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Trump, Clinton clash in fiery 1st debate

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sparks flew as Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump clashed over Islamic State war plans, the NATO alliance and the war in Iraq on Monday during the presidential candidates' first meeting on a debate stage.

A polished Clinton appeared to rattle Trump at times as the real estate mogul attempted to pin years of military interventions abroad and lopsided security treaties on the former secretary of state. However, the debate, full of fiery exchanges, did not touch on other issues for the military community such as caps on defense spending or the country's troubled veteran health care system.

The high-stakes debate — anticipated by tens of millions of voters — showed Clinton, a lifelong politician and the first female presidential nominee for a major party, and Trump, a brash businessman and reality television star, finally sparring after 18 months on the campaign trail. It came as polls showed Clinton losing her lead over Trump in the preceding weeks and an election race that

was a "dead heat" by the time the candidates took the stage Monday, according to a Quinnipiac University poll.

Clinton and Trump traded barbs repeatedly during about 100 minutes of debate. One exchange over the war on the Islamic State group erupted in the middle of a discussion on tax policy.

"Just go to her website, she tells you how to fight [the Islamic State group] on her website," Trump said. "I don't think Gen. Douglas MacArthur (a five-star general and Pacific commander during World War II) would like that too much."

Clinton shot back at Trump, saying, "At least I have a plan to fight [the Islamic State group]," a dig at his claim on the campaign trail that he has a secret strategy to stamp out the terrorist organization.

Allies in the Mideast

Throughout the debate, Clinton attempted to highlight her expertise as a senator and secretary of state, the country's top diplomat, while portraying Trump as intemperate and risky for the country when it comes to alliances and the fight

against the Islamic State group and terrorism.

"We're working with our friends in the Middle East, many of which, as you know, are Muslim-majority nations," she said. "Donald has consistently insulted Muslims abroad, Muslims at home, when we need to be cooperating with Muslim nations and with the American Muslim community."

Trump repeatedly called Clinton out for spending decades in positions at the height of political power while problems of security and global unrest grew.

NATO alliance

Trump said he supports a more balanced approach when partnering with other nations, including asking more from old partners in Europe and the Pacific, such as Japan and South Korea.

He attempted to clarify his position on the 67-year-old NATO alliance with Europe after saying earlier in the campaign that he would consider reneging on the joint security pact if other member countries did not contribute more military spending. Under the alliance, all members are required to respond if one

comes under attack.

"Number one, the 28 countries of NATO, many of them aren't paying their fair share," Trump said. "We're defending them, and they should at least be paying us what they're supposed to be paying by treaty and contract."

He also said NATO members "do not focus on terror" and claimed the alliance had recently announced a new terrorism effort due to his comments.

Clinton said the United States is already working within NATO to focus on the spread of terrorism and benefited after 9/11 from the pact's requirements that the alliance respond to any attack on a member state.

Left for another day

Even as the candidates sparred over hot-button topics, other key issues were left untouched in the first debate Monday. Two more debates, as well as a vice presidential debate, are scheduled in October.

The candidates did not talk and were not questioned about defense spending caps or troubles at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

1st ID commander relieved; DOD cites lack of confidence

BY ALEX HORTON

Stars and Stripes

SAN ANTONIO — Maj. Gen. Wayne Grigsby, who was suspended last week as commander of the Army's 1st Infantry Division, has now been relieved of command due to a "lack of confidence," the Pentagon announced Monday.

Grigsby, whose replacement will be named in the coming days, is the subject of an investigation, said Col. Patrick R. Seiber, an Army spokesman.

Brig. Gen. Pat Frank, one of the deputy commanders of the division at Fort Riley, Kan., is the interim commander until a replacement is appointed, said Lt. Col. Kimeisha McCullum, a division spokeswoman.

Seiber declined to offer more details about the suspension of Grigsby, including the superior who had him removed, and which investigative body will conduct a probe of the yet unannounced violation or violations.

The sudden removal of the division's commander comes

at an inconvenient time for the soldiers of "The Big Red One." A brigade and elements of division headquarters will deploy this fall, said an Army official who spoke on the condition of anonymity and declined to give details because the Pentagon has not made a formal announcement.

The division's 1st Combat Aviation Brigade deployed to Afghanistan during the summer, according to an Army statement.

Grigsby made headlines in

June following the invitation to a post prayer breakfast for retired Lt. Gen. William Boykin, a former commander widely criticized for his conservative Christian and anti-Muslim statements.

The Military Religious Freedom Foundation, a civil rights advocacy group that focuses on the separation of church and state in the military, along with others, called on Grigsby to rescind Boykin's invitation, and the event was later canceled.

Colonel charged in assault found dead

Associated Press

DENVER — An Air Force Space Command colonel who was charged with rape and other crimes was found dead in his Colorado home after civilian police received a report of a suicide, officials said Monday.

The body of Col. Eugene Caughey, 46, was found Sunday at his off-base home in Colorado Springs, city police said.

Authorities haven't said how he died.

Caughey was relieved of his duties in June 2015 after the rape investigation began, the Air Force has said. His court-martial was scheduled for Oct. 17.

The officers who found him dead were responding to a report of a suicide, Colorado Springs police Sgt. Tim Stankey said.

The coroner's office said it could be four to six weeks before the findings of an autopsy are released.

Caughey had been vice commander of the 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base outside Colorado Springs. The unit operates military communications and weather satellites, as well as global positioning system

satellites, which have broad civilian and military uses.

Caughey was accused of raping a woman in late 2014 or early 2015. He was also charged with adultery, indecent filming or photography, dereliction of duty and conduct unbecoming an officer.

Prosecutors accused him of photographing his exposed genitals while in uniform and groping women twice.

His civilian attorney, Ryan Coward, said Caughey was looking forward to his day in court and had been participating in his defense.

"I think this surprised everybody," Coward said, adding that his client had served honorably for 20 years. "This is just a very tragic event that occurred for him and his family."

Caughey's family had no comment, Coward said.

Caughey joined the Air Force in 1993. He said he survived the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attack on the Pentagon, according to a story on the Schriever Air Force Base website.

"I was a captain inside the Pentagon that morning when a plane crashed into the west side of the building," Caughey wrote.

Japanese jets scrambled to intercept 8 Chinese aircraft

BY MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND CHIYOMI SUMIDA

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Japan Air Self-Defense Force jets scrambled Sunday to intercept eight Chinese military aircraft flying between Okinawa's main island and Miyako Island as Beijing flexed its muscles in the region again.

While there was no violation of Japan's airspace, the close encounter in the Miyako Strait by four Xian H-6 bombers, a Tupolev TU-154 reconnaissance plane, a Shaanxi Y-8 reconnaissance plane and two fighter jets was a rare show of force for the Chinese, who usually test Japan's margins with a small number of submarines, boats or aircraft.

"This is the first time that Chinese military aircraft flew over the area," Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters. "It is assumed that the Chinese military conducted some training; however, I will refrain from elaborating on the training, including the purpose of the flight."

Japan will closely monitor the Chinese military's activities, which have been intensifying and expanding in recent years, Suga said.

"We will continue to put all of our efforts into surveillance activities, and with compliance with international and self-defense law, we will conduct strict counter-

measure operations against airspace violation," he said.

Also troubling was China's announcement this week that it would continue to patrol an Air Defense Identification Zone established in 2013, Suga said. The zone includes portions of the East China Sea's high seas and airspace over the resource-rich Senkaku island chain claimed by Japan.

The Senkakus are covered in the defense treaty between Japan and the United States. The Chinese are demanding that any aircraft flying through the zone comply with Chinese procedures.

"It is absolutely unacceptable to Japan," Suga said.

Incursions by Chinese aircraft and Japanese scrambles to intercept them have risen steadily since 2008 but have jumped sharply since 2012, when Japan nationalized the once privately owned Senkakus. There has been a record number of scrambles in recent months, including 200 between April and June alone.

Last month, Japan protested increased incursions by Chinese ships in Japanese-controlled waters near the Senkakus.

Japan has also protested surface radar discovered on a Chinese gas-drilling platform.

The activity comes as China also has been aggressively expanding in the South China Sea on islands and shoals that are claimed by other countries.

S. Korean crew missing after helo crash during drills with US

BY KIM GAMEL

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — A search was underway Tuesday for three crewmembers missing after a South Korean military helicopter crashed into the sea off the country's east coast while participating in joint maritime drills with the U.S. Navy.

The Lynx helicopter sent out a distress signal and disappeared from radar eight minutes after taking off from an Aegis de-

stroyer Monday evening.

So far, searchers have found only debris, including the helicopter's door and a helmet, a South Korean military official said, speaking on condition of anonymity according to department policy.

The crash site was near the inter-Korean maritime border known as the Northern Limit Line, but the official said currents suggested any drift would have been in a different direction.

An investigation into the cause of the crash was ongoing, but weather conditions were not a problem, another official said.

Pyongyang does not acknowledge the NLL, saying it was unilaterally drawn by the U.S.-led United Nations Command after the 1950-53 war on the peninsula ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

Flights by all 20 Lynx helicopters operated by the South's navy will be suspended pending an investigation into what

caused the accident, the Yonhap news agency reported. The helicopter that crashed is more than 30 years old and was first deployed to the navy in 1999, it said.

The joint navy drills involved guided-missile destroyers, including the USS Spruance, submarines and helicopters in a display of military might against a growing threat from North Korea, which has conducted two nuclear tests and several missile launches this year.

Carter: Billions needed for US nuclear weapons

BY TARA COPP
Stars and Stripes

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. — In a weapons bunker on the base, a crew of munitions experts work year-round to stretch the lives of 1980s nuclear cruise missiles that were supposed to last only 10 years.

“A lot of the initial manufacturers (supplying the warhead) are out of business,” said Air Force Master Sgt. Wesley Dean, with the 705th Munitions Squadron on base.

The crews are working to keep several hundred missiles that attach under the wings of B-52 Stratofortress bombers useful into the 2030s.

That means “every screw, every little piece” has to be given extraordinary attention, including the outdated computer circuit cards that are “keeping the brains of the missile” functioning, Dean said.

On Monday, Secretary of Defense Ash Carter toured Minot Air Force Base to press the case that if these facilities and weapons aren’t upgraded, the United States will no longer be able effectively to deter other nuclear-capable nations.

“If we don’t replace these systems, quite simply they will age even more and become unsafe, ineffective and unreliable,” Carter told a group of missileers and airmen at the base.

He said the United States has not built any new nuclear weapons in 25 years.

“But others did,” he said, calling out Russia.

Carter also said North Korea’s recent ballistic missile and nuclear weapons tests “underscore that a diverse and dynamic spectrum of threats still exists.”

These threats are the impetus for a vast, multibillion-dollar program underway to modernize all aspects of what the United States calls its “nuclear triad” — air, land and sea-based nuclear capabilities.

“Deterrence still depends on perception,” Carter said. “What potential adversaries see, and therefore believe, about our ability to act.”

Minot houses 150 of the 440 Minuteman III silo-based nuclear intercontinental ballistic missiles that remain in the U.S. arsenal and two dozen of the remaining B-52H nuclear-capable strategic bombers.

The silos were opened in September 1963 and are guarded by 1960s- and 1970s-era UH-1 Huey helicopters, said Col. Jason Beers, commander of the 91st Security Forces Group, which is charged with securing the base.

The procedures for the Air Force servicemembers tasked with manning alerts for the missiles have not changed, either. Two airmen are assigned 24-hour alert shifts, 365 days a year, in bunkers that are 85 feet under the ground.

Afghan soldiers drugged, killed

BY CHAD GARLAND
AND ZUBAIR
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Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — At least 12 Afghan soldiers were killed after being drugged at a checkpoint near the capital of northern Kunduz province overnight, an official said Tuesday, in what appeared to be an insider attack.

Fourteen soldiers were assigned to the outpost, one of a series of checkpoints that forms a defensive ring around Kunduz city. Two of the soldiers “poisoned” their colleagues with a narcotic, said Sher Aziz Kamawal, a senior police commander in Kunduz, then killed them and fled, taking weapons and ammunition.

Brig. Gen. Dawlat Waziri, Defense Ministry spokesman, confirmed that 12 soldiers had been killed Monday night and said the incident was under investigation.

“We still don’t know what exactly happened, whether it was an enemy’s plot or what,” Waziri said.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack online and said insurgents overran the checkpoint and killed 13 Afghan soldiers. He posted photos

on Twitter of weapons apparently seized from the checkpoint, including two machine guns and several M16 rifles.

The Taliban have repeatedly threatened Kunduz city since the start of their summer campaign, after they briefly captured the city last fall. Insurgents have managed to overrun a number of checkpoints throughout Afghanistan this year, seizing weapons, ammunition, vehicles and equipment from government forces.

There have been several insider attacks this year targeting Afghan and international forces, though their number has dropped sharply in the past two years.

U.S. officials have said they expect the Taliban to continue to threaten major population centers, especially the provincial capitals in the volatile northern Kunduz and southern Helmand provinces. But they said they are confident the Afghans can repel them.

NATO officials say checkpoints, often set up at the request of locals who want to feel more secure, remain vulnerable to Taliban attacks because they are sparsely manned and because of the government’s failure to properly equip, arm and inform troops.

Pentagon: No mustard agent in Islamic State rocket

BY COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — An Islamic State group rocket launched at American troops on a base in northern Iraq last week did not contain mustard agent, a U.S. military spokesman announced Tuesday, reversing the Pentagon’s initial assessment of the attack.

“Definitive lab tests conclude: No mustard agent

present in munitions fired at Qayyarah West Air Base Sept. 20,” Air Force Col. John Dorrian wrote Tuesday in a social media statement. Dorrian is the Baghdad-based spokesman for the U.S.-led Operation Inherent Resolve coalition.

Nonetheless, American and Iraqi troops at the logistics and air hub about 40 miles south of Mosul remain on alert for the Islamic State group’s potential use of such crude chemical

weapons, another U.S. military spokesman said.

The militants have used a home-brewed version of mustard agent against Iraqi security forces and Kurdish peshmerga fighters “many times” in the past two years, said Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman. It is likely the group at some point will turn the chemical weapons on American troops, especially as the assault on Mosul, the

group’s final urban stronghold in Iraq, nears, he added.

“They are dead set on it,” Davis said. “They would love to use chemical weapons against us and against the Iraqis as they move forward, and we are making every effort to make sure we are ready for it.”

All of the “hundreds” of troops at Qayyarah West have standard gas masks and full-body protective gear, he said.

Texas gunman had 2,500 rounds of ammo

Associated Press

HOUSTON — A disgruntled lawyer wearing military-style apparel with old Nazi emblems had two weapons and more than 2,500 rounds of live ammunition when he randomly shot at drivers in a Houston neighborhood before he was shot and killed by police, authorities said.

Nine people were injured during Monday morning's shootings on the street in front of a condo complex. Six were shot and three had eye injuries from flying glass. One person was in critical condition.

Police did not identify the man and did not have information about a motive. A bomb-squad robot examined a Porsche that police said belonged to the

gunman. Texas motor vehicle records in a commercially available database showed the car is licensed to Nathan DeSai at an address in the condo complex.

The man had two legally purchased guns — a .45-caliber semi-automatic handgun and a semi-automatic rifle commonly known as a Tommy gun — and an unsheathed knife.

Nine officers were involved in a shootout with the man, who was firing randomly at people driving by, police said.

Mayor Sylvester Turner told KTRK-TV in Houston that DeSai was a lawyer who was “disgruntled” and was “either fired or had a bad relationship with this law firm.” But DeSai's former law partner, Kenneth

McDaniel, disputed that assertion, saying they jointly closed their 12-year-old law firm in February due to economic conditions related to Houston's energy industry downturn.

McDaniel also said he hadn't had contact with DeSai lately and that police called him Monday morning to check on his safety, though they didn't explain why.

Calls placed to phone numbers connected to DeSai and his father were not immediately answered. Prakash DeSai, the father, told KTRK that his son lived in the condo complex and drives a black Porsche. He also said his son, whom he saw Sunday, was upset because “his law practice is not going well”

and “because of his personal problems.”

Perry Turner, special agent in charge of the FBI's Houston Division, said officials don't believe the incident is tied to terrorism.

Jason Delgado, the property manager of The Oaks at West University condo complex, said DeSai was involved in two recent incidents there. In August, Delgado said, police were called after roofers working in the complex said DeSai pointed an assault-style rifle at them. No charges were brought.

Last week, DeSai became upset because of water-pressure problems at his home, asked for maintenance help and wrote an intimidating email.

Iowa city quickly erects flood barriers

Associated Press

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — Facing their second-largest flood in city history, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, leaders and residents pinned their hopes Monday on a 10-mile system of quickly erected flood barriers to protect government buildings, homes and businesses in Iowa's second-largest city.

Crews scrambled to build the floodwall over the weekend to block the rapidly rising Cedar River because despite years of discussions, officials haven't been able to secure funding for permanent flood barriers following a devastating flood in 2008.

“The city had eight years to do this but decided to throw up a temporary system in three days,” said Jim Soukup, 30, who sat on a pile of sandbags outside his parents' home in the Czech Village neighborhood, which was largely empty after thousands of residents heeded a voluntary evacuation ahead of the river's anticipated crest on Tuesday.

Soukup said he and his father would guard the home — which had several feet of floodwater in 2008 — to avoid the prospect of

looting.

The river rose past 20 feet on Monday. It was expected to crest at 23 feet, which is 8 feet below the 2008 flood that devastated wide swaths of the city of 130,000 people.

Mayor Ron Corbett said 9.8 miles of earthen berms and Hesco barriers — which are mesh-framed, collapsible boxes that can quickly be filled with sand or other material and weren't available to the city in 2008 — have been erected throughout the city. As a secondary line of defense, more than 250,000 sandbags had been piled up around property.

“If it works, we will save the city,” Corbett said.

City leaders plan to closely monitor the flood system, noting that any breaches could cause water to quickly gush into areas and cause problems for residents who don't evacuate. Authorities said more than half of the 5,800 properties in the evacuation zone had been evacuated by Sunday, and the area had a ghost-town feel by Monday afternoon.

The city had time to prepare because forecasters have been warning of the floods since last week, following heavy rainfall

to the north. City leaders said they believed the system would greatly minimize the damage.

But they've struggled to secure funding for a better flood-protection system for low-lying areas. Residents voted down a sales tax increase that would have helped pay for it years ago.

Now, the city is waiting on Congress to authorize and appropriate the federal share of a plan to build a permanent flood system along with investments from the state and the city.

City Manager Jeff Pomeranz said lobbying for the federal money is a top priority, and the project will be critical to the city's future. Iowa's members of Congress are expected to push for the financing in the coming days.

Still, retired plumber James Adair, 78, said he was frustrated the city had secured money to rebuild many parts of downtown but still lacked flood protection. He spent \$65,000 rebuilding his flood-damaged home after the 2008 flood. “If we get flooded again, I am leaving,” he said. “The city should have gotten the river under control by now.”

Officials in Charlotte denounced

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Angry Charlotte, N.C., residents verbally lashed City Council members for hours, complaining about what they called unaccountable police officers and civilian leaders who have failed to force change, as the city marked a week of protests since a police officer fatally shot a black man.

At its Monday night meeting, the council opened the floor to dozens of residents who voiced their opinions about the Sept. 20 shooting of Kevin Lamont Scott by Charlotte-Mecklenburg police.

Many called on Mayor Jennifer Roberts, police Chief Kerr Putney and other council members to resign on the seventh day of protests since the shooting.

“It's going to be rough in these streets until you give justice to our people,” said the Rev. Milton Williams, the final speaker in a three-hour string. “Our city's in an uproar, and you did not respond.”

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police: Man stabbed after cutting pizza line

DC WASHINGTON — Police said a man stabbed a person who had cut the line at a Washington pizza restaurant.

Authorities said the argument began just before 4 a.m. Monday when Jose Nelson Melendez Rodriguez, 20, skipped ahead in line at Jumbo Pizza. Another customer took issue with the maneuver, and the two went outside.

A police report says Rodriguez pulled a knife and stabbed the man. The victim then punched Rodriguez, knocking him unconscious. Later, a friend of the victim kicked Rodriguez in the head.

Rodriguez was arrested and charged with assault with a deadly weapon and taken to a hospital. The man accused of kicking him, Justin McKinney, 20, was charged with assault.

The stabbing victim was taken to a hospital with injuries that weren't life-threatening.

Dog poop compost program launched

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A new initiative has taken off in San Francisco to convert dog poop into compost.

The San Francisco Chronicle reported that the program launched Sunday at an open space maintained by volunteers in the city's Potrero Hill neighborhood.

The program aims to help divert dog waste into compost through the use of compostable poop bags.

The company BioBag is partnering with the community volunteers to provide the bags and bins and coordinate a pickup service for the dog waste.

BioBag spokesman Mark Williams said the project will help reduce landfill in San

Francisco, where there are about 120,000 dogs that produce about 32 million pounds of poop a year.

Good Samaritan saves 8 from fire aboard boat

NJ MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP — The U.S. Coast Guard said a good Samaritan rescued eight people from a burning boat off the coast of New Jersey.

The Coast Guard said watchstanders received a distress call late Sunday afternoon saying a 40-foot recreational boat was ablaze several miles off the coast of Middletown Township.

Officials said rescue and fire crews found the boat but that a civilian boater, who hasn't been identified, had already responded and safely transferred the people off the burning vessel.

The Coast Guard helped firefighters put out the blaze, but officials said the boat was unrecoverable and sank in 85 feet of water.

University sees spike in drug-related offenses

HI HONOLULU — A new report shows most crime at the University of Hawaii's Manoa campus went down in 2015 from the previous year, but the number of drug-related violations jumped nearly 20 percent.

The Honolulu Star-Advertiser said that the findings of the university's annual security and fire safety report were released Friday.

During that period, drug violations that resulted in disciplinary action increased from 417 to 509, marking the second consecutive year the number of cases has gone up. All but seven of the drug violations occurred in residence halls.

Deputy finds stolen SUV with baby safe inside

FL MARGATE — Authorities said that after activating an Amber Alert, a Broward sheriff's deputy found a stolen SUV with a baby boy inside.

Broward Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Keyla Concepcion told local media that a woman stepped out of her Nissan Murano on Saturday afternoon to speak with the manager of a business in Margate. The woman left her two children — a girl, 10, and a 2-month-old — in the car.

As the woman was standing on the sidewalk next to the running SUV, a man jumped inside. The girl managed to get out of the SUV and tried to grab her brother, but was unsuccessful.

The man drove away with the infant still in the back seat. The baby was found safe about three hours later in the abandoned vehicle.

Black Lives Matter flag stolen from university

VT BURLINGTON — The student government at the University of Vermont said a Black Lives Matter flag that had been flying at its Burlington campus has been stolen.

The flag, sponsored by the Student Government Association, first appeared on Thursday to show support for the school community as many struggle with violence and seek justice.

But the student government said the flag was stolen Saturday night. The group said the theft underscores why the country needs to openly discuss the injustices many Americans face based on the color of their skin.

School officials replaced the flag Sunday afternoon.

Woman tries to run over man after parking spat

NM ALBUQUERQUE — A woman is facing charges after authorities said she tried to run over a man after a dispute over an Albuquerque casino parking spot.

KOB-TV in Albuquerque reported that Yvonne Aragon was arrested Friday outside the Route 66 Casino following the brawl.

According to the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office, Aragon, 45, got angry the man was standing in a parking space to save it for his wife. Bernalillo County sheriff's Capt. Andi Taylor said that's when Aragon hit the man with her car.

Taylor said the man's bruises on his leg matched a skeleton license plate of Aragon's car. The man told deputies she also pointed a gun at him.

1 of 2 boaters missing for week found alive

MA BOSTON — The U.S. Coast Guard said one of two Connecticut boaters missing for a week has been found alive, drifting on an inflatable life raft off the coast of Massachusetts.

The Coast Guard on Friday suspended its search for Linda Carman, 54, and her son, Nathan, 22, of Middletown. The mother and son disappeared Sept. 18 after leaving a Rhode Island marina to go on a fishing trip in a 31-foot aluminum fishing boat named the Chicken Pox.

The Coast Guard in Boston said Nathan Carman was found Sunday by a freighter about 100 nautical miles south of Martha's Vineyard. He was listed in good condition. Linda Carman's whereabouts remain unknown.

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Marlins, Mets pay tribute to Fernandez

Associated Press

MIAMI — In tribute to Jose Fernandez, left-handed hitter Dee Gordon stepped to the plate as a righty to lead off the first inning of Monday's mournful game.

After one pitch, Gordon switched to his customary left side — and homered in the first at-bat for Miami since the death of Fernandez in a boating accident.

Gordon pulled a 2-0 pitch from New York Mets right-hander Bartolo Colon over the wall in right for his first homer of the season. He tapped his chest after crossing the plate and waved toward the sky, and then sobbed as teammates hugged him in the dugout.

"It seemed like it took forever," he said. "I was trying to get back to my teammates as fast as possible. I was just wondering why Jose wasn't there standing on the top step cheering for me."

It was another heart-tugging moment in a succession of them over the past two days. The Marlins went on to a 7-3 victory.

Adam Conley pitched three scoreless innings subbing for Fernandez. Justin Bour went 3-for-3 and Gordon had four hits, including one that will go down in Marlins lore.

The atmosphere was funereal

at Marlins Park three hours before the first pitch, with players going through their pregame stretching in eerie silence.

Then someone cranked up the sound system, and bouncy reggaeton reverberated throughout the ballpark. It was a nudge toward a return to normal, as the Marlins and baseball began to move on without Fernandez.

The animal race at the end of the fifth inning was canceled, along with other in-game entertainment, and most of the Marlins' hitters decided to forgo walk-up music. But there was a game against the Mets, the first for the Marlins since their ace died early Sunday.

"This is shallow, but the show goes on," Marlins president David Samson said. "There has been a lot of talking and a lot of crying and a lot of praying and a lot of trying to make sense of something you can't make sense of. There is no sense to a life ended like that, in a way that is so meaningless."

"It's our job to make his life matter, so we're going to do that forever, and forever starts today."

Fernandez made his major league debut against the Mets in 2013 and was scheduled to face them again Monday night in his final start of the season. Instead, Miami and the Mar-

lins mourned the loss of the 24-year-old pitcher, whose talent and captivating personality were a combination unmatched in the sport.

Fernandez and two other men were killed when his 32-foot SeaVee slammed into a rock jetty that extends off the southern tip of Miami Beach at about 3:15 a.m. Sunday, a medical examiner said.

Fernandez was originally scheduled to pitch Sunday before his start was moved back a day. The change may be the reason he decided to go on the late-night boat outing.

"If he had pitched yesterday, maybe fate would be different," Samson said. "I've been thinking about that a lot."

Manager Don Mattingly said, "Obviously it crosses your mind."

The Marlins' game Sunday against Atlanta was canceled, and when they took the field Monday for batting practice, Fernandez's name and number hovered over the field on the huge video screen. Gordon wore a T-shirt that said "RIP" with a photo of Fernandez shaped as the "I."

For the game, the players decided to wear Fernandez's No. 16, with hastily made uniforms flown in. His number was also stenciled on the back of the mound.

The pregame ceremony included a slow, solemn solo trumpet rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." Following the national anthem, New York manager Terry Collins led his Mets across the field to share hugs with the Marlins, and fans briefly chanted "Jose, Jose."

The Marlins then clustered around the mound and put their hands to the dirt. Some scratched out Jose's number or a message of love, and some just rubbed the mound — his mound. His career record at Marlins Park was 29-2.

A.J. Ramos pitched a hitless ninth. When he retired Curtis Granderson to end the game, the Marlins gathered once more around the edge of the mound and bowed their heads, and then tossed their caps onto the dirt and kneeled, tears flowing yet again for Fernandez.

"It's his spot," Mattingly said. "Just kind of saying bye."

Fans established a makeshift memorial on the plaza outside the ballpark entrance, leaving dozens of flower arrangements — daisies, carnations, roses and lilies, the result as colorful as Fernandez's personality. There were also candles, and messages scrawled on balls, balloons, photos and jerseys.

NBA players shift concerns from teams to country

Associated Press

NEW YORK — NBA players aren't just worried about their teams as they start a new season.

They're concerned for their country.

The usual basketball cliché that dominates media days gave way to serious talk about social injustice and violence in communities, with players wanting to be involved in finding solutions but acknowledging they don't know yet how.

"Some of the things that I've been addressing over this past

summer, I think we're still in the same state. I think it's actually getting worse and it will continue to get worse," Knicks All-Star Carmelo Anthony said Monday. "We still have to kind of keep the conversations going."

Anthony was among the highest-profile and most outspoken players following the killing of black men by police in Louisiana and Minnesota in July, joining friends and fellow stars LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Paul in a powerful opening to the ESPY

Awards and continuing to speak out while playing for the U.S. Olympic team.

But recent killings by police in Tulsa, Okla., and Charlotte, N.C., captured on video have convinced those players that progress they seek hasn't arrived.

"Obviously, I know things don't happen overnight, but it doesn't seem like there is any change," James told The Associated Press. "We just want the conversation to continue to be, 'Who are our leaders? Who are our true leaders that are going

to help us change what's going on?' Everyone is looking for that and no one knows."

Protests over the killing of Keith Lamont Scott in Charlotte turned violent, with Mayor Jennifer Roberts imposing a curfew. Miami Heat center Hassan Whiteside still calls the area home and was troubled by it.

"We've just got to get an understanding of it," Whiteside told the AP. "There's not really one way to fix the problem. It's been going on for a while. People are sick of it."

Tribe top Tigers, clinch AL Central

Associated Press

DETROIT — When the Cleveland Indians poured onto the field to celebrate their first division title since 2007, their mounting list of concerns became secondary.

Injuries to Michael Brantley, Carlos Carrasco, Danny Salazar — and now ace Corey Kluber? The Indians have overcome all of it so far, and that's why the AL Central is theirs with about a week to spare.

Cleveland clinched the division championship Monday night, overcoming an injury to Kluber in a 7-4 victory over the Detroit Tigers. Kluber left after four innings with right groin tightness, joining Carrasco and Salazar in a group of talented pitchers dealing with health problems.

Brantley has barely played this year because of shoulder problems, and catcher Yan Gomes is out, too. Yet the Indians have held onto first place for more than three months.

"It's hard, man. It is so hard to explain how hard winning is," manager Terry Francona said. "We've had some chal-

lenges thrown our way, but so has everyone else. We managed to get this far, and now we get to play more baseball."

Cleveland last made the postseason in 2013 as a wild card.

Coco Crisp and Roberto Perez homered for the Indians, and Jason Kipnis doubled in a run.

Buck Farmer (0-1) allowed four runs in five innings for the Tigers, who fell two games behind Baltimore for the second AL wild card.

Andrew Miller (10-1) won in relief, and Cody Allen pitched the ninth for his 30th save in 33 chances.

Crisp and Detroit's J.D. Martinez traded two-run homers in the second, and Cleveland took the lead for good in the fifth on the double by Kipnis. Mike Napoli's sacrifice fly later that inning made it 4-2.

With the division title 15 outs away, the Indians took the field for the bottom of the fifth without their ace. Kluber, the team leader with 18 wins, was replaced by Dan Otero, and the announcement about the

2014 AL Cy Young Award winner's groin problem came a little while later.

"He's good, but he has a groin thing that he's fighting," Francona said. "It started getting him in the third and again in the fourth, so I grabbed him. I told him we need to find a way to win a game, but we aren't going far without him, so we need to get him healthy and let him do what he does."

Miguel Cabrera made it 4-3 with an RBI single, but Perez led off the seventh with a drive to right to put the Indians back up by two.

Cabrera added another run-scoring single in the seventh, but Perez — who entered the game hitting .168 — answered with another big hit in the eighth, lining an RBI single up the middle.

Cleveland made it 7-4 on an error by Martinez in right. Miller, the third reliever for the Indians, struck out four of the six hitters he faced before giving way to Allen. The final out came on a strikeout by Cameron Maybin.

Yankees avoid sweep with testy win over Jays

Associated Press

TORONTO — Yankees slugger Mark Teixeira had a night to remember in his final road game before retirement.

Teixeira hit a tying homer in the ninth inning, adding an uncharacteristic bat flip, and Aaron Hicks added a game-winning blast as the New York Yankees avoided a four-game sweep, beating the Toronto Blue Jays 7-5 on Monday night in a testy game that saw two benches-clearing incidents.

Leading 3-2 heading to the ninth, Blue Jays manager John Gibbons called on Jason Grilli (7-6) to close it out because Roberto Osuna was unavailable after pitching the previous two days.

Teixeira tied it 3-all with a one-out homer. After pausing to admire his second-deck drive and casually flipping his bat, Teixeira yelled "Blown save!" at Grilli after returning to the dugout.

"Our team has been fighting all year," Teixeira said. "We're probably not going to make the

playoffs. We're just going to enjoy ourselves the rest of the year and keep fighting."

Didi Gregorius singled and Hicks followed with a two-run homer.

New York scored five runs in a bat-around ninth, matching its total from the 35 previous innings in the series.

Teixeira's homer was his 408th, passing Duke Snider to take over 54th on baseball's all-time list.

The Yankees were steamed at Toronto after four New York players and coaches were ejected following two benches-clearing incidents in the first two innings.

New York starter Luis Severino was ejected in the second after hitting Justin Smoak, sparking the second melee.

The scrap came after Toronto left-hander J.A. Happ threw consecutive inside pitches to Headley in the top of the inning, hitting him with the second. That led to a warning from plate umpire Todd Tichenor.

Donaldson, hit on the elbow by a pitch from Severino in

the bottom of the first, walked in from his position and exchanged words with the New York dugout after Headley was hit.

Both benches and bullpens cleared that time, too, but no punches were thrown.

Mariners 4, Astros 3 (11): Robinson Cano hit his second homer of the game with two outs in the 11th inning, lifting Seattle over host Houston.

Cubs 12, Pirates 2: Javier Baez hit a grand slam and drove in a career-high six runs while major league ERA leader Kyle Hendricks pitched six scoreless innings, helping visiting Chicago win its 100th game of the season.

Baez helped the NL Central-champion Cubs reach triple digits in victories for the first time since 1935.

Diamondbacks 14, Nationals 4: All-Star catcher Wilson Ramos left Washington's loss to visiting Arizona with a right knee injury that could be a major blow to the NL East champions.

Ramos landed awkwardly

on his right leg after jumping to catch a relay throw in the sixth inning. He immediately called for medical attention and clutched at the same knee he injured during the 2012 season, when he tore his ACL and medial collateral ligament.

Brewers 8, Rangers 3: Jonathan Villar had two home runs and a career-high five RBIs, and visiting Milwaukee's Matt Garza beat his former team.

Reds 15, Cardinals 2: Joey Votto and Adam Duvall hit two of Cincinnati's four homers in a rout of host St. Louis.

White Sox 7, Rays 1: James Shields pitched six effective innings for his first win in two months, Justin Morneau and Carlos Sanchez each hit a two-run homer and host Chicago beat Tampa Bay.

Angels 2, Athletics 1: Yunel Escobar scored when Ryan Dull (5-5) bobbled Albert Pujols' weak grounder back to the mound in the eighth inning, and Los Angeles beat visiting Oakland for its fifth victory in six games.

Falcons' offense shines against Saints

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — For all of Dan Quinn's background as a defensive specialist, the Atlanta Falcons' second-year coach is fielding an offense about as good as anyone right now.

Matt Ryan has been efficient. Running backs Devonta Freeman and Tevin Coleman are wearing down defenses while keeping one another fresh. The offensive line is winning praise for its run-blocking and pass-protection. And the Falcons are outscoring even explosive opponents, as they did in a 45-32 triumph over the New Orleans Saints on Monday night.

"We wanted to stay aggressive and keep attacking," Quinn said. "The team did a very nice job of mixing up the run and pass."

It was a satisfying triumph for the Falcons (2-1), who came in with just two victories in their 10 previous trips to the Superdome. It also made Atlanta the early front-runner in the NFC South.

The winless Saints (0-3), by contrast, are in last place and were less competitive against

the Falcons than they were in their first two losses to Oakland and the New York Giants.

Saints quarterback Drew Brees is still racking up gaudy numbers. He passed for 376 yards and three TDs against Atlanta. But he never seems to have much margin for error. He threw one interception on a tipped ball and it was returned 90 yards the other way by rookie linebacker Deion Jones, who just happens to be a New Orleans native and LSU alum.

Afterward, Brees lamented that Monday's result might have been different if not for a pair of major Saints mistakes — his interception and a muffed Atlanta punt that the Falcons converted into an 11-yard touchdown drive.

"There's no magic formula. There's no magic offensive play or defensive scheme that's going to win you a game," Brees said. "It's about each guy doing what they've been coached to do, to their best ability. There's going to be mistakes made at times, but let's not be a team that's going to beat themselves by doing things you know that will get you beat."

Some other developments of note coming out of Atlanta's win the Big Easy:

Backfield bonanza: Freeman and Coleman are taking pressure off Ryan by running well and turning short receptions into considerable gains. They combined for 296 yards from scrimmage and four TDs in New Orleans. Freeman rushed for 152 yards on just 14 carries, an average of nearly 11 yards per run. He scored his lone TD on a 13-yard pass from Ryan and finished with 55 yards receiving on five catches. Coleman ran for three TDs, once from 6 yards out and twice from 2 yards.

Battered defense: The Saints entered the season with little defensive depth and appear to be reeling from injuries. Key players sidelined by injuries against Atlanta included defensive tackles Sheldon Rankins and Tyeler Davison, cornerbacks Delvin Breaux and P.J. Williams, strong safety Kenny Vaccaro and linebacker Dannell Ellerbe.

They wound up allowing 442 net yards against Atlanta, but when Saints coach Sean Payton

was asked about the toll injuries have taken, he responded, "That is not going to be an excuse for not playing smart."

Ryan's efficiency: The Falcons' star quarterback didn't keep pace with Brees — and didn't need to. But he did play a relatively clean game. His two TD passes gave him seven TDs against one interception through three games. He is also completing about 71 percent of his passes for 323 yards per game.

Fleener's form: After struggling to get involved in New Orleans' passing game, tight end Coby Fleener — a top acquisition in free agency — looked in sync with Brees. Fleener caught seven passes for 109 yards and a touchdown, his best performance by far as a Saint.

Jones' rise: Jones has demonstrated a lot of upside in his first three regular season games as a pro. In addition to his pivotal interception for a score in New Orleans, Jones was in on nine tackles and credited with two passes defended. For the young season, Jones is now second on the club with 25 solo or assisted tackles.

Palmer's legacy overshadows Ryder Cup

Associated Press

CHASKA, Minn. — The flag at half-staff over Hazeltine National was enough to take the edge off the Ryder Cup.

Arnold Palmer occupied everyone's thoughts on Monday.

"There's a hole in the game that can't be filled," Phil Mickelson said.

Tributes poured in for Palmer, who died Sunday at age 87. Even as European players arrived from an overnight flight out of Heathrow Airport, any conversation about the Ryder Cup was secondary to their thoughts on the King.

"The legacy he leaves behind is very important," Martin Kaymer said. "He inspired millions of people. That's what we as humans should try to do."

Alastair Johnston, the CEO of Arnold Palmer Enterprises, said Palmer had gone to Pittsburgh for a heart procedure in a bid to improve "the quality of life he was

severely losing." The surgery was to be Monday morning. He said his condition deteriorated over the last few days.

A private funeral in Latrobe, Pa., was scheduled for later in the week. Johnston said that would be for "pure family, direct relationships." He said a public ceremony to commemorate Palmer's life would be held at 11 a.m. on Oct. 4 at St. Vincent College.

Johnston said Palmer would not have wanted to encroach on a week in golf as big as the Ryder Cup, though that proved difficult.

And the Ryder Cup made it clear it did not want to go on without Palmer.

PGA of America President Derek Sprague said there would be a video tribute and a moment of silence before the high-charged matches begin Friday. He also said players would pay homage to Palmer, though details have not been decided.

"It was tough waking up this morning

and starting over," U.S. captain Davis Love III said. "I know everybody on our team was just kind of crushed last night. ... This is a big blow for golf, but we knew it was coming, unfortunately, since maybe even before the Bay Hill tournament this year when we saw him. His legacy will live on forever, especially through the Ryder Cup."

The Ryder Cup was but a small part of Palmer's contributions to golf and sport. He played on six teams, all of them American victories during a time when they faced a Britain & Ireland squad that was overmatched. Palmer holds the U.S. record for most matches won (22), and in 1963 at East Lake he holds the distinction as being the last Ryder Cup playing captain. Palmer went 4-2 that year.

Love and European captain Darren Clarke said they would alter their speeches at the opening ceremony Thursday.

"It's almost like we are all dealing with the loss of a family member," Love said.