

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Chief: Army must grow to fill train/assist missions

By COREY DICKSTEIN

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army intends to grow for a second consecutive year as it anticipates increasing need for soldiers to train and assist indigenous forces to fight global terrorism, the top general said Monday.

“Our fundamental strategic approach to deal with terrorism and terrorists is to work by, with and through host nations, partner nations, friends and allies — their indigenous security forces — in order to provide for a stable environment for their own country,” Gen. Mark Milley, the Army’s chief of staff, said Monday at the Association of the U.S. Army’s annual meeting in Washington. “By doing that, we’ll meet U.S. objectives.”

Milley said that mission is not expected to shrink in the near future.

In fiscal year 2018, the Army aims to add 17,000 soldiers to the 16,000 active-duty troops added last year — the first year of growth after repeated downsizing amid budget constraints. Those soldiers will help the Army offset losses to combat formations as it moves experienced soldiers into new, specialized units being built to train partner forces, Milley said.

Currently, the U.S. Army has about 180,000 troops forward deployed in about 140 countries. A large percentage are focused on training, advising and assisting forces, including in areas outside declared war zones such as Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, he said.

The extent to which American troops are advising local forces in other areas was thrust into focus last week when the Army announced that four of its soldiers — two Green Berets and two conventional soldiers assigned to 3rd Special Forces

Group at Fort Bragg, N.C. — were killed in an ambush in Niger on Oct. 4 during a partnered mission to meet with local community leaders in the West African nation.

While Special Forces units are largely responsible for training commando units of partner forces, Milley said the conventional Army is equally responsible for the mission to train, advise and assist.

That’s why the Army is developing new units called Security Force Assistance Brigades, or SFABs, made up of mid- to senior-level officers and non-commissioned officers tasked with deploying to train, advise and assist indigenous fighters.

The first unit of 500 to 600 soldiers is being formed at Fort Benning in Georgia. Milley said the Army aims to develop five SFABs in the regular Army and a sixth in the National Guard.

The new brigades will be structured like the 75th Rang-

er Regiment, and soldiers assigned to the units — the Army hopes to fill the brigades with volunteers — will face similarly stringent physical standards, Milley said.

By deploying the SFABs to train, advise and assist, Milley aims to increase dwell time for brigade combat teams so they have more time to train at home and at combat training centers for high-intensity conflict likely to occur in a war with a near-peer competitor, such as Russia, Iran or North Korea.

“We are likely to be involved in train, advise and assist operations across the world for many years to come,” Milley said Monday. “We think it’s about time we recognize that fact with force structure specifically designed to train, man and equip organizations that can go forward for those operations.”

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## At least 11 dead as wildfires ravage California

*Associated Press*

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — An onslaught of wildfires across a wide swath of Northern California broke out almost simultaneously, then grew exponentially, swallowing up properties from wineries to trailer parks and tearing through both tiny rural towns and urban subdivisions.

Authorities said at least 11 people are dead, with 100 injured, and as many as 1,500 homes and businesses have been destroyed. All three figures were expected to surge in the coming days as more information is reported.

A new blaze is threatening homes near the Oakmont area

of Santa Rosa, a city already battling unforgiving wildfires.

Taken as a group, the fires already are among the deadliest in California history.

Residents who gathered at emergency shelters and grocery stores said they were shocked by the speed and ferocity of the flames. They recalled all the possessions they had left behind.

“All that good stuff, I’m never going to see it again,” said Jeff Okrepkie, who fled his neighborhood in Santa Rosa knowing it was probably the last time he would see his home of the past five years standing.

His worst fears were confirmed Monday, when a friend

sent him a photo of what was left: a smoldering heap of burnt metal and debris.

Some of the largest of the 14 blazes burning over a 200-mile region were in Napa and Sonoma counties, home to dozens of wineries that attract tourists from around the world. They sent smoke as far south as San Francisco, about 60 miles away.

Much of the damage was in Santa Rosa, a far larger and more developed city than usually finds itself at the mercy of a wildfire. The city is home to 175,000 residents, including both the wine-country wealthy and the working class.

The flames were unforgiving

to both groups. Hundreds of homes of all sizes were leveled by flames so hot they melted the glass off of cars and turned aluminum wheels into liquid.

Former San Francisco Giants pitcher Noah Lowry, who now runs an outdoor sporting-goods store in Santa Rosa, was forced to flee in minutes along with his wife, two daughters and a son just over 2 weeks old. “I can’t shake hearing people scream in terror as the flames barreled down on us,” Lowry said.

The ferocity of the flames forced authorities to focus primarily on getting people out safely, even if it meant abandoning structures to the fire.

## Trump might visit DMZ during trip to S. Korea

*Bloomberg*

President Donald Trump may travel to the Demilitarized Zone separating the Koreas as part of his first visit to South Korea in November, Yonhap News reported Tuesday, citing an unidentified military official.

Trump is expected to send a “significant message” to North Korea either verbally or “kinetically” during the trip, Yonhap said, without elaborating on what that might mean.

While Trump would be following his predecessors by visiting the heavily fortified area, any visit to the truce village of Panmunjom and an observation post in the DMZ would take place amid escalating tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Trump tweeted on Sunday that only “one thing would work” to stop Kim Jong Un’s regime from further developing a nuclear arsenal aimed at hitting the U.S. mainland. While he didn’t provide further explanation, it left observers speculating that it might be a military choice. He’s also played down

hopes for direct talks between the U.S. and North Korea as touted by his own Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

“Presidents and their administrations have been talking to North Korea for 25 years, agreements made and massive amounts of money paid hasn’t worked, agreements violated before the ink was dry, making fools of U.S. negotiators,” he said in a pair of tweets.

A visit to the DMZ would fit Trump’s appetite for high theatrics, Bong Youngshik, a researcher at Yonsei University’s Institute for North Korean Studies in Seoul, South Korea, said by email.

“The image of him narrowing his eyes to stare across the DMZ. It is tweeting by another means,” Bong said. “Mr Trump may also think that if it provokes Pyongyang, all the better.”

The White House said in late September that Trump will travel to Japan, South Korea, China, Vietnam, the Philippines and Hawaii between Nov. 3 and Nov. 14, but a detailed itinerary hasn’t been released.

## FEMA: Puerto Rico’s politics hampers hurricane response

*The Washington Post*

The federal response to Hurricane Maria has been hindered by Puerto Rico’s political culture and a lack of unity among leaders on the island, Federal Emergency Management Agency administrator William “Brock” Long said Monday in a briefing with reporters at FEMA headquarters in Washington.

In the continental U.S., “politics between Republicans and Democrats is bad enough, but in Puerto Rico, politics is even worse in many cases,” Long said, adding that divisions on the island had undermined unity of purpose there.

His comments came at the end of an hourlong session in which he and two U.S. military generals defended the Trump administration’s response to the devastating hurricane. Long singled out the total collapse of communications across Puerto Rico as the greatest impediment to delivering food, water, fuel and other supplies to desperate survivors of the storm, which hit the island Sept. 20.

Long’s stated desire has been to be apolitical, he said Monday. But Long is a political appointee of President Donald Trump, and the administration’s response to Maria has been subject to abundant criticism.

## Las Vegas shooter fired on guard, then concertgoers

*Associated Press*

**LAS VEGAS** — Law enforcement authorities on Monday made a significant change to the timeline of the Las Vegas mass shooting, saying the gunman shot a hotel security guard before he opened fire on concertgoers.

Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo had previously said the guard was shot after gunman Stephen Paddock, 64, fired at the country music festival, and that the guard’s arrival in the hallway of the Mandalay Bay hotel may have caused Paddock to stop firing.

It was not immediately clear why the timeline of the shooting changed a week later and what the impact could be on the investigation.

On Monday, Lombardo said security guard Jesus Campos was in a hallway of the hotel responding to a report of an open door when he heard drilling from Paddock’s room. Paddock, who had installed three cameras to monitor an approach to his suite, opened fire through the door, spraying 200 shots down the hall and wounding the guard, who alerted other security officials, Lombardo said.

A few minutes later, Paddock began raining down bullets for 10 minutes in an attack that killed 58 people, Lombardo said.

Authorities also said Monday that Paddock targeted aviation fuel tanks, stocked his car with explosives and had protection gear as part of an escape plan.

Paddock had power tools and was attempting to drill a hole in an adjacent wall, perhaps to mount another camera or to point a rifle through, but he never completed the work, Lombardo said. He also drilled holes and bolted a metal bar to

try to prevent the opening of an emergency exit stairwell door near the door of his room.

Lombardo again expressed frustration with the pace of the investigation but not with the investigators who have yet to pinpoint the motive behind the shooter’s decision to fire from the 32nd floor of the hotel into a crowd of 22,000 on Oct. 1.

“It’s because this individual purposely hid his actions leading up to this event, and it is difficult for us to find the answers to those actions,” Lombardo said. “We believe he decided to take the lives he did and he had a very purposeful plan that he carried out.”

There is still no evidence Paddock was motivated by ideology or that there was another shooter, Lombardo said.

Lombardo said police and FBI agents, including behavioral profilers, still haven’t found a particular event in Paddock’s life that might have triggered the shooting. The sheriff added that a complete evaluation of Paddock’s mental condition was not yet done. Authorities didn’t find a note in his room, only a paper with numbers, he said.

The sheriff also confirmed investigators are talking with Paddock’s brother, Eric Paddock, who traveled to Las Vegas, and they continue to speak with the shooter’s girlfriend, Marilou Danley, to get insight.

Eric Paddock said he came to Las Vegas to retrieve his brother’s body in hopes of sending the cremated ashes to their 89-year-old mother in Orlando, Fla.

Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said Monday he could not discuss the results of an autopsy done on Paddock, who police said shot himself dead before officers arrived at his hotel suite.



## Trump: US should change tax law to punish NFL

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is suggesting the U.S. change its tax laws to punish organizations like the NFL if members are “disrespecting” the national anthem or flag.

The NFL gave up its federal tax-exempt status a few years ago and now files tax returns as a taxable entity. So it’s unlikely that Trump’s proposal, tweeted in the early hours Tuesday, would change anything.

Trump tweeted: “Why is the NFL getting massive tax breaks while at the same time disrespecting our Anthem, Flag and Country? Change tax law!”

Trump also tweeted Tuesday that ESPN ratings have “tanked” because of Jemele Hill, the anchor suspended for making political statements on social media.

While NFL viewership is down slightly, ESPN remains among the most popular cable networks, averaging 3 million viewers in prime time. The network has suffered subscriber losses over the last few years as some viewers have moved to streaming services from cable television.

Hill, a black co-host of the 6 p.m. broadcast of “SportsCenter,” received backlash last month after calling Trump a “white supremacist” in a series of tweets that referenced the president’s comments about a deadly white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va.

While ESPN took no formal action against Hill over the Trump comment, she did apologize to the network for the trouble her remarks had caused, while standing by the tweets. ESPN cited that apology in announcing Hill’s suspension Monday.

Hill targeted Jerry Jones on Twitter on Sunday after the Dallas Cowboys owner stated that players who disrespect the flag would not play for his team. She suggested fans who disagree with Jones should boycott the team’s advertisers and not buy the team’s merchandise.

# President suggests he is smarter than Rex Tillerson

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump says he has confidence in his secretary of state, even after suggesting he’s smarter than Rex Tillerson. Trump said in an interview published Tuesday that if Tillerson did call him a moron, as reported, the two should “compare IQ tests.” “And I can tell you who is going to win,” Trump said to Forbes magazine.

Trump’s tense relationship with Tillerson burst into public view last week. An NBC News story claimed Vice President Mike Pence had to talk Tillerson out of resigning this past summer, and that Tillerson had called Trump a “moron.”

Tillerson said he never con-

sidered resigning, though he didn’t directly address the reported insult. His spokeswoman later said he never used such language.

Trump has at times appeared to undercut Tillerson’s message on some of America’s most sensitive national security challenges, including Iran and North Korea.

“I told Rex Tillerson, our wonderful Secretary of State, that he is wasting his time trying to negotiate with Little Rocket Man,” Trump tweeted earlier this month, referring to the North’s leader, Kim Jong Un.

But responding to reporters’ questions during an Oval Office meeting with Henry Kissinger on Tuesday, Trump insisted, “No, I didn’t undercut anybody.

I don’t believe in undercutting people.”

Trump also said he continued to have confidence in Tillerson.

In the Forbes interview, done Friday, Trump responded to criticism that he’s undermined his secretary of state through his often provocative tweets that have interfered directly with ongoing diplomatic efforts.

“I’m not undermining,” Trump told Forbes. “I think I’m actually strengthening authority.”

As for Tillerson’s reported “moron” comment, the president said, “I think it’s fake news. But if he did that, I guess we’ll have to compare IQ tests. And I can tell you who is going to win.”

## Trump again blasts Corker as GOP senators urge end to spat

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump lashed out at Sen. Bob Corker as “Liddle’ Bob Corker” on Tuesday, continuing a feud with the Tennessee Republican who’s dubbed the White House an “adult day care center” and charged that Trump could be setting the nation on the path toward World War III.

Fellow GOP senators, treading carefully, avoided choosing sides. But leading lawmakers called on both men to end a quarrel that could imperil the Republican agenda on Capitol Hill. Trump will need Corker if he is to get big tax changes through the Senate, where the narrow GOP majority was unable to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Corker also figures to be a key player if Trump moves as expected to unwind the Iran nuclear deal.

“I have a lot of respect for Sen. Corker and what he brings to the Senate, but I think the president is leading in the right direction and I’m supportive of what he’s doing,” Sen. Roy Blunt, of Missouri, a member of the GOP leadership, told reporters Tuesday. “I would encourage them both to stop what they’re doing and get focused on what we need to be doing.”

Blunt’s comments followed a plea from GOP Sen. Chuck Grassley at a town hall meeting in Jefferson, Iowa, on Monday for Trump and Cork-

er to “cool it.”

“And I think it would help if the president would be the first to cool it,” Grassley said. “I think it would be better if we stuck to the issues and leave personalities out of it.”

Trump’s tweet Tuesday alleged that Corker was “set up” by “the failing” New York Times in a recorded interview Sunday. Corker, who is not running for re-election, leveled searing criticism at Trump and said his conduct “would have to concern anyone who cares about our nation.”

In the interview, Corker said Trump could set the U.S. “on the path to World War III” with threats toward other countries.

Corker “was made to sound a fool, and that’s what I am dealing with!” Trump wrote on Twitter. Corker’s office declined to respond but a Times spokeswoman, Danielle Rhoades Ha, said “the interview with Senator Corker was on the record and he knew it was being recorded.”

Corker’s comments echoed what some Republicans say privately. But Trump’s enduring popularity with a segment of the GOP base serves as a political muzzle that keeps most elected Republicans from saying anything similar, even those who believe it to be true.

And Trump still has plenty of loyalists on Capitol Hill, several of whom voiced displeasure with Corker’s remarks.

# Catalonia leader urges independence delay

The Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain — Catalan President Carles Puigdemont told the Catalan parliament that a landslide victory in the region's disputed Oct. 1 referendum on independence gives his government grounds to implement its long-held desire to break century-old ties with Spain. But he is suggesting holding off.

Puigdemont's speech was highly critical of the Spanish government's response to the referendum, but he said Catalans have nothing against Spain or Spaniards, and that they want to understand each other better.

At the end of his speech, Puig-

demont was applauded by standing separatist lawmakers.

Security was tight in Barcelona, and police cordoned off a park surrounding the legislative building where Puigdemont gave his address to lawmakers.

The speech, initially scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., was delayed by an hour following a request by Puigdemont because a parliamentary group needed to hold a meeting on opposition lawmakers' request to cancel the session.

Before the speech, in Brussels, European Council President Donald Tusk pleaded directly with the Catalan leadership to choose dialogue rather than a divisive call for independence.

"I ask you to respect in your intentions the constitutional order and not to announce a decision that would make such a dialogue impossible," he said.

If Puigdemont had declared secession — or an outright proclamation of a new Catalan Republic — it would have been met with fierce opposition by central Spanish authorities, who could take the unprecedented step of suspending the self-government of Catalonia and taking over some or all powers in the region.

Puigdemont himself could end up in prison.

Some 2.3 million Catalans — or 43 percent of the electorate in the north-eastern region

— turned out to vote in the Oct. 1 independence referendum, which the Spanish government said was illegal. Regional authorities say 90 percent who voted were in favor and declared the results of the vote valid.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy's government had repeatedly refused to grant Catalonia permission to hold a referendum on grounds that it was unconstitutional since it would only poll a portion of Spain's 46 million residents.

Catalonia's separatists camp has grown in recent years, strengthened by Spain's recent economic crisis and by Madrid's rejection of attempts to increase self-rule in the region.

## Turkey says arrested US consulate staffer a spy

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Tuesday branded a U.S. Consulate staffer who was arrested by Turkish authorities a spy and said it was Turkey's rights to take steps against "an internal threat," in the latest swipe in an escalating feud with the United States.

Speaking at a news conference in Belgrade, Serbia, Erdogan also accused the U.S. ambassador to Turkey of wrecking ties between the NATO allies by suspending

the issuing of visas to Turkish citizens at U.S. diplomatic missions following the arrest of Metin Topuz, a Turkish citizen employed at the U.S. Consulate in Istanbul.

The U.S. suspended considering visa applications on Sunday, saying it wanted to reassess Turkey's commitment to the safety of U.S. personnel. Turkey retaliated by halting visas services in the U.S.

"How did these spies infiltrate the American Consulate? If they didn't infiltrate the American Consulate, who put them there?" Erdogan said, speaking alongside the Serbi-

an president. "No state would allow such spies that pose an internal threat."

He was referring to Topuz as well as a second consulate employee whom Turkish authorities say they want to question.

Turkish authorities accuse Topuz of espionage and alleged ties to U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen's movement, which Turkey says was behind last year's failed coup.

Earlier, Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said Turkey did not need Washington's permission to prosecute its citizens and slammed the U.S. for the arrest of a Turkish banker

for his alleged role in helping Iran escape U.S. sanctions, and for its failure to extradite Gulen.

U.S. Ambassador John Bass said in a video message released late Monday that Turkish authorities had failed to show any evidence against Topuz and that he had insufficient access to a lawyer.

He also said the arrest "raised questions whether the goal of some officials is to disrupt the long-standing cooperation between Turkey and the U.S."

## Media: S. Korean lawmaker says North may have hacked war plans

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — A South Korean lawmaker said Tuesday that North Korean hackers may have stolen highly classified military documents that include U.S.-South Korean wartime "decapitation strike" plans against the North, according to South Korean media reports.

Rep. Lee Cheol-hee, a lawmaker for the ruling Demo-

cratic Party, cited unidentified defense officials as saying the hackers stole the plans last year, according to the reports. Neither Lee nor Defense Ministry officials responded to attempts late Tuesday to confirm the stories.

If confirmed, such a hack would be a major blow for South Korea at a time when its relations with North Korea are at a low point.

The South has taken an in-

creasingly aggressive stance toward the North's belligerence amid back-and-forth threats of war between North Korea and U.S. President Donald Trump.

Among the classified plans allegedly stolen from the South were said to be blueprints for targeted attacks by Seoul and Washington to eliminate North Korean leader Kim Jong Un if a crisis breaks out or appears imminent. Kim is the third

generation of his family to rule North Korea.

The South's Yonhap news agency quoted Lee as saying that 235 gigabytes of military documents were taken.

While nearly 80 percent of the documents had not yet been identified, they reportedly included contingency plans for South Korean special forces and information on military facilities and power plants, it said.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Military re-enactment alarms churchgoers

**FL** BELLEVIEW — Sounds of rapid machine-gun and cannon fire cut through the Sunday morning quiet, sending members of a nearby Florida church diving for cover as they feared a repeat of the recent mass shooting in Las Vegas.

"It was crazy," said Bellevue Church of Christ Pastor David Creek. He told the Ocala Star-Banner he had just made reference to the Las Vegas shooting in his Sunday morning sermon when the first shots sounded.

The "gunfire" turned out to be coming from a re-enactment group. David Thomas, president of the First Florida chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association, said the annual re-enactment involved a mix of five vintage tanks and blank fire from tank guns and machine guns.

## Golf cart driver struck and killed on highway

**MD** PRINCE FREDERICK — The driver of a golf cart died after he was struck by a car on a highway.

The Washington Post reported the accident occurred about 9:30 p.m. Saturday.

According to the Calvert County Sheriff's Office, the golf cart driver, who was not identified, was flung from his cart when he struck a curb trying to cross Maryland Route 4, a divided highway. The man was then struck by passing vehicles.

## Woman lights firework she thought was candle

**IL** ANTIOCH — A 30-year-old woman was injured after lighting a firework she mistook for a candle.

The Lake County Sheriff's Office said someone else brought the firework to a Saturday night gathering in Antioch. The woman picked it up thinking it was a candle and lit it. The explosion seriously injured her hand. It also injured another adult and a child.

The sheriff's office described the firework as multicolored and the size of "a quarter-stick of dynamite." A 28-year-old who allegedly brought it to the gathering was charged with reckless conduct and child endangerment.

## Mulch dropped from helicopter kills man

**UT** SALT LAKE CITY — Authorities said an Alpine man died after being struck on the head by debris dropped from a helicopter in the Iron County area.

Crews on Saturday were conducting aerial drops of straw mulch over the burn scar left by the Brian Head Fire in July. The Deseret News reported that a 58-year-old crewmember was on the ground calling out locations to drop the mulch when he was hit by falling debris.

Authorities said the helicopter pilot noticed the injured man and contacted another ground crew, which called 911.

## Man killed lay dead for hours near street

**AK** KETCHIKAN — An Alaska man lay dead near the streets of Ketchikan for more than 12 hours before police were called to check on him.

The Ketchikan Daily News reported that police were alerted to the body of Richard Branda, 55, late Friday morning after he had been killed Thursday evening. Police have arrested a man in connection with the death.

Ketchikan Police Department Chief Joe White said the caller reported that Branda was possibly asleep or passed out. The body was near a sidewalk between shipping containers and a building. Authorities have not identified a cause of death, but they say some sort of physical altercation occurred between Branda and the man arrested.

## Couples compete in wife-carrying contest

**ME** NEWRY — It was a messy slog but a Virginia couple reaped the rewards of cash and beer in the North American Wife Carrying Championship.

Jake and Kirsten Barney, of Lexington, Va., finished first Saturday on an alpine course made all the more difficult because Jake was carrying his wife on his back when he trudged through water and jumped over logs.

The event is based on the Finland legend of "Ronkainen the Robber," whose gang pillaged villages and took the women.

## Gubernatorial candidate needs only 1 vote to win

**MT** MANHATTAN — There's one person running for mayor of Manhattan, and he only needs to vote for himself to win.

The Bozeman Daily Chronicle reported that Glen Clements was the only person to apply to be a write-in candidate for the position on the November ballot. Under Montana law, any other write-in votes won't be counted because he's the only registered write-in candidate.

The Navy veteran and geological engineer has lived in the town of about 1,500 people for six years. Clements said his neighbors — the city's secretary and a police officer — told him no one was running and encour-

aged him to.

## Environmental officials fine inmate for trash

**OR** COOS BAY — Oregon environmental regulators issued a fine against a Coos County man for tons of trash piled up around his property near the Oregon Coast, but the case has a twist.

The Register-Guard reported that the state Department of Environmental Quality sent the man notice of the \$25,393 fine while he's serving a five-year prison sentence. Willy Joe Jenkins is an inmate at Snake River Correctional Institute in Ontario. He was convicted in 2015 of gun and methamphetamine crimes.

The DEQ gave Jenkins until mid-November to clean up the mess, but he still has more than two years to serve in prison.

## Mom leaves child alone in car during jail visit

**FL** ORLANDO — Officials said a Florida resident left her 3-year-old child alone in a vehicle while she visited an inmate at a jail.

Local news outlets said Rachael Etienne, 21, was charged with child neglect on Sunday.

Orange County Deputy Ingrid Tejada-Monforte said corrections officials found the child while making rounds. The car was locked, the engine was turned off and the windows were slightly opened. The temperature was 90 degrees.

An arrest affidavit says surveillance video shows the child was in the car alone for about 18 minutes. Tejada-Monforte said the child was sweating profusely but otherwise uninjured.

The Department of Children and Families turned the child over to the custody of a family member.

From wire reports

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# Astros finish off Red Sox in ALDS

Associated Press

BOSTON — The Houston Astros poured back onto the field after advancing to their first AL Championship Series, posing for pictures with the Green Monster as a backdrop before a few players bellyflopped in the puddles in the infield dirt.

No matter, they were already soaked from celebratory beer and sparkling wine.

“Both teams were throwing their guys, and that’s what you live for,” Houston third baseman Alex Bregman said on Monday after Justin Verlander came out of the bullpen to beat Chris Sale in an aces-turned-relievers role reversal and helped the Astros eliminate the Red Sox in four games with a 5-4 victory.

“When we saw Verlander run to the ‘pen we said, ‘Our horse is on the mound, we need to win this game,’” said Bregman, who homered off Sale to tie it in the eighth before Josh Reddick’s single gave the Astros the lead. “That’s kind of the whole energy that he’s brought since we brought him over here. He’s brought an energy with him

that, ‘Hey, when he’s out there, we’re going to win.’”

Verlander, who was acquired for the playoff run after spending his first 13 seasons in Detroit, gave up the go-ahead homer to Andrew Benintendi — the first batter he faced — before shutting Boston down for the next 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings.

The former AL MVP and Cy Young winner earned the victory in his first relief appearance after 424 starts in a major and minor league career.

“All the things that you would like to do as a starter, and I was able to do that,” Verlander said. “Top to bottom, man, these guys grinded against two of the toughest competitors in this game in Sale and (closer Craig) Kimbrel.”

The Astros will open the ALCS on Friday, either at Cleveland or at home against the New York Yankees. The Indians and Yankees will play a decisive Game 5 on Wednesday night.

The Red Sox forced a Game 4 after losing the first two games in Houston, and then took a 3-2 lead in the fifth on Benintendi’s homer. Bregman tied it before

Reddick’s single off closer Craig Kimbrel made it 4-3.

Carlos Beltran added to his postseason legacy with an RBI double in the ninth — an insurance run that became the game-winner when Rafael Devers hit an inside-the-park homer off closer Ken Giles over leaping center fielder George Springer and off the Green Monster toward center.

The 20-year-old Red Sox rookie easily circled the bases before the throw to make it 5-4.

Giles retired the next three batters for the six-out save.

“The two big boys, Sale and Verlander, both get into the game. Everybody did well,” Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. “Nobody really wanted to concede the game.”

The Astros last reached the league championship series in 2005 as a National League team, and were swept in the World Series by the White Sox. This year’s team, wearing “Houston Strong” patches to support the city that was flooded in Hurricane Harvey, is hoping to finish the job.

“The city of Houston is still

rebuilding,” Hinch said. “It’s easy for us to look in the rear-view mirror and think that the hurricane is over (but) the rebuild is not going to stop for a long time. ... We want to win for them, we want to win for us, we want to win because we showed up in spring training to try to win a World Series.”

Springer and Yuli Gurriel each had three hits for the AL West champions, and Reddick’s go-ahead single made up for misplaying a fly ball into a home run in Game 3 to force a fourth game. Reddick got a postgame drenching in the clubhouse while wearing a red, white and blue flag Speedo.

Verlander also beat Sale in the playoff opener and is now 7-0 for his new team. Sale, who had never appeared in the postseason before 2017, pitched 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings, allowing two runs and four hits, striking out six.

“This is what we show up to spring training for. It’s what we work all offseason for. Ups and downs, all around the country,” Sale said. “This is what we live for.”

## Cubs overcome Scherzer to take series lead over Nats

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Moments after his go-ahead hit, Anthony Rizzo walked across the infield at frenzied Wrigley Field and shouted “Respect me! Respect me!”

A year after their historic championship, Rizzo and the Chicago Cubs are fighting for another memorable October.

Rizzo blooped a tiebreaking single into left field with two outs in the eighth and the Cubs overcame Max Scherzer’s brilliant performance to beat the Washington Nationals 2-1 on Monday for a 2-1 lead in their NL Division Series.

The Nationals had a base open with Rizzo coming to the plate and pinch runner Leonys Martin on second, but manager Dusty Baker elected to pitch to

the slugger with Willson Conteras on-deck. Oliver Perez came in and Rizzo looped his first pitch into shallow left-center, finding a patch of grass between three Washington fielders.

Rizzo stumbled after he took a big turn around first and was tagged out to end the inning, but he didn’t seem to care too much, demanding veneration as the Cubs came out of the dugout for the ninth.

“I want to make guys pay,” Rizzo said. “I hit where I hit in the order. I drive in runs, and that’s just the mentality that I always take in. Usually I keep that stuff behind the scenes and say that stuff, but just my emotions got me there.”

Baker had a different viewpoint. Asked if Rizzo, who drove

in two runs in each of the first two games of the series, seems like a player who gets hits at key moments in the playoffs, Baker responded: “Well, yeah, I guess. I mean, it’s not really turning it on when you bloop one in there, you know what I mean?”

Scherzer was dominant in his return from a right hamstring injury, carrying a no-hitter into the seventh. But just like in Game 1, when Chicago was held hitless into the sixth by Stephen Strasburg, the World Series champion Cubs showed off their resilience on the way to a stirring victory.

Chicago committed four errors, including two by left fielder Kyle Schwarber on one ugly play, and Jason Heyward also made an uncharacteristic base-

running mistake. But the Cubs got a huge pinch-hit RBI single from Albert Almora Jr. and a solid pitching performance from Jose Quintana in the return of postseason baseball to Wrigley after last year’s World Series ended in Cleveland.

After Rizzo’s big hit, All-Star Wade Davis retired three in a row for his second save of the series. Jayson Werth popped out to Rizzo to end the game.

“We made mistakes,” manager Joe Maddon said. “We made some errors, but then we made some great plays.”

Scherzer struck out seven before he was pulled after Ben Zobrist doubled to left-center on his 98th pitch for Chicago’s first hit with one out in the seventh.

# Yanks win Game 4, even ALDS with Indians

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Luis Severino, Aaron Judge and the New York Yankees are headed back to Cleveland for a decisive Game 5 — thanks to plenty of help from the Indians.

Severino rebounded from his playoff debacle, Judge delivered a big hit and the Yankees took advantage of shoddy defense by Cleveland to beat the Indians 7-3 Monday night and even their AL Division Series at two games apiece.

"We've got a shot now," said New York manager Joe Girardi, harshly criticized for his Game 2 decisions. "So it's a totally different feeling than it was the other day, and these guys have picked me up."

Gary Sanchez homered and a slumping Judge laced an early two-run double for his only hit of the series to go with 12 strikeouts in 15 at-bats.

Cleveland starter Trevor Bauer struggled on three days' rest and was chased in the second inning. But it was on the wet Yankee Stadium field where the Indians really flopped, committing a season-high four

errors that marked a franchise record for a postseason game and led to six unearned runs.

The defending AL champions made only 76 errors all season, the lowest total in the league.

"The whole night, we made it hard on ourselves to win," manager Terry Francona said.

After preventing a three-game sweep with a 1-0 win Sunday night, the wild-card Yankees will start CC Sabathia against his original team in Game 5 on Wednesday. Indians ace Corey Kluber gets the ball in a rematch from Game 2, when he was hit hard by New York.

"It's hard to imagine giving it to somebody better," Francona said. "We're looking forward to it."

The winner faces Houston in the AL Championship Series after the Astros finished off Boston in four games Monday to win their ALDS.

"We've got a young team and they're hungry," Severino said.

Simply taking two in a row to send the series back to Cleveland was no small feat for the Yankees. The last time the In-

dians lost consecutive games was Aug. 22-23 at home against Boston, just before starting their AL-record 22-game winning streak. From that point on, Cleveland had gone 35-4 before arriving in the Bronx for Game 3 of the ALDS.

Minus injured slugger Edwin Encarnacion, the Indians have scored three runs in two games since.

Severino got only one out in the wild-card game against Minnesota last Tuesday, but was bailed out by his teammates as New York advanced with an 8-4 victory. This time, the 23-year-old ace was determined to come through, and he did.

"I think he was able to relax a lot more. He was able to control his adrenaline," Girardi said. "He was able to channel things down and make his pitch, as opposed to just trying to power his way through it."

Handed an early 5-0 lead and showing lots of emotion on the mound, the fired-up righty struck out nine in seven innings. With the crowd of 47,316 chanting his name, Severino

threw 113 pitches and gave up four hits — including Carlos Santana's two-run homer and Roberto Perez's solo shot.

"I told him after the game, he grew up a lot today," Girardi said.

Tommy Kahnle relieved a wild Dellin Betances in the eighth and got six straight outs — five on strikeouts — for his first save of the season as New York improved to 3-0 when facing playoff elimination this year.

"There's a lot of confidence in that room," Girardi said.

Sanchez hit his second home run of the series off Bryan Shaw in the sixth to make it 7-3.

A rainy day in the Big Apple prevented both teams from taking batting practice on the field. But the tarp was pulled and play started right on time, with fans in hooded ponchos bunched below the overhangs seeking cover from a heavy drizzle.

Showers dissipated in the bottom of the first, though a few puddles remained on the slick warning track all night.

# Dodgers sweep Diamondbacks, move into NLCS

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Led by a big Japanese right-hander and a rookie from just down the road, the Los Angeles Dodgers are headed back to the NL Championship Series.

Cody Bellinger homered, drove in two runs and flipped over a dugout railing to steal an out for a dominant Yu Darvish, helping the Dodgers beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-1 Monday night to finish a three-game sweep in their NL Division Series.

"We have a great team," said Bellinger, a rookie from nearby Chandler, Ariz. "And to come here and sweep them, beat them on their home turf is hard to do and pretty special."

Darvish, acquired from Texas in a trade deadline deal, struck out seven over five in-

nings to outpitch Arizona's Zack Greinke and earn the righty his first postseason victory in three tries.

"Yu's one of the best pitchers in the world," said Dodgers catcher Austin Barnes, who also homered. "When he's on his game, it's tough for any lineup."

Four Los Angeles relievers combined to preserve a three-hitter. Kenley Jansen worked around a single by David Peralta for a three-out save, striking out Paul Goldschmidt to end it. Only four batters reached base all night for the Diamondbacks, including Daniel Descalso with a homer.

"It was about finishing them off," Darvish said, "because momentum can go their way."

The Dodgers, who won 104 games for the best record in

baseball and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs, face the winner of the Nationals-Cubs series in the NLCS. Los Angeles fell there to World Series champion Chicago last year.

The Dodgers confined most of their celebration to the clubhouse, never making a move for the pool beyond the outfield wall. Los Angeles distressed the locals by taking a dip there after clinching the NL West in 2013, but for this party, police officers on horses waited at the warning track to keep the Dodgers away.

That was fine by the Dodgers. This wasn't the bash they're after, anyway.

"Being around this team for long enough, this is where we expect to be," ace Clayton Kershaw said. "We are fortunate

enough to be in a big market, have a big payroll, have a lot of good players, a lot of talent. They did a great job of putting this team together. They expect us to be here and we expect us to be here, too."

Bellinger hit his homer in the fifth, then made a daring catch to end the bottom of the inning. The rookie first baseman fell into the Dodgers dugout as he snagged Jeff Mathis' popup, nearly dropping into the lap of manager Dave Roberts.

"I should have been a little quicker to save him," Roberts said, "but that was a heck of a play."

The 22-year-old Bellinger is the youngest Dodger ever to homer in the postseason — he's 75 days younger than Corey Seager was when he set the mark last fall.



# Keenum steps in to lead Vikings to win

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Minnesota Vikings know they have an insurance policy if Sam Bradford's knee remains a problem.

Case Keenum has proven this before and did it again Monday against the Chicago Bears in a 20-17 victory.

"I've tried to prepare like I've been the starter," Keenum said. "I think that helps when you're called upon and need to step in, so you can do the same job as the guy that's been doing it."

"Be able to see the defense the same way and make the calls the same way. Being prepared like that helps."

With a game against the Green Bay Packers coming Sunday, the Vikings won't know Bradford's status until later in the week. Bradford failed to make it through his first game back since suffering swelling and soreness in a surgically repaired left knee.

Sacked four times, an obviously immobile Bradford came out just before halftime after a

5-for-11 performance.

"It just got to a point where it was hurting him bad enough where he couldn't finish," Vikings running back Jerick McKinnon said.

Keenum came in and led the win by completing 17 of 21 passes for 140 yards and a touchdown. He was 14-for-18 and 119 yards in the second half.

Keenum was 1-2 in three starts before Monday's Vikings win.

"He did a great job executing," McKinnon said. "It's real tough in this league to come into that situation and do what he did."

"Everybody believes in him and he showed why."

Keenum threw a 13-yard TD pass to Kyle Rudolph in the third quarter for a 10-2 lead, and in the fourth quarter the Vikings benefited from Harrison Smith's interception to score the winning points on a 26-yard Kai Forbath field goal with 12 seconds remaining.

The interception spoiled Mitchell Trubisky's night — he

completed 12 of 25 for 128 yards.

"I just have to do a better job of taking care of the football," Trubisky said. "We need to work on the little things, really."

Other notes and takeaways from the game:

**Breakaway threat:** Even with running back Dalvin Cook out for the year with a torn ACL, the Vikings showed they have breakaway speed in the backfield. McKinnon had a 58-yard TD run around the right side in the third quarter for a 17-9 lead. It was the Vikings' longest run of the season.

McKinnon finished with 95 yards on 16 carries.

"My main focus was to make plays, feed off Latavius (Murray), C.J. (Ham), those guys, the running backs, bring the energy and make plays," McKinnon said.

**Mixed debut:** Trubisky was down about his fourth-quarter interception, but Bears coach John Fox called it an upbeat

debut regardless of the big mistake. Trubisky's leadership was a key. He also scrambled for 22 yards.

"I think our guys feel it," Fox said. "I think they feel his presence."

Smith, who made the decisive interception, was equally impressed with Trubisky.

"You can tell he definitely has some skill and he is going to be a player," Smith said.

**TD celebration:** Vikings tight end Kyle Rudolph and teammates had planned an unconventional TD celebration, and Rudolph's 13-yard TD catch in the third quarter gave them a chance to do it.

"Duck, duck, goose was planned in the huddle right before we went out," Rudolph said. "We called the play, the play we run all week in practice. I knew somebody was going to score."

"I said whoever scores here you're the duck. Everybody else sit down here in a circle and we will have some fun."

## NHL roundup

# Matthews' OT goal lifts Leafs over Chicago

Associated Press

TORONTO — Auston Matthews had his own goalie taking pity on their opponent after his latest timely goal.

Matthews beat Anton Forsberg 3:43 into overtime to lift the Toronto Maple Leafs to a 4-3 comeback win against the Chicago Blackhawks on Monday night.

The 20-year-old Matthews had very little space to work with but ripped a wrist shot over Forsberg's glove for his second goal of the season.

"I think that puck's still sitting back up there," said Toronto netminder Fredrik Andersen. "Not a lot of guys can stop that puck in this league. Hell of a goal."

Matthews' goal came on a 2-on-1 and capped three in a row to erase Chicago's 3-1 lead.

"I just walked in and tried to fake a pass, get [Forsberg] leaning a bit and snuck it by him," Matthews said.

"I thought we showed a lot of poise being

able to crawl back into it," he added. "As the game went on we got better and better and that's the way you want to play."

Matthews played much of the night matched up against Chicago's top line with Patrick Kane. Matthews finished with six shots on net and the winning goal while Kane, who entered with 22 points in 13 career games against Toronto, finished minus-three with one shot and no points.

"Auston was determined, he was playing head to head against Kane all night, did a real nice job," said Leafs coach Mike Babcock.

Nikita Zaitsev, Connor Brown and James van Riemsdyk also scored for the Maple Leafs, who have won their first three games.

Jan Rutta, Jonathan Toews and Richard Panik had goals for the Blackhawks.

Andersen made 18 saves for the win while Forsberg stopped 39 shots.

Outside of the opening three minutes, the first period belonged to the Blackhawks,

and they went into the intermission up 2-0.

**Blues 3, Islanders 2 (SO):** Brayden Schenn and Vladimir Tarasenko scored shootout goals to lift visiting St. Louis to its third straight win to start the season.

**Avalanche 4, Bruins 0:** Semyon Varlamov stopped 29 shots, Nail Yakupov scored two goals and Colorado continued its recent success in Boston.

**Lightning 4, Capitals 3 (OT):** Brayden Point scored on a power play in overtime and Tampa Bay held high-scoring Alex Ovechkin pointless in its victory.

**Devils 6, Sabres 2:** Rookie Jesper Bratt and Marcus Johansson each had two goals and an assist and visiting New Jersey won.

**Jets 5, Oilers 2:** Nikolaj Ehlers had a hat trick and an assist and visiting Winnipeg captured its first win of the season.

**Flames 2, Ducks 0:** Mike Smith made 43 saves and Calgary ended a 25-game skid at Honda Center with a win over Anaheim.