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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Marine is 2nd US death on Okinawa in a month

By MATTHEW M. BURKE Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — For the second time this month, a U.S. servicemember on Okinawa has died in an apparent drowning or diving accident, highlighting the dangers associated with Okinawa's most popular leisure activities.

In this latest incident, a Marine with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, was pronounced dead Saturday after apparently drowning at approximately 3:40 p.m. off Maeda Point, Marine officials said in a statement.

The name of the Marine is being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

It is unclear if the Marine was diving, snorkeling, swimming or taking part in some other water activity.

Maeda Point features coastal rock formations and reefs that have become synonymous with Okinawa and diving. It is located on Okinawa's west coast, not far from Mermaid Grotto in Manzo-Mo, where Petty Officer 1st Class Jorge NoriegaSuarez, a fleet Marine force corpsman and advanced X-ray technician assigned to the 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, died Oct. 10 in an apparent diving accident.

Though relatively rare, drowning and fatal diving incidents do occur on Okinawa and in the seas surrounding other Pacific military installations. It remains unclear if officials will take steps to restrict the activities going forward.

6th Fleet gets new commander

By John Vandiver

Stars and Stripes

Vice Adm. Christopher W. Grady assumed command of the Naples, Italy-based U.S. 6th Fleet on Friday, taking over at a time when the Mediterranean Sea has emerged as a security flash point for allies facing unrest in nearby Libya, increased migrant flows and the prospect of Russian warships becoming a more common presence in those waters.

Grady, who replaced Vice Adm. James Foggo III, will head the operational arm of U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa, headed by Adm. Michelle Howard.

"Perhaps nowhere else in the world today are the efforts of the U.S. Navy more apparent than here," said Howard, who officiated the change of command in Naples. "The combined area of responsibility, when you look at it, stretches from the North Pole to the Antarctic."

Besides leading 6th Fleet, Grady will serve as deputy commander to U.S. Naval Forces Europe; deputy commander, U.S. Naval Forces Africa; and commander of the European Joint Force Maritime Component.

Grady, who previously served as commander of the Naval Surface Force Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, Va., said he will focus on building relationships with partners and allies to confront threats.

"In all of this, we will be vigilant, we will be resilient and we will continue to build enduring relationships," he said, according to transcripts of the remarks at the ceremony.

In Europe, the Navy's mission has taken on added significance during the past two years amid an upheaval in the region's security environment. The service also has played a key role in the U.S. Africa Command-led bombing campaign now underway in Libya, which aims to help local forces root out Islamic State militants entrenched in part of the country.

The Navy has expanded its presence in Rota, Spain, with dedicated warships positioned there as part of a missile defense plan in Europe. The service also is in charge at a land-based missile defense site in Romania.

U.S. military officials have expressed concern about increased Russian submarine activities and close encounters in the Black Sea between U.S. ships and Russian aircraft — a repeated source of tension.

Now, a Russian navy battle group, including the country's only aircraft carrier, is steaming into the Mediterranean Sea. NATO officials have expressed concern about the possibility those assets could be used to intensify Russia's military campaign in Syria.

"We face mounting security challenges across the AOR (area of responsibility), from the Black Sea and Eastern Med to the recent attempted attack of U.S. forces from the Yemeni coast and strikes on ISIS (the Islamic State group) in Northern Africa to Gulf of Guinea piracy concerns," Howard said. "I'm thankful that our naval forces in the 6th Fleet have been and are in good hands."

First lady helps commission submarine

Associated Press

GROTON, Conn. — First lady Michelle Obama said she was "beyond proud" to take part in a commissioning ceremony Saturday for the U.S. Navy attack submarine named for her home state of Illinois.

The submarine officially became the USS Illinois, SSN 786, and began active service at a ceremony at the submarine base in Groton.

Obama, the ship's sponsor, gave the order to "man our ship and bring her to life" be-

fore the crew of about 130 men ran across the brow, onto the vessel.

"Thank you for giving me the incredible privilege of being associated with you and with your families and with the Illinois for the rest of my life," she told them. "I will continue to keep you in my prayers every single day and keep you in my thoughts, and know that you have a sponsor that cares deeply."

The first lady, who is from Chicago, has made supporting military families a priority.

She's considered an honorary member of the crew, and will be involved in the lives of the sub's sailors and families.

"Working with our military community has been the biggest honor of my life," she said before going on board and touring the vessel.

Cmdr. Jess Porter, the submarine's commanding officer, has compared having the first lady as the sponsor to having Babe Ruth on your team. He said her participation in the commissioning is "pretty monumental."



Blue Chromite exercise kicks off on Okinawa

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Marine Corps and Navy integration will be the focus as the annual joint field training exercise Blue Chromite kicks off.

The U.S.-only exercise runs Oct. 29-Nov. 4 in the central, northern and Ie Shima training areas on Okinawa. It features Marine infantry and logistics battalions, air groups, and Navy and Military Sealift Command ships, a Marines statement said. Army and Air Force units will augment strategic lift capabilities by sea and air.

The exercise features both combat and

humanitarian simulations that are designed to strengthen Navy and Marine "expeditionary, amphibious rapid-response capabilities" for any contingency in the region.

"Blue Chromite will test the Marine Corps' fundamental expeditionary competencies to embark on amphibious ships in order to launch ashore via sea and air," the statement said.

"The exercise allows forward-deployed Marines not traditionally embarked aboard U.S. naval vessels to integrate and practice amphibious operations as part of a robust set of response capabilities from a

sea base. Leveraging a sea base gives Marine Corps forces flexibility to go where and when needed."

Marine officials said the exercise features units organic to Okinawa so they can provide high-level and realistic training for an affordable price.

Participating units include two infantry battalions from the 3rd Marine Division, two 1st Marine Aircraft Wing air groups, two logistics battalions from 3rd Marine Logistics Group, the USS Green Bay, the USNS Fall River and the USAV Harpers Ferry.

Retention road show: 100 Marines re-up on Okinawa

By JESSICA BIDWELL Stars and Stripes

The Manpower Management Enlisted Assignments road show came to Okinawa, Japan, to help Marines make career decisions, and for 100 of them the choice was to re-enlist.

"The first-term Marines coming to the end of their first contract re-up defines the biggest effort in retention. We only retain 23 to 25 percent of those Marines," Lt. Col. Rudy M. Janiczek said. "It is important to identify the good ones, and that is where the leaders come in"

The MMEA road show travels worldwide to give Marines the opportunity to take their careers into their own hands and speak to their monitors face to face, with 25 career monitors and two career counselors on hand.

It's also an opportunity for the Marine Corps to retain its young. Lt. Gen. Lawrence D. Nicholson, the III Marine Expeditionary Force commander, said keeping the best is critical amid a drawdown.

"We are looking for the Marine that has 100 options, the Marine that can go do 10 different things," he said. "The future staff NCOs (noncommissioned officers) and officers of our corps, those are the Marine that has been supported by the said."

rines that we are really focused on. Our corps is shrinking, and we have the opportunity to be more selective and to pick only the best and most capable and most talented individuals to be our future staff NCOs and officers."

Janiczek called the weeklong event that ended Friday a campaign for re-enlistment.

"Really, where you make ground is sitting kneecap to kneecap with that particular Marine, talking about what he or she wants and aspires to do and really making sure the good Marines are identified and retained," Janiczek said.

A variety of incentives were available for those who chose to re-enlist, including bonuses, choice of duty station and special-duty assignments.

Cpl. Archie Steele took the oath of re-enlistment so he could remain on Okinawa. He was born in the Philippines, so joining the military ironically brought him closer to home, and staying on Okinawa keeps him close to his wife and daughter while they pursue U.S. passports.

"They currently live in the Philippines. By staying on the island, I get to be close to them until the process is complete," Steele said.

Manned aircraft, drones paired to meet new threats

The Fayetteville (N.C.) Observer

FORT A.P. HILL, Va. — As part of a routine aerial gunnery exercise, soldiers of the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade's 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion are honing their skills amid the pine and rolling hills of Fort A.P. Hill.

But for the first time, the battalion's gunnery exercise is incorporating unmanned aerial systems.

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team's Shadow platoon has been training with the Apache battalion, testing new tactics and procedures that are expected to help conserve resources and to keep pilots safer on a battlefield with a nearpeer threat.

The efforts are meant to tie the Apache more closely to the RQ-7Bv2 Shadow, an unmanned aircraft that weighs about 450 pounds and can fly for up to nine hours at a time, reaching heights of 18,000 feet.

The smaller Shadow effectively extends the reach of the Apache helicopter by miles, said Lt. Col. Shane Finison, commander of the 1st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion.

That keeps the pilots out of harm's way and helps conserve fuel on the battlefield, he said.

Their use is not the only change the battalion is adapting to.

One of the biggest changes the battalion is making to its operations comes with height, as aviators adjust to flying closer to the ground.

The changes in tactics are driven by the potential for near-peer adversaries, or more advanced militaries that can close the technological gap the U.S. military has over most of its potential enemies.

"We've got a generation of leaders, pilots and maintainers that have grown up fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan," Finison said.

In those countries, the biggest threat to a helicopter came in the form of a machine gun mounted on a pickup, or a rocket-propelled grenade.

Crews could overcome those by flying higher, out of the weapons' range.

But those tactics against a more advanced military could be deadly for Apache crews.

Instead, air crews are flying lower, blending with the trees and staying out of sight of enemy defenses.

So far, in training exercises, those tactics have been a success. In two rotations to the Joint Readiness Training Center, Finison said the battalion has yet to have an aircraft shot down by opposing forces. On average, he said most battalions lose about five aircraft on training rotations.





Clinton team wants more details from FBI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton's campaign on Sunday pressured FBI Director James Comey to release more details about the emails he says could be related to the investigation into her use of a private email server.

Tim Kaine, Clinton's running mate, said Comey owed it to the public to be more forthcoming about the emails under review by the FBI with only 10 days remaining before Nov. 8 election. Kaine's message aimed to counter Republican rival Donald Trump, who has seized on the reignited email controversy in hopes of sewing fresh doubts about Clinton's trustworthiness.

"As far as we know now, Director Comey knows nothing about the content of these emails. We don't know whether they're to or from Hillary at all," Kaine said. The Virginia senator said if Comey "hasn't seen the emails, I mean they need to make that completely plain. Then they should work to see

the emails and release the circumstances of those once they have done that analysis."

Clinton's campaign chairman, John Podesta, said Comey's handling of the matter was "inappropriate." Podesta urged Comey to be more transparent because the disclosure came "in the middle of the presidential campaign so close to the voting."

Comey's actions Friday roiled the White House race, energizing Trump as polls had showed him sliding and unnerving Democrats worried about the presidency and down-ballot congressional races.

The FBI is looking into if there was classified information on a device belonging to Anthony Weiner, the disgraced ex-congressman and estranged husband of long-time Clinton aide Huma Abedin.

Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway said Comey was in "an impossible spot" when he acknowledged the FBI was looking into the messages. "Had he sat on the information, one can argue that he also

would be interfering in the election," Conway said.

Late Saturday, Sens. Ben Cardin, of Maryland; Tom Carper, of Delaware; Patrick Leahy, of Vermont; and Dianne Feinstein, of California, urged Comey and Attorney General Loretta Lynch to provide detailed information by Monday about what investigative steps are being taken, the number of emails involved and what is being done to determine how many are duplicative of those already reviewed by the FBI

Comey spoke Saturday with the Republican and Democratic leaders of the House Judiciary Committee, said Chairman Bob Goodlatte, R-Va.

Goodlatte said he and Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., encouraged Comey to make as much information as possible public before the election. He said the FBI chief "did not give us any response in terms of what more he could say."

Report: VA slow to fix wait-time issues

By NIKKI WENTLING Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs has been slow to make changes — or hasn't made changes at all — after numerous reviews into the agency after the 2014 wait-time scandal, according to a report released by the Government Accountability Office.

Since it was discovered that employees at VA hospitals falsified data about veterans' wait times, and that some veterans died while waiting for care, the agency has undergone internal and external reviews and inspections into its management practices, business processes, staffing levels and veterans' access to care.

The reviews, one of which cost the VA \$68 million, concluded the agency needed to undertake a large-scale reorganization. But the VA doesn't have a process to follow through with those recommendations or effectively make changes, according to the report, which was released Thursday.

The report also states that, without a process there's "little assurance" the delivery of VA

health care will improve.

"Although [Veterans Health Administration] has spent considerable resources — staff time and funds — on reviews and task forces that recommended improvements in its organizational structure, VHA lacks the processes needed to ensure that officials can evaluate those recommendations, document decisions, monitor and evaluate implementation, and hold staff accountable," the report states.

The Government Accountability Office placed the VA on its "high risk" list in 2015, and has since released about two dozen reports about the agency.

It started this latest review in September 2015, at the request of several congressmen, including Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Miller has been critical in the past of how long it's taken the VA to follow through with reform efforts. He's blamed delays in reform on the length of time it takes the agency to demote and fire employees.

In September, the House passed a bill sponsored by Mill-

er that would, in part, do away with a lengthy appeals process, allowing the VA to fire employees more quickly. But the American Federation of Government Employees, a union representing about 230,000 VA employees, said the bill does away with their due process rights.

"The biggest obstacle standing in the way of VA reform is the department's pervasive lack of accountability among employees at all levels," Miller said at the time.

The GAO report backs up that claim, saying the VA "cannot ensure" that it's holding officials accountable "for taking actions that resolve deficiencies."

The GAO sent a copy of its report to Miller and others on Sept. 27.

The report summarizes findings from three task forces that the VA created in recent years, one of which found the VA's central office staff had become bloated and needed downsizing.

After "significant time and effort" from members of the task forces, the VA "either did not act or acted slowly" to make changes recommended from those task forces, the GAO re-

port states.

The GAO also focused much of its attention on a VA plan to realign its Veteran Integrated Service Network from 21 networks across the United States to 18. The GAO called it the VA's "largest geographic realignment" in more than 20 years.

The VA has not provided enough monitoring or guidance during the realignment, which is supposed to be complete by the end of fiscal 2017, the report states. In interviews at medical centers affected by the realignment, GAO staff found it was creating employee redundancies, budget challenges and technological problems.

"Regional network directors told us they were frustrated with the lack of guidance ... about how to resolve this and other challenges they faced," reads a summary of the report.

The VA responded to the report, saying it would develop a "structured, methodical process" to make changes.

The agency also said it "will ensure proper oversight" while it realigns its health care networks.



5K join Shiite militias in Iraq

Associated Press

IRBIL, Iraq — Iraq's statesanctioned Shiite militias said Sunday that some 5,000 fighters have joined their push to encircle the country's secondlargest city of Mosul and cut off Islamic State fighters there.

Karim al-Nuri, of the umbrella group for the militias, known as the Popular Mobilization Units, and Jaafar al-Husseini, a spokesman for unit member the Hezbollah Brigades, said a total of some 15,000 Shiite fighters were participating in the battle.

The Iraqi military confirmed the figures which, including army units, militarized police and special forces, bring the total number of anti-Islamic State fighters in the offensive to more than 40,000.

The involvement of the Iranian-backed Shiite militias has raised concerns the battle for Mosul, a Sunni-majority city, could aggravate sectarian tensions. Rights groups have accused the militias of abuses against civilians in other Sunni areas retaken from the Islamic State group, accusations the militia leaders deny.

The U.S. military estimates the Islamic State group has 3,000 to 5,000 fighters in Mosul and another 1,500 to 2,500 in the city's outer defensive belt. The total includes around 1,000 foreign fighters.

Just as the Shiite reinforcements were announced, Turkey's president warned that his government will be closely monitoring their behavior and seek to safeguard the rights of ethnic Turkmens in Iraq.

In statements carried by the state-run Anadolu Agency, Recep Tayyip Erdogan told reporters the militia group, known in Arabic as Hashd al-Shaabi, could prompt a Turkish response if it "terrorizes" the Iraqi-Turkmen town of Tal Afar, where it is headed in its push around Mosul.

"Tal Afar is an entirely Turkmen town. If Hashd al-Shaabi starts terrorizing it, then our response will certainly be different," Erdogan said.

The use of government-backed Shiite militias is a sensitive issue in the ongoing battle to retake Mosul from the Islamic State group. Militia commanders have said their forces will not enter Mosul but will instead focus on surrounding towns like Tal Afar.

Also Sunday, military officials reported that an army helicopter had crashed in the central province of Salahuddin due to a technical malfunction.

They said the two pilots of the helicopter, which went down the previous evening, were missing. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to brief reporters.

Powerful earthquake rocks Italy

Associated Press

ROME — A powerful earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.6 on Sunday rocked the same area of central and southern Italy hit by a quake in August and a pair of aftershocks last week, sending alreadyquake-damaged buildings crumbling after a week of temblors that have left thousands homeless.

The head of Italy's civil protection agency, Fabrizio Curcio, said there were no immediate reports of deaths, but that some people had suffered injuries as numerous buildings that had resisted the previous temblors collapsed. He said authorities were responding with helicopters as many roads were blocked from rockslides.

Residents already rattled by a constant trembling of the earth rushed into piazzas and streets after being roused from bed by the 7:40 a.m. quake.

Many people still had been sleeping in cars or evacuated to shelters or hotels in other areas after a pair of strong jolts on Wednesday. Curcio said 1,300 had been evacuated to the coast, and more would follow.

The quake struck a cluster of mountain towns, many of historic significance, already reeling from last week's pair of aftershocks to an August earth-quake that killed nearly 300: Norcia, Visso, Castelsantangelo sul Nero and Preci.

The head of the civil protection authority in Italy's Marche region, Cesare Spuri, said there were reports of buildings collapsing in many cities.

"We are trying to understand if people are under the rubble," Spuri said.

In the ancient city of Norcia, famed for its Benedictine monastery and its cured meats, witnesses said the 14th-century St. Benedict cathedral crumbled, leaving only its facade standing.

"It's as if the whole city fell down," Norcia city assessor Giuseppina Perla told the ANSA news agency.

Philippines: China still guarding shoals but allows Filipinos to fish

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — Philippine aerial surveillance showed Chinese coast guard ships were still guarding a disputed shoal in the South China Sea, but they did not harass and stop Filipinos from fishing there for the first time in years, the Philippine defense secretary said Sunday.

The fishermen's return to Scarborough Shoal, which China effectively seized in 2012, was "a most welcome development" because it brings back their key source of livelihood, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said.

China granted access to the tiny, uninhabited shoal 123 nautical miles from the northern Philippines after Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte met with President Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders this month. After his China trip, Duterte announced without elaborating that Filipinos may be able to return to the shoal soon.

A Philippine navy plane spotted at least four Chinese coast guard ships around the shoal during a surveillance flight on Saturday, Lorenzana said, adding that an earlier report by the Philippine coast guard that the Chinese had left the area was incorrect.

"Fly-bys of our planes reported Chinese coast guard ships are still there, but our fishermen were fishing unmolested," Lorenzana told The Associated Press, adding that the government would try to carry out surveillance flights regularly in the area.

It's unclear how long China will keep the shoal open to Filipinos or if there are any conditions attached.

National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon Jr. said, "There are no written agreements or rules, but Filipino fishermen who went there lately attest that they were not driven away nor were accosted."

There have also been fewer Chinese ships sighted in the area since more than a week ago, or around the time Duterte made his visit to China, Esperon said.

Duterte made clear that the dispute over the shoal was far from over. He said he insisted in his talks with Chinese leaders that the shoal belonged to the Philippines, but that the Chinese also asserted their claim of ownership.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

DNA test results could save dog on death row

PORT HURON — Is Jeb in the clear?

Tests on a dead dog don't show a DNA link to a Belgian Malinois named Jeb. He's accused of killing Vlad, a Pomeranian next door. This doggie drama is being played out in St. Clair County.

Prosecutor Mike Wendling said he'll take the evidence to a judge to decide what happens next.

Authorities said Vlad's injuries suggest he was picked up and shaken by a larger animal. The DNA samples were analyzed at the University of Florida.

Jeb remains in custody under a death sentence. But Ed Marshall, a lawyer for Jeb's owners, told the Port Huron Times Herald that the case should be dropped.

Marshall noted that DNA often exonerates people in prison. As he put it, "Why should a dog be any different?"

Police: Body camera caught officer stealing

DENVER—Authorities say a Denver police officer's body camera captured him stealing \$1,200 from a suspect at a crime scene.

A police report released Friday said Julian Archuleta, 48, can be seen in the footage taking cash from the suspect's clothing during a shooting investigation. The report says the footage shows him finding a stack of cash with a \$100 bill on top.

But investigators said a detective who collected the cash and logged it as evidence found no \$100 bills. The detective reviewed Archuleta's body

camera footage and contacted internal affairs.

Archuleta faces charges of theft, official misconduct and tampering with physical evidence. He was being held in jail Friday.

Archuleta, on the job since 2004, has been suspended without pay.

Property claims spike on Halloween: Insurer

CT HARTFORD — On Halloween, homeowners have more to worry about than running out of candy for trick-or-treaters.

The Travelers insurance company says there are 24 percent more property crime-related claims on Halloween than an average day.

To prevent theft or vandalism, the insurance giant recommends not allowing homes to appear unoccupied.

The company says using candles in carved pumpkins can be a major fire hazard and recommends using only lights that have been tested for safety. It also urges people never to staple or nail through electrical wires or extension cords.

Jogging police chief spooks 'scary' clowns

PA YORK — A Pennsylvania police chief had a run-in with two "scary" clowns who wound up running away when he turned around to take a swing at them.

York City School District Police Chief Mike Muldrow told the York Dispatch he was jogging Wednesday with a friend when he heard leaves crunching behind him.

Muldrow, 42, turned around to see two young males, about 12 or 13, wearing clown masks. One was carrying a big stick.

That's when Muldrow said he turned around, took a fighting stance and said, "Let's do it," while swinging in the clowns' general direction.

They ran away and Muldrow resumed jogging.

The school district is one of several across Pennsylvania that's dealt with reports of people in scary clown masks in recent weeks.

Elk seen in state for first time in centuries

SC PICKENS — A wild elk has been spotted roaming the woodlands of South Carolina for the first time in more than 200 years.

News outlets reported that wildlife biologists are warning Upstate residents and tourists to stay away from a young bull elk that was seen in several places in Pickens County.

In response to social media posts showing people feeding the animal, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission biologist Justin McVey warned the public that the animal can cause serious injuries.

The animals once were native to the Lowcountry but were wiped out in the Carolinas in the 1700s. The species was reintroduced to North Carolina in 2001, and officials said it's likely the young male was pushed out of mountain territory across the state border by older males.

Suit: Sheriff offers to fight mayor in street

PORTALES — A lawsuit claims an eastern New Mexico sheriff is interfering with a town's police business and even challenged its mayor to a "fist fight in the middle of the road."

The town of Elida filed a lawsuit last week against Roosevelt County Sheriff Malin Parker to prevent him from further interfering with town ordinances or law enforcement.

According to the lawsuit, Parker has interfered with Elida police business on at least three occasions.

When Elida Mayor Durward Dixon attempted to ask Parker about the interference, court documents say Parker challenged the Dixon to a fist fight.

Dixon told the Portales News-Tribune he tried twice to reconcile with the sheriff and filed the lawsuit as a last resort.

Parker said in a statement the fight challenge was "completely false."

Poland honors man for returning treasure

MA GLOUCESTER — A Massachusetts fisherman and former U.S. Army private has been honored by Poland for his role in returning cultural treasures stolen by the Nazis during World War II.

The Gloucester Times reported Curtis Dagley was awarded a Bene Merito medal for helping save the 15th-century altarpiece of St. Mary's Church in Krakow.

The revered, hand-carved altarpiece tells the story of the role of Mary in helping her son, Jesus, make amends for the sins of the world. More than 200 figures adorn it — some 12 feet tall.

Dagley also was recognized for his imprisonment by Communist authorities in Poland. After he returned home, he worked as a fisherman in Gloucester for more than 40 years.

Dagley received the medal Thursday at Gloucester City Hall.

From wire reports

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Dream comes true for Indians' Kipnis

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Jason Kipnis remembered re-enacting a World Series home run in his backyard, about 20 miles north of Wrigley Field, perhaps driving a softball or an acorn off a tree.

And then he sent a three-run shot soaring about 10 rows up in the right-field bleachers of the Friendly Confines on Saturday night.

"It went a lot farther than that one, too, in my mind," he said. "You can't draw this up. Everyone makes that situation, T-ball in the backyard or Wiffle Ball, and I actually got to live it. You can imagine what kind of high I'm feeling right now."

Kipnis helped beat the team he rooted for as a child and moved the Cleveland Indians within a win of their first World Series title since 1948. His seventh-inning homer off Travis Wood broke open the game, helping the Indians rout the Cubs 7-2 for a 3-1 Series lead.

His home run quieted Wrigley Field fans. In his backyard in suburban Northbrook, supporters were more boisterous.

"The crowd went nuts — the crowd as

in my mom probably sitting on a chair, my dad pitching or something like that," he recalled. "But a little different atmosphere."

A two-time All-Star at age 29, Kipnis is in his fifth season as Cleveland's starting second baseman. Nicknamed Dirtbag for his frequently soiled uniforms, he exemplifies the Indians' Cleveland-against-the-world attitude. Even in droughts, the Indians headed into the World Series one-upped by the Cubs, whose last title was in 1908.

"We're one win away. That's the special part," Kipnis said. "But this is a fun night for me. It's not an ending yet, we got one more to get, and it will probably be the hardest victory of the year."

Kipnis reached down and lined a cutter 403 feet from home plate. He had three hits, doubling in the third inning and scoring to give Cleveland a 3-1 lead. He raised his Series average to .294.

"The big hit there for me was Kipnis' homer," Cubs manager Joe Maddon said. "That really made the game awkward."

Kipnis joined Jimmie Foxx (1929) and Babe Ruth (1932) as the only players to hit three-run Series homers against the Cubs at Wrigley Field. He became the first second baseman to homer in all three postseason rounds following tiebreaking drives against Boston in the Division Series opener and versus Toronto in Game 3 of the Championship Series.

Last weekend, Kipnis watched on television as the Cubs won the National League for the first time since 1945. Some of his friends were at Wrigley, and Kipnis said he felt choked up.

On Thursday's off night, he got to have dinner with his family. He reveled at playing a World Series game with "my family in the stands, friends in the stands."

"Probably can't say the words that were going into my mind. Kids are watching this channel," he said in the postgame interview room, a low-ceilinged medieval-looking chamber not far from Wrigley's cramped visitors' clubhouse.

"It's just excitement. I had a lot of joy in playing this game," he said, "and to be put into a situation like this and actually have something happen like that is, for lack of a better term, it's a dream come true."

Kluber, Tribe take 3-1 lead over Cubs

Associated Press

CHICAGO — One more win and baseball fans everywhere might finally believe in these Cleveland Indians.

That's all it will take for Corey Kluber & Co. to clinch this World Series.

Kluber pitched six sparkling innings on short rest for his second victory this week and the Indians beat the Chicago Cubs 7-2 Saturday night, taking a 3-1 lead and nearing their first championship since 1948.

Jason Kipnis hit a three-run homer in his hometown and Carlos Santana connected for the first of his three hits as manager Terry Francona's team won for the second straight day at Wrigley Field.

Trevor Bauer gets the ball Sunday night when the visiting Indians try for the franchise's third World Series title against Jon Lester and the faltering Cubs.

"I think we like the position we're in, but the task isn't done yet," Kluber said. "We still have one more game to win, and we're going to show up tomorrow and play with the same sense of urgency we've played with until this point. We don't want to let them build up any momentum and let them get back in the series."

Still, not bad for a team that seemed like an underdog all year long.

The Indians topped the defending champion Royals and star-studded Tigers for the AL Central title, then came the postseason. No one thought they would beat Big Papi and Boston, outslug Toronto or ever end their drought before the charmed Cubs, who led the majors with 103 wins.

Well, look who is on the brink of hoisting the hardware.

"We've got one more to get and it's probably going to be the hardest victory of the year, but this is a special night for me and this team to take the first two here," said Kipnis, who grew up a Cubs fan on the north side of Chicago.

Kipnis had three hits and scored two runs as Cleveland moved to 10-2 in this postseason. Francisco Lindor contributed an RBI single, helping Francona improve to 11-1 in the World Series.

The Indians now will try to bring another crown to Cleveland, adding to the one LeBron James and the Cavaliers earned earlier this year.

"We have a ways to go. We're not done," Francona said.

Dexter Fowler doubled and scored in the first for the Cubs, and then homered against Andrew Miller in the eighth. Fowler's drive to left-center was the first homer for Chicago in the World Series since Phil Cavaretta connected in Game 1 in 1945 and the first run allowed by Miller during his dominant postseason.

In between Fowler's two hits, the Cubs came up empty every time they had a chance to put any pressure on Cleveland.

"So we made mistakes. Absolutely, we made mistakes tonight," manager Joe Maddon said. "That was part of it. But then again, we just have to do more offensively to give ourselves a chance."

The Indians won for the second straight day at Wrigley — those two wins matched the Cubs' entire total of World Series victories in more than a century of playing at their famed ballpark.

"They're obviously doing something right, taking advantage of our mistakes and my mistakes," Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant said.

Pitching on three days' rest for the second time, Kluber allowed five hits, struck out six and walked one. The steady, stoic right-hander, who struck out nine in a dominant performance in Game 1, improved to 4-1 with a 0.89 ERA in five playoff starts this year.



No. 3 Clemson rallies past Florida State

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Dabo Swinney has mastered winning close games during his tenure at Clemson. Saturday's victory over Florida State might be the sweetest of all.

The third-ranked Tigers rallied to beat the No. 12 Seminoles 37-34 and won for the first time in 10 years at Doak Campbell Stadium.

It is the fifth win by seven points or fewer this season for Clemson (8-0, 5-0 ACC) and gives it a 16-2 record in nine seasons under Swinney when winning by less than a touchdown.

"I'm glad to finally walk into this room and be happy. It's been a long time coming," Swinney said. "We had a couple of lulls, but when we needed to make plays we got them."

The win extends Clemson's regular-season winning streak

to 22 games and gives it consecutive victories over Florida State (5-3, 2-3) for the first time since winning three in a row from 2005-07.

The win also likely assures the Tigers of being in the top four when the first College Football Playoff rankings are released on Tuesday. Clemson is trying to make the playoff for the second straight season after losing to Alabama in last year's national championship game.

For the second straight year, Deshaun Watson played a large role in the win as he had 430 yards of total offense.

The junior completed 27 of 43 passes for 378 yards with two touchdowns and a pair of interceptions. His 34-yard pass to Jordan Leggett and 2-point conversion with 2:06 remaining gave Clemson the lead. Watson also had 52 yards rushing on 17 carries, and Leggett had 122 yards on five receptions.

"It was just a great play call. We've seen it all game and called it at the right time," said Watson of the TD to Leggett. "It's a special win. It's hard to win here against these guys."

It is the second straight game Watson has had over 400 yards of offense against Florida State — he had 404 last year in a 23-13 victory. He is also the first quarterback to beat Florida State in consecutive seasons since Oklahoma's Landry Jones in 2010-11.

Wayne Gallmanled Clemson's rushing attack with 82 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Florida State was able to drive into Clemson territory with under a minute left but could only get to the Tigers' 34. The Seminoles self-destructed due to penalties and Deondre Francois (17 of 35 for 169 yards with a touchdown and interception) was sacked on the final two plays.

FSU fell short despite Dalvin Cook's career-high four touch-downs. The junior had 136 of his 169 yards rushing in the second half and had two touch-down runs of 40-plus yards.

"Dalvin had another great game. I've seen him play a lot of good ones. He had space and he outran angles," Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher said. "They're going to throw haymakers, we're going to throw haymakers. We battled back but unfortunately we came up short."

Cook, who leads Power 5 backs in rushing, has gone over 1,000 yards three straight seasons and needs 192 yards break Warrick Dunn's school career record of 3,959 yards.

"They were giving us what we wanted all game," Cook said. "We tried to establish the passing game early and the running game opened up in the second half."

No. 8 Washington edges Utah to remain unbeaten

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Mitch Wishnowsky had pushed No. 4 Washington in a back-and-forth showdown with No. 17 Utah. The Utah punter had the Huskies on their heels and on the wrong side of the field so much that Washington coach Chris Petersen laughed when he pinned his team on the 7 in the third quarter.

But then Wishnowsky outkicked his coverage, somewhat, late in the fourth quarter and gave Washington an opening.

Dante Pettis returned the punt 58 yards for a touchdown with 3:25 left and Washington held off Utah 31-24 on Saturday to remain undefeated.

"Honestly, I thought I was going to get tackled to begin with," Pettis said. "I somehow slipped out of that. I was a little afraid because I lost about 5 yards to begin with. Once I got around that, my blockers did a good job setting up open space and that was it.

"That guy was a good punter. The best I've seen. The ball would just hang in the air forever and it was hard to judge where the ball was really going, but his leg paid off for us in the end."

After Utah tied it at 24 with 9:07 left, Washington (8-0, 5-0 Pac-12) pinned the Utes on their own 1 on quarterback Jake Browning's pooch punt. The Utes (7-2, 4-2) went three-and-out and punted to Pettis, who ran parallel toward the far sideline, broke a tackle and outran everyone else. It was Pettis' second punt return touchdown of the year and the first Utah has allowed since 2009.

Browning threw for 186 yards and two touchdowns, and Myles Gaskin ran for 151 and a touchdown.

"It was awesome for Dante to get that return at the end because that's a heck of a punter," Petersen said. "He's a weapon. We could get nothing. He just kept driving us back, driv-

ing us back. ... We finally got our chance and Dante made a couple guys miss and hats off to him.

"This is real football, Pac-12 football. ... This is how it goes, sometimes you have to grind out games in the fourth quarter."

Fans may have gotten a preview of the Pac-12 championship game as the Huskies continue to hold the top spot in the North Division. The Utes fell a game behind Colorado, but remain in the hunt.

Utah quarterback Troy Williams threw for 163 yards and two touchdowns while Joe Williams continued his remarkable post-retirement career with 172 rushing yards and a touchdown.

The two teams went back and forth in the second half after Washington led 14-10 at halftime. The Utes were on the ropes, trailing 14-0 in the second quarter, when safety Chase Hansen read Browning's eyes, jumped a deep route and returned the interception 30 yards to set up Joe Williams' 2-yard touchdown run. It was Browning's first interception since Sept. 24. Andy Phillips kicked a field goal as time expired in the second quarter.

"Did they win on that, I don't know," Utah coach Kyle Whittingham said about the punt return. "That's a great play by them, but if we punt it and they milk the clock down and kick a field goal, maybe that gave us our best chance to win — just get the ball back immediately. ... You never know how things are going to play out.

"That punt wasn't bad. We missed a tackle or two."

The Huskies have a clear path to the Pac-12 championship game and a possible College Football Playoff berth. Utah was the last team on the schedule that is currently ranked. An undefeated Pac-12 champion will likely be included in the playoff.



Knicks newcomers win Garden debut

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Joakim Noah pulled a hood over his head, covering a large bandage that hid an injury to his left ear.

No matter how bad his ear was, he definitely heard the fans chanting his name Saturday night.

"Game 1 at the Garden, stitched up, wouldn't have it any other way," Noah said.

Noah and fellow newcomers Derrick Rose and Courtney Lee all had impressive moments in their first home games at Madison Square Garden, and the New York Knicks used a fast start and strong finish to beat the Memphis Grizzlies 111-104.

Kristaps Porzingis scored 21 points and Carmelo Anthony had 20, including the three-point play that sparked the decisive spurt.

Rose had a couple of crossovers and quick bursts into the lane that showed his legs looked healthy and scored 13 points. Noah finished with six points, 10 rebounds and seven assists, and Lee scored 16 points as the Knicks got their first win under coach Jeff Hornacek after getting routed 117-88 by Cleveland in the NBA season opener.

"I mean, we were a completely different team tonight," Anthony said.

Trail Blazers 115, Nuggets 113 (OT): Damian Lillard scored 37 points, including the go-ahead floater with less than a second remaining in overtime, and visiting Portland won a game that featured a 28-minute delay in the fourth quarter due to a power surge.

Lillard blew past big man Kenneth Faried in the lane and floated in a shot with 0.3 seconds left. Lillard had tied the game on a runner in regulation with 2.1 seconds remaining. Denver led 90-85 early in the fourth quarter when a bank of

lights went out near the ceiling at the Pepsi Center. The teams shot jumpers until the game was restarted. Portland shot lights out in its return to the court — the Nuggets not as much, especially down the stretch when they squandered a nine-point lead.

CJ McCollum had seven of his 23 points in overtime to provide a spark for Portland.

Nikola Jokic led six Denver players in double figures with 23 points and he had a careerhigh 17 rebounds in the home opener for Denver.

Celtics 104, Hornets 98: Avery Bradley had 31 points on a career-high eight three-pointers as Boston defeated host Charlotte.

Bradley was 8 of 11 from beyond the arc and had 11 rebounds as the Celtics shot 75 percent from the field in the fourth quarter.

Cavaliers 105, Magic 99:

LeBron James scored 23 points, Kyrie Irving added 20 and Cleveland beat visiting Orlando for the 15th straight time.

Bucks 110, Nets 108: John Henson's tip-in at the buzzer gave host Milwaukee its first victory of the season.

Bulls 118, Pacers 101: Doug McDermott had 23 points, Jimmy Butler added 16 on 6 of 9 shooting and Rajon Rondo had 13 assists to lead host Chicago to its second straight win to open the season.

Spurs 98, Pelicans 79: Kawhi Leonard had 20 points and San Antonio won in its home opener.

Hawks 104, 76ers 72: At Philadelphia, Paul Millsap scored 17 points to lead five Atlanta players in double figures.

Kings 106, Timberwolves 103: DeMarcus Cousins had 29 points and Rudy Gay added 28 for host Sacramento.

Crosby, Malkin help power Penguins past Flyers

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Evgeni Malkin scored twice, including the tiebreaker in the third period, and Sidney Crosby also had two goals to lead the Pittsburgh Penguins to a 5-4 victory over the Philadelphia Flyers on Saturday night.

Matt Cullen also scored for the Penguins, who scored three times in a 55-second span in the first period while opening a four-game trip with their fourth win in the last five. Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 38 shots while making his ninth straight start (6-2-1).

Malkin's game-winner was his 300th career goal.

Jakub Voracek scored twice for the Flyers, and Claude Giroux and Wayne Simmonds each had one for Philadelphia.

Canadiens 2, Maple Leafs
1: Shea Weber scored a powerplay goal in the third period,
lifting host Montreal to its seventh straight victory.

Alex Galchenyuk also scored

for Montreal, which is 8-0-1 and the only NHL club without a regulation loss this season.

Nazem Kadri scored for the Leafs, who were coming off a 3-2 win Thursday over Florida.

Wild 4, Stars 0: Devan Dubnyk stopped 29 shots for his third straight shutout and 22nd of his career to lift host Minnesota.

Mikael Granlund, Nino Niederreiter, Eric Staal and Tyler Graovac scored for Minnesota, which improved to 6-2-1.

Sharks 4, Predators 1: Joe Pavelski and Tommy Wingels scored 17 seconds apart and host San Jose went on to beat Nashville in a rematch of last season's seven-game, second-round playoff series.

Joonas Donskoi also scored and Joe Thornton added an empty-netter as the Sharks picked up where they left off last spring from that all-home team series against the Predators.

Bruins 1, Red Wings 0: Tuukka Rask made 23 saves for his 31st career shutout with

visiting Boston.

Tim Schaller scored for the Bruins, who snapped a three-game losing streak and ended Detroit's six-game winning streak.

Capitals 5, Canucks 2: Marcus Johansson scored twice and visiting Washington beat Vancouver.

T.J. Oshie, Tom Wilson and Karl Alzner also scored for the Capitals, who avoided losing three straight for the first time since February 2015.

Philip Grubauer made 23 saves for Washington in his second start this year. Alex Ovechkin ended a four-game goal streak.

Devils 3, Lightning 1: Adam Henrique and Damon Severson set each other up for first-period goals and host New Jersey ended a five-game losing streak against Tampa Bay.

Cory Schneider had 32 saves following a rare night off and Devante Smith-Pelly got his first goal of the season, helping New Jersey rebound from an overtime loss to Chicago on Friday. Henrique scored his 100th career goal.

Sabres 3, Panthers 0: Anders Nilsson made 33 saves in his second NHL shutout and host Buffalo beat Florida.

Sam Reinhart had a goal and an assist for Buffalo. Johan Larsson and Kyle Okposo also scored. The Sabres snapped a four-game winless streak and earned their first home victory of the season.

Blues 1, Kings 0: Jake Allen stopped 27 shots and Jaden Schwartz scored early in the third period, leading host St. Louis over Los Angeles.

It was the first shutout for Allen this season and the 12th in his career.

Avalanche 3, Coyotes 2: Matt Duchene scored twice and visiting Colorado held on to beat road-weary Arizona.

Rene Bourque also scored for the Avalanche, who got 23 saves from backup goalie Calvin Pickard.

