

STARS AND STRIPES®

Monday, October 1, 2018

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

2 Koreas' troops begin removing DMZ land mines

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North and South Korean troops began removing some of the land mines planted at their heavily fortified border on Monday, Seoul officials said, in the first implementation of recent agreements aimed at easing their decadeslong military standoff.

The demining comes amid resumed diplomacy over North Korea's nuclear weapons program after weeks of stalemated negotiations. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is to visit Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, this month to try to set up a second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

On Monday, South Korean army engineers with demining equipment were deployed to the border village of Panmunjom and another front-line area called "Arrow Head Hill," where the Koreas plan their first joint searches for soldiers killed during the 1950-53 Korean War. The troops began removing mines on the southern part of the two sites. Later Monday, the South Korean military detected North Korean soldiers engaged in what it believed was demining on the northern part of the sites, a South Korean defense official said on condition of anonymity, citing department rules.

North Korea's state media didn't immediately confirm its reported demining.

At Arrow Head Hill, where some of the fiercest battles occurred during the Korean War, Seoul officials believe there are remains of about 300 South Korean and U.N. forces, along with an unspecified number of Chinese and North Korean remains.

The Korean War left millions dead or missing, and South Korea wants to expand joint excavations with North Korea for remains at Demilitarized Zone areas. The Koreas remain split along the 155-mile-long DMZ that was created as a buffer zone at the end of the war. About 2 million mines are believed to be scattered in and near the DMZ, which is also guarded by combat troops, barbed-wire fences and tank traps.

Mines dislodged by flooding and landslides have occasionally caused deaths in front-line areas in South Korea. In 2015, a land mine blast blamed on North Korea maimed two South Korean soldiers and pushed the Koreas to the brink of war.

Poll: Most Americans want to keep bases in S. Korea

The Washington Post

President Donald Trump may be skeptical about the value of U.S. troops in South Korea, but a new poll suggests an increasingly large majority of Americans favor a continuing military presence in the country — and most say they would support a U.S. military intervention in case of a conflict.

The polling data, collected in July by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, found that almost three quarters (74 percent) of Americans supported long-term bases in South Korea.

Notably, there was broad agreement across the political spectrum on this issue, with 73 percent of Democrats, 71 percent of independents and 79 percent of Republicans in favor of the bases.

Though the Chicago Council's data show that there has been majority support for a U.S. military presence in South Korea since at least 2002, when it began polling the issue, this year's survey is the highest level of support it has recorded.

Americans are also more willing than they have been in decades to send U.S. troops to support South Korea if the country were to be invaded by North Korea, the Chicago Council found, with 64 percent in favor — more than double who said the same in 1986, the first time the question was asked.

Support for going to South Korea's defense is similar to the 62 percent in 2017, but substantially higher than in 2015 when 47 percent backed U.S. military action if North Korea invaded.

Again, there was broad bipartisan agreement on the issue, with 63 percent of Democrats, 61 percent of independents and 70 percent of Republicans in favor.

Roughly 28,000 U.S. troops are located on the Korean Peninsula as part of a security arrangement that has been in place since the Korean War armistice in 1953. During the campaign and later, after taking office, Trump has repeatedly expressed doubts about keeping American troops in the Asia-Pacific, often focusing on the costs for the U.S. military.

"We have 32,000 soldiers in South Korea," Trump said during a press conference in

New York City last week, using a higher figure that analysts said is inaccurate. "They are very wealthy. These are great countries. These are very wealthy countries. I said why aren't you reimbursing us for our cause."

The issue of U.S. troops in South Korea has long been politically divisive in South Korea. However, a survey conducted by the East Asia Institute in 2015 found 61 percent of South Koreans thought U.S. troop numbers in the broader Asia-Pacific region should be kept as they are.

The latest survey was released as the U.S. prepares for a potential second summit between Trump and his North Korean counterpart, Kim Jong Un, to discuss denuclearization. The two leaders met in Singapore on June 12 and reached a vague agreement that called for the "complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," but Pyongyang has made few visible efforts to give up its nuclear program since then.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in visited Pyongyang earlier this month for his third meeting with Kim. Speaking in New York City last week, he said that Kim was sincere about giving up nuclear weapons.

There was little support for U.S. military acts against North Korea in retaliation for its nuclear program, with 57 percent of Americans opposed to airstrikes against North Korean facilities and 69 percent opposing the use of U.S. troops to overthrow the Kim regime. In contrast, 77 percent of Americans favored tightening economic sanctions on North Korea if it did not abandon its nuclear program, the Chicago Council found.

Less than half (44 percent) said the United States should cancel joint military exercises with South Korea, while just 18 percent said they would support a complete withdrawal of American forces from South Korea.

The Chicago Council's analysis was based on data from an online research panel conducted by GfK Custom Research between July 12 and July 31. A total of 2,046 adults living in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia were surveyed, with a margin of error of plus or minus 2.4 percentage points. The GfK Knowledge Panel was recruited through random sampling methods.

US airmen line up to buy new uniform

BY NORMAN LLAMAS
Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE, Italy — The line began forming over an hour before the military clothing store opened Monday.

By the time the first customer entered, well over 100 people were behind him, eager to purchase the Air Force's new utility uniform.

The Air Force adopted the Army's Operational Camouflage Pattern, or OCP, on Monday, taking a first step toward retiring the much-maligned Airman Battle Uniform, or ABU, by April 2021.

Airmen at Aviano were the first overseas to purchase the uniform through an exchange store. Airmen at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., along with Shaw Air Force Base and Joint Base Charleston, both in South Carolina, were the first stateside to get a crack at buying the new uniform.

The airmen in line had various reasons for being there, but the most common was that they simply never liked the tiger-striped, grayish-green ABUs.

"This uniform is actually camouflaged," said Senior Airman Jeffrey Langford, assigned

to the 31st Security Forces Squadron, 31st Fighter Wing.

The Air Force decided on the uniform change earlier this year after airmen said the OCP was more comfortable. The change also means that airmen deployed to combat zones, many of whom had to wear the OCP anyway, won't have to pack two utility uniforms.

Airmen were allowed to purchase only two sets of uniforms Monday because of limited supplies.

The current stock should outfit about a third of the base's assigned airmen, said Claudia Bortolotto, a retail supervisor with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

"This morning went well," Bortolotto said. "We had a system in place to deal with the influx of customers looking to buy the new uniform. We had nine workers today when we typically will only have three on any given morning shift."

More AAFES stores will receive the new uniform next spring, the Defense Logistics Agency said in a statement. The Air National Guard will issue the OCP as early as fall 2019, according to the DLA.

American servicemember found dead in Vicenza

Stars and Stripes

An American servicemember was found dead in his barracks in Vicenza, Italy, early Monday morning, military authorities and Italian media reported.

The servicemember was found dead on Caserma Ederle, Maj. Chris Bradley, 173rd Airborne Brigade spokesman, said in a statement.

"We are saddened by this loss and express our deepest condolences to the family," Bradley

said. "The incident is under investigation by military and Italian authorities."

The Italian newspaper *Corriere della Serra* said the servicemember was a 24-year-old soldier and that Italian emergency personnel were unsuccessful in attempts to revive the soldier. An autopsy was being performed, the newspaper stated.

The servicemember's name was withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Residents near Futenma seek \$10M in noise suit

BY AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A group of Japanese residents seeking millions in compensation over U.S. military aircraft noise pleaded their case in an Okinawa courtroom Friday.

More than 2,800 plaintiffs from Ginowan City want the Japanese government to pay \$10 million in damages for what they say is excessive noise out of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, according to a complaint filed in July in Naha District Court.

"Seventy-three years after the war, we have been facing great danger by a number of emergency landings, crashes and falling objects by aircraft as well as the noise interrupting our daily conversations and

causing issues watching TVs and listening to radios," group representative Kenei Yamashiro, 79, told the court.

"Night flight from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. is supposedly restricted; however, it has been happening and causing serious health issues from sleep deprivation," he added.

An attorney for the plaintiffs, Osamu Ikeda, said the group doesn't want to stop the military flights.

"[We are] just asking for the monetary settlement because the majority of the plaintiffs are elderly," he told *Stars and Stripes* on Friday.

The government of Japan on Friday asked the group to withdraw the lawsuit. A second hearing is scheduled for Dec. 6.

Iwakuni clinic halts births after E. coli found

BY JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — Expectant mothers haven't been able to deliver their babies at Iwakuni's new health clinic since E. coli was found in a water sample over the summer.

A technician discovered residue on surgical equipment Aug. 15, prompting staff at the Robert M. Casey Naval Family Branch Clinic to take 21 water samples, according to U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka spokeswoman Erika Figueroa.

One sample tested positive for E. coli, while another was positive for non-E. coli bacteria, she said. No one has reported becoming ill from drinking the water.

E. coli are bacteria found in the environment, foods and the intestines of people and animals, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

vention. Although most strains are harmless, others can cause illnesses such as diarrhea, urinary tract infections, pneumonia and respiratory problems.

"Out of an abundance of caution and in the interest of patient safety, we decided to immediately halt all medical and dental procedures that require sterilized instruments until we could determine the cause of the residue and further evaluate the water quality in the system that supplies the clinic," she said.

As of Monday, most of the clinic's medical and dental services had been restored, Figueroa said.

It is unknown when the clinic's labor-and-delivery services will be back up and running, she said. In the meantime, doctors are discussing options for mothers-to-be to deliver either at a nearby off-base facility in Iwakuni City or more than 500 miles away at U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka.

Las Vegas mass shooting victims honored

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A flock of 58 doves was released at a somber sunrise remembrance ceremony Monday in Las Vegas that started a day of memorials to honor the lives lost when a gunman opened fire on a crowd attending an outdoor country music concert a year ago.

Several hundred people including survivors, families of victims, first responders and elected officials gathered at an outdoor amphitheater for the daybreak event to honor the 58 people who were killed and the 400 who were wounded.

"Today, we remember the unforgettable. Today, we comfort the inconsolable," said Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval. "Today,

we are reminded of the pain that never really goes away."

Among the attendees who offered prayers, songs and speeches at the event was Mynda Smith, whose sister, Nyesa Davis Tonks, was among the dead.

Smith said her sister, 46, was a single mother originally from the Salt Lake City area and was raising three boys in Las Vegas. She was energetic, adventurous and a fan of all kinds of music.

"I want to bring the message about living life to the fullest," Smith said. "About how grateful we are for our community, the love and support that we got and being 'Vegas Strong.'"

Smith started a scholarship fund for victims' children and said she reached loved ones

of almost all the dead. Thirty-three were from California, six others from Nevada, four from Canada and 12 from other U.S. states.

"It was a heartbreak every time," Smith said. "This was a tragedy of grand scale. We have a long way to go. But we have to move forward with love and light."

Shooting survivors Chris and Larisa Rapanick, of Chesapeake, Va., made the trip to Las Vegas for weekend events that included a 5K run, a country music club show and a reunion of survivors on Saturday.

At the sunrise service, the Rapanicks stood with their two adult daughters.

"We weren't going to let this ruin a place we like to come to,"

Chris Rapanick said. "I'm glad to be standing here."

As the sunrise service went on, Jim Murren, the chief executive and CEO of MGM Resorts International, issued a statement calling the shooting "an unforgettable act of terror." MGM owns the Mandalay Bay hotel, where the gunman was when he opened fire into the concert crowd below on the Las Vegas Strip.

"October 1 will forever be a day of remembrance, reflection and mourning as we struggle to comprehend the incomprehensible — the senseless act of evil that caused such a tragic loss of life, along with the suffering that we know continues," Murren said.

Supreme Court starts its new term as octet

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's the storm before the calm at the Supreme Court.

Americans watched Thursday's high court nomination hearing of Judge Brett Kavanaugh with rapt attention. The televised spectacle was filled with disturbing allegations of sexual assault and Kavanaugh's angry, emotional denial.

On Monday, the court started its new term with the crack of the marshal's gavel and not a camera in sight.

The term's start has been completely overshadowed by the tumult over Kavanaugh's nomination. Republicans had hoped to have Kavanaugh confirmed in time for the court's first public meeting since late June, an addition that would cement conservative control of the court. Instead, there are only eight justices on the bench for the second time in three terms, with a breakdown of four conservatives and four liberals.

The court was down a member in October 2016, too, following the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. Justice Neil Gorsuch

joined the court in April 2017 after all but about a dozen cases had been argued.

It's unclear how long the vacancy created by Justice Anthony Kennedy's retirement in July will last. Consideration of Kavanaugh's nomination by the Senate has been delayed while the FBI undertakes an investigation of Christine Blasey Ford's allegation that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her in 1982.

An empty seat on the bench often forces a push for compromise and leads to a less exciting caseload, mainly to avoid 4-4 splits between conservatives and liberals. The cases the court has agreed to hear so far this term look nothing like the stream of high-profile disputes over President Donald Trump's travel ban, partisan redistricting, union fees and a clash over religious objections to same-sex marriage that the court heard last term.

"It's a time of transition for the Supreme Court," Solicitor General Noel Francisco, the Trump administration's top Supreme Court lawyer, told a Federalist Society meeting in Washington recently.

Typhoon in Japan downs trees, damages vehicles

BY JAMES BOLINGER
AND SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — More than 170 trees were toppled, damaging vehicles and breaking walls at the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo as Typhoon Trami brought record-setting wind to the archipelago early Monday.

The storm, which battered Japan from the southern island prefecture of Okinawa to the northern end of Honshu with wind gusts greater than 130 mph, had little effect on other U.S. bases.

Yokota Air Base and nearby Camp Zama appeared to be the worst hit, despite the eye of the storm traveling much closer to other installations, namely Kadena Air Base on Okinawa.

Dozens of airmen fanned out across Yokota's runway Monday morning to collect debris from overnight winds that downed large trees, broke windows and blew over wooden fences and small structures in base housing areas.

Several cherry blossom trees

lining a picturesque road on the base's east side were in splinters, and nearby, several damaged vehicles were trapped beneath fallen limbs.

"This was a significant storm resulting in 170 fallen trees and property damage across the installation," Lt. Col. Richard Engelman, commander of the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron at Yokota, told Stars and Stripes in an email. "We are very thankful there were no injuries."

Yokota weather forecaster Yoshinori Ogawa said Trami may have been the strongest storm on record at the base, with gusts of 81 mph between midnight and 4 a.m.

Kadena was closest to the eye of the storm. Sustained winds topped 103 mph, and gusts exceeded 132 mph. Private vehicles struck by fallen trees limbs was the worst damage reported, said Tech. Sgt. Joseph Orella, of the base public affairs office.

Aircraft stationed at Kadena were evacuated to Kunsan Air Base, South Korea, to avoid the storm, he said.

Canada enters revamped NAFTA deal

Associated Press

TORONTO — Canada entered into a revamped North American free trade deal with the United States and Mexico late Sunday after weeks of bitter, high-pressure negotiations that brushed up against a midnight deadline.

In a joint statement, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland said the agreement “will strengthen the middle class and create good, well-paying jobs and new opportunities for the nearly half-billion people who call North America home.”

The new deal, reached just before a midnight deadline imposed by the U.S., will be called the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA. It replaces the 24-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement, which President Donald Trump had called a job-killing disaster.

The agreement reached Sunday gives U.S. farmers greater access to the Canadian dairy market. But it keeps a NAFTA dispute-resolution process that the U.S. wanted to jettison and offers Canada pro-

tection if Trump goes ahead with plans to impose tariffs on cars, trucks and auto parts imported into the United States.

“It’s a good day for Canada,” Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said as he left his office. Trudeau said he would have more to say Monday.

“We celebrate a trilateral deal. The door closes on trade fragmentation in the region,” Jesus Seade, trade negotiator for Mexico’s incoming president, said via Twitter.

Representatives for the government of Mexican President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador called a Monday press conference to discuss details of the trade deal.

Canada, the United States’ No. 2 trading partner, was left out when the U.S. and Mexico reached an agreement last month to revamp the North American Free Trade Agreement.

The Trump administration officially notified Congress of the U.S.-Mexico trade agreement on Aug. 31. That started a 90-day clock that would let outgoing Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto sign the new pact before he leaves office Dec. 1.

Trump threatened to go ahead with a re-

vamped NAFTA with or without Canada. It was unclear, however, whether Trump had authority from Congress to pursue a revamped NAFTA with only Mexico.

Some lawmakers immediately expressed relief that Canada had been reinstated in the regional trading bloc.

“I am pleased that the Trump administration was able to strike a deal to modernize NAFTA with both Mexico and Canada,” said Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah. “NAFTA is a proven success.”

NAFTA tore down most trade barriers between the United States, Canada and Mexico, leading to a surge in trade between the three countries. But Trump and other critics said it encouraged manufacturers to move south of the border to take advantage of low Mexican wages, costing American jobs.

Trump campaigned on a promise to rewrite NAFTA — or get rid of it. Talks on a rewrite began more than a year ago. To placate Trump, Mexico agreed in August to provisions that would require 40 to 45 percent of a car be built in countries where autoworkers earn at least \$16 an hour to qualify for NAFTA’s duty-free benefits.

Burials begin in Indonesia; despair of quake, tsunami survivors grows

Associated Press

PALU, Indonesia — Bright-colored body bags were placed side by side in a freshly dug mass grave Monday as a hard-hit Indonesian city began burying its dead from the devastating earthquake and tsunami that killed more than 840 people and left thousands homeless.

The death toll, largely from the city of Palu, is expected to keep rising as areas cut off by the damage are reached. The magnitude 7.5 earthquake struck at dusk Friday and generated a tsunami said to have been as high as 20 feet in places.

Local army commander Tiopan Arintonang said 545 bodies would be brought to the grave from one hospital alone. The trench dug in Palu was 33 feet by 330 feet and can be enlarged if needed, said Willem Rampangilei, chief of Indonesia’s National Disaster Mitigation Agency.

“This must be done as soon as possible for health and religious reasons,” he said. Indonesia is majority Muslim, and religious custom calls for burials soon after death, typically within one day.

Local military spokesman Mohammad Thorir said the area adjacent to a public cemetery can hold 1,000 bodies.

All of the victims, coming from local hospitals, have been photographed to help families locate where their relatives were buried. Video footage showed residents walking from body bag to body bag, opening the tops to check if they could identify faces.

About midday, teams of workers, their mouths covered by masks, carried 18 bodies and laid them in the trench. A backhoe waited to push soil on top of the dead. More burials were expected to follow.

Military and commercial aircraft were delivering some aid and supplies. But there was a need for heavy equipment to reach possible survivors buried in collapsed buildings, including an eight-story hotel in Palu where voices had been heard in the rubble.

People suffering from a lack of food and supplies were also becoming more desperate.

Local television said about 3,000 residents had flocked to the Palu airport trying to get out. Footage showed some people screaming in anger because they were not able to board departing military aircraft. The airport has resumed only some commercial flights.

“We have not eaten for three days!” one woman yelled. “We just want to be safe!”

Cancer researchers from US, Japan win Nobel in medicine

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — The Nobel Prize in Medicine was awarded Monday to two researchers from the United States and Japan for advances in discovering how the body’s immune system can fight off the scourge of cancer.

The \$1.01 million prize will be shared by James Allison, of the University of Texas, and Tasuku Honjo, of Kyoto University.

Their parallel work concerned proteins that act as brakes on the body’s immune system, and it constitutes “a landmark in our fight against cancer,” said a statement from the Nobel Assembly of Sweden’s Karolinska Institute, which selects winners of the annual prestigious award.

Allison studied a known protein and developed the concept into a new treatment approach, while Honjo discovered a new protein that also operated as a brake on immune cells.

“I’m honored and humbled to receive this prestigious recognition,” Allison said in a statement released by the university’s MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where he is a professor.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Activists arrested at chicken farm protest

CA PETALUMA — Sheriff's officials said 67 animal welfare activists were arrested during an organized protest at a Northern California poultry farm.

The protesters, part of the group Direct Action Everywhere, said they were demonstrating Saturday against what they characterized as inhumane conditions at McCoy's Poultry Services near Petaluma.

The activists allege they documented mass confinement of chickens in filthy industrial sheds at the site.

The Sonoma County Sheriff's Office said the owner and an employee of the company were assaulted by a protester.

Toddler crushed by 80-pound television

CT STAMFORD — Authorities said the death of a Connecticut toddler who was crushed by an 80-pound television was an accident.

Police said Saturday the medical examiner determined that the 22-month-old Stamford boy died of blunt force trauma, and the manner of death was ruled to be accidental.

The old-style cathode-ray tube television fell on the boy at his home Thursday morning.

Sgt. Joseph Kennedy told the Stamford Advocate the TV was atop a "rickety" bureau, and the child may have been climbing up the drawers at the time.

Pumpkin pageant to include boys

VT RUTLAND — A long-running pageant contest in Vermont has announced it is allowing boys to compete for the first time.

The Rutland Herald reported that Rutland County's annual Pumpkin Princess Pageant will now be known as the Pumpkin Royalty Contest.

Event organizer Nikki Adams said they wanted to add the male aspect because "gender doesn't matter when it comes to being a good person."

Participating high schools will nominate their candidate for prince and princess among their junior and senior classes.

The elected couple from each school will then apply to enter the contest by listing community projects they have participated in and future career goals.

Repairman kills monkey on the attack

NC SHALLOTTE — Police in a coastal North Carolina town said a repairman won't face charges after he fatally shot a pet monkey that escaped and attacked a woman.

A Shallotte police detective told The Charlotte Observer on Friday that the snow monkey escaped a backyard cage and "went bananas," biting the woman and scratching her arms and legs.

Police said the monkey then ran across the street and banged on a neighbor's glass door. The repairman approached the animal, which then ran toward him.

Detective Sgt. John Holman said the repairman killed it with one shot from his small handgun. Holman said the man had a concealed carry permit and was protecting the neighborhood.

Suspect hides inside motel, flees via attic

VA ALEXANDRIA — Police in northern Virginia are searching for a suspect

who they say initially barricaded himself inside a motel room but then fled the building by going through the ceiling and into the attic and fleeing the building.

Fairfax County police said in a news release that officers arrived at the motel in the Alexandria area Saturday to serve an arrest warrant.

Police said the suspect, Alton Thodos, 32, "made threats against himself."

Thodos is wanted on warrants for grand larceny, credit card theft, credit card fraud and a probation violation.

Iguana on power line knocks out electricity

FL LAUDERDALE LAKES — An iguana wandered onto a power line and knocked out electricity to a Florida nursing home, sending 20 patients to the hospital.

Broward Sheriff Fire Rescue spokesman Michael Kane said the iguana was electrocuted and set off a fire on the power pole, which knocked out electricity to The Palms Care Center in Lauderdale Lakes on Friday afternoon.

Kane told the South Florida Sun Sentinel the facility was running on generator power but only half of it was being cooled effectively.

Affected residents were moved to parts of the facility where cooling units were working.

Police: Suspect stole SUV after jail release

OH FAIRVIEW PARK — Authorities said a man who'd left jail after being released on bond for possessing a stolen vehicle walked about 1,000 feet before robbing a woman of her SUV outside Cleveland.

Fairview Park police said they are searching for Sean

Vanderlin, 32, of Cleveland.

Police allege Vanderlin on Thursday afternoon pulled out a utility knife and after a brief struggle drove off in the woman's SUV. She wasn't injured. The SUV was found Friday morning.

Man hospitalized after dogs attack

KS ARKANSAS CITY — A 70-year-old Arkansas City man is hospitalized after he was attacked by four dogs in his backyard.

Arkansas City police said in a news release that officers were called to the home Thursday night. Police Chief Daniel Ward said witnesses reported finding four dogs on top of the man. The dogs belong to the man and others who live in the home.

The man was flown to Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. He was listed in stable condition on Friday. The mixed-breed dogs were taken to the Cowley County Humane Society for a 10-day observation period.

Man dies in fall during camping trip

NH FRANCONIA — Authorities in New Hampshire said a Connecticut man was killed when he fell down a waterfall.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department said Zachariah Peterson, 23, of Jewett City, Conn., was killed Saturday night. Authorities said Peterson and a friend were camping near a waterfall on Cannon Mountain when Peterson slipped and fell about 250 feet around 11:15 p.m.

Emergency personnel responded to the area but Peterson died of his injuries.

From wire reports

STARS AND STRIPES®

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

Reporting
World, National
and Military News

Johnson's blunder hands Blaney win

Associated Press

CONCORD, N.C. — Jimmie Johnson stood outside of his banged up No. 48 Chevrolet still in disbelief over the blunder he'd made on the final lap Sunday at Charlotte Motor Speedway that cost him a shot at advancing in the playoffs.

"Shell-shocked," said the seven-time Cup champion.

Johnson had all but secured a spot in the round of 12 with a strong showing through 108 laps. Sitting in second place, all he had to do was follow race leader Martin Truex Jr. to the finish line.

Instead, Johnson made the split-second decision to go for the win, attempting a pass Truex Jr. with two turns remaining on the new "roval" track. Johnson tried to go inside, but instead ran into Truex, causing a crash that cost Truex the win and knocked himself out of the playoffs. Ryan Blaney passed both drivers for the win.

"I wish I go could go back in time and let off the brakes a little bit back there and not take that opportunity, because the championship is what we are here for," Johnson said. "To fight all year and be that close to transfer ..."

When asked if he'd make the same decision again, Johnson said, "if I know the outcome was going to be that? No. I want to stay alive in the championship points. But I really felt like I could pull that pass off."

Johnson later apologized to Truex's team and his fan base on Twitter, saying "everyone makes mistakes."

Truex deliberately spun out Johnson's car after the race and was still irritated at him when he spoke about the attempted pass.

"He just over-drove it and was never going to make it and used me as brakes and turned us both around," Truex said. "It (stinks), we could have raced side-by-side off the last corner

for a win and that would have been cool. The fans would have been digging it, but instead we finished 14th and he's locked out of the playoffs. I guess that's what he gets."

Now he will have to finish out the rest of the season contemplating what he called a "mistake."

Johnson didn't hide the fact that he wanted to end a frustrating career-long 58-race winless streak.

"I was going for the win — that is what I am here for," Johnson said. "If I didn't think I was better than him in that area I would not have taken that chance at executing that pass. When he left the inside lane open that is the preferred line and I felt like I had a real shot."

Before he made the decision to pass, Johnson said he never thought about the chance of missing out on the playoffs, feeling he was safely in.

"I thought we had a big enough cushion in points," Johnson said. "I thought we were still fine. I thought I was going to be OK."

Instead, Johnson finished in a three-way tie with Kyle Larson and Aric Almirola for the 12th and final spot in the standings.

He failed to advance on a tie-breaker.

"It's a bummer and it is not what we want by any stretch," Johnson said.

Blaney said of Johnson's decision, "you make decisions every second behind a race car. And sometimes to will to win is just too high to sit there and finish second."

Charlotte Motor Speedway President Marcus Smith said the race lived up to the hype.

"What happened is not what I imagined or hoped for but it was incredibly exciting," Smith said of the dramatic finish. "The roar from the fans is the moment I know everybody would remember for this moment for a long time."

Thomas makes anger known following injury

Associated Press

Whether or not Earl Thomas should have raised his middle finger in the direction of his team's sideline, this much is clear: His broken leg amid an ongoing flap with the Seattle Seahawks illustrates why the lack of guaranteed contracts is such a problem for NFL players.

This is exactly what Thomas was worried about when he sat out training camp. And when he skipped practices after the season started.

There are, of course, all manner of injuries in each and every game, each and every week, around the violent-by-design league.

Often, they involve stars — such as Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski, who left New England's 38-7 win over Miami with an injured right ankle. Often, they are gruesome — such as what happened to Bengals tight end Tyler Eifert's lower right leg in Cincinnati's 37-36 victory at Atlanta, leaving him covering his face with interlocking fingers as he was driven to the locker room.

So this given Sunday was no different from any other, really. Thomas' particular case, though, seemed to resonate — yes, because of his flipping reaction, but also — because he has been so public about his concerns about health and finances.

He's in the final year of his deal and repeatedly has spoken about wanting the extra security of a fresh contract.

"I need to make sure my body is 100 [percent]," Thomas said a week ago, "and I'm invested in myself."

Prescient sentiment. In the fourth quarter of Seattle's 20-17 victory at the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday, Thomas's left leg was fractured while he tried to defend against what became a 22-yard touchdown pass. As the six-time Pro Bowl safety was driven away on a cart along Arizona's sideline, his leg in an air cast, he looked across the field, lifted his right hand and made his anger clear.

Thomas, a three-time All-Pro, held out at the start of training camp before returning a week before the season despite not being granted his extension. Teammates understood his insult after the injury.

"Earl wanted an extension and at the end of the day he didn't get that," Seahawks defensive end Frank Clark said. "It sucks to see a guy who puts his heart into something, put his all into his team and he doesn't get what he deserves."

The Seahawks recovered to win 20-17, salvaging a victory from a game in which they also lost starting tight end Will Dissly. The rookie was carted to the locker room in the first quarter with a knee injury.

Cincinnati also lost its tight end, with Eifert suffering a gruesome lower right leg injury early in the third quarter of the Bengals' 37-36 victory over Atlanta.

Eifert had four catches for 38 yards, including a 15-yard scoring catch in the first quarter. He caught a 2-yard pass in the third and was tackled by DeVondre Campbell and Jack Crawford. Eifert brought his hands up to his helmet as he was on his back in obvious pain. His leg stabilized by the medical staff, Eifert received encouragement from teammates before he was carted off the field with his leg in an air cast.

Bengals halfback Mark Walton did not return and was being treated for a possible concussion after a helmet-to-helmet penalty hit by Brian Poole near the end of the third. Falcons defensive tackle Grady Jarrett had an ankle injury late in the fourth and did not return.

Another tight end, one the NFL's best, also left with an injury. Gronkowski departed New England's 38-7 victory over Miami in the third quarter with a right ankle problem and did not return. The Dolphins, who had been undefeated, lost center Daniel Kilgore in the first half with an arm injury and safety Bobby McCain to a knee injury.

NFL roundup

Mariota helps Titans get past Eagles

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Marcus Mariota hit Corey Davis with a 10-yard touchdown pass just before the end of overtime, and the Tennessee Titans beat the Philadelphia Eagles 26-23 on Sunday for their best start since 2013.

The Titans trailed by 14 in the third quarter before rallying for the lead. They also trailed 23-20 in overtime before coming back again behind Mariota, who in his first start since being knocked out of the season opener with an injured elbow threw for 344 yards and two touchdowns while also running for a score.

On the game-winning drive, the Titans converted three fourth downs, one by penalty. Mariota hit Taywan Taylor with a 19-yarder on fourth-and-15, and Mariota found a wide-open Dion Lewis on fourth-and-2 for a 17-yard gain. Facing third-and-goal and the clock running out, Mariota found Davis for the receiver's first TD catch in the regular season.

The Titans (3-1) also came up with four sacks. Rookie Harold Landry got his first and also stripped Carson Wentz of the ball within the first minute of the fourth quarter, setting up the second of Ryan Succop's two field goals.

The Eagles (2-2) had their chances to win both at the end of regulation and in overtime but were forced to settle for a pair of field goals by Jake Elliott.

Raiders 45, Browns 42 (OT): Derek Carr threw four TD passes and a game-tying 2-point conversion with 30 seconds left in regulation to set up Matt McCrane's 29-yard field goal in overtime that gave host Oakland its first win since Jon Gruden's return as coach.

McCrane missed a 50-yard field goal on the opening possession of overtime before Carr drove the Raiders (1-3) back down the field again after a de-

fensive stop for the game winner with 1:46 left in the period.

The field goal dealt the Browns (1-2-1) another tough loss as they blew a 14-point lead in the second half and then allowed the game-tying TD and 2-point conversion in the final seconds of regulation to spoil Baker Mayfield's NFL starting debut.

Mayfield, the No. 1 overall pick, threw for 295 yards and two touchdowns to put Cleveland in position to win but also committed four turnovers.

Cowboys 26, Lions 24: Brett Maher kicked a 38-yard field goal as time expired, lifting host Dallas over Detroit.

Maher's fourth field goal was set up by Dak Prescott's 34-yard completion to running back Ezekiel Elliott on a deep throw after Matthew Stafford had put the Lions in front with a 38-yard touchdown to Golden Tate, their second TD connection of the day.

Ravens 26, Steelers 14: Joe Flacco threw a pair of early touchdown passes, Justin Tucker kicked four second-half field goals and Baltimore beat host Pittsburgh.

Flacco completed 28 of 42 passes for 363 yards and TD passes to John Brown and Alex Collins as the Ravens (3-1) ended a three-game losing streak to their AFC North rivals. Tucker accounted for all the scoring after halftime as Baltimore ended Pittsburgh's long run of success on Sunday nights.

The Steelers (1-2-1) came in having won nine straight Sunday night appearances, a streak that included a pair of victories over the Ravens. Baltimore brought Pittsburgh's run to an abrupt end by shutting down Pittsburgh in the second half.

Bengals 37, Falcons 36: Andy Dalton threw a 13-yard touchdown pass to A.J. Green with 7 seconds remaining, lifting Cincinnati over host Atlanta.

Dalton moved the Bengals 75 yards in about four minutes. He completed two passes on fourth down to Tyler Boyd, who had 11 catches for 100 yards, to keep the drive alive.

Texans 37, Colts 34 (OT): Ka'imi Fairbairn took advantage of his second chance on a 37-yard field goal attempt, making it as time expired in overtime to give Houston a victory over host Indianapolis.

He had missed the first kick wide left — just after Indy called timeout. Houston (1-3) ended the league's losing streak at nine games with its first victory since Nov. 19.

Seahawks 20, Cardinals 17: Sebastian Janikowski, who had missed twice earlier in the game, kicked a 52-yard field goal as time expired to give Seattle a victory over host Arizona and spoil the debut of Cardinals rookie Josh Rosen as the starting quarterback.

The Seahawks (2-2) mounted their winning drive after Phil Dawson missed a 45-yard field goal that would have given the lead to Arizona (0-4) with 1:50 to play.

Saints 33, Giants 18: Alvin Kamara ran for three second-half touchdowns and New Orleans' defense stepped out of Drew Brees' shadow in a victory over host New York.

Wil Lutz matched his career high with four field goals as the Saints (3-1) built a 12-7 halftime lead. Kamara broke the game open with scoring runs of 9, 4 and 49 yards to ice New Orleans' third straight win and send New York to its third loss in four games. Kamara had 134 on 19 carries.

Patriots 38, Dolphins 7: Tom Brady threw for 274 yards and three touchdowns and host New England handed Miami its first loss of the season.

It denied the Dolphins (3-1) their first 4-0 start since Hall of Fame coach Don Shula's last season in 1995.

Brady improved to 15-1 as a

starter against Miami.

Bears 48, Buccaneers 10: Mitchell Trubisky threw a career-high six touchdown passes — one shy of the NFL record — and host Chicago pounded Tampa Bay.

The Bears (3-1) won their third straight with Trubisky delivering the sort of breakout performance general manager Ryan Pace envisioned when he traded up a spot to draft the prized quarterback with the No. 2 overall pick last year.

Jaguars 31, Jets 12: Blake Bortles threw two touchdown passes, including a 67-yarder to Donte Moncrief, and host Jacksonville used a dominant defensive performance to handle New York.

Bortles ended up with a career-high 388 yards passing, topping 375 yards for the second time in three games.

Packers 22, Bills 0: Aaron Rodgers and Jimmy Graham connected on their first touchdown pass of the year, and host Green Bay put together its most complete defensive effort of the season in a win over the Buffalo.

Aaron Jones added 65 yards and a score on 11 carries for the Packers, who slowed in the second half after a fast start on offense.

The defense didn't let up against the Bills. Green Bay (2-1-1) posted its first shutout since a 9-0 win over the Jets in 2010.

Chargers 29, 49ers 27: Philip Rivers threw for three touchdowns, Melvin Gordon rushed for 104 yards and host Los Angeles rallied for a victory over San Francisco.

Caleb Sturgis had three field goals, including one from 21 yards with 7:41 left that gave the Chargers (2-2) the lead, but he had an eventful day with two missed extra points.

Rivers was 25-for-39 for 250 yards. Gordon had his first 100-yard game since last Oct. 29 against New England.

Dodgers rout Giants, force showdown

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The Los Angeles Dodgers want no part of a wild-card game or the long flight that would come with it.

The plan: another NL West crown.

Max Muncy and his free-swinging Dodgers mates are headed for a one-game showdown against Colorado to determine the division winner back home, jumping on the San Francisco Giants from the start Sunday in a 15-0 win for a weekend sweep.

The Rockies routed Washington 12-0 at Coors Field, setting up a tiebreaker at Dodger Stadium on Monday that the home team has every intention of taking. The winner gets the division and hosts Atlanta in the best-of-five Division Series starting Thursday; the loser is on the road for the NL wild-card game Tuesday against the loser of Monday's Brewers-Cubs NL Cen-

tral tiebreaker.

"We'd rather win the division than be the wild card," Matt Kemp said. "We're going to play it like any game we've been playing this last month. We've been playing each game like a playoff game. We've got to keep it going. I don't think we want to go to the East Coast to play a one-game playoff, we'd rather have a series to play and play that series."

Rich Hill (11-5) pitched two-hit ball for seven innings to keep the playoff-bound Dodgers on a roll. The lefty found out when he woke up just before 8 a.m. Sunday he would start, having gone to bed early for him to ensure enough sleep for the possibility he would be pitching.

"The biggest thing is that everybody continues to go up there and give that effort, no matter what the situation is," Hill said.

Manny Machado, Kemp and Muncy all

joined the hit parade as Los Angeles left nothing to chance in Game No. 162. Kemp had a two-run double and RBI single among his three hits, while Muncy and Brian Dozier each hit two-run homers.

Los Angeles followed up an 18-hit performance Saturday with 16 more to finish with 43 in the three-game series.

Now, on to game No. 163.

"It's a game where obviously it's not do-or-die, but I think that it's a must-win game," manager Dave Roberts said. "To win the game and get a couple days off, to host the division series is very important."

Chris Taylor drew a walk from Andrew Suarez (7-13) to get the Dodgers going Sunday, Justin Turner followed with an RBI double and the rout was on. Dozier's drive and a two-run double by Kemp highlighted a seven-run third inning.

Roundup

Cubs, Brewers set up NL Central tiebreaker

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The crowd of 39,275 roared when Jason Heyward caught Francisco Pena's fly ball for the final out on a wet, cool afternoon at Wrigley Field.

Now, everything gets real crazy.

Anthony Rizzo had four hits and scored three times, and the Chicago Cubs set up a tiebreaker game for the NL Central title by beating the St. Louis Cardinals 10-5 on Sunday.

"We know what's at stake. Obviously we needed to win today, by all means," Rizzo said, "and tomorrow is the same thing."

Shortly after Milwaukee completed an 11-0 victory over Detroit, Jorge De La Rosa worked a hitless ninth inning to move the Cubs back into a tie with the Brewers at 95-67. Yairo Munoz walked with two out, but Pena's harmless fly to right closed it out.

Chicago hosts Milwaukee on Monday afternoon. The winner at Wrigley gets a spot in the division series and home-field advantage throughout the NL playoffs. The loser plays again

Tuesday night, hosting the runner-up in the NL West in the wild-card game.

"It's interesting that baseball is such a perfect game in some ways that it takes 162 to not decide anything," Cubs manager Joe Maddon said.

St. Louis (88-74) was in contention heading into the final week of the season, but it was swept by Milwaukee before dropping two of three against Chicago. Catcher Yadier Molina, outfielder Marcell Ozuna and infielders Kolten Wong and Jedd Gyorko were held out of the finale due to nagging injuries.

St. Louis missed out on the playoffs for a third straight year for the first time since it went 75-86 in 1999.

Brewers 11, Tigers 0: Triple Crown contender Christian Yelich and host Milwaukee advanced to an NL Central tiebreaker against Chicago with its seventh straight win.

Yelich went 0-for-2 with two walks and scored twice, ending his 10-game hitting streak.

Red Sox 10, Yankees 2: Mookie Betts claimed the big league batting title and J.D. Martinez hit his 43rd homer

to lead AL East champion host Boston into the playoffs with its franchise-record 108th win.

Angels 5, Athletics 4: Mike Scioscia ended his 19-year run as Los Angeles manager with a win over playoff-bound Oakland when Taylor Ward hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the ninth inning. Scioscia, the longest-tenured manager in the major leagues, finished with a 1,650-1,428 record, including 80-82. He guided the franchise to its only World Series title in 2002.

Twins 5, White Sox 4: Joe Mauer received one more pitch as catcher, and host Minnesota likely said goodbye to the longtime face of its franchise during an emotional win over Chicago.

Orioles 4, Astros 0: Host Baltimore ended a trying season with a salute to outfielder Adam Jones and a victory that could end up serving as a parting gift to manager Buck Showalter.

Mariners 3, Rangers 1: Roenis Elias allowed one hit in five innings, and host Seattle closed out the regular season with a win in what could be the

final game of Adrian Beltre's career.

Pirates 6, Reds 5 (10): Pablo Reyes scored on Jackson Stephens' wild pitch in the top of the 10th inning, rallying Pittsburgh over host Cincinnati.

Mets 1, Marlins 0: Noah Syndergaard pitched his first major league shutout and host New York wrapped up a disappointing season.

Rays 9, Blue Jays 4: Ryan Yarbrough got his rookie-leading 16th win and host Tampa Bay turned another bullpen game into its 90th victory.

Indians 2, Royals 1: Carlos Carrasco and Trevor Bauer combined for a five-hitter, Francisco Lindor homered and scored twice, and Cleveland beat host Kansas City.

Phillies 3, Braves 1: Needing a win to have a shot at home field in the NL Division Series, Atlanta lost to host Philadelphia.

Padres 4, Diamondbacks 3 (10): Manuel Margot scored on a dropped third strike in the 10th inning to lift host San Diego past Arizona.