wound up crashing.

JR Hildebrand, Carpenter's teammate, will start sixth, the outside of Row 2. He was the 2011 runner-up crashing on the final turn of the last lap.

The third row comprises Tony Kanaan, the 2013 Indy winner; Marco Andretti, the 2006 runner-up; and Will Power, the 2015 runner-up.

But the most intriguing story might be the quest of Fernando Alonso, who is skipping Monaco to run his first oval race. The two-time Formula One champion qualified fifth with an average of 231.300 after only eight days on the track and just hours after an unscheduled engine change.

"He's proving why he's one of the best in the world right now," Andretti Autosport teammate Alexander Rossi said.

The Spaniard was the first driver to top 231 on all four laps. It's the first time he's competed on an oval.

A few minutes later, Rossi bumped Alonso off the pole with a run of 231.487. Rossi is

the defending race winner and will start third.

The last rookie to win the Indy pole was Teo Fabi in 1983. Tony Stewart started from the pole as a rookie in 1996 after Scott Brayton, the pole-winner, was killed in a practice crash.

Penske's problems: Roger Penske has won the 500 a record 16 times. Helio Castroneves has three of them. Both face an uphill battle to reach victory lane at the Brickyard.

After winning the first five poles this season, only Power advanced to Sunday's nine-car pole shootout — and he wound up ninth at 230.200. Nobody else in the five-car stable will start higher than two-time winner Juan Pablo Montoya at No. 18, the outside of Row 6.

Meanwhile, Castroneves is making his eighth attempt to join the four-time winners club, and he'll have to do it from the worst starting spot of his 500 career: 19th.

"Of course you always want to start more near the front and you want to say you are on the pole or on the front row," Castroneves said. "But it means a lot more to say that you are an Indianapolis 500 winner. That is our focus and that is what all of Team Penske is here to do."

New driver: One day after four-time Champ Car champion Sebastien Bourdais had surgery to repair multiple fractures in his pelvis, team owner Dale Coyne named James Davison the replacement.

Davison has started two previous 500s, finishing 16th in 2014 and 27th the following year. But he has driven for Coyne before. He could be on the track Monday.

The No. 18 will start from the back of the field after failing to make a qualifying attempt after Bourdais' frightening crash Saturday.

Indy 500 winners robbed at Taco Bell

INDIANAPOLIS — Police say Indianapolis 500 pole-winner Scott Dixon and fellow former race winner Dario Franchitti were robbed at gunpoint while in a Taco Bell drive-thru lane.

A police report that the robbery happened shortly before 10 p.m. Sunday at the fast-food restaurant less than a mile from the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, where Dixon had hours earlier won the top starting position for next Sunday's Indy 500.

The police report says two males ran away after the robbery and that Dixon's wife, Emma, was also in the vehicle. Officers later arrested two boys, ages 15 and 14.

IndyCar driver Tony Kanaan told reporters Monday that Dixon was making a food run for a group of drivers.

"While they were ordering with their windows down two guys approached at gunpoint," Kanaan said. "They held a gun at Dixon's head and asked him for his wallet and his phone. You don't expect that to happen, especially here."

Dixon, who is from New Zealand, is the 2008 Indy 500 winner and a longtime Chip Ganassi Racing teammate of Franchitti, a Scot who retired in 2013 with Indy 500 wins in 2007, 2010 and 2012.

"Scott Dixon and Dario Franchitti are completely fine after being held up last night by two men at a fast-food restaurant," the team said in a statement. "We will allow the Speedway/Indianapolis police departments to handle the situation and while they conduct their investigation we will refrain from making any further comments to allow Scott to focus on the upcoming Indianapolis 500."

Bradley saves Celtics with late three

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Leprechauns are imaginary. Celtic pride is very real.

Avery Bradley's three-pointer danced on the rim and dropped with less than a second left and Boston, blown out in the first two games of the Eastern Conference finals and playing without star Isaiah Thomas, stunned the Cleveland Cavaliers 111-108 on Sunday night in Game 3 to end the champions' 13-game postseason winning streak.

Bradley's shot from the left wing — off a play designed by coach Brad Stevens — bounced on the rim four times before going down. It capped a furious, focused comeback by the Celtics, who trailed by 21 in the third quarter before rallying to tighten up a series that appeared to be over.

"Wide-open look," Bradley said. "Al (Horford) did a great job of getting me open and Marcus (Smart) made a great pass and I was able to knock down the shot."

Smart, who started in place of Thomas, made seven three-

pointers and scored 27 points, and Bradley had 20 for the Celtics, who were given little chance after losing by 44 in Game 2 and then losing Thomas for the rest of the postseason because of a hip injury.

"Everybody had to step up their game tonight especially with one of our brothers down," Smart said. "Our love and support goes out to Isaiah. We wish he could be here but we understand. We just kept fighting. Everybody did their part."

Kyrie Irving scored 29 points, and Kevin Love had 28 for Cleveland. The Cavaliers dropped to 10-1 in the postseason with their first loss since Game 4 of last year's Finals.

Game 4 is Tuesday night in Cleveland.

LeBron James had one of the worst games of his postseason career, finishing with 11 points and six turnovers.

"I didn't have it," said James. "You let a team like that grab momentum you almost knew a shot like that was going in."

Still, the Cavs were in control leading 77-56 in the third quarter after making 14 three-pointers in the first half. But

Cleveland got complacent, Smart got hot and the Celtics, who arrived at Quicken Loans Arena on Sunday morning for their shootaround without Thomas and looking somewhat defeated, never gave up.

"We decided we're going to go out and play hard, swinging," Bradley said. "We never counted ourselves out."

The Celtics caught the Cavs at 95-all on Smart's three-pointer and then matched the James and Co. basket for basket in the final minutes in one of the most entertaining games of what has been a mostly boring postseason.

Boston's Jonas Jerebko's baseline jumper put the Celtics ahead 108-106 with 30 seconds left before Irving scored on a drive to tie it with 10.7 seconds left.

Following a timeout, the Celtics perfectly executed a play drawn up by Stevens and worked the ball to Bradley, who found himself open and then calmly knocked down a shot that goes straight into Celtics lore.

For Cleveland, the loss was a wake-up call on their march

toward a possible third straight Finals and a seemingly inevitable rematch with Golden State. The Cavs had been playing a glorified game of H.O.R.S.E. with the Warriors, who are undefeated and can complete a sweep of San Antonio on Monday night.

The Cavs hadn't lost since Game 4 of last year's Finals, and they came in tied with the 1988-89 Los Angeles "Showtime" Lakers for the longest winning streak in postseason history.

With Thomas back home, the Celtics could be forgiven for feeling down after Thomas, their inspirational leader was shut down with a hip injury he first sustained in March.

However, Stevens liked his team's energy leading up to tipoff and felt confident they would play hard.

"Our guys are itching to play," he said. "Obviously, we're here for a reason, and we've got tough-minded, competitive guys who have largely been guys that have had to really earn their way up in this league."

Pens strike early, rout Senators in Game 5

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Penguins coach Mike Sullivan calls it "getting to our game."

It means he wants his team to attack opponents with speed, aggression and a dash of responsibility.

Physically translated, it looks like the 60 minutes the defending Stanley Cup champions put together Sunday in a 7-0 demolition of the Ottawa Senators in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference Final.

Dominant from the opening faceoff to the final whistle, the Penguins moved within one game of a return trip to the Cup final by overwhelming the Senators with wave after wave of pressure, the kind that became the club's trademark during its

sprint to a fourth championship last spring.

Seven players scored and 11 finished with at least one point to give Pittsburgh a 3-2 lead heading into Game 6 on Tuesday in Ottawa. Seemingly on the ropes after getting pummeled 5-1 in Game 3, the Penguins have outscored the Senators 10-2 over the last six periods to gain control.

"When we play the type of game we play tonight it allows us to dictate the terms and play the style and the identity of this Penguins team," Sullivan said.

One well aware that despite how easy it looked during its most lopsided playoff victory in five years, much work remains to be done.

"They have a good ability to

respond, so we're going to be challenged here in Game 6," said Pittsburgh captain Sidney Crosby, who scored for the third straight and became the 22nd player in NHL history to reach 100 career playoff assists when he sent a slick backhand no-look pass to Phil Kessel early in the third period. "We know that and we've got to be at our best."

The Penguins might already be there. The power play went 3-for-3. The penalty kill turned the Senators away four times and extended Ottawa's power play drought to 0-for-29. Matt Murray stopped 21 shots for his first playoff shutout in Pittsburgh's most complete performance of the postseason.

"I think that was a big part of

our success last year was that we had all four lines going and chipping in offensively," forward Matt Cullen said. "But more than that, spending time in the offensive zone and grinding and playing some good hockey and I think the last couple games, especially, that's been key."

The Penguins chased Ottawa's Craig Anderson by beating him four times in the first period, the last a "why not" flip from behind the goal line by fourth-line forward Scott Wilson that banked in off the goalie.

Replacement Mike Condon didn't fare much better. When Cullen beat him 1:54 into the second to make it 5-0, the competitive portion of the afternoon was over.

Judge's catch helps Yankees avert sweep

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Yankees manager Joe Girardi couldn't help but smile when talking about 5-foot-11 Brett Gardner going deep again and 6-foot-7 Aaron Judge making an unbelievable diving catch.

Gardner hit his eighth home run, one more than this 2016 total, and CC Sabathia won consecutive starts for the first time in nearly a year to help New York beat the Tampa Bay Rays 3-2 Sunday and avoid a three-game sweep.

Didi Gregorius had an RBI single in the second for the second of his four hits and Gardner followed with his drive to right. All of Gardner's home runs have come in a 20-game span starting April 19.

"It sounds a little crazy, but last year I was really inconsistent and just not at my best," Gardner said. "The first three or four weeks this season I wasn't any good,

either. Here recently I've been swinging the bat better."

Judge made a full extension diving backhand catch on the right field warning track in the sixth to rob Evan Longoria of a tying extra-base hit, starting a double play that doubled up Corey Dickerson at first.

"Obviously, one of the biggest plays for us this year," Sabathia said.

Judge said he had a good read on the ball off the bat.

"Saw I might have a chance, and just dove for it," he added.

Sabathia (4-2), coming off a win at Kansas City, allowed two runs and four hits in five-plus innings. He had not won back-to-back starts since June 10 against Detroit and six days later at Minnesota.

Tyler Clippard stranded Kevin Kiermaier at third in the seventh when he relieved Chad Green and retired Logan Morrison on a flyout on the 11th pitch of an at-bat. Dellin Betances got four outs — three on

strikeouts — for his second save.

Chris Archer (3-3) struck out a season-high 12, including Judge and Matt Holliday three times each. He gave up three runs and six hits in 6¹/₃ innings.

"The play that Judge made was really the difference-maker," Archer said.

Judge struck out four times overall and the Yankees fanned 17 times, which tied the team record for a nine-inning game. Still, New York won for just the fourth time in 11 games.

Dickerson scored from second in the first inning when catcher Gary Sanchez was charged with an error for an errant throw attempting to pick off Longoria at first base.

Derek Norris hit a solo homer in the fifth.

There was no carry over from Saturday's game that had three hit batters and three ejections.

Cubs' Bryant hits two HRs to back Arrieta

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Through the first seven weeks of the season, the Cubs' offense has rarely produced as consistently as expected. Kris Bryant, though, was never concerned.

Bryant hit two home runs and Jake Arrieta tossed six steady innings to lead Chicago to a 13-6 rout of the Milwaukee Brewers on Sunday.

Anthony Rizzo and Ben Zobrist also homered, and Willson Contreras went 3-for-3 with three RBIs as the Cubs won for the fourth time in five games.

Bryant went 3-for-3 and was twice hit by a pitch to reach safely in all five plate appearances. It was his second multi-homer game of the season and the ninth of his career.

"I think we were kind of due as a team offensively," Bryant said. "We haven't really been doing much early on here. I think it was just a matter of time for us."

The same probably could be said about Arrieta (5-3). He allowed one unearned run and five hits in six innings to snap a two-start losing streak.

Nationals 3, Braves 2: Stephen Strasburg struck out a season-high 11 batters, allowing five hits in 7²/₃ innings as visiting Washington beat Atlanta to stop a four-game losing streak.

Strasburg (5-1) improved to 7-1 in his last nine starts against Atlanta.

Angels 12, Mets 5: Mike Trout homered, doubled and drove in three runs, C.J. Cron hit a grand slam and visiting Los Angeles built a 9-0 lead by the third inning as it avoided a three-game sweep. Andreton Simmons and Jefry Marte also homered for the Angels.

Blue Jays 3, Orioles 1: Marco Estrada (3-2) matched his career high with 12 strikeouts in 7²/₃ innings, Devon Travis hit a three-run homer and visiting Toronto prevented a three-game sweep with its second win in nine games against Baltimore this season.

Royals 6, 4; Twins 4, 8: Robbie Grossman, Max Kepler and Chris Gemenez all homered to help host Minnesota salvage a split of the doubleheader.

Grossman and Kepler each hit two-run homers in the first inning, and Brian Dozier had

an RBI double in the second off Ian Kennedy (0-4) in his first game back from the disabled list.

In the first game, Brandon Moss hit two of Kansas City's four home runs, and Salvador Perez and Jorge Bonifacio each hit two-run homers.

Indians 8, Astros 6: Yan Gomes homered and tied a career high with five RBIs as host Cleveland completed a three-game sweep.

Rockies 6, Reds 4: Rookie pitcher Kyle Freeland hit one of Colorado's four solo homers off Bronson Arroyo (3-4) and host Colorado improved the NL's best record to 28-17.

Pirates 1, Phillies 0: Chad Kuhl and four relievers combined on a three-hitter and host Pittsburgh scratched out the only run of a rainy game when David Freese was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Cardinals 8, Giants 3: Matt Carpenter homered and Randal Grichuk drove in four runs for host St. Louis, which stopped a four-game skid. San Francisco had won seven of eight.

Red Sox 12, Athletics 3: Mitch Moreland homered in his third consecutive game, a

two-run drive in the sixth off starter Andrew Triggs (5-3) that landed in the second deck. Visiting Boston avoided a four-game sweep.

White Sox 8, Mariners 1: Yolmer Sanchez had a two-run single in host Chicago's five-run first inning, and Derek Holland (4-3) gave up six hits in eight innings.

Dodgers 6, Marlins 3: Brandon McCarthy (4-1) retired his first 14 batters before Derek Dietrich's double and allowed one run and three hits in six innings for host Los Angeles.

Padres 5, Diamondbacks 1: Clayton Richard (3-5) pitched a five-hitter and struck out six in his fourth career complete game as host San Diego ended a five-game losing streak.

The 33-year-old Richard also had an RBI single during a three-run, fifth-inning rally off Zack Godley (1-1) that was cut short due to fan interference.

Rangers 5, Tigers 2: Mike Napoli homered to the camera platform beyond center field, helping Yu Darvish beat host Detroit yet again.