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Overdosed passenger rescued by deputies, Tosa medical personnel

Milwaukee County Sheriff's deputies may have saved the life of a woman who overdosed on heroin and was unresponsive when they came across her in a pickup truck stopped along the highway in the Zoo Interchange.

The Sheriff's Department said the 45-year-old woman was a passenger in a Dodge Ram pickup that was stopped in the distress lane of I-41/U.S. 45 northbound about 2:15 p.m. Friday.

The driver was outside the vehicle when deputies arrived and told them the passenger was not breathing. She had a faint pulse but was unresponsive.

One of the deputies gave the woman a dose of Narcan, a nasal spray used to treat emergency cases of opioid overdose or suspected opioid overdose, but she remained nonresponsive.

Deputies then pulled her from the vehicle, administered a second dose of Narcan and performed CPR until Wauwatosa Fire Department emergency personnel arrived and gave the woman an injection of Narcan.

She became responsive just after 2:30 p.m., according to the Sheriff's Department.

"With the opioid epidemic reaching crisis proportions, our efforts to train and supply our deputies with Narcan is having an impact. Their quick response and life-saving efforts until medical professionals arrived is commendable," Sheriff Richard Schmidt said in a statement.

The 84th Street on-ramp, the south-to-the-west ramp in the Zoo Interchange, and the Highway 100 off-ramp from I-94 westbound were closed during the incident.

Deputies said they found drug paraphernalia and oxycodone pills in the vehicle. In a hospital interview, deputies said, the woman admitted to snorting \$100 worth of powdered heroin before getting in the vehicle.

1 dead and 12 hospitalized after mass drug overdose in California

One person has died and four are in critical condition after a mass drug overdose at a house in Chico, Calif. A total of 12 people were taken to the hospital.

Police say they suspect the mass overdose was caused by ingestion of the opiate fentanyl in combination with another substance.

"Upon arrival, Chico police officers found multiple individuals in what appeared to be life-threatening, overdose conditions," Chico Police Chief Michael O'Brien told reporters.

"Officers began to both administer CPR and also naloxone to those individuals," he said.

"Unfortunately one male individual was pronounced dead at the scene," O'Brien said, adding that the residence where the overdose occurred is being treated as a hazmat site.

"Every indication is that this mass overdose incident was caused from the ingestion of some form of fentanyl in combination with another substance. That is yet to be confirmed, but we do anticipate confirmation in the coming days," O'Brien said.

The Chico Enterprise-Record reports that all of the people hospitalized were over the age of 18, and most appeared to be in their 20s.

Fentanyl is now the drug most frequently involved in overdose deaths in the U.S., according to figures released in December by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A synthetic opioid pain reliever, the drug is 50 to 100 times more powerful than morphine.

Brewers have meeting with catcher Ramos

The Milwaukee Brewers have both catchers back who finished the 2018 season with them, Manny Piña and Erik Kratz, but have explored at least one possibility at upgrading that position.

Adam McCalvy of MLB.com reported Friday that the Brewers met Thursday with free-agent catcher Wilson Ramos, who came to Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino to meet in person with interested clubs at the winter meetings.

Ramos, 31, split the 2018 season with Tampa Bay and Philadelphia, getting names to the American League all-star team before being traded. In 382 at-bats, he batted .306 with a .358 on-base percentage, 15 home runs, and 70 RBI.

Piña and Kratz are not considered in Ramos's offensive class but are rated better defensive catcher. Much better in fact. The Brewers also have 23-year-old prospect Jacob Nottingham waiting in the wings and recently signed career backup catcher Tuffy Gosewich.

Ramos, who has battled injuries in recent years, also reportedly met with the New York Mets, who have been involved in trade talks with Miami for catcher J.T. Realmuto. Other teams believed to have interest in Ramos include Oakland and Minnesota.

It is not known how many years or what kind of money Ramos is looking for, but he had a \$8.5 million salary last year. Kratz recently signed a \$1.2 million deal, only \$300,000 of which reportedly was guaranteed, and Piña is arbitration-eligible for the first time after making \$560,000 last season.

General manager David Stearns has acknowledged that he has less flexibility in his payroll budget this off-season, so whether he has room to fit Ramos remains to be seen. Stearns said Thursday that principal owner Mark Attanasio is open to stretching payroll if the right opportunity comes along to add value.

Email bomb threats target businesses in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Ozaukee counties

Southeastern Wisconsin was not spared in a nationwide spate of bomb threats Friday. But officials have also said those threats do not appear to be credible.

Businesses in Milwaukee, Waukesha, and Ozaukee Counties said they had received email bomb threats according to authorities.

The emails stated that those who sent them are working with others and multiple bombs have been placed in various locations in a building, according to the Waukesha County Sheriff's Office. The emails direct the recipients to pay money in the form of bitcoins to prevent the bombs from being detonated.

The Milwaukee Police Department said it was investigating an unspecified number of threats across the city.

Wauwatosa police reported two email bomb threats. It appears one was sent to a personal account and the second sent to a business account.

The Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office received a report from Dimat Co. of Cedarburg about an emailed bomb threat, according to Capt. Christy Knowles.

The building was evacuated, and local businesses were advised of the threat. Bomb sniffing dogs were requested to clear the building and surrounding area.

The Wisconsin Statewide Intelligence Center was monitoring the threats, according to the Waukesha County Sheriff's Office.

Those receiving the threats should not click on the link in the emails, the Waukesha County Sheriff's Office said.

Israel confirms strikes on Syrian targets

JERUSALEM - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday confirmed that Israel has struck hundreds of Iranian and Hezbollah targets in Syria, including a weapons facility in a weekend airstrike, as the military announced the discovery of a sixth and final tunnel dug by the Lebanese militant group for cross-border attacks.

The statements marked a rare, public acknowledgment of Israeli attacks against Hezbollah and its patron Iran in neighboring Syria, where Israel is long believed to have targeted Iranian weapons shipments to the Lebanese Shiite group. However, Israel has until now generally refrained from commenting about the strikes for fear of triggering a reaction and being drawn into the deadly fighting in neighboring Syria's civil war.

At his weekly Cabinet meeting, Netanyahu publicly confirmed the strike as he thanked outgoing military chief Lt. Gen. Gadi Eisenkot for long years of service and particularly his marshaling of Israel's shadowy campaign against Iran in recent years.

"We have operated with impressive success in thwarting Iran from establishing a military foothold in Syria, in the framework of which the military has struck hundreds of times against Iranian and Hezbollah targets," Netanyahu said. "In the last 36 hours alone, the air force struck storage facilities with Iranian weapons at the Damascus International Airport. The bulk of recent attacks show how we are more committed than ever to act against Iran in Syria, as we promised."

Coupled with the announcement that after Sunday's discovery, Israel was wrapping up its operation to destroy Hezbollah's tunnel network into Israel, the weekend strike in Syria is widely seen as Eisenkot's "parting shot" as his four-year tenure as military chief ends. He will be replaced on Tuesday by Maj. Gen. Aviv Kochavi.

The powerful Shiite Hezbollah group, which acts independently in Lebanon, has yet to comment on the tunnels.

Panthers hang on to edge out Golden Grizzlies

ROCHESTER, Mich. - UW-Milwaukee coach Pat Baldwin probably felt like he was in a sauna after the way he had to sweat out the action Thursday night.

In a hotly contested game, DeAndre Abram drained two free throws with 10 seconds remaining to help the Panthers hold off Oakland, 67-64, at the Athletics Center O'rena. It wasn't over at that point, however.

Baldwin and the Panthers could finally breathe a sigh of relief when Oakland's Braden Norris missed a three-point attempt with three seconds left.

The Panthers (7-10, 2-2 Horizon League) have won five of their last seven games. Oakland (7-11, 3-2) has lost two straight following a three-game win streak.

"This is a tough place to play and I am proud of our guys for their toughness in coming in here," Baldwin said. "We got off to a great start and we had to hold on for dear life at the end. We knew Oakland would make their run, which they did – and even took the lead at one point. But our guys stepped up late and made some really key plays."

UWM led for most of the second half until Norris hit a three-pointer to give Oakland a 63-62 lead with 2 minutes, 42 seconds to play.

Darius Roy answered with a three-pointer on the next possession for the Panthers, and James Beck split a pair of free throws to pull the Golden Grizzlies to 65-64 with 1:59 left. Both teams wasted opportunities down the stretch. The Panthers missed a three-point attempt and had a turnover.

Meanwhile, the Golden Grizzlies failed on three three-point shots and two from inside the arc. Those misfires capped a woeful finish for Oakland, which missed 10 of its last 12 shots. Abram was 5 of 13 shooting and led the Panthers with 18 points.

Postal worker admits to stealing more than 6,000 greeting cards

MILWAUKEE - A U.S. postal worker admitted to stealing more than 6,000 greeting cards filled with cash and checks in Wisconsin.

As part of a plea deal, Ebony Lavonne Smith, 20, of Milwaukee pleaded guilty to theft or receipt of stolen mail on Sept. 12 and will be sentenced at a later date.

Last summer, Wauwatosa residents complained to the U.S. Postal Service that they were not receiving graduation, wedding, birthday and sympathy cards in the Zip codes of 53213 and 53226. Smith, who was identified as the mail carrier in those areas.

Online court documents explain that Smith was caught after the Postal Service places an envelope containing a test greeting card and a \$20 bill was prepared for delivery in the Wauwatosa area. Inside the envelope was a transmitter that signaled when it was opened.

Smith began delivering the mail and when she arrived at the address of the test greeting card, the transmitter activated, signaling that the envelope had been opened. At this time, postal agents approached Smith, who was standing outside of her car.

The agent located the opened envelope, which no longer contained the \$20 bill. The agent allowed Smith to retrieve her purse from the vehicle, and she gave the agent the test \$20 bill, which was in the side pocket of her purse.

Postal authorities also located a bundle of 31 USPS customer greeting cards within a USPS satchel on the floor of the front passenger seat side of Smith's vehicle. In addition, agents also recovered 23 greeting cards and a Starbucks gift card from between the front seat of Smith's USPS vehicle. Smith told authorities she began stealing cash from greeting cards when she began her route in the Washington Highlands. Court records said she admitted to stealing mail approximately one or two days per week, stealing cash to pay bills and take care of her four children.

Migrants tunnel under border fence

TUCSON, Ariz. - The largest single group of migrant families and minors ever recorded in the Yuma area tunneled underneath a border fence and voluntarily turned themselves in to U.S. Border Patrol agents, according to Customs and Border Protection officials in Arizona.

A group of 376 migrants, composed almost overwhelmingly of Guatemalan families and children seeking asylum, breached the U.S.-Mexico border just before noon Monday, approximately 4½ miles east of the San Luis commercial port of entry.

Customs and Border Protection officials disclosed details of the incident on Friday, releasing videos and photos showing the migrants walking along the U.S. side of the border fence and waiting in line for agents to process them.

Agent Jose Garibay, spokesman for the Border Patrol's Yuma Sector, said that migrants, with the help of smugglers, dug seven holes in the sandy soil underneath the bollard-style fence and the metal plates welded to the bottom of the barriers.

"The bollards, when they were put in, they didn't have concrete footers, because it wasn't designed to stop from digging under, it was designed to stop the vehicle traffic," Garibay said.

The group included 176 minors, Customs and Border Protection said. Thirty of the minors were unaccompanied.

Overall, it is the largest, single group of families and minors ever recorded since the agency began seeing a surge in the arrival of these migrants in the past two years, Garibay said.

In all, the process took "several hours," Garibay said.

Since the group was so large, the Border Patrol had to pull agents from other assignments to help process and transport the migrants using any vehicles at their disposal, including patrol cars, vans and buses that "had to make several trips," he added.

The number of families and minors crossing through Yuma began to rise at the start of 2018, breaking records month after month. The government began tracking the data in 2013. This trend is seen nationwide, with historic numbers of families reaching the U.S.-Mexico border.



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Extremists attack hotel in Nairobi

NAIROBI, Kenya - Extremists launched a deadly attack on a luxury hotel in Kenya's capital Tuesday, sending people fleeing in panic as explosions and heavy gunfire reverberated through the complex. A witness said he saw five bodies at the hotel entrance alone.

Al-Shabab — the Somalia-based Islamic extremist group that carried out the 2013 Westgate Mall attack in Nairobi that left 67 people dead — claimed responsibility.

"It is terrible. What I have seen is terrible," said Charles Njenga, who ran from a scene of blood, broken glass, burning vehicles and black smoke.

The coordinated assault began with an explosion that targeted three vehicles outside a bank, and a suicide bombing in the hotel lobby that severely wounded a number of guests, said Kenya's national police chief, Joseph Boinnet.

Survivors reported hearing a shattering blast and saw people mowed down by gunmen as they sat at a cafe. Victims were left lying on tables, bleeding.

"We were changing our shifts, and that is when I heard a loud blast and people were screaming," said Enoch Kibet, who works as a cleaner at the cafe and managed to crawl out of a gate in the basement. "I couldn't believe I was alive. The blast was so loud and shook the whole complex."

Authorities sent special forces into the hotel to flush out the gunmen believed holed up inside. Well after nightfall, more than five hours after the attack began, Boinnet said the counter-operation was still going on. It was not clear how many attackers laid siege to the complex, which includes the DusitD2 hotel, along with bars, restaurants, banks and offices and is in a well-to-do neighbourhood with large numbers of American, European and Indian expatriates.

Boinnet did not disclose the number of dead.

Associated Press video from inside the hotel showed Kenyan security officers searching the building and scared workers emerging from hiding while gunfire could still be heard. Some climbed out a window by ladder. One man got up from the floor where he appeared to be trying to hide under a piece of wood paneling, then showed his ID.

As officers searched luxury fashion displays, wounded people were carried away on stretchers.

Like the attack at the Westgate Mall, this one appeared aimed at wealthy Kenyans and foreigners. It came a day after a magistrate ruled that three men must stand trial in connection with the Westgate Mall siege.

Al-Shabab has vowed retribution against Kenya for sending troops to Somalia to fight it since 2011.

Tuesday's violence came three years to the day after al-Shabab extremists attacked a Kenyan military base in Somalia, killing scores of people.

Wizards star John Wall ruptures Achilles after 'slipping and falling' in his home

Washington Wizards star John Wall will miss approximately the next 12 months with a ruptured left Achilles tendon after "slipping and falling" in his home, the team said in a news release on Friday.

Wall underwent season-ending surgery on his left heel on Jan. 8 and developed an infection in the incision from that procedure before suffering the rupture, according to the Wizards. The team said the rupture was diagnosed by Wizards director of medical services and orthopedist Dr. Wiemi Douoguih during a procedure to clean out the infection. Douoguih said on a conference call with reporters Tuesday afternoon that Wall's injury is unusual because he didn't suffer a complete rupture, but from the standpoint of fixing the Achilles and healing, the injury falls within the parameters of a full rupture.

Wall, who has become one of the NBA's top point guards due in large part to his explosive athleticism, signed a four-year, \$170 million contract extension in the summer of 2017. It begins next season.

Wall's surgery has yet to be scheduled, but it will be performed by Dr. Robert Anderson, who performed his initial surgery.

Wall opted to undergo the initial surgery, which was performed to address bone spurs in his left heel, to prevent a more serious injury.

"If I don't want to deal with the pain or make it any worse and have an opportunity to maybe rupture my whole Achilles later down the road, you get the surgery and take it out," Wall said in late

December, per The Washington Post. "Some days it would be terrible where you couldn't play or could barely walk. So it's not really a hard decision for me to make. It was an easy decision. It was just also making sure that everybody on my team and everybody from the Wizards organization was on the same page."

Wall, a five-time All-Star, averaged 20.7 points and 8.7 assists in 32 games this season for the Wizards, but the team has underperformed greatly and sits in 10th place in the Eastern Conference at 22-31.

This is just another blow for a team that looks nothing like the one that won 49 games and made it to Game 7 of the Eastern Conference semifinals two seasons ago. With injuries (in addition to Wall, starters Dwight Howard and Markieff Morris are out) and money tied up in players who aren't living up to expectations (Otto Porter, Ian Mahinmi), the Wizards' postseason hopes are slim, and the direction the franchise goes from here is very much up in the air.

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solution to
round 1 puzzle

Nursing home gunman in Ohio had violent history

KIRKERSVILLE, Ohio - Court records show the man authorities say gunned down an Ohio village police chief and two nursing home employees had a history of violence, including against the nurse who was among the slain.

The suspect, Thomas Hartless, 43, was found dead inside Pine Kirk Care Center.

Nurse Marlina Medrano, 46, nurse's aide Cindy Krantz, 48, and Kirkersville Police Chief Steven Eric Disario, 36, were killed in the Thursday attack.

State and local authorities said Friday the investigation was continuing and they had no new information to release on the deaths in the village of some 500 residents, roughly 25 miles east of Columbus.

Spokeswoman Jill Del Greco, of the Ohio attorney general's office, said investigators had more interviews planned and learning more about the connection between Hartless and Medrano is part of their efforts. Authorities have said they had been in a relationship.

Records show Medrano had obtained civil protection orders against Hartless. Hartless was released from jail in January after his latest domestic violence case in December. State prison records show he served eight months in 2010 for the 2009 abduction of another woman.

"I am afraid to be alone with him, that he will hurt me for good," Medrano wrote in her latest petition this month. The Columbus Dispatch reported that court officials said Friday that protection order was still in effect. Records show Medrano had reported injuries including a concussion and cuts requiring stitches.

The Dispatch reported that she had earlier told police he once showed her a hole he had dug and said he would put her in it if she didn't stay with him. She also told police Hartless "doesn't like police."

Ohio Gov. Mike DiWine ordered that all flags be flown at half-staff at all public buildings and grounds throughout Licking County and at the Ohio Statehouse through sunset February 28 to honor the lives lost in "senseless acts of violence" in Kirkersville.

Congo announces 9 suspected Ebola cases

KINSHASA, Congo - One person has been confirmed dead from Ebola in an outbreak in a remote corner of northern Congo as health authorities look into a total of nine suspected cases, including two other deaths, the country's health minister and the World Health Organization said Friday.

One case of the hemorrhagic fever was confirmed out of the five tested since the outbreak emerged February 8 in Bas-Uele province, Health Minister Oly Ilunga Kalenga said. He said the confirmed case was of the Zaire strain of the virus.

The outbreak could test a recently developed experimental Ebola vaccine that WHO says could be used in emergencies. The global vaccine alliance GAVI said 300,000 doses are available "if needed to stop this outbreak becoming a pandemic."

This vast, impoverished Central African nation has had seven known Ebola outbreaks in the past, including one in 2015 with several dozen cases. That outbreak was not connected to the massive epidemic in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone that left thousands dead.

So far all the cases have been tied to a remote village, and it's a strain of Ebola that's been seen in the country before.

Dr. Allarangar Yokouide, the WHO representative in Congo, said the first teams of specialists should arrive in the affected area of Likati on Sunday or Monday. The zone is some 1,300 kilometers (800 miles) from the capital, Kinshasa.

Ebola occasionally jumps to humans from animals including bats and monkeys. Without preventive measures, the virus can spread quickly between people and is fatal in up to 90 percent of cases. There is no specific treatment for the disease.

The new cluster of Ebola cases will again test one of the world's least equipped health systems. The U.S. Agency for International Development has said an estimated 70 percent of the population has little or no access to health care.

"We urge you not to give in to panic," Congo's health minister said.

Cop who got drunk, let child drive may be promoted

The Fire and Police Commission will decide March 7th whether to promote to captain a Milwaukee police officer who once let his 13-year-old daughter drive his car after he got drunk.

The nomination by Police Chief Alfonso Morales to promote Lt. John P. Corbett was presented to the commission at its regular meeting on Thursday.

Commissioners will interview Corbett before making a decision on the nomination at their next regular meeting in March.

If promoted to captain, the high-ranking leadership position could put him in charge of an entire police district. His misdemeanor criminal conviction came in 2011, after he got drunk and let his 13-year-old daughter drive his car.

The civilian commission has the final say on whether to promote Corbett.

At the time of his arrest in 2010, Corbett's daughter told authorities she had been driving but got lost.

By the time the car was pulled over, Corbett was back in the driver's seat.

Milwaukee police spokeswoman Sgt. Sheronda Grant said Corbett took responsibility for his alcohol issues and got therapy.

He has been sober for eight years, she said.

"He actively educated department members, provides private counseling sessions on alcohol dependency and substance abuse in law enforcement and was a member of the Alcohol Awareness Initiative," she said in an email.

3 Chicago cops acquitted of cover-up in McDonald death

A judge on Friday acquitted three Chicago police officers of trying to cover up the 2014 shooting of Laquan McDonald, ruling that the shocking dashcam video of the black teenager's death did not necessarily tell the whole story.

In casting off the prosecution's entire case, Judge Domenica Stephenson seemed to accept many of the same defense arguments that were rejected by jurors who in October convicted officer Jason Van Dyke of second-degree murder and aggravated battery. He is scheduled to be sentenced Friday. The judge said the video represented merely one perspective of the confrontation and that there was no indication the officers tried to hide evidence.

"The evidence shows just the opposite," she said. She singled out how they preserved the graphic video at the heart of the case.

McDonald's family questioned how the two cases could produce such different decisions. His great uncle, the Rev. Marvin Hunter, told reporters that the verdict means "that if you are a police officer you can lie, cheat and steal.

"Officer Joseph Walsh, officer Thomas Gaffney and detective David March were accused of conspiracy, official misconduct and obstruction of justice. All but Gaffney have since left the department.

After the verdict, Walsh would say only that the ordeal of being charged and tried was "heart-breaking for my family, a year and a half."

The judge rejected prosecution arguments that the video demonstrated officers were lying when they described McDonald as moving even after he was shot. She repeatedly stated that McDonald was moving after being hit by the first few bullets and refused to relinquish the knife.

The video appeared to show the teen collapsing in a heap after the first few shots and moving in large part because bullets kept striking his body for 10 more seconds.

Moldova opposition election candidates: We're being poisoned

CHISINAU - Two opposition leaders on Thursday accused Moldovan authorities of poisoning them, drawing a rapid denial from the ruling party, just days before a parliamentary election that threatens to tip the east European country back into crisis. Maia Sandu and Andrei Nastase, who have joined forces to campaign against the ruling Democratic Party ahead of Sunday's vote and accuse its leadership of rampant corruption, said doctors had discovered heavy metals in their blood.

"Suspicious arise, and against the background of the attitude of the current government to those whom they think are dangerous, this case should be taken seriously," Sandu said.

A spokesman for the pro-Western Democratic Party rubbished the allegation and said "strange accusations are heard in the last few days and are becoming more and more fantastic."

"Unfortunately, the election campaign in Moldova has sometimes exceeded common sense," said the spokesman, Vitalie Gamurari. The election pits the Democratic Party, which heads the current government and denies corruption allegations, against the Socialists, who favor closer ties to Russia. Nastase and Sandu's ACUM bloc oppose both these main parties and on Thursday also signed a pledge not to enter into a coalition with them in case of a hung parliament. The election threatens to entrench a split in the country between pro-Western and pro-Russian forces at a time when concerns over corruption and democracy have soured its relations with the European Union.

Opinion polls suggest no party will win an outright majority, which could set the scene for months of coalition talks or another election.

Moldova, one of Europe's poorest countries, which is squeezed between Ukraine and EU member state Romania, plunged into political crisis in 2014-2015 after \$1 billion was pilfered from three banks.

The scandal tarnished the image of pro-Western forces in the country, which the European Parliament last year declared "a state captured by oligarchic interests".

