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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Kurds withdraw as Iraqi forces enter Kirkuk

Associated Press

KIRKUK, Iraq — Kurdish forces were withdrawing from Kirkuk on Monday as Iraqi federal forces moved in to the disputed city and seized oil fields and other infrastructure amid soaring tensions over last month's Kurdish vote for independence.

Kurdish officials accused the Iraqi army of carrying out a "major, multi-prong attack," and reported heavy clashes on the city's outskirts, but a spokesman for Iraq's state-backed militias said they encountered little resistance.

By midday, federal forces had moved into several major oil fields north of the city, as well as its airport and an important military base, according to Iraqi commanders. Kurdish party headquarters inside Kirkuk had been abandoned.

The U.S., which has armed, trained and provided vital air support to both sides in their shared struggle against Islamic State, described Monday's events as "coordinated movements, not attacks," while bemoaning the dispute as a distraction against a common enemy.

It said the limited exchange of fire was a

"misunderstanding."

After initial reports of clashes in and around the city, it appeared by the afternoon as though the vastly outnumbered Kurdish forces, known as the peshmerga, were pulling out with hardly a fight.

Local police stayed in place in Kirkuk as Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi called on civil servants to remain at their posts to serve the city.

"We have only acted to fulfill our constitutional duty and extend the federal authority and impose security and protect the national wealth in this city," he said.

Still, thousands of civilians could be seen leaving with their belongings heading north along the roads that lead to Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region.

Kirkuk, home to some 1 million Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen and Christians, has been at the heart of a long-running dispute between the autonomous Kurdish region and the central government in Baghdad. Both are close allies of the U.S.

The Kurdistan Region Security Council said early Monday that the peshmerga destroyed at least five U.S.-supplied Hum-

vees being used by Iraq's state-sanctioned militias following the "unprovoked attack" south of the city.

Brig. Gen. Bahzad Ahmed, a spokesman for Kurdish forces, said federal forces seized an oil and gas company and other industrial areas south of Kirkuk in fighting with Kurdish forces that caused "lots of casualties," without providing a specific figure.

He said Iraqi forces have "burnt lots of houses and killed many people" south of the disputed city. His claims could not be independently verified.

A spokesman for Iraq's state-sanctioned militias said they had "achieved all our goals" in retaking areas from Kurdish forces in and around the northern city. Ahmed al-Assadi said federal forces came under fire from "some rebels" after launching the operation early Monday and returned fire. He did not say whether they suffered any casualties.

Tensions have soared since the Kurds held a nonbinding referendum last month in which they voted for independence from Iraq.

Bergdahl pleads guilty to desertion, misbehavior

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl pleaded guilty Monday to charges that he deserted his combat post in Afghanistan and misbehaved before the enemy, acts he told a judge were "very inexcusable" and endangered his fellow troops.

The former Taliban captive entered the pleas during a hearing at Fort Bragg, N.C., without any pretrial agreement with prosecutors to cap his maximum punishment, leaving his fate entirely in the hands of the judge overseeing his case, Army Col. Jeffery Nance. The more serious misbehavior charge carries a maximum penalty that includes life imprisonment. The desertion charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison.

Bergdahl, 31, told Nance that he agreed walking off Observation Post Mest on June

30, 2009, in the mountains of eastern Afghanistan was wrong and amounted to misconduct.

"I left my platoon on a battlefield, in an area where there were a lot of enemy, one man short," Bergdahl said, adding he did not consider the greater consequences of his actions — including spawning dangerous search-and-rescue operations — when he left.

"Sir, at the time, I had no thinking that anyone would come searching for me," Bergdahl said, speaking softly as Nance questioned him for nearly an hour following his plea. "However, looking back, I understand it was a very serious mistake."

The soldier's plea sets up a pre-sentence trial to begin Oct. 23 at Fort Bragg. That trial is likely to span several days and to include potentially dramatic testimony about three servicemembers seriously injured on two separate search-and-rescue missions launched in the days after Bergdahl's

disappearance.

Two of those injured servicemembers suffered career-ending and permanently disabling injuries. Army National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Mark Allen was shot in the head July 8, 2009, while on a mission in Paktika province to find Bergdahl, leaving him confined to a wheelchair and unable to speak. Senior Chief Petty Officer Jimmy Hatch, a Navy SEAL, was shot through the leg a day later on a special operations mission to locate the captured soldier, leaving him with a permanent limp.

Bergdahl's guilty plea had been expected and it signals to the judge that he is showing remorse and taking responsibility for his actions, said Eric Carpenter, an assistant professor of law at Florida International University and former Army defense attorney and prosecutor. But without a plea agreement in place, the move is "very risky," he added.

At least 300 killed in Somalia bombing

Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia — More than 300 people are dead after the truck bombing in Somalia's capital and scores of others remain missing, authorities said Monday, as the fragile Horn of Africa nation reeled from one of the world's worst attacks in years.

As funerals continued, the government said the death toll is expected to rise.

Another nearly 400 people are injured, many badly burned, after Saturday's bombing targeted a crowded street in Mogadishu. Somalia's government has blamed the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab, Africa's deadliest Islamic extremist group, which has not commented.

As hospitals and families continued to count the dead, nearly 70 people remained missing, based on accounts from rela-

tives, said police Capt. Mohamed Hussein. He said many bodies were burned to ashes in the attack.

More than 70 critically injured people were airlifted to Turkey for treatment as international aid began to arrive, officials said. Nervous relatives stood on the tarmac at the airport, praying for the recovery of their loved ones.

Overwhelmed hospitals in Mogadishu have struggled to assist badly wounded victims, many burned beyond recognition. Exhausted doctors struggled to keep their eyes open as the screams from victims or newly bereaved families echoed in the halls.

The attack is one of the deadliest attacks in sub-Saharan Africa, larger than the Garissa University attack in Kenya in 2015, in which 148 died, and the U.S. Embassy bombings in

Kenya and Tanzania in 1998, in which about 219 were killed.

Countries including Kenya and Ethiopia have offered to send medical aid in response to what Somali's government has called a "national disaster," said Information Minister Abdirahman Osman.

A plane carrying a medical team from Djibouti arrived to evacuate others wounded, said Mohamed Ahmed, an official with Somalia's Health Ministry. It was the second team of foreign doctors to arrive.

Al-Shabab, which for more than a decade has waged war in Somalia, often targets high-profile areas of the capital.

The country's Somali-American leader, President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, has declared three days of mourning and joined thousands of people who responded to a desperate plea by hospitals to donate

blood.

Mogadishu, a city long accustomed to deadly bombings by al-Shabab, was stunned by the force of Saturday's blast. The explosion shattered hopes of recovery in an impoverished country left fragile by decades of conflict, and it again raised doubts over the government's ability to secure the seaside city of more than 2 million people.

The United States has condemned the bombing and tweeted a photo of its charge d'affaires in Somalia donating blood. But the U.S. Africa Command said U.S. forces had not been asked to provide aid.

Saturday's blast occurred two days after the head of the U.S. Africa Command was in Mogadishu to meet with Somalia's president, and two days after the country's defense minister and army chief resigned for undisclosed reasons.

Victory in Raqqa expected in 'a few days'

Associated Press

BEIRUT — A U.S.-backed Kurdish-led force battling Islamic State in Syria will be in control of Raqqa "within a few days" after attacking the last militant-held pocket of the city, a spokesman for the force said Monday.

Mustafa Bali, of the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF, also said fierce street battles were underway near the main hospital in Raqqa, once the de facto capital of the extremists' self-proclaimed caliphate.

Later Monday, a Kurdish SDF commander said the situation has calmed down in the city in order to allow the remaining civilians to leave the area.

SDF fighters launched an operation to retake the last ISIS-held pocket of the city after some 275 militants and their family members surrendered over the weekend. The extremists still hold about 10 percent of Raqqa.

Activists said those who surrendered were taken to an SDF-run prison in the nearby town of Tabqa, where they are being interrogated before facing trial.

"We believe that it will be all over within a few days," Bali said. "Those (Islamic State) fighters who are still inside will fight to death."

Bali said SDF fighters are marching toward the hospital and the stadium under the cover of airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition.

A senior Kurdish commander with the SDF in Raqqa said that from Sunday night until the early hours Monday, scores of civilians trickled out of the ISIS-held part of the city. The commander, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said that more than 400 civilians have reached SDF fighters "and are now with us."

More civilians are still expected to arrive, he said, adding that 15 more ISIS fighters have surrendered.

"We know there are groups of Daesh, specially the foreigners. We want to speed up the campaign, no more than two or three days," the commander said. Daesh is the Arabic name for ISIS.

The commander added that the SDF and other authorities were inquiring about listed foreign fighters from Europe. He said

that none had surrendered or was being detained.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights had previously reported that among the fighters remaining in Raqqa is a militant who planned attacks in France that killed and wounded dozens of people, saying he was a French or Belgian citizen of North African origin.

Meanwhile, Syrian government forces and their allies began a major offensive on ISIS-held neighborhoods in the eastern city of Deir el-Zour, according to state TV and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The Observatory said government forces are pushing through two neighborhoods under the cover of airstrikes by Russian warplanes.

The move by government forces came just two days after Syrian President Bashar Assad's troops captured the ISIS stronghold of Mayadeen, south of Deir el-Zour.

The loss of Raqqa and Deir el-Zour would hand yet another major blow to ISIS, which has lost most of the territory it once held in Syria and Iraq.

Last active-duty C-130H plane leaves Japan

BY SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The last C-130H Hercules cargo plane in the active-duty Air Force bid sayonara to Japan on Monday.

The aircraft was the last of its kind assigned to the Yokota-based 36th Airlift Squadron, which has been trading out its 14 H-models for newer J-models in recent months.

“It’s sad to see it go,” said Lt. Col. John Kerr, shortly before he took the controls of the old Herc for a long flight to Montana. Like the other H-models, the plane will take on new jobs for the Air National Guard.

The trip home was also Kerr’s last flight. He’s retiring from the Air Force and looking for a work in commercial aviation, he

said.

Before the plane lifted off, Col. Kevin Wade — a C-130 pilot and commander of the 515th Air Mobility Operations Group — told members of the 36th that new planes won’t mean a change of culture.

“Your blood and sweat stopped genocide in East Timor; it relieved flood and earthquake victims in places such as Malaysia, Nepal and Japan,” he said.

Wade recalled a difficult packing job on a C-130H that was supporting a team looking for the remains of missing U.S. servicemen from the Vietnam War.

“Our Port Dawg (logistics airman) and our loadmaster ... did what could best be described as real-life Tetris,” he said. “They managed to fit every single person and all of their equipment into the back of that aircraft.”

The plane was able to get to Phnom Penh

for the first repatriation ceremony of a fallen American servicemember since the Vietnam War, he said.

The H-models did incredible work during their 28 years at Yokota, said 374th Airlift Wing commander Col. Kenneth Moss.

“Those planes ... have given some people their first flight to freedom or their last flight home to a final resting place and been a part of people’s lives everywhere in between,” he said.

Yokota continues to be the most important air base in the world, Moss added.

“While the country of Japan sheds tears today for the departure of the H-model, I look at them also as tears of joy as we cement the continuing relationship between America and Japan for a great future,” he said.

Japanese troops gear up for defense drills

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND KEN KUNIYOSHI

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Japanese soldiers are gearing up for massive, monthlong defense drills that will include 14,000 personnel, 3,800 vehicles and 60 aircraft.

The goal of the exercise — scheduled to run from Oct. 23 to Nov. 22 — is to improve the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force’s capabilities of responding to an island invasion, a statement from the service said. The training will take place in

Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Oita, Kumamoto, Miyazaki, Kagoshima and Okinawa prefectures.

Island defense has grown in importance for Japan and its U.S. allies in recent years. Japan’s latest defense white paper — approved by the Cabinet in August — depicts the country as vulnerable to North Korean missiles and hard-pressed to defend its southern territory against China’s rapidly growing and aggressive military.

While the drills will be conducted mostly without U.S. troops, the JGSDF’s Western Army and Central Readiness

Force will utilize some American bases, a Ministry of Defense spokesman said.

“U.S. facilities will be used under the status of forces agreement to conduct logistics training and coastal surveillance training,” said the spokesman, who added Japanese troops will operate on the Okinawa bases without U.S. involvement.

The spokesman declined to disclose the number of personnel and types of equipment scheduled to train on the island prefecture.

Lone Sailor now gazes at Pearl Harbor

Stars and Stripes

The steely gaze of the Navy’s iconic Lone Sailor now looks out at the USS Arizona Memorial and Pearl Harbor.

A copy of the famous bronze statue was unveiled Friday at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center in celebration of the service’s 242nd birthday.

Its base contains steel from the USS Arizona, which sank after being bombed by the Japanese on Dec. 7, 1941.

“Standing seven and a half feet tall, the Lone Sailor has a sea bag by his side — representing the fact that sailors are global citizens, always ready, anytime, anywhere, to protect America’s interests,” Adm. Harry Harris, head of U.S. Pacific Command, said at a dedication dinner Thursday.

The original statue, presented by sculptor Stanley Bleifeld in 1987, stands at the Navy Memorial in Washington. Since then, 14 copies have been dedicated at Navy memorials across the country.

Researchers look to octopus skin for camo of future

Stars and Stripes

Army-funded researchers at Cornell University have created a membrane that mimics octopus skin, a development that could change how soldiers conceal themselves on future battlefields.

The silicone, rubber and mesh membrane is still primitive and lacks the ability to change color, but researchers at the project call the results impressive, according to the

most recent issue of the journal *Science*.

The membrane uses a mesh of synthetic fibers laid down in a sheet to imitate the octopus’ muscles, which constrain the way the material balloons.

Octopuses can change the shape of their skin to copy the texture of whatever they swim over. Combining that with their better-known abilities to change colors and patterns, octopuses can render them-

selves nearly invisible in milliseconds, enabling them to hide from predators or to hunt prey.

Instead of merely expanding, the fibers in the material force the silicone to balloon upward or into simple, predictable, pre-programmed shapes.

The Cornell team is one of many studying octopuses and other cephalopods to unravel their camouflage and locomotion abilities.

Firefighters gain on blazes in California

Associated Press

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — Firefighters kept gaining on the California wildfires Monday with help from lighter winds that made it easier to attack the flames that have killed at least 40 people and destroyed thousands of homes and businesses.

After days of gusts that constantly fanned the fires, better weather offered a chance for crews to get the upper hand more than a week after the blazes started chewing through the state's celebrated wine country.

"The weather has not been in our favor over the past week in general, but we are still marching forward with our progress," said Daniel Berlant, spokesman for California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Also Monday, a water truck driver died when his vehicle

rolled over near one of the fires. No other information was available on the driver or the crash, which happened shortly before daybreak.

Although the weather was still hot and dry, calmer winds and the possibility of rain later in the week should help crews tamp down fires, said Scott Rowe, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service. He predicted a quarter-inch would fall in Sonoma and Napa counties late Thursday.

"Any sort of moisture is welcome at this point," he said. "In terms of fire, the weather outlook is looking to be improving."

The blazes were blamed for at least 40 deaths and destroyed some 5,700 homes and other structures. The death toll could climb as searchers dig through the ruins for people listed as

missing. Hundreds were unaccounted for, though authorities said many of them are probably safe but haven't let anyone know.

In hard-hit Sonoma County, Sheriff Rob Giordano said authorities have located 1,560 of the more than 1,700 once listed as missing. Many of those names were put on the list after people called from out of state to say they couldn't reach a friend or relative.

Authorities said they will not let people return home until it is safe and utilities are restored. Pacific Gas and Electric Company said it expected to restore power and gas to the area by late Monday.

Many evacuees grew increasingly impatient to go home — or at least find out whether their homes were spared. Others

were reluctant to go back or to look for another place to live.

At the Sonoma fairgrounds, evacuees watched the San Francisco 49ers play the Washington Redskins on television, received treatment from a chiropractor and got free haircuts.

Michael Estrada, who owns a barber shop in neighboring Marin County but grew up in one of the Santa Rosa neighborhoods hit hard by the blazes, brought his combs, clippers and scissors and displayed his barbering license in case anyone doubted his credentials.

"I'm not saving lives," he said. "I'm just here to make somebody's day feel better, make them feel normal."

Nearly 11,000 firefighters were still battling 15 fires burning across a 100-mile swath of the state.

NJ man convicted in NYC bombings

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A New Jersey man was convicted Monday of planting two pressure-cooker bombs on New York City streets, including one that injured 30 people with a rain of shrapnel when it detonated in a bustling neighborhood on a weekend night in late summer of 2016.

The verdict in Manhattan came after a two-week trial of Ahmad Khan Rahimi, 29, an Afghanistan-born man living in Elizabeth. The charges, including using a weapon of mass destruction and bombing a public place, carry a mandatory punishment of life in prison.

Prosecutors said Rahimi considered himself "a soldier in a holy war against Americans" and was inspired by Islamic State and al-Qaida to carry out the late summer attacks in New York and New Jersey. Rahimi stared straight ahead and at the jury as he was found guilty of all eight charges against him. The defense promised to appeal. Sentencing was scheduled for Jan. 18.

"Today's verdict is a victory for New York City, a victory for America in its fight against terror, and a victory for all who believe in the cause of justice," said Joon H. Kim, acting U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York.

Oil rig explodes on La. lake; 1 missing

Associated Press

KENNER, La. — Authorities searched by air and water Monday for a contractor who disappeared when an oil and gas platform exploded on a lake near New Orleans. Seven people were injured, including three who were in critical condition, authorities said.

Company officials were not sure if any oil spilled into Lake Pontchartrain. A Coast Guard helicopter looked for the missing man and for any sign of a spill. The fire on the rig was still burning Monday morning, and authorities said they would let it burn out.

The Clovelly Oil Co. platform exploded Sunday night while maintenance was being done on the structure, sending a fireball high into the night sky, authorities and company officials said. The Kenner government Facebook page said authorities on the scene reported that cleaning chemicals had ignited on the structure, but the company said the cause of the blast was unknown.

Jefferson Parish Sheriff Joe Lopinto said the cause remained under investigation.

Residents along the shores of the lake said their homes shook about 7:15 p.m. Some reported that the air smelled of burning rubber.

"My house actually shook," Andrew Love, 32, told NOLA.com/The Times Picayune. "At first I thought it was a sonic boom or something, I had no idea what was happening."

Lopinto said there were no reports of structural damage to any homes.

Five of the injured were hospitalized with "blast-type injuries and burns," said Mike Guillot, director of East Jefferson Emergency Medical Services. Two of the three people in critical condition were in a burn unit, Guillot said.

A statement from Clovelly Oil said three oil wells near the platform were shut in at the time of the explosion and its one gas well was flowing but was successfully shut in shortly after the explosion. Clovelly does not know if any oil was released into the lake.

The platform is a storage and accumulation point for oil and gas from a number of wells, company spokesman Tim O'Leary said.

"It's basically an underwater storage tank. It takes oil and gas" from wells, he said. Once the tank is filled, the oil or gas is pumped into a barge and moved.

He said the four wells that feed the platform were drilled in the 1970s and are all in the lake, a brackish tidal basin that is fed both by the Gulf of Mexico and by fresh water from rivers and streams in 16 Louisiana parishes and four Mississippi counties.

Its water covers 630 square miles but it's generally only about 10 to 15 feet deep. It's 40 miles long and 25 miles wide. The U.S. Geological Service describes it as one of America's largest estuaries.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Neighbor aiming for pit bull kills woman instead

MI DETROIT — A person who meant to shoot a pit bull that was attacking a woman in a Detroit neighborhood accidentally shot the woman, killing her, police said.

The 53-year-old woman was being attacked when a neighbor fired at the dog just before 7 p.m. Oct. 9, said Detroit police spokesman Officer Dan Donakowski.

“The first reports were that she was shot in the hip,” Donakowski said. “She was taken to a hospital, where she did pass.”

Officials: 45 ill after dining at restaurant

HI HONOLULU — Hawaii Department of Health officials said six cases of norovirus were confirmed and up to 45 people became sick after dining at a Honolulu restaurant.

Herringbone Waikiki voluntarily closed Thursday after health department officials said people who dined at the restaurant during the previous weekend fell ill. All recovered after a couple of days.

Restaurant staff said the facility was cleaned and sanitized, and inspectors cleared the restaurant to reopen Friday.

Man who jumped from jail roof gets 7 years

SC GREENWOOD — A man who escaped from a South Carolina jail by jumping from the roof has been sentenced to seven years in prison.

The Index-Journal of Greenwood reported that Nathaniel Wideman, 22, pleaded guilty Friday, less than two months after his leap to freedom from the Greenwood County jail. Police said Wideman led depu-

ties on a chase that ended in a crash, and he was found with a stolen gun. The charge that led to Wideman’s ending up in jail later was dropped when a witness did not contact authorities.

Woman loses appeal over fall at Perry show

MI DETROIT — A Michigan appeals court has dropped the curtain on a lawsuit by a woman who said she was ushered to the wrong seat at a Detroit theater, fell and hit her head.

Betty Davis ended up missing the Tyler Perry show at the Fox Theatre. Now she’s lost her case.

Davis and friends from church had tickets to a Perry show. They were escorted to their seats by an usher but discovered that the seats were wrong. Davis fell and hit her head on a marble wall. She accused the usher of creating the “dangerous condition.”

The appeals court said Davis should have anticipated the “open and obvious risk” of a dark theater. She was seeking more than \$25,000 from Olympia Entertainment.

Exhibit explores police surveillance as history

NY NEW YORK — A new exhibit is highlighting photographs by the New York Police Department that show how police surveillance created an expansive record of the 1960s and 1970s.

The city’s Department of Records and Information Services is hosting the exhibition — “Unlikely Historians: Materials Collected by NYPD Surveillance Teams, 1960-1975” — through February. The New York Times reported the recently opened show includes 30 photographs and seven film segments created while the

NYPD Photo Unit was working with investigative bureaus that monitored groups deemed to be dangerous or subversive.

‘Safe Stations’ program draws more than 200

MD BROOKLYN — Officials in Maryland said more than 200 people have shown up at fire and police stations in Anne Arundel County seeking treatment for drug addiction since the county began its “Safe Stations” program six months ago.

The Baltimore Sun reported that about 60 percent of those seeking help entered 28-day inpatient treatment programs in the county. Officials said the goal of Safe Stations is to remove barriers for people seeking help for addiction to heroin and other opiates. The program offers counseling, expedited treatment and coordination with other agencies to get people into treatment.

Police: Woman stole during clerk’s seizure

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Authorities in the Salt Lake City area are trying to identify a woman who stole a credit card from the wallet of a convenience store clerk as he was having a seizure.

The Unified Police Department said the woman walked around the counter as the clerk was having a seizure on the floor and took his wallet from his pocket on Oct. 4 at a 7-Eleven store.

Surveillance video shows the woman taking a credit card from the man’s wallet, putting it under her arm and walking out of the store. Police said the card was then used to make an online purchase.

The woman was described as a regular customer at the store.

Man dies after leg cut off in boating accident

MI FENTONTOWNSHIP — A 57-year-old man died in a boating accident in Genesee County when his leg was severed by a propeller.

The Flint Journal reported Mark Havey Elmer was pronounced dead Thursday at an area hospital shortly after the accident at Lake Fenton. Police said Elmer and a friend were struggling to maneuver a boat off its hoist because the lake’s water level was too low.

The friend revved the motor while Elmer jumped onto the boat’s stern in an effort to dislodge it. Police said Elmer fell into the water and soon shouted that his leg was cut.

A sheriff’s deputy tied a tourniquet around Elmer’s leg and performed CPR once he was pulled from the lake. Elmer died minutes later.

Woman held on arson charge after fire

OR PORTLAND — Authorities say a woman set fire to her condominium outside Portland, spurring another occupant to jump out of a second-floor window to escape the flames.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported that deputies with the Washington County Sheriff’s Office arrested a 35-year-old woman who they allege intentionally started a fire at the Tanasbrook Condominiums in Beaverton on Friday.

The male occupant was transported to the hospital with minor injuries after jumping to evade the blaze.

Deputies said the woman fled and was arrested a short distance away. She was charged with arson and booked into jail. Her bail was set at \$250,000.

From wire reports

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Turner's three-run blast lifts Dodgers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Justin Turner savored every last stride as he followed in Kirk Gibson's famous footsteps at Dodger Stadium.

The red-bearded slugger from Southern California knew all about the history attached to this home run trot.

On the 29th anniversary of Gibson's celebrated pinch-hit homer that shocked Oakland in the 1988 World Series opener, Turner added another landmark shot to Los Angeles Dodgers postseason lore.

Turner hit a three-run drive with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning, and the Dodgers beat the Chicago Cubs 4-1 on Sunday to take a 2-0 lead in the NL Championship Series.

"One of my earliest baseball memories was being at my grandma's house and watching that game in '88 and seeing Gibby hit that homer," said Turner, who wasn't quite 4 years old at the time. "So yeah, it feels pretty cool. I thought about doing the fist-pump around the bases, but we'll wait until we get to the World Series

for that, hopefully."

The dominant Dodgers are two wins away after Turner drove in all four runs in Game 2 to keep Los Angeles unbeaten in the postseason.

He delivered a tying single in the fifth before sending a long shot to center field off John Lackey in the ninth. Completing the poetry of the moment, a fan wearing a blue Dodgers jersey took a few steps onto a walkway and gracefully caught the ball in his glove on the fly.

"It's very cool, and J.T., we were talking about it in there after the game," Los Angeles manager Dave Roberts said. "Twenty-nine years to the day. It was special. Our guys feel it."

Another generation of Dodgers fans now has its own historic homer, and these Dodgers are growing increasingly confident they can earn their first trip to the World Series since 1988.

Turner got swallowed up at home plate by another pack of ecstatic Dodgers, just as Gibson did. Unlike Gibson, Turner spiked his batting helmet after

rounding third, allowing his unruly red hair to go as wild as the crowd.

"What's not to enjoy about it?" Turner asked. "We have an opportunity to bring a championship back to L.A. It's been a long time."

Game 3 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night at Wrigley Field in Chicago. Mid-season acquisition Yu Darvish starts for the Dodgers against Kyle Hendricks.

Yasiel Puig drew his third walk of the game leading off the ninth, and Charlie Culberson bunted him to second. After losing pitcher Brian Duensing struck out pinch-hitter Kyle Farmer, Chicago manager Joe Maddon went to the bullpen for the 38-year-old Lackey, who pitched on consecutive days for the first time in his 15-year career.

Lackey got the call over All-Star closer Wade Davis, and the veteran starter walked Chris Taylor on six tense pitches. Maddon said he wanted to save Davis for a potential save on the road, and Lackey would have pitched the 10th inning as

well if the Cubs did not have a lead.

"Nobody is a really great matchup against Turner, so it just did not work out," Maddon said.

Turner stepped up and ended it with his fourth career playoff homer. After taking a slight free-agent discount to stay with the Dodgers last winter, he had another solid season before excelling again in October.

The All-Star third baseman is batting .377 with 22 RBIs in his postseason career. He is 13-for-18 with runners in scoring position (.722), including 6-for-8 this year.

And after a collective offensive effort drove the Dodgers to a 5-2 win in Game 1, Turner did it all in Game 2. He has 10 RBIs in the Dodgers' five postseason games, getting five in the playoff opener against Arizona.

Addison Russell homered in the fifth for the Cubs, who are down early in this rematch of the 2016 NLCS. Chicago won that series in six games after splitting the first two.

Yankees again looking to dig out of 0-2 hole

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Trailing again 2-0 in the postseason, these young New York Yankees remain even keeled going into Game 3 of the AL Championship Series against the Houston Astros.

"I don't know if it's maturity or just being dumb," Yankees pitcher CC Sabathia said Sunday.

The old man of the pitching staff, 36-year-old Sabathia was to pitch Monday surrounded by a starting lineup that includes Baby Bombers Aaron Judge (25), Gary Sanchez (24) and Greg Bird (24).

After a pair of 2-1 games in Houston, the series shifted to the Bronx and the Astros worked out at Yankee Stadium, where New York went 51-30 during the regular season. Houston won the 2015 AL wild-card game in the Bronx by a 3-0 score.

While Judge, Sanchez and Didi Gregorius combined to go 2-for-22 in the first two games of the series, Astros stars Jose

Altuve and Carlos Correa went 8-for-15. Reaching the best-of-seven LCS is new for most players on both teams, and Astros manager A.J. Hinch thinks his players are motivated by doing well for each other.

"Maybe we don't sense sort of the magnitude of these moments because this is us, who we are, how we are," he said.

New York seeks inspiration from its comeback last week from a 2-0 deficit in the best-of-five Division Series against Cleveland, which led the AL with 102 wins — one more than Houston. Manager Joe Girardi said New York's streaky nature during the season also bred confidence. The Yankees started 38-23, opening a four-game AL East lead, lost 19 of their next 26, then rebounded to finish 91-71 and earn the top wild card.

"Guys started to understand that you have to be resilient in this game," the manager said. "You're going to have really tough losses and you have to learn to bounce back."

He also thought back to his playing days on the 1996 Yankees, outscored 16-1 by Atlanta in the opening two games of the World Series. New York swept the next four to win the first of its five titles with Derek Jeter and reliever Marino Rivera.

"There were a lot of young players that played important roles, mostly Mariano and Derek," Girardi said. "The message then was go win one, one game, and see where we're at. And that's the same message."

Sabathia was 9-0 with a 1.71 ERA in 10 starts following Yankees' losses during the regular season and didn't get decisions against the Indians in New York's Game 2 loss or Game 5 win. Given a relief corps that includes Aroldis Chapman, Dellin Betances, David Robertson, Chad Green and Tommy Kahnle, Sabathia doesn't worry about pitching deep.

"I'll go out and do my thing and let the bullpen clean up my mess," Sabathia said.

QB Rodgers injured in loss

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS—Harrison Smith led Minnesota's defense in a thorough dismantling of Green Bay, as the Vikings knocked Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers out of the game on Sunday with a broken collarbone during a 23-10 victory that drastically altered the course of the NFC North.

Smith had 1½ sacks on safety blitzes, a diving interception and two pass breakups, helping the Vikings (4-2) limit the injury-depleted Packers to a season-low 227 yards.

Smith had 1½ sacks on safety blitzes, a diving interception and two pass breakups, helping the Vikings (4-2) limit the injury-depleted Packers to a season-low 227 yards. Anthony Barr, who later left with a concussion, delivered the game-changing hit on Green Bay's second drive when he took Rodgers hard to the turf as the two-time NFL MVP followed through on a pass.

Rodgers fell on his throwing shoulder, and the Packers (4-2) announced he could miss the remainder of the season.

Brett Hundley threw his first career touchdown pass in relief, connecting with Davante Adams in the second quarter after a 63-yard return by Clay Matthews of Jerick McKinnon's fumble gave the Packers the ball at the 18.

Giants 23, Broncos 10: Eli Manning ignored the loss of four wide receivers, and reeling New York capped a stormy week of injuries and infighting by stunning host Denver.

The Giants (1-5) pulled off one of the season's biggest upsets by dominating Denver in every phase from start to finish.

Jason Pierre-Paul had a trio of sacks for the Giants, who came into Denver tottering from a tumultuous week in which three wide receivers landed on injured reserve, five other starters were sidelined with injuries and cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie was suspended for insubordination.

Patriots 24, Jets 17: Tom Brady set the NFL record for regular-season victories by a quarterback, getting his 187th.

The visiting Patriots (4-2) were playing their first game in 10 days after beating Tampa

Bay 19-14 on Oct. 5, and appeared a bit rusty early as they fell behind 14-0 in the second quarter against the surprising Jets (3-3).

New York appeared to make it a one-score game again on its next possession as Austin Seferian-Jenkins took a short pass from McCown and reached over the goal line for a 4-yard touchdown.

But officials reviewed the score and said the video replay showed that Seferian-Jenkins slightly lost control of the ball as he went out of bounds on the side of the end zone, resulting in a touchback — despite the ball never hitting the ground. That gave the Patriots back the ball, with the Jets' sideline irate.

Steelers 19, Chiefs 13: Le'Veon Bell ran for 179 yards and a touchdown, Antonio Brown made an acrobatic touchdown catch in the fourth quarter and the visiting Steelers handed the NFL's only unbeaten team its first loss.

The Chiefs (5-1) still had a chance after Brown's 51-yard reception made it 19-10, moving quickly downfield and getting a 33-yard field goal from Harrison Butker.

And when their defense forced a quick three-and-out, Tyreek Hill's 32-yard punt return gave them the ball with 1:48 to go.

Chargers 17, Raiders 16: Nick Novak kicked a 32-yard field goal on the final play and the visiting Chargers took advantage of a key missed extra point by Giorgio Tavecchio.

The Chargers (2-4) had been done in by poor kicks this season, losing twice on misses by former kicker Younghoe Koo.

Cardinals 38, Buccaneers 33: Adrian Peterson rushed for two touchdowns and 134 yards in an impressive Arizona debut and the host Cardinals held off a furious second-half Tampa Bay rally.

Peterson, acquired in a trade with New Orleans on Tuesday, carried 26 times and scored on a 27-yard run to cap Arizona's first possession.

Bears 27, Ravens 24 (OT): Connor Barth kicked a 40-

yard field goal with 2:08 left in overtime, and the Bears used a 167-yard rushing effort by Jordan Howard to beat the host Ravens.

The Bears (2-4) blew a 14-point lead in the second half before coming through in overtime behind Howard.

Dolphins 20, Falcons 17: Jay Cutler threw a pair of touchdown passes, Cody Parkey kicked a pair of field goals and the visiting Dolphins rallied from a 17-0 halftime deficit.

Rams 27, Jaguars 17: Pharoh Cooper returned the opening kickoff 103 yards, one of two special teams touchdowns that helped the visiting Rams.

The Rams (4-2) also blocked a punt for a score and a 10-point lead in the first half. Malcolm Brown returned the loose ball 8 yards for the franchise's first such touchdown since 2005.

Saints 52, Lions 38: Running backs Mark Ingram and Alvin Kamara combined for 237 yards from scrimmage, the host Saints' resurgent defense forced five turnovers and scored a franchise-record three times.

New Orleans (3-2) built a five-touchdown lead, only to gut out a remarkable bid by Detroit to pull off the greatest comeback in NFL history.

Redskins 26, 49ers 24: Washington's Kirk Cousins threw for two touchdowns, ran for a score, and also had an interception as part of an inconsistent performance.

The host Redskins blew a 17-point lead before barely holding on.

Texans 33, Browns 17: Deshaun Watson threw for 225 yards and three touchdowns, becoming the first rookie in NFL history with at least three TD passes in three straight games. Watson has thrown 15 touchdown passes this season, the most in NFL history by a rookie in a team's first six games. It equals the number of TD throws Brock Osweiler had in 15 games last season.

Kaepernick alleges NFL collusion in grievance

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick filed a grievance against the NFL on Sunday, alleging that he remains unsigned as a result of collusion by owners following his protests during the national anthem.

Kaepernick started a national conversation about political activism by athletes last season when he decided to sit, and then kneel, during the anthem to bring attention to mistreatment of African-Americans by police. Other players have continued the protests this season, prompting an angry response from President Donald Trump, who said players should be fired for not standing.

Kaepernick opted out of his contract with the 49ers at the end of last season and remains a free agent despite a rash of injuries and poor play at the quarterback position.

Mark Geragos, one of Kaepernick's attorneys, said in a statement posted on Twitter on Sunday that he filed the grievance "only after pursuing every possible avenue with all NFL teams and their executives."

"If the NFL (as well as all professional sports leagues) is to remain a meritocracy, then principled and peaceful political protest — which the owners themselves made great theater imitating weeks ago — should not be punished," Geragos said in the statement. "And athletes should not be denied employment based on partisan political provocation by the executive branch of our government. Such a precedent threatens all patriotic Americans and harkens back to our darkest days as a nation."

The NFL players' union said it would support the grievance, which was filed through the arbitration system that's part of the league's collective bargaining agreement.

NHL roundup

Trio wins in Vegas debut

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Alex Tuch and Vadim Shipachyov made the most of their debuts with the Vegas Golden Knights, as they each scored a goal in a 3-1 win over the Boston Bruins on Sunday.

It was just the seventh career game for Tuch, who played in six games with Minnesota last season, while Shipachyov was making his NHL debut. Both players were recalled from Chicago of the AHL to fill roster spots for the suddenly banged-up Golden Knights.

“I always want to make a statement. I gotta try to prove myself in this league. I understand the situation management was in. It wasn’t performance based so that made me feel a little bit better,” said Tuch, who had four goals and an assist in three AHL games. “I tried to go down there and prove I was one of the high-end guys in the AHL, and now I’m trying to prove that I can make this league.”

Also making his Vegas debut was goalie Malcolm Subban, who stopped 21 shots for the win against his former team.

“The biggest thing was just not thinking, staying focused, staying in the moment. It feels really good to get the first win in your first game,” said Subban, who had started only two NHL games, both for Boston. “My first shot I got good control on it and that got me in the game a lot. You never know how the game is going to go in the NHL. It’s really technical. Sometimes you don’t get a lot of shots, so you gotta stay focused, and I felt I did that tonight.”

Subban, who was claimed off waivers Oct. 3 from the Bruins, got the nod when No. 1 goalie Marc-Andre Fleury was placed on injured reserve earlier in the day.

Sabres 3, Ducks 1: Chad Johnson made 25 saves and Benoit Pouliot scored the go-ahead goal in the second period as visiting Buffalo beat Anaheim.

Justin Bailey and Johan Larsson also scored for Buffalo, which got its first win in six games this season.

Chris Wagner had a tying goal in the second period for Anaheim, and John Gibson stopped 28 shots for the Ducks.

Kings 3, Islanders 2: Anze Kopitar and defenseman Drew Doughty each had a goal and an assist to lead host Los Angeles over New York.

Doughty had a short-handed goal, and Jake Muzzin also scored for Los Angeles (4-0-1). Backup goalie Darcy Kuemper stopped 23 shots in his first start for the Kings.

Keselowski into third round

Associated Press

TALLADEGA, Ala. — To win the championship this year, Team Penske told Brad Keselowski he had to win at Talladega Superspeedway.

So he did.

Again.

Keselowski earned an automatic berth into the third round of the playoffs with a victory Sunday at Talladega, where he considered himself lucky to finish after a sloppy day for NASCAR.

“I survived,” Keselowski said. “I feel like only eight cars finished the race. It was one of those crazy days ... a lot of attrition.”

There were just 14 cars running at the conclusion, and only four were playoff drivers. The race was red-flagged three times for nearly 35 minutes.

By avoiding the carnage, Keselowski won for the fifth time at Talladega and gave Ford a season sweep of the four restrictor-plate races.

Most important, though, is that he knows he’s still in the hunt for his second Cup title. The victory vaulted him from 10th to second in the playoff standings.

“You’d love to be able to pat yourself on the back and say it’s all skill, but there is some luck that’s involved in this,” Keselowski said. “When you come here, probably three out of every four races you’re going to get caught up in a wreck. But the races where you have the good fortune, where you don’t get caught up in a wreck or you don’t have something break or any of those things, you have to take those races, run up front and win them.”

“That’s what we’ve been able to do.”

Talladega was the perfect place for Keselowski to take the stress off before next week’s elimination race at Kansas. Crew chief Paul Wolfe told Keselowski he was going to need to win Sunday because the Fords haven’t run as well as the other playoff contenders on intermediate tracks, so this was his shot.

Wolfe didn’t doubt the driver could deliver. When the elimination format was rolled out in 2014, Keselowski had to win Talladega to advance. The race this year was moved to the middle event of the second round, so eliminations weren’t at stake, but Keselowski needed a big day.

“As we tried to understand what we need to do in each round and look at our strengths and weaknesses ... I looked at Talladega and this round as an opportunity,” Wolfe said. “This was going to be our path to make it to Homestead, and that was going to be winning Talladega.”

“When he gets in these situations, you’re going to get the most out of him. You’ve

got to have a little bit of help, lucky breaks, whatever you want to call them, along the way, but I knew if we had that, our cars have been fast enough, and he’s talented enough at these tracks that I knew we could get it done.”

Keselowski was the leader when the race resumed with three laps remaining, but was passed by Ryan Newman, who stayed out front until the final lap. Then Keselowski made his move around Newman on the high side of the track to take the lead, and a crossover move held off both Newman and Penske teammate Joey Logano.

Keselowski then collected the American flag for the victory lap on his 24th career Cup win, which came in his 300th start. His first career Cup win was at Talladega in 2009.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. finished seventh in his final race at Talladega, where he and his late father combined to win 16 Cup races. Alabama declared Sunday “Dale Earnhardt Jr. Day.”

“This has been a hell of a weekend for me, and I’m glad to be able to finish and finish well. That means a lot to me,” Earnhardt said. “I know a lot of folks came and traveled here to see us run, so I know they’re disappointed we didn’t win, but I’m glad they got to see us run the whole event, and hopefully they enjoyed it.”

Newman finished second in a Chevrolet and was followed by Trevor Bayne, Logano and Aric Almirola — all non-playoff drivers.

“Brad and I work really well together on these speedways,” Logano said. “I was able to push him up to the lead and I thought, ‘Alright, now I got you to the lead. It’s my turn to get up there and try to win this thing.’ Our never-quit-attitude got us a top-five out of a day that looked like we may not even finish. I’m proud of that.”

Denny Hamlin finished sixth, the best of the Toyota drivers. But the manufacturer’s playoff streak came to an end after Martin Truex Jr. and Kyle Busch gave Toyota wins in the first four playoff races.

Of the top 10 finishers, only Keselowski and Hamlin were playoff drivers.

The rest of the 12-driver playoff field had a rough afternoon.

McMurray’s bad day: Jamie McMurray’s championship chances took a huge hit when he misfired on his attempt to pit early in the race. He was too high on the track when he tried to dart low to make the entrance to pit road, and forcing the issue in traffic caused him to wreck.

He entered the day in the transfer position for the playoffs, but he finished 37th on Sunday and is now last in the 12-driver field.