

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Iraqis near Mosul; airstrike probe sought

Associated Press

BARTELLA, Iraq — Iraqi forces fought their way into two villages near Mosul on Monday as the offensive to retake the extremist-held city entered its second week and a rights group urged a probe into a suspected airstrike that hit a mosque, killing over a dozen civilians.

Iraqi special forces began shelling Islamic State positions before dawn near Bartella, a historically Christian town to the east of Mosul that they had retaken last week. With patriotic music blaring from loudspeakers on their Humvees, they then pushed into the village of Tob Zawa, about 5½ miles from Mosul, amid heavy clashes.

After entering the village, they allowed more than 30 people who had been sheltering in a school to escape the fighting.

The Iraqi Federal Police, a military-style force, pushed into a small village in the Shura district south of Mosul, where they fired a large anti-aircraft gun and rocket-propelled grenades as they battled Islamic State militants. They later appeared to have secured the village, a cluster of squat homes on a desert plain, and handed out water and other aid to civilians.

The U.S.-led coalition said it had carried out six airstrikes near Mosul on Sunday, destroying 19 fighting positions and 17 vehicles, as well as rocket and mortar launchers, artillery and tunnels.

Human Rights Watch, meanwhile, called for an investigation into last week's purported airstrike in northern Iraq that struck the women's section of a Shiite mosque in the town of Daquq.

Human Rights Watch said Daquq's residents believe Friday's attack was an airstrike because of the extent of the destruction and because planes could be heard flying overhead. The New York-based watchdog said at least 13 people were reported killed.

The U.S.-led coalition and the Iraqi military, which are waging the offensive to drive the Islamic State group from Mosul, are the only parties known to be flying military aircraft over Iraq.

Col. John Dorrian, a U.S. military spokesman, said the coalition had "definitively determined" that it did not conduct the airstrike that killed civilians in Daquq and had shared its findings with the Iraqi government, which is carrying out its own investigation.

Officials: Mosul effort shows gains, fighting to intensify

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Iraqi and peshmerga forces have reclaimed about 800 square miles of territory around Mosul during the first week of an operation to expel the Islamic State group from its final urban stronghold in the country, U.S. officials said Monday.

Despite progress since the assault on outlying villages around the northern Iraqi city began Oct. 17, the officials cautioned Mosul's fall would take time, and the fighting likely would grow tougher.

"It's going to take a while," said Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman. "This is going to be difficult, especially once we get forces into the city."

By Monday, some Iraqi security forces had pushed within about 10 miles of Mosul's eastern city limit, Davis said. Those forces were working to clear the village of Bartella after fighting Islamic State militants

there.

It remains unclear when Iraqi forces actually would reach the city, several U.S. officials said Monday. The officials briefed reporters at the Pentagon on the battle for Mosul on the condition of anonymity.

Those officials said some peshmerga forces were within 20 miles of Mosul's city center in some areas; however, those forces are expected to remain outside the city, according to the Iraqi government's operational plan. Iraq's elite special and conventional forces are expected to assault and clear the city.

Most of the approximately 30,000 Iraqi security forces and peshmerga forces moving toward Mosul from the south, east and north remain 40 to 80 miles away, the officials said.

They've faced strong resistance in some areas, primarily from suicide bombing attacks and improvised explosive devices.

An IED killed Navy Chief Petty Officer Jason C. Finan

on Oct. 20, the lone American death in the operation so far.

The U.S. officials said that when the ground forces reach the city, they likely will face a heavy urban fight from what remains of the 3,000 to 5,000 Islamic State fighters defending the city.

They said it was unclear Monday whether the terrorist group will send additional fighters to help defend Mosul. Davis said the Islamic State group still controls routes into the city from Syria to the west.

The United States has observed some Islamic State fighters — primarily midlevel commanders and Iraqi natives — fleeing the city into Syria, the officials said. It remains unclear whether those fighters were deserting the group or being moved to other locations for tactical purposes, they said. Most of the fighters remaining in Mosul were likely foreign fighters who are expected to fight to their deaths, the officials said.

In the meantime, the U.S.-

led Operation Inherent Resolve air campaign has been busier than at any other point since it began attacking the Islamic State group in July 2014, about a month after the terrorists seized Mosul.

The coalition has dropped more bombs on the terrorist group since Oct. 17 than during any other week of the campaign, Brett McGurk, President Barack Obama's special envoy to the coalition, said Monday.

The coalition launched 1,776 bombs, rockets and artillery rounds in more than 30 strikes at Islamic State targets in and around Mosul during the campaign's first seven days, Air Force Col. John Dorrian, spokesman for the OIR coalition, told NBC News on Monday.

He said the attacks killed hundreds of enemy fighters, destroyed 136 fighting positions, 26 car or truck bombs, 60 artillery pieces and mortars and 18 tunnels.

Carter in Paris to talk security vs. Islamic State

By TARA COPP
Stars and Stripes

PARIS — Security measures needed to prevent more Islamic State group attacks in Europe and the United States are expected to be the focus of Defense Secretary Ash Carter's discussions Tuesday with French Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian.

As Islamic State militants are driven from their remaining strongholds in Iraq and Syria, Carter will meet with Le Drian to discuss the next phase of defending against the terrorist group. The talks will concentrate on stopping "external plotters" — homegrown sympathizers or battlefield fighters from the Middle East who launch terrorist attacks.

France has been a repeated target for terrorists. In January 2015, two gunmen forced their way into the Paris offices of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo and opened fire, killing 12. In November, the Islamic State group attacked Parisian cafes and a nightclub, killing

130. In July, a truck was driven through crowds celebrating Bastille Day in Nice, killing 86.

"Every time we eliminate an external plotter overseas, we contribute to the protection of the homeland," said Carter, who arrived in Paris on Monday.

The campaign to hit the external plotters in the Middle East largely has been executed by Special Forces and airstrikes, said Lt. Gen. Stephen Townsend, the top commander for U.S. forces in Iraq and Syria.

Gen. Tony Thomas, leader of U.S. Special Operations Command, will accompany Carter in France to provide an assessment on the Islamic State group's ability to conduct external operations "and how he sees the threat changing," a senior U.S. defense official traveling with Carter said on the condition of anonymity.

As the terrorist group loses territory, more intelligence sharing and law enforcement collaboration between the United States and Europe is a major factor in defending against at-

tacks, Carter said.

Driving the Islamic State group from Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, "will help us with that," he said. "We get more intelligence, more information on how they are operating. Therefore, there are new opportunities to attack external plotters."

In July, Carter hosted all of the coalition nations' defense ministers at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland to begin planning for the next phase of defending against the Islamic State group. At that meeting, they discussed how the coalition might change its focus on military operations to homeland defenses once the Islamic State is pushed from Mosul and Raqqa, the terrorist group's headquarters in Syria. The Islamic State group's main concentration of its external operations is believed to be in Raqqa, the senior defense official said.

"As essential as it is to beat [the Islamic State group] in Raqqa ... it's not sufficient," Carter said.

Assad forces take Aleppo's high ground

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces and their allies on Monday captured strategic high ground in embattled Aleppo as Russia — a key ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad — said it was not planning more "humanitarian pauses" in the fighting in the city's rebel-held districts.

Fighting resumed in Aleppo over the weekend, following a dayslong lull meant to allow rebels and civilians to leave the eastern districts. The rebels rejected the Russian offer and none of the civilians left.

Government troops launched a fresh offensive and, on Monday, took the hilltop of Bazo on the southern edge of Aleppo, near military bases, and shelled the rebels' neighborhoods, according to opposition activists.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Bazo was taken amid heavy bombardment. Both the Observatory and the Aleppo Media Center, an activist collective, reported government shelling in eastern parts of the city.

A video released by the Syrian army showed tanks and cannons pounding rebel positions in the area. The state SANA news agency, meanwhile, said the rebels shelled government-held neighborhoods in western Aleppo, killing one person and wounding seven.

Syrian troops have besieged rebel-held parts of Aleppo for weeks, subjecting the districts to some of the worst air raids since a cease-fire brokered by the United States and Russia collapsed on Sept. 19. Opposition activists say more than 600 people have been killed in Aleppo and neighboring villages since then.

In Moscow, Russia's deputy foreign minister, Sergei Ryabkov, said Russia wasn't planning another humanitarian pause in Aleppo anytime soon.

Taliban claim to film attack with drone

By PHILLIP WALTER
WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — In what may be the group's first use of such a device in their campaign to overthrow the U.S.-backed government, the Taliban claim to have employed a drone to film a suicide attack they conducted in Helmand province earlier this month.

The video, posted on the group's website Friday and identified as containing drone footage, includes aerial shots of a Humvee driving into a police base in Helmand's Nawa district and then exploding.

The alleged suicide bomber is interviewed in the video smiling in front of a vehicle that seems identical to the one that explodes. Large numbers of Humvees have been provided by the United States to the Afghan army.

The Afghan government had not verified the authenticity of the footage as of Sunday afternoon, Interior Ministry spokesman Sediq Sediqqi said. But the governor's office in Helmand said the video looked authentic and that the Taliban were likely able to make it "with the help of foreign intelligence," an apparent reference to Pakistan's,

Inter-Services Intelligence agency.

"This is naturally a very big issue," said Ali Akbar Qasimi, a member of the parliament's defense committee. "It's the first time I've heard of the Taliban using a drone camera to film their attack. Such videos will likely help the Taliban with their propaganda."

The Oct. 3 blast shown in the video may have killed the district police chief in Nawa and several others, Helmand officials said.

The Afghan government in June banned the use of camera drones throughout the country because of security concerns.

Hazards widespread in military housing

BY ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

Servicemembers and their families are exposed to health and safety hazards at base housing worldwide that could be alleviated by inspections and better maintenance, the Defense Department's Inspector General said in a recent report.

Inspectors found an average of two to three electrical and fire-prevention deficiencies per building among the housing it inspected from 2013 to 2016 in six places: the Washington, D.C., region; the U.S. Southeast; South Korea; Japan; Afghanistan and Jordan.

In multiple cases, inspectors found high levels of radon gas, which is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S., according to the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention. Other inspections found excessive mold, which can cause respiratory illnesses.

The October report found "systemic weaknesses" in DOD policy, which requires periodic building inspections.

"However, none of these inspections comprehensively examine the effectiveness of facility sustainment processes with respect to the overall health and safety of occupants," the report said.

Exposed wiring, faulty smoke detectors and ventilation issues were among the most pervasive problems found.

Among all areas inspected, radon exceeding government safety limits was most likely to be found on Okinawa.

In a Stars and Stripes article

published last year, servicemembers said they had difficulty going back to at least 2011 in either finding out if their homes exceeded radon standards or in getting the problems fixed.

Air Force officials on Okinawa said that by last year, homes requiring radon mitigation received service in an average of 442 days.

The IG reports found 145 deficiencies deemed critical at 15 installations inspected in Japan. At 13 South Korean installations, inspectors found 15 critical problems.

Meanwhile, the inspection at a single facility in Jordan found 77 critical deficiencies.

The IG recommended that the DOD hire independent inspectors to review facilities at least twice annually. Military bases

also should conduct inspections after completing, renovating or performing maintenance work on buildings.

The DOD should prioritize hiring qualified inspectors, which the IG cited as a particular problem during its 2013 inspection of two housing areas in Afghanistan.

"We believe that the majority of deficiencies identified in our previous reports could have been avoided," the report said.

The Army has agreed to the IG's recommendation and said it would develop a plan within six months. The Department of the Navy also agreed and said it would issue new guidance by Oct. 31.

The Air Force agreed but did not say when or how it would implement IG's recommendation.

DODEA changes restroom policy

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — All schools on U.S. military bases worldwide will begin immediately allowing openly transgender students to use the bathroom and locker room of their choice, officials said Monday.

The announcement reverses a decision earlier this month to deny the 11-year-old transgender daughter of a U.S. airman at Ramstein Air Base access to the girls' bathroom at her school.

The parents of the student, a fifth-grader at Ramstein Intermediate School who goes by the name Blue, were told Friday their daughter would be able to use the girls' bathroom starting Monday, her mother, Jessica Girven, told Stars and Stripes.

The case drew media attention after Girven expressed her frustrations on social media. LGBT advocacy groups protested that the Department of Defense Education Activity was disregarding guidance issued by the U.S. departments of Education and Justice by denying a transgender girl access

to the restroom consistent with her gender identity.

The DODEA had been working on adopting a transgender student policy, a process that was hastened by the situation at Ramstein, he said. Principals in the interim were accommodating transgender students on a case-by-case basis to ensure they were treated with dignity and respect until a policy was finalized, Griffin said.

Of the situation at Ramstein, he said "there's no question that we as an agency could have done a much better job in expediting the process and providing clear direction and support to the superintendents and the principals."

Girven said her daughter came out as transgender this summer.

"Ever since Blue was 2 or 3 years old, she's been saying when she grows up, she's going to be a girl," Girven said. "She never acted on it (until now) because I think she didn't know how."

Blue and her family initially received great support from Ramstein Intermediate School after they informed staff that

their daughter was transgender, Girven said.

But on Oct. 6, three days after the school gave permission for her daughter to use the girls' bathroom, a district superintendent overruled the decision, Girven said.

Blue was told she would either have to use the boys' bathroom or newly established gender-neutral, single-stall bathrooms. The latter option required Blue to go down three flights of stairs and then walk across the school's courtyard to a neighboring building or cut through the library, Girven said.

Girven said her daughter just stopped using the bathroom during the school day.

She posted her frustrations on Facebook, and "friends around the world ran with it," she said, contacting advocacy groups, civil rights lawyers and media organizations.

Girven said statistics show transgender kids face a high suicide rate, especially those who don't receive support.

"Support of family, friends and school is literally a life or death situation," she said. "We only want her happy and safe."

Guam school evacuated over written bomb threat

Stars and Stripes

A bomb threat that spurred the evacuation of a high school on the grounds of Naval Hospital Guam turned out to be a false alarm, officials said.

Security forces and military working dog teams scoured Guam High School after a handwritten note was found at about 11:30 a.m. on Monday in a women's restroom, said a Navy statement, which did not specify exactly what the note said.

"Children and teachers were evacuated from the school and relocated to a safe distance," the statement said. "The explosive-detection dogs were able to conduct a thorough internal and external sweep of the school, with negative results."

An "all-clear" was issued at 1:15 p.m., and "students returned to class without incident," the statement said.

Clinton, Trump clash as Election Day nears

Associated Press

MIAMI — With Election Day just 15 days off, Donald Trump fought to preserve his narrow path to the presidency in must-win Florida on Monday as Hillary Clinton tried to slam the door on her Republican opponent in New Hampshire.

Trump's team concedes both publicly and privately that his electoral map is bleak. And GOP leaders are growing increasingly worried that his weak standing jeopardizes vulnerable Republican Senate candidates in battlegrounds like Florida, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania.

The New York billionaire on Monday lashed out at the media, a regular target of his struggling campaign: "Media in the tank for Clinton but Trump will win!" he declared on Twitter. The day before, Trump told a Florida television station that the First Amendment to the Constitution may give the press too much freedom. He suggested America adopt a system

like England's, which makes it easier to sue the media.

"England has a system where if they are wrong, things happen," Trump told Miami's CBS4.

Monday was the second day of Trump's three-day swing in Florida, which is essential to his White House hopes. There is no scenario in which he can lose Florida and win the 270 electoral votes needed to become president, based on current polling. Even if he wins the toss-up state, his path to 270 requires victories in several more swing states, including North Carolina, Ohio, Iowa and Nevada.

The Trump campaign acknowledged its challenge in a Monday fundraising email, conceding that victories even in those swing states wouldn't be enough.

"Polls show us close in New Hampshire, Colorado, and Pennsylvania. Winning just any one of those states would lead us to victory," the cam-

paign wrote, citing three states where Trump is trailing Clinton by significant margins in recent polls.

Clinton's running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, was making two campaign stops in Florida on Monday. Clinton plans to visit the state Tuesday and Wednesday.

Clinton's focus Monday was New Hampshire, which offers just four electoral votes but is also crucial to Trump's hopes.

Trump's schedule in the penultimate week of the campaign reflects the narrow path he faces in his White House bid.

After three days in Florida, Trump plans to make stops in North Carolina on Wednesday. He will spend all day Thursday in Ohio, with stops in Iowa and Wisconsin the next day before a Western swing to Colorado and Nevada this weekend.

Trump's team is also mulling a stop in Arizona. A Democratic presidential candidate hasn't won Arizona in 20 years, yet polls there show a close race.

Probe of Guard bonuses sought

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A top House Republican on Sunday called for an investigation into the Army National Guard effort to reclaim decade-old, wartime re-enlistment bonuses from thousands of troops.

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., called the repayments "disgraceful" and said soldiers who re-enlisted should not be held accountable for mistakes by recruiters.

Meanwhile, more than 35,000 people had signed an online petition by Monday morning attempting to stop the Guard. The petition on the website Change.org was started over the weekend by an enlisted soldier faced with repayment of a bonus.

"The Department of Defense should waive these repayments and I will be requesting a full brief from Army and National Guard leadership," McCarthy said in a released statement.

The National Guard has ordered about 10,000 soldiers and veterans to repay signing bonuses of \$15,000 or more that were used as an incentive to increase the size of the force during the height of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The service said it is required by law to reclaim the money after audits discovered fraud and mismanagement.

The money was supposed to attract soldiers in high-demand occupational specialties or non-commissioned officers for units headed to the wars. But audits found the National Guard paid bonuses to many soldiers who were not eligible, only discovering the errors years later.

Obama on trail for party's Senate hopefuls

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — President Barack Obama is stepping up the pace of his campaign to boost Hillary Clinton as his successor while also pushing for Democrats to retake the Senate, visiting tightly contested Nevada before headlining party fundraisers Monday in California.

Obama told Nevadans they have a winning hand in Clinton and Senate candidate Catherine Cortez Masto.

"You've got blackjack," Obama told a boisterous crowd of 3,000 packed into a local high school, while another 2,100 were in an exterior courtyard.

Obama was unsparing in his criticism of Republican nominee Donald Trump, describing the billionaire businessman as unfit to serve as president. Obama said that for years, Republican politicians and far right media outlets have served up "all kinds of crazy stuff" about him, Clinton and Sen. Harry Reid, the Nevadan who leads Senate Democrats.

"Is it any wonder that they ended up nominating somebody like Donald Trump?" Obama said.

"So Donald Trump did not start this," Obama said. "He just did what he always did, which is slap his name on it, take credit for it and promote it."

Democrats need to pick up five seats to gain the majority in the Senate, or four if they keep the White House. The vice president casts tie-breaking votes.

Obama also tried to make life difficult for Republican candidates who have sought to distance themselves from the GOP nominee, and on Sunday, it was Rep. Joe Heck's turn. Heck and Cortez Masto are vying to replace Reid, who is retiring after serving his fifth term.

After a 2005 video emerged of Trump making vulgar remarks about women, Heck said he couldn't support Trump.

"Too late. You don't get credit for that," Obama said.

Polls indicate the presidential and Senate races in Nevada are

tight. Reid's seat is considered the only one Republicans could reasonably flip this election.

Obama's standing in the polls has made him a popular surrogate for congressional candidates hoping a decisive Clinton victory will benefit them as well. The White House has said Obama's primary mission in the next two weeks will be helping Clinton, but he will also support Democratic candidates up and down the ballot.

Obama flew to San Diego after his speech to headline a \$10,000-a-person fundraiser. During his appearance, he took aim at California Republican Rep. Darrell Issa, who is facing political newcomer Doug Applegate in that state.

Obama recalled that Issa had called his administration perhaps the most corrupt in history. Now, Obama said he was using the president's photo on one of his brochures about how they had worked together on some issues.

"That is the definition of chutzpah," Obama said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Drivers urged to be safe for others' sake

AZ PHOENIX — Arizona transportation officials want selfish drivers to change their ways.

The state Transportation Department this past weekend conducted a campaign aimed at reducing traffic fatalities by reminding drivers that their actions can have “tragic, yet entirely predictable consequences” for others.

The campaign uses overhead highway signs to display messages noting that drivers' family, friends and neighbors are using the same highways.

Specific behaviors targeted by the campaign include impaired driving, speeding, aggressive driving and distracted driving.

Sheriff's office to use drones in rescues

FL WEST PALM BEACH — A Florida sheriff's agency is planning to use drones in emergency response efforts.

County officials recently approved a \$1 million pilot program for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. The drones will be used primarily in search-and-rescue missions in the water, in drug- and human-trafficking cases and to assist in cases when lives are in imminent danger.

The Palm Beach Post reported police and fire officials in nearby Palm Beach Gardens also recently started using drones to find missing people, catch fleeing criminals and respond to hazardous-material spills. The drones also could be used to assess storm damage and monitor traffic conditions.

Police Chief Stephen Stepp said the drones will not be used for widespread surveillance, which is prohibited by

state law.

Zoo rejoins Twitter in wake of controversy

OH CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Zoo has rejoined Twitter after a two-month hiatus that was sparked by outrage over the May shooting death of Harambe, the zoo's 17-year-old gorilla.

The Cincinnati Enquirer reported the zoo deactivated its account on the popular social media platform on Aug. 21 and resumed tweeting on Oct. 18.

Zoo spokeswoman Michelle Curley said the Twitter account went back up the previous week. It was abandoned following account hacks that targeted the zoo and director Thane Maynard in the wake of Harambe's death.

The Western lowland gorilla was killed by employees after a young boy fell into his enclosure.

Moose causes three crashes on highway

ID POCATELLO — Authorities said two people were hospitalized after a moose walked onto a highway in southeastern Idaho and caused a three-vehicle collision.

The morning crash on Oct. 17 occurred east of American Falls on Interstate 86.

Idaho State Police said Kim Sortor, of Pocatello, was heading west when she slammed into the moose. A vehicle behind her, driven by Jaime Velasco, of Cedar City, Utah, swerved to avoid the animal and slid off the highway. Lashae Hamilton, of Springfield, driving a third, westbound vehicle, struck the moose and then went off the right shoulder off the road.

Velasco and his passenger were taken to a hospital, while both Sortor and Hamilton were unhurt.

The moose did not survive.

Suspect who taunted officers is captured

NM ALBUQUERQUE — A sex crime suspect who allegedly taunted Santa Fe police on Facebook has been caught in Albuquerque.

KRQE-TV in Albuquerque reported Friday that Carlito Quintana, 20, was arrested last week in connection with a series of bank robberies. Santa Fe police Capt. James Lamb said Quintana was wanted on two counts of criminal sexual penetration and one count of criminal sexual contact of a minor.

Police posted a mugshot of Quintana on the agency's Facebook page on Sept. 28, asking the public for information about his whereabouts. On Oct. 8, someone under Quintana's name commented “You ain't catching no one.”

Santa Fe police commented on the post Wednesday, saying “OH YES WE DID! GOTCHA!”

Man found sleeping as SWAT moves in

PA ALIQUIPPA — A man who allegedly threatened his family was found sleeping hours later when SWAT officers burst into his western Pennsylvania home.

Beaver County District Attorney David Lozier said Richard Jackson, 28, was intoxicated and had fallen asleep by the time police sent a robot to spy into his Aliquippa home about noon on Oct. 16.

That was about six hours after police were called and removed Jackson's family. Police said he refused to surrender and remained in the home.

Once the robot showed police Jackson was sleeping, they

entered the home armed with tear gas and arrested him.

Jackson faces a preliminary hearing Nov. 2 on charges of terroristic threats, simple assault and disorderly conduct.

Newspaper HQ to be doughnut factory

NJ TRENTON — A New Jersey newspaper's headquarters may soon become a doughnut factory.

The Trentonian newspaper reported that its Trenton headquarters is in the process of being sold to a company that makes products for local Dunkin' Donuts stores.

Central Jersey CML was granted \$18.9 million in tax credits over 10 years to move to Trenton and to create 171 jobs.

The new Dunkin' Donuts factory would be next door to the Trenton police department's headquarters.

Woman wakes up in parked garbage truck

KY FLORENCE — A woman sleeping in a trash container was dumped into a garbage truck in northern Kentucky.

The woman, who was not identified, wasn't hurt. The Kentucky Enquirer reported fire crews rescued her at about 7:30 a.m. Friday in the parking lot of a Steak 'n Shake in Florence.

She was sleeping in a dumpster outside SpringHill Suites hotel when a Rumpke driver on his regular route picked up the trash with her in it. The driver contacted authorities when he heard pounding and shouting coming from his truck.

Paramedics were sent to check her out as a precaution. Bill Cole, Rumpke's regional safety manager, said the woman sustained only minor injuries.

From wire reports

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STARS AND STRIPES®

Cubs, Indians set for World Series

Associated Press

At long, long last, it's true: Either the Chicago Cubs or Cleveland Indians will win the World Series.

The matchup between teams that forever waited till next year — next century, really — is finally here.

A classic Fall Classic, for sure.

Do-it-all Javier Baez, flashy Francisco Lindor, MVP caliber Kris Bryant and a bevy of young stars. Lights-out relievers Andrew Miller and Aroldis Chapman, and wily skippers Joe Maddon and Terry Francona.

Plus, intrigue if injured All-Star starter Danny Salazar and slugger Kyle Schwarber can play.

Oh, and did someone mention something about a drought?

Game 1 is at Progressive Field on Tuesday night, with the Cubs opening as a heavy favorite to win their first crown since 1908.

In the Cubs' last visit to Cleveland, back in August 2015, they posted a 17-0 rout for the most-lopsided shutout ever in inter-league play. It got so out of hand two Indians outfielders wound up pitching.

But that's ancient history.

For the Cubbies, this is their first World Series trip since 1945. They clinched their spot Saturday night at rollicking Wrigley Field as big league ERA leader Kyle Hendricks outpitched Dodgers ace Clayton Kershaw for a 5-0 win in Game 6 of the NL Championship Series.

Favorites since opening day, Anthony

Rizzo, Addison Russell and past October aces Jon Lester and John Lackey helped the Cubs cruise to a major league-leading 103 victories.

Now, they're ready to sweep aside the Curse of the Billy Goat and the specter of Steve Bartman. And make up for the near-misses by Cubs greats such as Ernie Banks, Ron Santo and Billy Williams.

"Obviously we know that it's something that's going to be talked about with the history of the organization," pitcher Jake Arrieta said.

"But it's really not something we focus on at all. So we just kind of disregard it and go out and play," he said.

The Indians also have a past full of failure and frustration. Their title drought dates to Bob Feller, Lou Boudreau, Larry Doby and 1948, trailing only the Cubs for the longest wait in the majors.

In 1997, Cleveland was three outs from winning the championship when closer Jose Mesa blew a one-run lead in the bottom of the ninth inning of Game 7 at Florida. An error by sure-handed second baseman Tony Fernandez doomed them in the 11th.

Earlier this year, LeBron James and the Cavaliers turned Cleveland into Believe-land by rallying to win the NBA title. James has been loudly cheering for the Indians to bring another championship to the city.

Steady Jason Kipnis, jolly Mike Napoli and likely Game 1 starter Corey Kluber starred as the surprising Indians won the AL Central, then breezed by Boston and

Toronto in the playoffs.

The Indians did it despite a thinning rotation. Salazar hasn't pitched since early September because of a forearm problem, Carlos Carrasco got his hand broken by a line drive and Trevor Bauer cut his pinkie playing with a drone.

Like the Cubs with Bartman, the spectator who infamously deflected a foul ball at Wrigley during the 2003 NL playoffs, the Indians also have a prominent fan. It's John Adams, the man who has been beating a drum at most every home game for more than four decades.

Even though the clubs hold spring training about 30 miles apart in Arizona, they don't overlap a lot.

They've never played in the postseason and are just 9-9 against each other in inter-league action.

Miller and Chapman, however, were teammates this season in the New York Yankees' bullpen before they both got traded in late July.

Francona and current Cubs architect Theo Epstein spent even more time together. In 2004, they teamed up as the Red Sox ended a World Series championship drought dating to 1918 — when Boston beat the Cubs, by the way.

Soon, another city will be celebrating. Maybe next week, maybe next month, with Game 7 scheduled for Nov. 2.

A pair of big cities, one on Lake Michigan, the other on Lake Erie, waiting ... and hoping to end the wait.

On deck: Great Lakes, great stakes.

Chicago's success fueled by youth movement

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Kris Bryant says he gets chills every time the fans at Wrigley Field shower him with "MVP!" chants.

The 24-year-old just doesn't show it — a common trait among his young teammates. If anything can overwhelm these kid Cubbies, they haven't faced it yet.

Bryant was one of five players 24 or younger in the starting lineup for the Cubs during Game 6 of the NL Championship Series, and that group is showing maturity beyond its years. Keep this up, and they could give Chicago a party gen-

erations in the making.

Bryant has already established himself as one of the game's top power hitters. Javier Baez, 23, made one spectacular play after another in the infield while winning NLCS co-MVP. Addison Russell, 22, is an All-Star shortstop with power and Gold Glove aspirations. Catcher Willson Contreras, 24, and outfielder Albert Almora Jr., 22, are rookies getting at-bats with a heavy World Series favorite.

And so the Cubs are seeking their first championship since 1908 fueled by players too young to remember the first time a Clinton vied for the U.S. presidency.

Chicago beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NLCS for its first pennant since 1945, and now faces the Cleveland Indians in the World Series with a chance to end the sport's longest title drought.

If Chicago's youngsters feel any jitters before Game 1 on Tuesday night in Cleveland, don't expect to see them.

"Our young players are playing like they're 32-year-old veterans," said 2015 NL Cy Young Award winner Jake Arrieta. "It's just fun to watch. I get to play one out of every five days, but to really see the way our guys go about taking care of business makes me really ap-

preciate the guys I'm able to play with."

Bryant and the other burgeoning Cubs helped Chicago lead the majors with 103 wins in the regular season, and it's been more of the same in October. After pulling out 14 victories in their final at-bat during the regular season, the Cubs did it twice against San Francisco in the NL Division Series, then rallied from a 2-1 series deficit to beat the Dodgers.

The youngsters have given the Cubs a lot of good games so far. Four more, and as Cubs manager Joe Maddon said, "We can really have a party."

Missed FGs lead to Seattle, Arizona tie

Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Stephen Hauschka needed only to make a 27-yard field goal to give the Seattle Seahawks an overtime victory over Arizona.

Chandler Catanzaro's only had to hit a 24-yarder to give the Cardinals a win.

Such kicks are often called automatic. They aren't.

Hauschka's kick was wide left with 7 seconds left after Catanzaro booted one off the left upright, and the game between two teams that have dominated the NFC West in recent years ended in a 6-6 tie Sunday night.

"I make that kick 999,999 times out of a million," Catanzaro said.

The last tie in the NFL came in 2014, when Carolina and Cincinnati tied 37-37. It was the Cardinals' first tie since Dec. 7, 1986, a 10-10 draw at Philadelphia when the franchise was based in St. Louis, and the first for Seattle since entering the NFL in 1976. There had not been an NFL tie

with no touchdowns scored since 1972.

"That was really an amazing football game," Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said. "I don't think I have ever been in a tie before and my brain doesn't really know where to go.

The Cardinals (3-3-1) dominated the game statistically and looked to be in shape to win it after Carson Palmer's 40-yard pass to J.J. Nelson set up Catanzaro's short kick.

The Seahawks (4-1-1), stuffed throughout regulation by the Arizona defense, took over and Russell Wilson completed passes of 31 yards to Jermaine Kearse and 27 yards to Doug Baldwin to give Hauschka his short attempt.

"We work hard to make those kicks all season long and it is disappointing when it doesn't go well," Hauschka said. "I feel like I let my team down."

Both kickers made field goals on their teams' first possession of overtime.

Catanzaro, who kicked field goals of 46 and 45 yards, also had a 39-yard field goal blocked by a stunning play by Bobby

Wagner.

Until overtime, the only time the Seahawks crossed midfield came when Tanner McEnvoy blocked Ryan Quigley's punt with 4:33 to play. That gave Seattle the ball on the Arizona 27 and led to Hauschka's 40-yard field goal that tied it at 3 with four minutes to play.

"It's disappointing to put up those kind numbers and not come away with points because of the kicking game," Arizona coach Bruce Arians said. "It's disheartening to play that well and not come away with a victory."

Catanzaro's 46-yard field goal put Arizona up 3-0 with 3:11 left in the first half, and the Cardinals nursed that lead until the blocked punt.

On a bruising night, Arizona's David Johnson had a career-high 41 touches. He carried the ball 33 times for 113 yards and caught eight passes for 58 yards.

Wilson, obviously slowed by leg problems, completed 24 of 37 passes for 225 yards, most of the damage coming in overtime.

Eagles hand Vikings first loss of season

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Josh Huff returned a kickoff 98 yards for a touchdown, Carson Wentz outplayed Sam Bradford and the Philadelphia Eagles beat Minnesota 21-10 on Sunday, handing the Vikings their first loss of the season.

The Eagles (4-2) snapped a two-game slide while the rested Vikings (5-1) hardly looked like an unbeaten team after having a bye.

Bradford returned to Philadelphia for the first time since his trade to Minnesota eight days before the season opener paved the way for Wentz to start. Bradford was 7-7 in his only season with the Eagles and won his first four starts for the Vikings.

But the Eagles pressured and harassed their former quarterback all game, sacked him six times, and forced his first three turnovers this season.

Dolphins 28, Bills 25: Jay Ajayi tied an NFL record by surpassing 200 yards rushing for the second game in a row. Ajayi rushed for 214 yards in

29 carries after totaling 204 yards a week earlier in a win over Pittsburgh. He scored on a 4-yard run, and busted a 53-yarder when the host Dolphins were pinned at their 3 and trailing in the fourth quarter.

Patriots 27, Steelers 16: LeGarrette Blount ran for 127 yards and two scores while Tom Brady completed 19 of 26 passes for 222 yards and two touchdowns for the visitors.

Steelers quarterback Landry Jones played capably while filling in for Roethlisberger, who watched from the sideline after undergoing left knee surgery last week.

Chargers 33, Flacons 30: Josh Lambo's 42-yard field goal in overtime gave San Diego its first road win of the year as the Chargers rallied from a 17-point deficit.

The Chargers (3-4) trailed 27-10 in the second quarter. They had lost 11 of their past 12 road games.

Chiefs 27, Saints 21: Alex Smith threw two touchdown passes in another efficient outing, and Daniel Sorensen re-

turned an interception of Drew Brees for another touchdown for the hosts.

Raiders 33, Jaguars 16: Latavius Murray scored twice in his return from turf toe, and the visiting Raiders gave coach Jack Del Rio a victory against his former team.

Lions 20, Redskins 17: Matthew Stafford threw a go-ahead, 18-yard touchdown pass to Anquan Boldin with 16 seconds left to lead host Detroit.

The Lions (4-3) extended their winning streak to three games. The Redskins (4-3) had won four straight.

Bengals 31, Browns 17: A.J. Green's one-handed catch in the middle of an end zone scrum highlighted host Cincinnati's day full of big plays.

The Browns (0-7) extended their worst start since 1999, when they were a first-year expansion team.

Colts 34, Titans 26: Andrew Luck threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Jack Doyle with 1:55 left to put visiting Indianapolis ahead to stay, and the Colts rallied to beat the Titans for their

10th straight win against their AFC South rival.

Jets 24, Ravens 16: Ryan Fitzpatrick replaced an injured Geno Smith and led the host Jets on three scoring drives, and a rejuvenated defense came up with two rare interceptions.

Fitzpatrick came in for Smith in the second quarter and led the Jets on a go-ahead drive capped by a 13-yard touchdown catch by Matt Forte. Fitzpatrick finished 9 of 14 for 120 yards and a touchdown as the Jets (2-5) snapped a four-game losing streak.

Buccaneers 34, 49ers 17: Jameis Winston threw three touchdown passes and Jacquizz Rodgers ran for 154 yards.

The visiting Bucs (3-3) fell behind by 14 points early before scoring 27 straight to deal the Niners (1-6) their sixth straight loss for San Francisco's longest losing streak since 2008.

Colin Kaepernick struggled in his second start of the season for the 49ers, going 16 for 34 for 143 yards and turning the ball over twice after kneeling once again for the national anthem.

Hamlin tops Dillon for last Chase spot

Associated Press

TALLADEGA, Ala. — When an engine failure knocked title favorite Martin Truex Jr. from NASCAR's playoffs, the rest of the top contenders got a little bit of breathing room.

Then Brad Keselowski suffered the same cruel elimination when his engine failed Sunday at Talladega Superspeedway.

There was suddenly a wide-open competition to earn the final transfer spots into the third round of the Chase, and Denny Hamlin and Austin Dillon raced a tense final two laps in overtime to fill the bracket. With each pushing for every last point, it was Hamlin who advanced into the round of eight on a tiebreaker over Dillon.

Joey Logano won at Talladega Superspeedway, and Hamlin edged Kurt Busch by .006 seconds for third place and the one point he needed to tie Dillon in the standings.

Dillon was ninth, but lost the right to move into the next round based on average finish over the last three races.

Hamlin had told his Joe Gibbs Racing team not to give him points updates, and that lack of knowledge forced him to

scramble through the final turn as he was undecided on how aggressive he needed to be.

"I wasn't sure whether I needed to finish third," he said. "I told them I didn't want points updates. But that's almost when I probably should have got one to figure out what I was going to do. [Dillon] is in the middle of the pack. He's fighting and getting positions. He could change two positions in the last hundred yards."

"So you can't really predict it. I knew I just had to try to finish as good as I could."

With Truex and Keselowski out of the playoffs before the checkered flag, the suspense came down to final finishing order. Logano was not in a must-win situation, but the victory sure didn't hurt.

Dillon, on a frantic dash over two overtime laps to gain as many spots as possible, called the outcome "heartbreaking."

"It sure stinks to lose it on a tiebreaker," Dillon said.

Also eliminated Sunday was Chase Elliott. Advancing are: Jimmie Johnson, Kevin Harvick, Matt Kenseth, Kyle Busch, Kurt Busch, Carl Edwards, Logano and Hamlin. There are

four Toyotas remaining in the field, all from Joe Gibbs Racing. Stewart-Haas Racing has Kurt Busch and Harvick — but the two had a heated exchange after the race over alleged contact on the last lap — while Hendrick Motorsports has Johnson for three Chevrolets in the field. Logano is the only Ford driver.

"Feels good to win on a clutch moment like that with the pressure on," Logano said. "I think we ran like a champ."

The race was stark difference from the spring stop in Alabama, when 35 cars were involved in at least one accident and two cars went airborne. And last year, it appeared that Kevin Harvick intentionally caused an accident on an overtime restart to help his championship chances.

But for mile after mile Sunday, the drivers behaved.

The only glitches came in a harried sequence early in the race in which three championship contenders had uncharacteristic gaffes within minutes of each other. First Logano left pit road with a jack wedged under his Ford, and he had to return to pit road to have it removed. Then Hamlin was flagged for

speeding, then Truex lost an engine.

Keselowski's engine went with 43 laps remaining after he'd battled climbing temperatures on his car because of debris on his front grille.

"It is unfortunate for Brad," Logano said. "It happens as a leader picking some [debris up]. We picked it up just not as much."

Keselowski was dominant for a huge chunk of the race, even as he battled climbing temperatures on his Ford. Then, with 43 laps remaining, his engine blew and Keselowski was sent to the garage.

Kasey Kahne spun with six laps remaining to bring out the caution for a heart-pounding final restart.

The caution had terrible timing for Hamlin, and was a gift for Dillon. Hamlin was trying to hold off Dillon for the last transfer position and the Kahne spin gave Dillon another chance to gain points that would keep him in contention and bump Hamlin from the playoffs.

Dillon gained two spots in overtime, but it wasn't enough to pass Hamlin in the standings.

Oilers blank Jets in outdoor Heritage Classic

Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Cam Talbot has watched two outdoor NHL games from the bench in his career. He made the most of his first chance to play in one Sunday.

Talbot made 31 saves and Mark Letestu scored the first of three second-period goals, lifting the Edmonton Oilers over the Winnipeg Jets in an outdoor game delayed almost two hours by sunlight melting the ice.

The Heritage Classic victory extended Edmonton's winning streak to three in front of 33,240 at Investors Group Field. Fans wore both Jets and Oilers jerseys to the league's 19th outdoor game.

Talbot got his 12th career shutout and first this season.

"I was really excited for this one, obviously, to get a chance to play in my first game," said Talbot, who was a backup

when his former New York Rangers played in two Stadium Series games.

"The atmosphere was great out there, the ice was in pretty good condition. It was just one heck of a weekend."

Zack Kassian had a goal and an assist and Darnell Nurse also scored for Edmonton.

Connor Hellebuyck, who had a tuque attached to his helmet, stopped 29 shots for Winnipeg.

The NHL said the start of the Heritage Classic game was delayed "due to intermittent sunlight on the playing surface" and "in the interest of player safety."

"The boys wanted to get out there right away, but the delay put a damper on things," Kassian said. "But once things got underway, walking out there was pretty special."

Islanders 6, Wild 3: John Tavares had two goals and an assist, Johnny Boychuk scored for the second straight game and host New York beat Minnesota.

Calvin de Haan, Alan Quine and Thomas Hickey also scored to help New York get its highest scoring total of the year and win for the third time in four home games after opening with two road losses. Thomas Greiss stopped 26 shots for his first win in two starts this season.

Rangers 3, Coyotes 2: Dan Girardi scored 1:55 into the third period and host New York beat Arizona.

Josh Jooris and J.T. Miller also scored for New York, which has won consecutive games to improve to 4-2-0. Henrik Lundqvist made 27 stops.

Ducks 4, Canucks 2: Nick Ritchie scored the tiebreaking goal on a rebound with 8:36 to play, captain Ryan Getzlaf had three assists and Anaheim finally opened its home schedule.

Andrew Cogliano, Cam Fowler and Corey Perry also scored for the Ducks, who won two straight.