

STARS AND STRIPES®

Sunday, May 13, 2018

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

China makes rapid progress on missiles

Bloomberg News

LONDON — For a quarter of a century, the U.S. and its allies owned the skies, fighting wars secure in the knowledge that no opponent could compete in the air. As tensions with Russia and China surge, that's no longer the case.

Rapid technological progress in China's aerospace industry, particularly air-to-air missile systems fired from aircraft, is changing the game for Western air forces and the global arms trade. It's also altering the picture for China's neighbors, such as India.

Russia took the lead in modernizing its air force, and has been more willing to use it. In the longer term, however, China's roughly \$13 trillion economy and growing wealth mean it is likely to pose the greater strategic chal-

lenge for the U.S. and its allies. In 2017, Chinese defense spending rose by 5.6 percent in constant U.S. dollar terms, while Russia's fell by 20 percent, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. China spent \$228 billion last year and Russia \$66.3 billion, SIPRI said.

The U.S. Air Force remains the strongest by far. Yet the Chinese advances come at a sensitive time, as the U.S. appetite to continue its role as global policeman fades. Meanwhile, President Xi Jinping has set ambitious goals to dominate advanced industries such as robotics and artificial intelligence and to assert Chinese interests in the disputed South China Sea and beyond.

The catch-up by Russia and China has been a long time coming, triggered in each case by shock at the ease with which the U.S. Air Force demolished oppo-

nents in the 1990s, according to Vasily Kashin, a specialist in military aviation at Moscow's Higher School of Economics at the National Research University.

For China, that moment came during the first Gulf War, when an American air campaign swiftly crushed the Iraqi military, at the time better equipped than China's. For Russia, he said, the wake-up came in 1999, when a U.S.-led bombing campaign forced Serbia to withdraw troops and tanks from Kosovo.

Some of China's biggest strides are coming in air-to-air missiles, the weapons that for \$1 million or \$2 million dollars can destroy a \$150 million aircraft. That's a cost efficient way of trying to level the playing field with the U.S. China's defense budget is well over three times as big as Russia's or India's, but still much lower than the \$610 billion the

U.S. spends, according to SIPRI.

In March, the U.S. Air Force awarded a half-billion-dollar contract to supply close allies with Raytheon Inc.'s latest long range air-to-air missile, capable of hitting enemy planes from 100 miles away. The Meteor, a new European equivalent, may be even more deadly. But China's latest offering, the PL-15, has a greater range than either.

Another Chinese air-to-air weapon in development, provisionally known as PL-XX, would strike slow-moving airborne warning and control systems, the flying neural centers of U.S. air warfare, from as far away as 300 miles. At closer quarters, China's new PL-10 missile is comparable to the best "fire-and-forget" equivalents, meaning any dogfight would likely end with a so-called mutual kill, a significant deterrent.

Army's groundbreaking new goggles pierce fog of war

USA Today

The Army has figured out how to lift the fog of war, or at least to see through it.

Soldiers are on the verge of receiving futuristic devices that replace night-vision goggles and allow soldiers to shoot around corners, to see through dense vegetation and smoke, plus to distinguish friend from foe.

"It is no longer just a night vision device," said Army Col. Christopher Schneider, the project manager for the system that can be worn night and day. "The enemy can't see we're targeting him until we pull the trigger."

The groundbreaking goggles are part of a sweeping modernization program to keep the Army ahead of potential rivals, such as China and Russia, which are rushing to revamp their own forces and close the military lead held by

the United States for decades.

While the United States was deeply committed to wars in Afghanistan and Iraq for the past 17 years, China, Russia and other nations took careful note of American military capabilities.

"Our adversaries have been studying our strengths and our vulnerabilities and are developing capabilities to exploit those vulnerabilities," Gen. Mark Milley, the Army's chief of staff, warned in a speech last year. "They've steadily eroded our competitive advantage and are rapidly closing the capability gap that we have long enjoyed."

With U.S. involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan winding down, the Army has embarked on its largest modernization programs since the Vietnam War nearly five decades ago to overhaul its weapons, training and tactics.

The post-Vietnam revamping

transformed a large draft Army with discipline and other problems into a smaller all-volunteer fighting force equipped with modern weapons and better trained troops.

The problems are not as desperate now, but officials are worried about the progress that Russia and China have made. Technological breakthroughs are cheaper and happen faster than decades ago when America could count on its advantages in industry and technology to power the military.

One of the crown jewels of the modernization efforts are the new goggles that use thermal technology to see through smoke and darkness. They also utilize augmented reality to feed each soldier real-time information on a heads-up display.

The Army demonstrated the device in a special indoor range at Fort Belvoir outside Washington,

D.C., where officials can obscure targets using a smoke machine or darken the range to simulate combat conditions.

Monitors show what the soldier sees through the goggles, Targets that can't be seen with the naked eye suddenly appear on the screen. The new goggles are designed like binoculars and are wirelessly linked to the sight on a soldier's weapon. These goggles identify heat sources through thermal technology, revealing the shapes of enemy fighters hiding in foliage or obscured by smoke.

A soldier with the new goggles can be hiding behind a concrete wall or barrier and still fire a rifle around a corner or above his or her head because of the wireless link on the sight of the weapon. A soldier can still see where the rifle is pointed, even if not looking down the barrel.

Afghan government building attacked

BY CHAD GARLAND

Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Suicide bombers and gunmen attacked a government building in eastern Nangarhar province Sunday, killing at least nine people and injuring nearly 40 more in a gunbattle that lasted hours, officials said.

Earlier in the day, an Afghan helicopter made a hard landing in the southern Helmand province and was destroyed, the military said.

The attack on a revenue department office in Nangarhar's capital, Jalalabad, began around noon when a suicide car bomb went off outside the building, said Attahullah Kho-

gyani, the provincial governor's spokesman. Gunmen stormed the building after the blast and a gunbattle ensued for hours, he said, though he did not say how many armed assailants there were.

Eyewitnesses told Pajhwok Afghan News that two attackers had lobbed grenades into the building before other men stormed in.

The four-hour siege left nine people dead and 39 wounded, including staff of the revenue office, civilians and children, Khogyani said.

The provincial governor, Mohammad Gulab Mangal, submitted his resignation to the government body responsible for overseeing local gov-

ernance, Khogyani confirmed, but he did not say why Mangal had resigned or whether it was related to the attack.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack. Both the Taliban and Islamic State are active in Nangarhar and have carried out a number of attacks there.

Sunday's violence is the latest in a series of deadly attacks throughout the country, as Afghan forces struggle to combat rebel and terrorist groups. Since the withdrawal of most foreign combat forces in 2014, the Taliban has resurged, taking control or influence over nearly 15 percent of the country's 407 districts, according to a government watchdog report released

earlier this month. It has been aggressively fighting to expand its territory since the launch of a spring offensive last month.

Afghan security forces were battling insurgents in several parts of the country Sunday. Eight police officers were reportedly killed in Kunduz in the north. In northwestern Faryab province, local media reported that rebels had killed six soldiers, captured four others and seized various weapons and equipment after overrunning a strategic area of a central district there.

In the south, the Taliban claimed to have shot down a military helicopter during a nighttime mission in Helmand province, killing all aboard.

DOJ wary of trying ISIS fighters in US as prosecutors push for case

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Justice Department leaders are reluctant to recommend U.S.-based criminal trials for two Islamic State militants captured and detained in Syria, according to American officials who said that, even though federal prosecutors believe they can win in court, it is unclear whether there is sufficient evidence to secure convictions and lengthy prison terms.

At the same time, senior officials in President Donald Trump's administration are adamant that Britain bears responsibility to prosecute the men, Alexandra Kotey, 34, and El Shafee Elsheikh, 29, whose British citizenships were revoked over their alleged affiliation with an ISIS cell suspected of murdering Westerners.

Further complicating matters, Attorney General Jeff Sessions would prefer that Kotey and Elsheikh be sent to the U.S. military detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, though he has recognized the success of federal terrorism prosecutions.

State Department officials are wary of undermining the U.S. government's position that terrorist fighters captured overseas should be returned to their countries of origin.

The complicated U.S. policy discussion, and the impasse between the United States and Britain, is testing the patience of the victims' families, who anxiously await a deci-

sion they hope will result in justice through a fair and open trial. They oppose sending the men to Guantanamo, which they view as fuel for terrorists' narrative of abuse and mistreatment by U.S. authorities.

Slowing the process is a turnover in leadership in London, where a new Home Secretary just took office, and in Washington, where John Bolton last month became President Donald Trump's national security adviser.

"We really don't have any commitment that the U.S. is going to actually take on their case," said Diane Foley, whose son, journalist James Foley, was beheaded by ISIS in 2014. Foley and the relatives of three other deceased American hostages met in recent days with Bolton and Assistant Attorney General for National Security John Demers. The officials were sympathetic listeners, she said, but they could not offer much guidance. "It's all very much still up in the air," she said.

Trump issued an executive order in January to leave Guantanamo open. At his direction, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis has developed criteria for transferring terrorist suspects captured on the battlefield to the prison, including that they be high-value and members of groups such as al-Qaida or ISIS.

Missing sailor based in Guam found in Singapore

BY LEON COOK

Stars and Stripes

A sailor assigned to the fast-attack submarine USS Oklahoma City was found Friday, five days after he was reported missing in Singapore.

Fireman Seth Woods, 18, a machinist's mate aboard the Guam-based vessel, was in the custody of local law enforcement officials Friday evening, Lt. Cmdr. Arlo Abrahamson, a 7th Fleet spokesman, said in a statement.

The Straits Times newspaper reported that Woods had turned up at the U.S. Embassy.

Abrahamson said the Navy would fully investigate the circumstances behind the sailor's disappearance.

Woods' father, Jody Stow, told WRCB TV of Chattanooga, Tenn., that Woods was last seen May 6 by a fellow sailor in a smoking area in the city-state. The sailor went inside a convenience store, and Woods was gone when he returned.

Woods was spotted by some of his fellow sailors Thursday, but they were unable to get to him, a Navy spokesman said.

Vice Adm. Philip Sawyer, 7th Fleet commander, said Woods appeared to be healthy and was not distressed when his shipmates spotted him.

Some call gun data release troubling

Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Gun control advocates are hailing New Jersey's release of near-real-time firearms trafficking data as a trailblazing use of federal information, but Second Amendment advocates and skeptical Republicans question if the report amounts to a way around a federal limitation on the release of some data.

Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy unveiled the data Tuesday as part of a campaign promise to strengthen New Jersey's already-tight gun laws. The colorful, four-page report uses what gun control supporters say is a novelty: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives gun-trace data for the first quarter of 2018 to show that 77 percent of guns used in crimes in New Jersey come from out of state.

The publication appears to be the first time a state has taken advantage of the ATF data with such speed, according to experts at the gun safety Giffords organization and the Brady Campaign and Center to Prevent Gun Violence. Cities, most notably Chicago, have used the ATF data in reports, but those came out annually. New Jersey has pledged to post monthly data and quarterly data

based on ATF reports.

"New Jersey stepped up, said we have this data, we get it from ATF, and we're going to do the work to gather, visualize and then publicize this," David Chipman, a former ATF agent and the senior policy adviser at Giffords, the organization named for gun-attack victim and former Arizona Rep. Gabrielle Giffords.

The data release comes amid a national conversation surrounding gun control in the aftermath of fatal shootings at a high school in Parkland, Fla., and as Democrats push for tighter gun laws while the Republican-led Congress has not passed any such measures.

The speed of the state's release of ATF data stands out particularly because the most current information the bureau has publicized is from 2016.

ATF Special Agent Joshua Jackson said the bureau won't comment on how a state could publicize data faster than the agency itself. He also said the bureau doesn't track state initiatives in response to questions about whether New Jersey was the first to publish the data this quickly.

Chipman and Kyleanne Hunter, the Brady Campaign's vice president for programs,

said they believe ATF does not prioritize near-real-time release of data.

"It hasn't been a priority, even less so in this administration," Hunter said of President Donald Trump's White House.

Speedy data reporting by ATF is also a political lightning rod. That's because the ATF's release of data is governed by an appropriations provision that prohibits it from releasing information from its firearms trace database to anyone other than a law enforcement agency or prosecutor in connection with a criminal investigation.

That has led Second Amendment advocates to raise concerns over the publicizing of such information.

The Association of New Jersey Rifle and Pistol Clubs, an affiliate of the National Rifle Association, said Murphy could be skirting the federal provision on gun data.

"This is part of a larger regional effort by Murphy's coalition of anti-gun states to circumvent federal restrictions on release of gun trace data, and to manipulate data for the purposes of influencing public policy in other states," the group said in a statement.

The group also worries that the data leaves out all the cases when guns are used to stop crimes.

Hawaii volcano spawns new fissure near geothermal plant

Associated Press

VOLCANO, Hawaii — Hawaii's Kilauea volcano spawned a new lava fissure Saturday, emitting minor lava spatter less than a mile from a geothermal energy plant.

The U.S. Geological Survey said 16 fissures have now opened up on the Big Island. The latest arose around 6:45 a.m. about 1 mile northeast of the last fissure in the Leilani Estates neighborhood.

Scientists said the lava flow forming in the crack has been minor, but that could always change.

"The fissure itself is small," said USGS scientist Janet Babb. "As it was described to me, it is so small it could hardly be called a fissure."

Babb said the fissure is about eight-tenths of a mile east of the Puna Geothermal Venture plant.

As a precaution, plant work-

ers this week removed 50,000 gallons of pentane stored at the site.

Geologists warn Kilauea could shoot out large boulders and ash out of its summit crater.

But scientists concurred that Hawaii is safe for visitors.

Hawaii tourism officials are hoping Kilauea's eruption won't deter travelers from visiting the state's largest island.

Travel industry executives note most of the Big Island is free of eruption threats from Kilauea, which began spurting lava into a residential neighborhood last week.

President Donald Trump on Friday declared a major disaster exists on the Big Island.

The move will make federal financial assistance available to state and local governments as they repair roads, public parks, schools and water pipes damaged by the eruption.

Tesla with Autopilot hits truck at red light

Associated Press

SOUTH JORDAN, Utah — A Tesla sedan with a semi-autonomous Autopilot feature rear-ended a fire department truck at 60 mph, apparently without braking before the impact, but police say it's unknown if the Autopilot feature was engaged.

The cause of the Friday evening crash, involving a Tesla Model S and a fire department mechanic truck stopped at a red light, was under investigation, said police in South Jordan, a suburb of Salt Lake City.

The crash, in which the Tesla driver was injured, comes as federal safety agencies investigate the performance of Tesla's semi-autonomous driving system.

The Tesla's air bags were activated in the crash, South Jordan police Sgt. Samuel Win-

kler said Saturday. The Tesla's driver suffered a broken right ankle, and the driver of the Unified Fire Authority mechanic truck didn't require treatment, Winkler said.

There was no indication the Tesla's driver was under the influence of any substance, and information on what the driver may have told investigators about the circumstances of the crash likely wouldn't be available before Monday, Winkler said by telephone.

There was light rain falling, and roads were wet when the crash occurred, police said in a statement.

"Witnesses indicated the Tesla Model S did not brake prior to impact," the statement said.

Tesla's Autopilot system uses cameras, radar and computers to keep speed, change lanes and automatically stop vehicles.

1 fatally stabbed in Paris attack

Associated Press

PARIS — Investigators working to understand why a 20-year-old French citizen born in the Russian republic of Chechnya went on a stabbing rampage in central Paris detained the dead suspect's parents and a friend Sunday, French officials said.

Counterterrorism investigators want to know if the assailant, identified by Chechnya's leader as Khamzat Azimov, had help or co-conspirators. The attacker killed a 29-year-old man and wounded four other people with a knife before police fatally shot him Saturday night.

The suspect was on a police watchlist for radicalism, a judicial official not authorized to speak publicly about the case told The Associated Press. But he had a clean criminal record and did not know his victims, Interior Ministry spokesman Frederic de Lanouvelle said.

The parents were detained in Paris' northern 18th district and the friend was detained in the eastern French city of Strasbourg on Sunday afternoon, the judicial official said.

French media reported Sunday that Azimov had lived in Strasbourg, which is 306 miles from Paris. It was unclear if he was residing with his parents in the French capital when he carried out the attack.

Witnesses reported hearing the man shouting "Allahu akbar," the Arabic phrase for "God is great," during the attack that happened at about 9 p.m. in a lively area near the Opera Garnier.

Islamic State claimed the attacker was one of its "soldiers" three hours later, but provided no evidence to back the claim or details about his identity.

The assailant was listed in a nationwide database of thousands of people suspected of

links to radicalism, according to the judicial official. Extremists behind multiple attacks in France in recent years have turned out to be on the watchlist.

The official said the suspect was born in November 1997 in the largely Muslim Russian republic of Chechnya, where extremism has long simmered.

Chechnya's president insisted Sunday that France bears responsibility for the knifings, pointing out that Azimov only held a Russian passport until he was 14 years old.

The attacker targeted five people and then fled, according to Paris police and a witness. When police officers arrived minutes later, he threatened them and was shot dead, police union official Yvan Assioma said. Several witnesses said the attacker ran directly toward police.

Family carries out attacks on Indonesia churches

Associated Press

SURABAYA, Indonesia — A coordinated suicide bomb attack carried out by members of the same family struck three churches in Indonesia's second-largest city on Sunday, police said, as the world's most populous Muslim nation recoiled in horror at one of the worst attacks on its Christian minority.

At least seven people plus the six family members died in the attacks in Surabaya, according to police. At least 41 people were injured in the attacks, which Indonesia's president condemned as "barbaric."

National police chief Tito Karnavian said that the father exploded a car bomb, two sons aged 18 and 16 used a motorcycle for their attack, and the mother was with daughters aged 12 and 9 for her attack.

Karnavian said the family had returned to Indonesia from Syria.

The extremist group claimed responsibility for Sunday's attacks in a statement carried by its Aamaq news agency. It didn't mention anything about families or children taking part in the attack, and said there were only three attackers.

The first attack struck the Santa Maria Roman Catholic Church in Surabaya, police spokesman Frans Barung Mangera told reporters at the scene. That blast was followed by a second explosion at the Christian Church of Diponegoro and a third at the city's Pantekosta Church, Mangera said.

A witness described the woman's attack at the Diponegoro church, saying she was carrying two bags when she arrived.

"At first officers blocked them in front of the churchyard, but the woman ignored them and forced her way inside. Suddenly she hugged a civilian then (the bomb) exploded," said the witness, a security guard who identified himself as Antonius.

Mangera said three unexploded homemade bombs, two at the Pantekosta church and one at the Diponegoro church, were detonated by a bomb squad.

N. Korea announces plans to dismantle nuclear test site

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Saturday that it will dismantle its nuclear test site in less than two weeks, in a dramatic event that would set up leader Kim Jong Un's summit with President Donald Trump next month. Trump welcomed the "gracious gesture."

In a statement carried by state media, North Korea's Foreign Ministry said all of the tunnels at the country's northeastern testing ground will be destroyed by explosion, and observation and research facilities and ground-based guard units will also be removed.

Kim had already revealed plans to shut the test site by the end of May during his summit with South Korean President Moon Jae-in last month. Analysts say that while the closure of the site is important, it doesn't represent a material step toward full denuclearization.

"A ceremony for dismantling the nuclear test ground is now scheduled between May 23 and 25," depending on weather, the Foreign Ministry's statement said, adding that journalists from the United States, South Korea, China, Russia and Britain will be invited to witness the dismantling.

The ministry said the North will continue to "promote close contacts and dialogue with the

neighboring countries and the international society so as to safeguard peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and over the globe."

Trump, in a tweet Saturday, thanked North Korea for its plan to dismantle the nuclear test site, calling it "a very smart and gracious gesture!"

Following the Moon-Kim meeting, Moon's office said Kim was willing to disclose the process to international experts, but the North's statement didn't address allowing experts on the site.

South Korea had no immediate response to the statement.

The North's announcement comes days after Washington announced that the historic summit between Kim and Trump will be held June 12 in Singapore.

South Korea has said Kim has genuine interest in dealing away his nuclear weapons in return for economic benefits. However, there are lingering doubts about whether Kim would ever agree to fully relinquish the weapons he probably views as his only guarantee of survival.

During their meeting at a border truce village, Moon and Kim vaguely promised to work toward the "complete denuclearization" of the Korean Peninsula, but made no references to verification or timetables.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police department picks new “Pawfficer”

MI TROY — A suburban Detroit police department is giving another cat a chance to take the law into her own paws.

A cat named “Pawfficer Donut” was sworn in Friday by a judge, a day after a cat named Badges was removed from the Troy Police Department due to a serious illness.

Donut will be used for therapeutic purposes and public appearances. Troy police said Badges will always be considered the department’s first “pawfficer.”

Troy police pledged to add a cat if it could reach 10,000 Twitter followers by April. It took just eight days to go from 4,000 to 10,000.

Pizza-for-parking blamed for dip in fines

UT SALT LAKE CITY — A pizza-for-parking scheme is mostly to blame for a dip in the number of parking tickets issued and fines collected in Salt Lake City.

The Salt Lake Tribune reported the city’s parking officers have written 40,000 fewer tickets this year and collections from overtime fees are down \$1.2 million.

Nearly 130,000 tickets were issued in 2016, and collections topped \$3 million. But so far this year, just more than 90,000 tickets have been issued.

The city earlier this year said parking compliance officers had been forgoing tickets for employees at a downtown pizza restaurant in exchange for free food.

The compliance unit has been down seven of 20 officers, one of two supervisors, and an office technician, and is currently without a director.

Undelivered mail found in impounded car

MA WEYMOUTH — Dozens and dozens of pieces of undelivered mail were found inside an SUV at a Massachusetts tow lot.

The Patriot Ledger reported that Bruce Hanson, owner of Central Towing in Weymouth, found the mail Thursday.

Hanson said dozens of envelopes were stacked in Postal Service bins; they were mostly addressed to people in Boston’s Roslindale neighborhood.

The car was towed March 30 after police stopped the driver because it was uninsured and had expired registration.

Police fear ‘bomb’ at school, find ‘bong’

MA HOLLISTON — Police arriving at Holliston High School were worried that they might have a potentially explosive situation on their hands.

Earlier Friday morning they received an anonymous phone call claiming that a student had a “bomb” in a car at the school.

The high school administration was notified, and the student parking lot cordoned off, according to a police report.

Police and school officials were then able to identify and interview the anonymous caller and the student with the car.

According to police, the caller said they had called to report that there was a “bong” in a car — not a “bomb.”

Father, daughter get degrees together

PA PHILADELPHIA — A father and daughter in Philadelphia walked across the stage together to get their degrees from Temple University.

Craig Manning and his

daughter, Juliana, graduated from Temple on Thursday.

He graduated with a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in film and media arts, and she graduated with a dual major of linguistics and creative writing.

Craig Manning told WTXF he started off at a community college, but his wife was in the Air Force, and the family was sent to Germany. Over the years, he took classes when he could. He worked full time while he completed his Temple degree.

Black bear devours 2 dozen cupcakes in car

NJ ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP — The smell of two dozen cupcakes in a baker’s car was too much for a black bear in New Jersey.

The bruin smashed a window and left only smeared icing and a paw print behind.

Christine Allen told The Record the bear ate every single chocolate, vanilla and strawberry cupcake she had made for a large order. Awakened by the dog barking and a “crunch sound,” her husband spotted the bear early Thursday.

Museum to display mummified monkey

MN MINNEAPOLIS — A mummified monkey that was found in the air ducts of a former department store in downtown Minneapolis last month is going on display.

The Star Tribune reported that the Science Museum of Minnesota plans to display the monkey in its St. Paul lobby.

The remains were discovered last month in the air ducts of what used to be the flagship store for the Dayton’s department store chain, which was owned by Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton’s family.

Dayton recalled working at the store in the 1960s when one

of the floors was transformed into a rainforest display, complete with live monkeys and birds. He said one monkey got loose and scurried into an air duct. It was not seen again.

Town looks to allow dogs within city limits

SD LEAD — City officials in western South Dakota are fixing an ordinance oversight that technically has made it illegal to own a dog within city limits for the past three years.

Lead Administrator Mike Stahl proposed modifying the 2015 ordinance that rules it illegal to keep any wild and exotic animal within city limits, the Black Hills Pioneer reported. Domestic dogs are currently considered under the wild animal definition, along with coyotes, foxes and wolves.

The oversight occurred even though the ordinance excludes domestic cats from the definition.

Food at aquarium ruled out in prom illnesses

IL CHICAGO — It wasn’t the food.

County health officials said there appears to be no connection between food served at Chicago’s Shedd Aquarium and flu-like symptoms suffered by more than 100 students from Andrew High School. They held their prom at the aquarium on April 27.

Kimberley Conrad-Junius, a spokeswoman at the health department, told The Daily Southtown that several students felt ill before the big event. Two students tested positive for norovirus. About 400 people attended the prom.

Norovirus is contagious and causes inflammation of the stomach and intestines.

From wire reports

STARS AND STRIPES®

Single source convenience, reliably independent. Visit www.stripes.com.

Reporting
World, National
and Military News

Jets strike fast, take Game 1 from Knights

Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — The Winnipeg Jets were in rhythm and the Vegas Golden Knights looked rusty.

Or, maybe the Jets are just that good.

Dustin Byfuglien scored about a minute after the puck dropped and Winnipeg built a three-goal lead early in the first period and went on to beat Vegas 4-2 on Saturday night in Game 1 of the Western Conference finals.

While the Jets played at home less than 48 hours after advancing past top-seeded Nashville on the road, the Golden Knights were off for nearly a week after eliminating San Jose in the second round.

"We didn't have much of a rest," Byfuglien said. "We're still in game mode."

Patrik Laine and Joel Armia had goals 46 seconds apart to put the Jets up 3-0. Mark Scheifele gave Winnipeg a 4-1 lead midway on a power play through the second period with his 12th goal this postseason.

Brayden McNabb scored midway through the first and William Karlsson had a power-play goal late in the second period to pull Vegas within two, but the expansion team couldn't get closer.

"We were chasing the game all night," Golden Knights coach Gerard Gallant said.

Winnipeg's Connor Hellebuyck made 18 saves.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 22 shots for the Golden Knights, whose Stanley Cup-winning goalie has given up at least three goals for the fifth time in six games.

"He's the best goalie in the playoffs as far as I'm concerned," Gallant said.

Fleury and the Golden Knights will have to be at, or near, their best when the Jets host Game 2 on Monday night before the series shifts to Las Vegas.

"Next game, no excuses," Golden Knights center Jonathan Marchessault said. "Everybody needs to come and be ready to play our best game of the playoffs."

"We're going to show what kind of team we are."

Winnipeg, which is making its deepest playoff run in franchise history, started strong and fast. Vegas, meanwhile, didn't appear anything like the team that took the league by storm in its record-breaking inaugural season.

The Jets' fast, deep and talented team had 114 points this season and trailed only the Predators' league-high total by three points. Their success has carried over into the postseason, winning all three Game 1s and avoiding trailing a series.

The hard-charging, smooth-passing Jets put the Pacific Division champions on their heels right from the start and didn't relent.

"We did take advantage of being game ready," Winnipeg coach Paul Maurice

said.

White-clad, towel-twirling raucous fans in the arena — and packed on surrounding streets — were fired up before the game started. And, they were given plenty of opportunities to celebrate in the opening minutes.

Byfuglien's slap shot 1:05 into the game off a drop pass from Scheifele put Winnipeg up 1-0. That ignited the party-like atmosphere in a relatively cozy arena with just 16,345 seats and a low ceiling.

"That was huge for us," Jets center Paul Stastny said. "Early in the game, too. And then all of the sudden it gave life to everyone, everyone on the bench, the crowd."

Fleury had no shot to stop Laine's one-timer from the left circle off Wheeler's cross-ice pass on a power play at the 6:49 mark of the first. Armia had a goal waved off less than a minute later only to have it restored by a challenge, which overturned the goaltender interference call on the ice.

"Sometimes getting your legs a little bit under you takes a few minutes here and they took advantage of it," Fleury said.

After the flurry of goals early, the Jets were able to play conservatively to cut down on Vegas' comeback chances.

"We were getting the puck deep," Scheifele said. "We weren't fooling around with it in the neutral zone."

Briefly

Nunes retains UFC belt with stoppage

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Amanda Nunes of Brazil beat American Raquel Pennington early Sunday to defend her UFC bantamweight title for the third time. The heavily favored Brazilian won by technical knockout in the fifth round in front of her home fans in Rio de Janeiro.

Nunes said winning against her friend Pennington was the hardest challenge she had to face in her career.

"I respect this woman so much," the Brazilian said with tears in her eyes after her victory. "This was the hardest thing I did in my career. I had to do it to defend this belt, defend my biggest dream."

"We will have some beers as friends later tonight."

Before the decisive round, Pennington was heard saying "I'm done," but her coach insisted she should return to the bout.

The American hadn't fought since November 2016 because of injuries. The two friends were scheduled to clash in December, but Pennington broke her left leg in an ATV crash.

In the opening of the event's main card, former lightweight champion Vitor Belfort announced his retirement after losing to countryman and former champion Lyoto Machida by knockout.

"Everything in life has be-

ginning, middle and end," Belfort said. "I will stop fighting here because I think I reached the end. Thanks for your love."

American Kelvin Gastelum beat crowd favorite Ronaldo "Jacare" Souza in a split-decision that was booed by local fans.

Lomachenko stops Linares in 10th

NEW YORK — Vasiliy Lomachenko stopped Jorge Linares in the 10th round of their lightweight championship fight Saturday night, winning a title in his third weight class in just his 12th pro bout.

Lomachenko landed a hard

left to the body during a flurry of precision punches that sent Linares to a knee. Linares finally got up just as the count was reaching 10 but referee Ricky Gonzalez called an end to the fight at 2:08 of the round.

"I prepared for the last few rounds, and my father told me, 'You need to go to the body,'" Lomachenko said. His father, Anatoly Lomachenko, is his trainer.

Linares knocked down Lomachenko in the sixth and the fight was all even after nine rounds before Lomachenko (11-1, 9 KOs) put an overpowering end to his first fight at 135 pounds, adding that title to his belts at 126 and 130 pounds.

Power play leads Penske to 200th win

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Will Power's timing was impeccable Saturday.

He picked the perfect strategy with his red tires. He pressed the push-to-pass button at precisely the right moment. He gave Roger Penske his 200th series win at Penske's place — Indianapolis.

Power overcame a late caution period that shrunk his lead, barely won the race off pit lane on the final stop and even drove through some light rain to pull away from Scott Dixon by 2.2443 seconds for his second straight IndyCar Grand Prix victory.

"It's been a slow start for us, so it's fantastic to get the win," the first three-time race winner said. "It's amazing to be a part of that history with Penske Racing because it's such a deep history."

It might be just what the Australian needed.

He came into the weekend with only one top-five finish all season, a second at Long Beach. The only other top-10 he had this season was in the season opener at St. Petersburg.

But Power won the pole Friday and dominated again on Indy's 2.439-mile, 14-turn road course. He led a race-high 56 laps including the last 34 after taking advantage of his tire choice to quickly close the gap with race leader Robert Wickens on the front straightaway before making a smooth move to beat the rookie into the first turn on Lap 51.

"He was on blacks and I was on reds, so I returned the favor and really caught him," Power said. "Once I got past him it was pretty straight forward because we were much faster."

Power has won three of the last four road-course events at Indy — all from the pole.

Wickens, a Canadian who drives for Schmidt Peterson Motorsports, finished third more than 8.1 seconds off the pace.

"That was the first time where I felt like a true rookie in that final stint because I've never had to save fuel before," Wickens said. "The amount we had to save was something I didn't think was even possible."

Power and Dixon didn't have any problems, of course.

Dixon, the New Zealander with Chip Ganassi Racing, methodically maneuvered through the field after starting 18th. He managed to get into the top three but never really got close enough to challenge Power.

Qualifying for the Indianapolis 500 is next weekend.

Harvick passes Truex with lap to go to make history

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Nobody has been able to keep pace with Kevin Harvick this season.

Not even the reigning series champion on a track where he swept both races last season.

Harvick surged past Martin Truex Jr. with one lap to go Saturday night at Kansas Speedway, winning for the fifth time in what has turned out to be a record-setting start to the year. His total matches a career high for Harvick, who still has 24 chances to win a few more Monster Energy Cup Series races.

Nobody had ever won five of the first 12 races in NASCAR's top series.

"Man, that was wild the last few laps," said Harvick, who deftly dodged a couple late-race cautions, then used four fresh tires to roar to the front on the final restart with 10 laps remaining.

"That was so fun," he said, "hearing those fans screaming and yelling. It was a great race."

Harvick made the final pass as he crossed the start-finish line to take the white flag, while Truex chased him the final lap to finish second — a strong showing after his two wins at Kansas last year.

"He just got through traffic too quick and was too fast," Truex said. "The flip switched, I got tight, started shaking the right front tire and I knew I was in trouble. He was coming quick."

Joey Logano finished third, and Kyle Larson rallied from a late tangle with Ryan Blaney to finish fourth. Denny Hamlin rounded out the top five for Joe Gibbs Racing.

"Kevin was ripping there with the new tires at the end. He was the fastest," Logano said. "My only show was those guys (Harvick and Truex) wrecking each other and they're too good for that."

The race was free of wrecks until the last 30 laps, when Alex Bowman and Daniel Suarez got into each other. But things really shook up a few laps later, when Harvick passed Larson on the restart to assume control, and the No. 42 car began bumping with Blaney down the front stretch.

Those two got together, sending Blaney into the wall and Larson into the pits.

"I'm definitely to blame on that," said Blaney, who won the first stage before Larson had charged to the front to capture the second. "Just trying to side-drift too hard."

The race had barely returned to green when William Byron triggered a heavy wreck in front of the grandstand. Local favorites Clint Bowyer and Jamie McMurray were among a half-dozen cars involved.

"That one hurt really bad, but I'm fine," Byron said. "We took two tires and just couldn't get it turned on the bottom. We were trying to kind of push some things there and it didn't work out." The red flag set up one last sprint to the finish.

Truex used some pit strategy to restart in the lead, and quickly built a buffer. But the No. 4 car swept past Logano and Hamlin on the outside to put Truex in his sights, then Harvick closed on the lead until finally overtaking the reigning series champion with a lap to go.

"They're hitting on all cylinders," Truex said. "They've got a great balanced race car and they're doing all the right things, and we're just a step behind."

Larson's letdown: After his week started on a high with the birth of his daughter, Larson was on his way to capping it with a win. But after Harvick got around him on the restart with 25 laps left, Blaney bumped into him as they dueled on the front-stretch, sending the No. 12 car into the outside wall.

Larson needed to have his rear fender fixed, too, and a mix-up with the tire changer in the pits forced him to pit again. That left team owner Chip Ganassi kicking a pit cart in frustration, and forced Larson to restart far enough back that he couldn't contend for the win.

"We had that we didn't turn today into a win," he said, "but satisfying to see how much speed our car had tonight, and good to show Chevy has some speed, at least the 42 team."

Speaking of: Chevrolet continued to struggle with only Larson breaking the stranglehold of Ford and Toyota for the top 11 spots. Chase Elliott was the next-best Chevy in 12th. Jimmie Johnson was 19th.

Kenseth's return: Matt Kenseth had a forgettable return to the Cup Series. The former series champ's first race as part of a timeshare with Trevor Bayne in the No. 6 for Roush Fenway Racing was spent lamenting a lack of speed, and ended when Byron triggered his hard wreck with 15 laps to go.

MLB roundup

Astros' Morton strikes out 14 in win

Associated Press

HOUSTON — One of the things the Houston Astros like best about Charlie Morton is his even-keeled demeanor.

The veteran starter never gets too high or too low, a quality that was on full display on Saturday night after he set a career-high with 14 strikeouts in a 6-1 win over the Texas Rangers.

He never cracked a smile as he spoke slowly, measuring every word. After several attempts to get him to talk about his big night, he was finally asked if he was even happy about his performance.

"No," he said simply. "I try not to get too far ahead of myself and I try not to let outings dictate how I feel about myself because I think that's a way to get in trouble. If you let a bad outing get to you too much or you let a good outing get to you too much it's not a good thing. So I'll do what I normally do and prepare for the next start."

Evan Gattis, Brian McCann and Carlos Correa all homered to back Morton up a night after the Astros were shutout in a 1-0 loss in the series opener.

Morton (5-0) yielded four hits and a run without a walk to lower his ERA to 2.03 and extend his career-long winning streak to eight games dating back to last season.

McCann's solo homer gave Houston the lead in the fourth and Gattis added his one-run homer in the next inning after driving in Houston's run in the third with a single.

Correa padded the lead with a soaring two-run shot to straightaway center field to make it 5-1 with one out in the eighth.

Morton's previous career-best was 12 strikeouts, which he accomplished twice previously, with the last time coming earlier this season against the Rangers. It's his third game this season with at least 10 strikeouts and he's fanned 62 in seven starts this season.

"He made it very challenging for our guys tonight having the big fastball," Texas manager

Jeff Banister said. "He was able to get the fastball where he wanted to. He sunk it as well, but the curveball tonight was pretty special."

Yankees 7, Athletics 6 (11): Left fielder Brett Gardner threw out Matt Olson at the plate with the help of a replay reversal, and host New York beat Oakland on Neil Walker's run-scoring single in the 11th inning.

Gardner's one-hop throw to the plate was slightly to the first-base side, and Gary Sanchez had to try for a sweep tag at the sliding Olson. Plate umpire James Hoyer made an emphatic safe call, but the Yankees asked for a video review and replays appeared to show Sanchez's mitt just glancing Olson's jersey.

New York stopped a two-game losing streak that followed its 17-1 run. A.J. Cole (2-1) pitched two innings for his first win with the Yankees.

Nationals 2, Diamondbacks 1: Stephen Strasburg struck out nine in 6²/₃ innings, and visiting Washington earned its third straight victory against the NL West leaders.

Strasburg (5-3) allowed one run and five hits in Washington's sixth win in seven games. The Nationals stranded 11 base-runners, but Bryce Harper and Anthony Rendon each drove in a run.

Braves 10, Marlins 5: Freddie Freeman connected twice for visiting Atlanta, and Jose Bautista atoned for a costly error with his first homer of the season.

The Braves broke a 5-all tie in the eighth inning, when Marlins relievers issued three consecutive walks — each on a 3-2 pitch, and the last two with the bases loaded.

Cubs 8, White Sox 4: Willson Contreras hit his third homer in two games and drove in three runs, leading the Cubs to the win at a rainy and cold Wrigley Field.

Contreras finished with three hits as the Cubs won their fifth in a row.

Cubs slugger Anthony Rizzo hit a three-run homer in a four-run first against James Shields (1-4) after the start was delayed 2 hours, 15 minutes. Jon Lester (2-2) allowed one run in 5²/₃ innings.

Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 2: At Toronto, Boston left-hander David Price pitched 5¹/₃ innings to win his first start since being diagnosed with carpal tunnel syndrome.

Hanley Ramirez hit a two-run homer for the Red Sox, who have won 14 of their past 17 north of the border. Andrew Benintendi and Mookie Betts each had three hits.

Indians 6, Royals 2: Francisco Lindor homered twice and doubled twice to power host Cleveland to the victory.

Lindor also scored four times. His third career four-hit game extended the All-Star shortstop's hitting streak to 13 games.

Cleveland's Michael Brantley had three hits, drove in two runs and broke a 2-all tie with an RBI double in the sixth.

Rockies 4, Brewers 0: Kyle Freeland pitched effectively into the seventh inning, Trevor Story homered twice and host Colorado snapped a three-game losing streak.

Story put together his first multihomer game of the season, hitting both off Brent Suter (2-3), who pitched a day ahead of his scheduled start after Chase Anderson was scratched because of a stomach illness.

Orioles 6, Rays 3; Rays 10, Orioles 3: Brad Miller and C.J. Cron homered off former teammate Alex Cobb, and visiting Tampa Bay stopped a five-game slide by splitting a doubleheader with Baltimore.

In the opener, Orioles right-hander David Hess pitched six effective innings in his major league debut and Jonathan Schoop hit two home runs.

Recalled from Triple-A Norfolk to serve as the 26th man in the single-admission doubleheader, Hess (1-0) gave up three runs and six hits. Mychal Givens worked 1²/₃ innings for

his first career save.

Tigers 4, Mariners 3; Mariners 9, Tigers 5: Robinson Cano hit a three-run homer in the fifth inning, and visiting Seattle slugged its way to a split of a doubleheader with Detroit.

Detroit won the opener 4-3, thanks in part to a terrific catch by center fielder JaCoby Jones in the ninth inning. The night-cap didn't go nearly as well for the Tigers. Nicholas Castellanos left in the second inning because of an injured finger on his left hand, and manager Ron Gardenhire was ejected in the fifth.

Cano and Ryon Healy homered for the Mariners in the second game, and John Hicks went deep for the Tigers. Detroit's Jose Iglesias hit a two-run shot in the first game.

Padres 2, Cardinals 1 (13): Eric Hosmer hit an RBI double with no outs in the 13th inning to give host San Diego a victory over St. Louis.

Hosmer, San Diego's \$144 million man, drove the first pitch from Mike Mayers down the right field line and after a few strides, tossed his batting helmet aside in celebration.

Reds 5, Dodgers 3: Scott Schebler hit a go-ahead three-run homer in the sixth inning to lead visiting Cincinnati past Los Angeles for its fifth straight win.

Schebler's homer to left field off Dodgers reliever J.T. Chargois (1-2) in the Reds' four-run sixth was his fourth of the season and first since April 28.

Twins 5, Angels 3 (12): Eddie Rosario scored from first on Mitch Garver's double in the 12th, lifting visiting Minnesota over Los Angeles.

After Jefry Marte grounded out to Trevor Hildenberger (1-0) with the bases loaded to end the 11th, Rosario came all the way around on Garver's grounder down the third-base line to put the Twins back in front. Rosario had singled on a groundball past Noe Ramirez (1-2). Garver then scored from second on Gregorio Petit's single to center.