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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Airmen rescue Chinese sailors

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ADAM GRANT, COURTESY OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE/AP

A U.S. Air Force airman parachutes into the Pacific Ocean to aid two critically injured Chinese sailors aboard a Venezuelan fishing boat. The boat found the sailors floating in a raft Friday afternoon after their vessel sank off the coast of Mexico.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Military seeks to curb alcohol abuse with outside help

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon is targeting alcohol consumption in its battle to curb sexual assaults in the military.

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced a department-wide review of the services' alcohol policies the same day that the Pentagon released its latest report on sexual assault within the

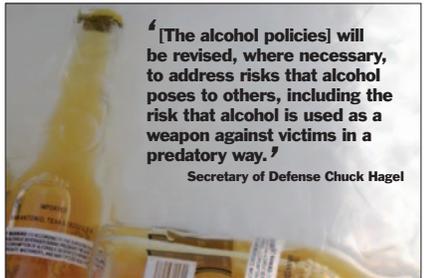
ranks. The Defense Department revealed there were more than 5,000 reports of sexual assault by servicemembers in fiscal 2013, a 50 percent increase over the previous year.

More than two-thirds of the sexual assault reports involved alcohol use by either the victim, the assailant or both, according to the Pentagon.

SEE ALCOHOL ON PAGE 4

‘[The alcohol policies] will be revised, where necessary, to address risks that alcohol poses to others, including the risk that alcohol is used as a weapon against victims in a predatory way.’

Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel



NGO illustrates large budgets, lack of oversight in war zones

By SCOTT HIGHAM,
JESSICA SCHULBERG AND STEVEN RICH
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — In 1998, an ordained minister with the United Church of Christ and his wife from the war-wrecked region of Bosnia-Herzegovina began a humble international humanitarian effort out of a modest office in downtown Washington.

After the U.S. launched the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the mom-and-pop

nonprofit corporation boldly ramped up, undertaking some of the federal government's biggest and most ambitious projects in the battle zones, everything from building roads to funding wheat production.

In doing so, International Relief and Development increased its annual revenues from \$1.2 million to \$706 million, most of it from one corner of the federal government — the U.S. Agency for International Development. IRD has received more grants and

cooperative agreements from the USAID in recent years than any other nonprofit relief and development organization in the nation — \$1.9 billion.

Along the way, the nonprofit rewarded its employees with generous salaries and millions of dollars in bonuses. Among the beneficiaries: the minister, Arthur B. Keys, and his wife, Jasna Basaric-Keys, who together earned \$4.4 million in salaries and bonuses between 2008 and 2012.

The story of IRD reflects the course of America's ambitions in Iraq and Afghanistan, which started with great enthusiasm and consumed tremendous resources, only to see many hopes go awry. Nation-building projects aimed at supplanting insurgents and securing the peace that looked promising on paper in Washington proved to be difficult to execute in dangerous and unpredictable war zones.

SEE NGOS ON PAGE 5

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"That's not going to do anything. By 2 o'clock, everybody's drunk already."

—Army Pfc. Vanessa Miranda, commenting on a policy of cutting alcohol sales after 2 a.m. in an effort to curb sexual assaults

See story on Page 4

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MILITARY

War protesters sow seeds at US facility

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Several people breached a fence at a U.S. Army installation last week and sowed what they said were some 200,000 marijuana seeds to demonstrate their opposition to war and their conviction that the area should be "devoted to agriculture, horticulture and the well-being and sociability of Vicenza."

The action was announced on the website of the so-called NoDalMolin movement, which opposed the building of the Army base Del Din. A video posted on the website Thursday showed people wearing masks cutting through a fence and planting seeds in an enclosed area.

The intruders scattered the seeds just inside the fence on Tormeno Ammunition Storage Point 7 at Arcugnano, a small facility for small-arms ammunition, according to the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza.

The garrison was alerted to the trespass by Italian police. Officials said the ammunition at the facility had not been a target of the group. The ammunition, they said, was stored in a hardened facility, with "layers of defense," and was inaccessible.

On its website, NoDalMolin invited Vicenza residents to a "great harvest festival" in October.

Italian police are investigating the incident.

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com



Via www.NoDalMolin.it

In a screen capture from a video posted by the so-called NoDalMolin movement, intruders cut through a fence to gain access to Tormeno Ammunition Storage Point 7 at Arcugnano, Italy.

Survivors struggling after Afghan landslide

By MASSOUD HOSSAINI
The Associated Press

ABI BARIK, Afghanistan — Three days after the earth swept through his village, burying entire houses and hundreds of people, Hashmat Khan is still digging in search of his family.

Standing in a hole he'd dug out that reached over his head, Khan said six members of his family were buried in the horrific landslide that swept over the village of Abi Barik in Badakhshan province.

"We have rescued two injured and taken out two dead bodies, and now we're trying to find two more," he said.

The landslide Friday killed hundreds of people — still no one has an exact number — and destroyed 300 homes and displaced hundreds more families.

Stranded and with no homes, many of the families have struggled to get aid. Some have gone to nearby villages to stay with relatives or friends, while others have slept in tents provided by aid groups. The unlucky ones have slept outside.

One of the school teachers, Abdul Patash Zafari, said the villagers have surveyed all the families and believe that around 50 students between the ages of 6



Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Defense

A coalition team prepares a pallet of humanitarian assistance items at Kabul International Airport on Sunday. The aid was bound was for Badakhshan province to support disaster relief efforts.

and 15 died in the landslide.

The school building survived. But with what's left of Abi Barik under threat of further landslides and flooding, the surviving children haven't been able to attend school.

The landslide was likely triggered by heavy rains that have fallen across northern Afghanistan in recent weeks. It broke off

such a massive chunk of earth, burying hundreds of homes, that officials have said it will be impossible to bring up all the bodies. Still, many villagers have continued digging on their own.

Azizullah, who goes by one name as do many Afghans, said he was working on a construction site when he heard about the landslide and hurried home. His

house was covered with mud but eventually he was able to find his wife and children alive. But his father and one of his brothers are still missing.

"Probably they have died, but still we are looking for them," he said. "Over the past three days we have been digging in the area where we think they might be to find their bodies, but we couldn't find any of them."

The Washington Post reported that the U.S.-led military coalition delivered 13 tons of blankets, carpets and tents to the affected region. Shortly before dawn Sunday, two U.S. Air Force C-130s flew the supplies from Kabul to Faizabad, the capital of Badakhshan province. The items were transferred to Afghan soldiers, who loaded them into trucks for the drive to Abi-Barak.

Correction

The headline on a May 2 story on the annual report to Congress on progress in Afghanistan was incorrect. High-profile attacks in Afghanistan were up significantly, not attacks overall.

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Say what?

A sample of reader comments from stripes.com



Tattooed soldier challenges rules

A Kentucky National Guard soldier with aspirations of joining a U.S. Army special operations unit wants a federal judge to overturn the military's new regulations concerning soldiers with tattoos. And \$100 million in damages.

Readers respond:

Military men have been getting tattoos for hundreds if not thousands of years. This ridiculous focus on image that the military has been cultivating over the last few decades is a relatively new thing.

— James

While tattoos are not new, neither is the efforts by the military. This is what happens when you loosen the restrictions to allow mass entrants to support two wars, and then try to clamp back down during drawdowns.

— DeskPilot

It kinda makes it hard to blend in with locals when you have something distinguishing like a huge tattoo on your arm.

— XO1877

Depends what "local" your talking about, kind of hard for a Caucasian American with green eyes and blonde hair to blend in with the locals. for example in Uganda.

— RememberPearlHarbor

This guy is not special; if he wants the job, he needs to comply with the entry requirements. I see no real difference between not having tattoos to enter the Night Stalkers or needing a law degree and passing the bar to be a lawyer. It's the price of admission.

— John Smith

When he loses the case, the Army should counter sue with a choice, pay all Army court costs or end his enlistment contract. He no longer deserves to wear a uniform.

— Steve Adamson

Another BS winner. The regs change all of the time. You took an oath to obey them so either obey them or get out.

— hawaiiugy32

100 million bucks? He was asking to be a warrant officer not the CEO of Apple.

— Wally

U-2 in area when airport computer shut down

By CHRIS CARROLL
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon confirmed Monday that a U-2 spy plane was on a regular training mission over the West Coast last week when a software glitch of unknown origin caused a shutdown of computer systems that delayed hundreds of flights.

"I can tell you there was a U-2 operating in the area in accordance with all FAA regulations,"

Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said. "The U2 filed all the proper flight plan paperwork and was conducting its operation in accordance with those filings."

Warren said the Federal Aviation Administration investigated and resolved the matter: The Pentagon is not planning an investigation and is not planning to change U-2 flight operations.

Sources over the weekend told NBC News that the plane's route caused computers to overload

Wednesday at the Los Angeles Air Route Traffic Control Center, which handles landings and departures at major airports in the Los Angeles area, San Diego, Las Vegas and elsewhere.

That system, which displays data to air traffic controllers, as well as a backup system failed, and the FAA was forced to stop accepting flights into airspace managed by the center, NBC reported.

The FAA quickly implemented

a fix, but travel plans for thousands of travelers were disrupted in the meantime.

The U-2 is a high-flying spy plane that first took to the skies in the 1950s.

The Pentagon has proposed eliminating the fleet in favor of unmanned surveillance aircraft in the 2015 defense budget to save money.

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MILITARY

Alcohol: Troops believe restrictions not effective

FROM FRONT PAGE

Officials have said the actual number of sexual assaults is much higher because many troops are reluctant to report such attacks.

"[The alcohol policies] will be revised, where necessary, to address risks that alcohol poses to others, including the risk that alcohol is used as a weapon against victims in a predatory way," Hagel said during a news conference with reporters Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Snow, the director of DOD's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, said the services will share the findings of their reviews with Hagel, but wouldn't say what specific measures are being considered.

He did say the services will look outside the military for help in tackling the problem. Encouraging responsible sales practices, as well as training bartenders and other alcohol providers in communities around military installations, will be a key part of the effort, he told reporters.

Nate Galbreath, a senior adviser to SAPRO, said two state-level initiatives were "promising" models that DOD could follow. One is California's Responsible Beverage Service program, which aims to prevent bar and restaurant patrons from getting dangerously drunk.

2 state initiatives

"This is training providers to understand how people consume alcohol, what its effects are on the body and how to maybe serve people in a way that diminishes those impacts, those effects on the body so that they don't get intoxicated as quickly," Galbreath said.

Providing a food menu to someone who orders a drink and encouraging them to eat something to slow the absorption of alcohol into the system is one method that is used, according to Galbreath.

"You [also] look at times associated with when you sell things. Do you really need to sell someone five fifths of bourbon at 2 in the morning? Probably not," he said.

Galbreath also pointed to Arizona's Safer Bars Alliance, which established practices that owners and staff can adopt to mitigate the risk of sexual assault in their establishments through interventions and other safety measures. Citing data obtained by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, he said communities that use those kinds of approaches have seen a decrease in violent crimes.

Troops react

Soldiers interviewed Friday at Kleber Kaserne, a small Army post in Kaiserslautern, Germany, were skeptical that additional pol-



ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/Stars and Stripes

icies limiting alcohol use would do anything to curb sexual assault. More needs to be done, they said, to encourage personal responsibility, because servicemembers will always find ways to get alcohol.

"I don't think there's much more that they can do," said Army Spc. Darius Lesane, 21, of Jacksonville, N.C. "When it comes down to alcohol consumption, it comes down to the particular person. You know, everybody in the military, we're all adults here. You should be able to have that self-control that comes with the responsibility of drinking alcohol."

"The government, they're going to keep trying to come up with more restrictions and more rules, but in the end it all just comes down to the individual person," he said.

"There ain't no way they can ban alcohol for soldiers," said Pvt. Lloyd Brown, of Casselberry, Fla. "Soldiers will always find a way to get alcohol, whether they go out and buy it or find someone else to buy it for them."

"Making the barracks dry or having pubs and bars stop serving after 2 (a.m.), that's not going to necessarily do anything," said Army Spc. Teqoun McFadden, 30, of the Bronx, N.Y. "Who's to say that these guys won't find it somewhere else or go somewhere else and possibly get themselves into more trouble in pursuit of that? It just comes down to being responsible."

Army Pfc. Vanessa Miranda,

Military efforts to limit alcohol sales

■ Navy Exchange minimarts are required to limit alcohol products to no more than 10 percent of retail floor space and to stock single-use alcohol detection devices.

■ The Navy and the Marine Corps exchanges stop selling alcohol at 10 p.m.

■ Eighth Army leaders in Korea also stop alcohol sales at on-base shoppettes and liquor stores at 10 p.m. The amount of alcohol soldiers can keep in their barracks room is limited.

■ Similar bans are in effect in Kaiserslautern, Grafenwoehr and Spangdahlem, Germany.

21, of Eureka, Calif., said alcohol can be a problem for some individuals but doesn't know what the military can do to fix it.

"Some people have problems in their lives before they get drunk, so when they get drunk, they go out and they fight or they go out and get really slammered, and they get, like, taken over by other people. That's when things happen, I guess," she said.

Restricting alcohol sales after 2 a.m., like some bars in the States do, doesn't seem to her to be a good solution.

"That's not going to do anything," she said. "By 2 o'clock, everybody's drunk already."

Restrictions

Overseas, the U.S. military has repeatedly taken steps to curb alcohol use, particularly in South Korea and Japan.

In 2011, two rape cases within

two weeks — both committed by soldiers who had been drinking — led U.S. Forces Korea commanders to place troops under an off-post nighttime curfew that remains in effect.

Military leaders in Japan enacted a similar curfew in 2012 after two sailors who had been drinking brutally raped an Okinawan woman.

In addition, servicemembers assigned to Japan are required to complete sexual assault prevention and response training within 12 months of their arrival or they are barred from off-base liberty altogether.

The U.S. also routinely sends military police patrols to bar districts outside bases to ensure troops aren't misbehaving. It's not uncommon to see uniformed personnel walking among people partying in the streets of Seoul or Tokyo. The same is true in

Kaiserslautern, Germany, near Ramstein Air Base.

Other steps include limiting alcohol sales on base.

The Navy announced new limits to alcohol sales last July as part of a package of initiatives aimed at preventing sexual assaults. Alcohol sales are now restricted to the hours between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., and Navy Exchange minimarts are required to limit alcohol products to no more than 10 percent of their retail floor space. Exchanges are also required under the rules to stock single-use alcohol detection devices.

The Marine Corps followed suit in September, restricting alcohol sales at exchanges to between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. and picking up the 10 percent rule. Corps leaders also promised to limit alcohol promotion and marketing on bases.

Eighth Army leaders in Korea issued an order in November 2012 that stopped alcohol sales at on-base shoppettes and liquor stores at 10 p.m. and limited the amount of alcohol soldiers can keep in their barracks room.

The commander of the 86th Airnd Wing issued a similar ban in the Kaiserslautern Military Community, restricting alcohol sales between 1 and 6 a.m. at AAFES facilities.

Similar bans are also in effect elsewhere in Germany, including Grafenwoehr and Spangdahlem Air Base.

In Korea, officials also mandated that on-post clubs take steps to identify underage patrons, such as issuing wristbands and prohibiting the sale of pitchers of beer that could easily be distributed to underage drinkers.

Stars and Stripes reporters Steven Beardsley, Jennifer Svan, Erik Slavin and Ashley Rowland contributed to this report.
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“The government, they’re going to keep trying to come up with more restrictions and more rules, but in the end it all comes down to the individual person.”

Army Spc. Darius Lesane
Kleber Kaserne post in Kaiserslautern, Germany

MIDEAST

NGOs: Scrutiny falls on nonprofit over pay, performance in Afghanistan, Iraq

FROM FRONT PAGE

In Baghdad and Kabul, companies such as IRD were left to manage hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of taxpayer-funded programs with little meaningful oversight from USAID, according to interviews with government auditors and former IRD employees familiar with the projects.

The nonprofit organization, in turn, has hired at least 19 employees from USAID, the lead government agency for addressing poverty and supporting democracy worldwide. Several of them came directly from their desks at the agency to occupy important posts at the company.

Some of those employees, including the former acting administrator of USAID, received substantial pay raises by crossing the Potomac and joining IRD at its new offices in Arlington, Va., collecting as much as \$300,000, more in annual salaries, bonuses and other compensation.

In the world of humanitarian NGOs — nongovernmental organizations — those kinds of salaries are unusual. Rarer still are bonuses of any kind.

"IRD is a nonprofit in name only," said John Bennett, a former career State Department official and ambassador who led a reconstruction team in Baghdad that was under contract to USAID. He built an organization designed to get USAID money."

The USAID increasingly has turned to NGOs and corporations over the years, as the agency has lost thousands of employees to budget cuts and has had itself left with far fewer resources. IRD managed a large-scale project to clear trash in Baghdad and hired crews to construct a vast road network through southeastern Afghanistan. For IRD, this would be its first major road project, under some of the most difficult circumstances imaginable.

For years, IRD has been sparing with government auditors over its performance in the field. Auditors reported that one IRD program in Iraq was "highly vulnerable to fraud and mismanagement," said the nonprofit organization neglected to provide sufficient oversight in war zones and inflated the impact of its programs. IRD and top USAID officials have consistently challenged such findings, steadfastly defending IRD's work.

Today, IRD finds itself falling out of favor with the agency that was once its most ardent patron. Because of concerns about performance in the field, USAID is considering whether to continue its relationship with IRD, according to two high-ranking government officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly.

In several interviews, IRD officials defended the salaries and bonuses, saying they are designed to attract and retain talented employees, some of whom are required to work in hazardous zones. They said the salaries and bonuses are determined by the market and advised and are based on outside



COURTESY OF IRD/The Washington Post

Arthur Keys, left, meets with Abdul Manaf, the district governor of Nawa, Afghanistan, in 2010. Keys is the founder of International Relief and Development, a nonprofit organization tasked with running some of the federal government's most ambitious projects in Iraq and Afghanistan.

compensation studies.

The company officials added that they are proud of their work in the field and said they did the best they could under dangerous circumstances. Their programs, they argued, helped to stabilize governments in Iraq and Afghanistan, giving U.S. counterinsurgency efforts a chance to succeed.

"Our take is that things are better in Iraq and Afghanistan today because of these programs," Keys, 68, said in a recent interview.

At its core, IRD is a family affair. Keys, his wife and their daughter created IRD as a nonprofit entity in 1998 after working on numerous church-related relief efforts and social justice projects. They later were joined by Keys' brother-in-law.

The nonprofit's inaugural project was a humanitarian effort funded by the State Department to stabilize portions of the Republic of Georgia. State then selected IRD to expand the program into Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Armenia.

During the past decade, the company has broadened operations into more than 40 nations, employing 150 people at its Arlington headquarters, another 110 across the globe and thousands of contract workers, according to IRD.

Between 2007 and the present, the nonprofit has received 82 percent of its nearly \$2.4 billion in USAID funding for projects in Iraq and Afghanistan, according to a Washington Post analysis of federal procurement data.

"Most of our traditional partners would not work in those environments, either for political reasons or security reasons," said James Kunder, formerly the acting deputy administrator of the USAID, who retired in 2009 and is a member of the nonprofit's advisory board. "I found IRD to be courageous and willing to go into harm's way."

"Are they perfect? Are they saints? No. I don't find too many saints walking along the shores of the Potomac. But they did good work under enormously difficult situations."

Between 2008 and 2011, the U.S. government spent an estimated \$206 billion on contracts and grants in Iraq and Afghanistan, with at least \$31 billion and as much as \$60 billion lost to waste and fraud, according to the congressional Commission on Wartime Contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Much of the spending has gone to programs designed to rid regions of insurgents and to win the "hearts and minds" of local populations.

Former Ambassador Karl Eikenberry witnessed the spending firsthand as the nation's top diplomat in Afghanistan between 2009 and 2011. He said the U.S. government's strategy and the heavy spending on relief and development projects have "produced disappointing results."

"In Helmand and Kandahar, we threw everything at it," Eikenberry said in a recent interview. "It would make taxpayers' eyes water if they saw how much money was being spent."

Rajiv Shah, the USAID administrator, said that he has been making changes at the agency to improve oversight, to track spending and to hold contractors more accountable.

"I took a strong position saying that writing big checks to contractors is not development," said Shah, who took over the agency in 2010.

Shah said that he is limiting the size of awards and now must personally approve those above \$75 million. He also has created a team to review the performance of contractors, hired more staff to supervise field work and set up a unit to prevent unethical or poorly performing companies from doing business with the government.

"We have shown a seriousness about taking disciplinary action with partners that had not been seen in the recent past," he said.

Since 2006, IRD has received \$1.8 billion from the USAID under 26 cooperative agreements — rather than contracts — according to an analysis of federal procurement records by The Post. The analysis found

that IRD received 77 percent of its USAID funding through such agreements, 96 percent of which went to projects in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The agricultural program, for example, began as a \$60 million cooperative agreement and morphed within three years into a \$470 million project, according to USAID.

The cooperative agreement was broadened at the urging of the military and Richard Holbrooke, the then-special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan. It was formed within three years into a program that helped farmers grow wheat into one that bought farm tools and paid numerous laborers for a series of small jobs, including the clearing of canals, to help stabilize the southern Helmand and Kandahar provinces of Afghanistan.

USAID news releases lauded the program as an alternative to food handouts and said it was stabilizing those provinces in Afghanistan.

But auditors criticized the project, and Eikenberry said it spent too much money and had questionable impact.

"Once the decision was made, we threw efficiency out the window," he recalled. "Some of the districts were awash in cash. The projects were not properly scaled, and they were overly ambitious."

Auditors also found problems with another agricultural program, reporting that there was "poor coordination, waste and mismanagement" because of little oversight by the USAID. The auditors said that they could not locate at least one-third of the 95 tractors that had been purchased for farmers, worth more than \$560,000. IRD disputed those findings and said finding the tractors was not its responsibility.

Another IRD-run project in Afghanistan prompted more changes to the USAID contracting policy. In 2007, the USAID awarded a cooperative agreement to IRD worth an estimated \$400 million to build more than 900 miles of roads in southeastern Afghanistan. The project was

suggested to connect villages, to create jobs and to reach out to communities vulnerable to the Taliban.

The effort involved 22 local Afghan construction companies and 32 subcontractors trained by IRD to design and build roads. But many of the Afghan subcontractors were ill-equipped to handle the heavy workload, according to former IRD employees and government auditors. Conditions also changed on the ground.

A report that IRD recently released on its experience in Afghanistan noted the rising Taliban attacks. While no IRD employees lost their lives, 123 Afghan contractors were killed.

In 2010, the USAID scaled back the project and eventually ended it a year later. About 100 miles of roads were completed, and an additional 195 miles were partially constructed, according to the agency. USAID officials said in a recent statement that the program was plagued by security concerns and "serious managerial, technical and oversight deficiencies." They declined to be more specific.

Keys disputed the USAID's assessment, and IRD issued a statement that said "it is flatly false" that the road project "was terminated due to poor performance." He said critics are "looking backward on it as Monday morning quarterback."

The Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction is investigating claims of civil fraud on the road project, which wound up costing \$317 million. The inspector general, John Sopko, said in a letter to the USAID that his office has opened an investigation into allegations of "significant waste and mismanagement" and "kickbacks and bribery by IRD senior employees." IRD officials said they are cooperating with the probe and have complied with subpoenas for company documents. They said that they are confident the company will be cleared of any wrongdoing and that they are proud of the work they did on the project.

Since ending the road program, the USAID has decided it will no longer use cooperative agreements for large-scale construction projects.

Sopko said he was pleased to hear about the changes at the agency, but he called them too little, too late, as U.S. troops are leaving the country.

"They're sort of Johnny-come-lately on this," he said. "I haven't seen anything held accountable for the waste of taxpayer money out there."

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MILITARY

EUCOM officer is nominated to lead NATO special ops

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Air Force Maj. Gen. Marshall B. Webb, U.S. European Command's top special operations officer, has been nominated for a third star and an assignment as commander of NATO's special operations headquarters.



Webb

Webb, who has been in command of Special Operations Command Europe in Stuttgart for less than a year, has been selected to head NATO special operations efforts at a time of increased concern over security on the Continent in light of the crisis in Ukraine.

The Defense Department announced on Friday that Webb had been nominated to the rank of lieutenant general and the post at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Mons, Belgium.

NATO's Special Operations Headquarters is fairly new, formed after the alliance's 2006

Riga Summit with the goal of getting troops from different nations to operate more effectively in the field.

The headquarters has grown steadily, culminating in the opening in 2012 of a new, \$19 million facility where about 200 military officials from across the alliance plan NATO missions.

Webb, a 1984 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, has been a fixture in the Air Force special operations community for a good portion of his career.

Previous assignments include command of the 20th Special Operations Squadron, the 352nd Special Operations Group, the 1st Special Operations Wing and the 23rd Air Force.

Webb also has held staff assignments at Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command, at the Joint Special Operations Command and in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

As a command pilot, Webb has more than 3,700 flying hours, including 117 combat hours in Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia.

Webb's replacement at EUCOM Special Operations Command Europe is yet to be announced.

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Air Force pararescue team assists Chinese sailors in Pacific

By TOSHIO SUZUKI
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. Air Force pararescue team flew 11 hours and jumped into the Pacific Ocean to aid injured Chinese sailors in distress off the coast of Mexico after their fishing vessel caught fire and sank, according to a Davis-Monthan Air Force Base news release issued Sunday.

Two sailors died from their injuries and six are believed to be missing, according to the Air Force.

The two critically injured sailors were picked up by a Venezuelan fishing boat about 1,100 nautical miles off the coast of Mexico. The sailors were suffering from bad burns after the fire forced the crew to abandon ship.

After the flight from Davis-Monthan in Arizona, airmen jumped from HC-130J aircraft with two inflatable zodiac boats to reach the ship Saturday and provided lifesaving medical treatment.

Three HH-60G Paw Hawk helicopters also were sent in the rescue and they will be used in the coming days to hoist the injured sailors and the rescue team from the ship for transport. Via

an airport in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, the injured then will be taken to the burn facility in La Jolla, Calif.

The distance of the water rescue required aerial refueling from a KC-135 Stratotanker, adding to the complexity of the mission, Maj. Scott Rein with the 563rd Rescue Group, said in a news release.

"Everyone has complicated tasks in this mission, from the Guardian Angels treating injured sailors with equipment they had to parachute in with, to aviators who are flying very long missions and support personnel who are executing their roles at a remote airfield in Mexico," Rein said. "Everyone is rising to the occasion."

The Venezuelan vessel called for medical assistance Friday about 5 p.m., reaching the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center.

The uninjured crew on the ship — along with the deceased — were taken aboard a Chinese-flagged ship in the area. It is unclear how many people were on the sunken ship.

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BILLIT MARQUEZ/AP

Australian, U.S. and Philippine troops salute during the opening ceremony for the joint U.S.-Philippines military exercise Balikatan 2014 on Monday at the Armed Forces of the Philippines headquarters at suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines.

US, Philippines troops begin large military drill

By JIM GOMEZ
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — More than 5,000 U.S. and Filipino troops began two weeks of military exercises Monday to prepare to jointly deal with any potential crisis in the Philippines, which is prone to natural disasters and has been locked in a dangerous territorial standoff with China.

U.S. and Philippine military officials said at an opening ceremony that 3,000 Filipino soldiers and 2,500 American military personnel would take part in the annual Balikatan — or, shoulder to shoulder — exercises, the largest of several military drills the allies stage each year.

American and Philippine officials said the maneuvers would focus on maritime security and disaster response, but avoided linking the war games with their concern over China, which they have criticized for its increasingly assertive behavior in disputed South China Sea territories.

The Philippines, the oldest of Washington's five defense treaty allies in Asia, has turned to the U.S. to modernize its ill-equipped military amid the increasingly tense territorial rifts with China.

Dozens of left-wing activists protested outside the main military camp in the Philippine capital, Manila, where the opening ceremony was held. They said the drills and a recently signed agreement that allows a larger

The maneuvers will include maritime surveillance exercises, live-fire drills, training on handling bombs and mass casualty response.

and territorial claims" and "aggressive patterns of behavior" that threaten regional peace and stability.

U.S. military presence in the country would violate the Philippine Constitution, which prohibits foreign troops except when their presence is covered by a treaty.

Australia deployed 65 army soldiers and air force personnel to participate in live-fire maneuvers and charity activities. It also deployed a P3 Orion aircraft for a surveillance exercise with U.S. and Philippine military counterparts, Royal Australian Air Force Wing Commander Nicholas Pratt said.

Australia has signed an agreement with the Philippines that allows its forces to hold military exercises with Filipino troops in the country, the only other such pact Manila has signed aside from with the United States.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario said the exercises would strengthen the countries' capability to deal with increasing tensions "due to excessive and expansive maritime

The exercises will be held in military camps in the northern and western Philippines, including in Zamboales and Palawan provinces on the edge of the South China Sea. The maneuvers will include maritime surveillance exercises, live-fire drills, training on handling bombs and "mass casualty response," a Philippine military statement said.

China, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam have overlapping claims in potentially oil- and gas-rich areas in the busy South China Sea, with Beijing laying claim to virtually the entire body of water.

The territorial spats between Beijing and Manila have worsened after Chinese government ships effectively gained control of the disputed Scarborough Shoal in 2012 then blockaded the Second Thomas Shoal, where Philippine marines have been based on a grounded navy ship since 1999.

Chinese coast guard ships have twice attempted to block Philippine ships bringing in food and fresh batches of marines to Second Thomas Shoal, increasing tensions. A Philippine military plane dropped food supplies and letters from Filipino supporters to the marines marooned at the Second Thomas Shoal over the weekend.

NATION

Clamp snaps, causes circus accident in RI

By MICHELLE R. SMITH

The Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Investigators looking into why eight circus acrobats plummeted to the ground during an aerial hair-hanging stunt have found that a clamp snapped, a public safety official said Monday.

"We have identified a clamp that snapped that held them to the rafters, and it failed," Providence Public Safety Commissioner Steven Pare told WPRO-AM a day after a support frame collapsed during the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Three of the acrobats remained in critical condition Monday morning. Several performers on the ground also were injured. None of the injuries appear to be life-threatening, according to Stephen Payne, a spokesman for Feld Entertainment, the parent company of Ringling Bros.

The act is part of the Legends show, during which performers hang "like a human chandelier" using their hair. Eight of the injured were members of the same circus troupe and are from the United States, Brazil, Bulgaria and Ukraine, according to the circus's website.

"They've used this act many times," Pare told WPRO. "Unfortunately, this particular clamp" failed. It snapped off. "We have that, and we're analyzing it to see why it happened to ensure it doesn't happen in the future. That's all part of our focus."

Investigators from the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration are probing the accident, along with local authorities.

Performers Dayana Costa, Julissa Seguera and Stefany Neves were in critical condition Monday morning, a spokeswoman for Rhode Island Hospital said. Viktori-

ya Medeiros and Viktorila Liakhova were listed in serious condition, while Samantha Pitard, Svitlana Balanicheva and Widny Nenas were listed in good condition.

The names and conditions of three others injured in the accident have not been released.

The accident was reported about 45 minutes into the circus' 11 a.m. Sunday performance at the Dunkin' Donuts Center. It was witnessed by an audience of about 3,900, many of them children.

Payne said the metal-frame apparatus from which the performers were hanging came free from the metal truss to which it was connected. The eight women fell 25 to 40 feet, landing on the dancer below.

Roman Garcia, general manager of the Legends show, asked people to pray for the performers.

"Everybody's doing fine, everybody's at the hospital, everybody's conscious, everybody's doing pretty well," he said at the Dunkin' Donuts Center less than two hours after the accident.

The hair-hanging stunt is described on the circus's website as a "larger-than-life act" featuring eight female performers. The site calls the act the brainchild of husband-and-wife team Andrey and Viktoriya Medeiros.

"It is Andrey's attention to every detail, even welding the three different rigs that the girls hang from, that keeps his troupe safe and sound each and every time the act is presented," the website says.

Payne said all the performers have been doing "some variation of this act for some time," though he didn't know how long. The current incarnation of the act began in January with the launch of the show, and performers have been doing it a dozen times a week since, he said.



FRANK CAPRIO/AP

Performers do the aerial hair-hanging stunt at the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus on Friday in Providence, R.I.

"These 'hairlists' perform a combination of choreography and cut-ups including spinning, hanging from hoops and rolling down wrapped silks, all while being suspended 35 feet in the air by their hair alone," the website says. "In this hair-raising act, audiences will even see the weight of three girls held aloft by the locks of only one of these tangled beauties."

Video taken by audience members shows a curtain dropping to reveal several performers hanging from an apparatus suspended from above. Seconds later, as they begin to perform, the women fall and the metal apparatus lands on them.

After turbulence hurts 6, airplane returns to Philly

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A Florida-bound plane returned to Philadelphia after encountering severe turbulence that injured six people, authorities said.

The turbulence encountered Sunday by the Orlando-bound US Airways flight lasted only a few seconds, but four passengers and two flight attendants reported injuries, The Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

The pilot then turned the plane back toward Philadelphia and asked passengers whether any medical professionals were aboard, prompting two to volunteer, according to the newspaper.

The airline said five people were taken to hospitals and their conditions were not known, but none of the injuries appeared life-threatening.

Passenger Mark Pensiero, 58, of Moorestown, N.J., told the newspaper that he felt his seat drop and his body press up against the seat belt.

"Somebody described it as being on the 'ride of doom,' where the floor drops out and you drop," Pensiero said. "There were a lot of people on that flight who thought, 'Oh, that's it.'"

The airline's spokesman Bill McGlashen said the seat belt sign was still on at the time of the turbulence, which occurred when the plane was at 17,000 feet.

Airport spokeswoman Stacy Jackson said another plane took off at 8 p.m. Sunday to take the passengers to Orlando.

Kids' DUI deaths usually caused by their own drivers

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The number of children killed by drunken motorists has declined substantially in recent years, but the biggest threat remains their own drivers, not strangers in other vehicles, a study found.

The data show most impaired drivers survived these crashes, suggesting many kids might have survived if they'd been wearing seat belts or using car seats.

Researchers analyzed 2000-10 government traffic deaths data and found 2,344 passengers younger than age 15 were killed in crashes involving a drunk driver. Two-thirds were riding in cars driven by drunken drivers, but those cases declined by 40 percent during the decade.

Texas and California had the most deaths among kids riding with drunken drivers, but rates were higher in smaller, less populous states.

Almost two-thirds of kids who died while riding with drunken drivers were not wearing seat belts, and many of the drivers had no valid license. Most were adults.

Some of the same researchers published a similar analysis 14 years ago that found close to 6,000 child deaths involving a drunken driver from 1985-96. Like the new numbers, two-thirds of those deaths were kids riding with a drunken driver.

The new study was led by Dr. Kyrán Qatoan of the University of North Carolina, and researchers from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It was published online Monday in Pediatrics.

The researchers note that most states have laws that provide stiffer DUI penalties for driving with a child but suggest the laws need to be uniformly enforced. They also suggest more sobriety checkpoints on roadways.

Pilot dies in plane crash at Calif. air show

The Associated Press

FAIRFIELD, Calif. — A pilot who had thrilled audiences for decades with acrobatic stunts was killed when his vintage biplane crashed upside down on a runway at a Northern California air show.

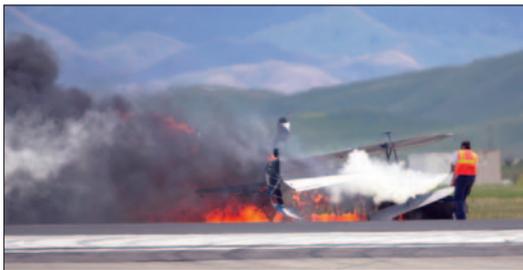
Sunday's tragedy brought to a quick halt the "Thunder Over Solano" show at Travis Air Force Base, which was attended by an estimated 100,000 spectators. No one else was injured.

The Air Force identified the pilot as Edward Andreini, 77, of Half Moon Bay. Federal Aviation Administration records show he was the registered owner of the 1944 Stearman biplane, a World War II-era plane commonly used to train pilots.

Andreini was trying to perform a maneuver known as "cutting a ribbon" where he inverts the plane and flies close to the ground so that a knife attached to it can slice a ribbon just off the ground, Col. David Mott, 60th Operations Group commander at the base, told the San Francisco Chronicle.

Andreini's website said an observer would be "thrilled at the sight of this huge biplane performing double outside loops, square loops, torque rolls, double snap rolls, and... a heart-stopping, end-over-end tumble maneuver." It said he had flown since he was 16.

The plane, flying low over the tarmac, crashed and caught fire, letting off a thick plume of black smoke seen in video of the



BYVAN STOKES/AP

A worker fights a fire after a vintage biplane crashed upside down on a runway at an air show at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, Calif., on Sunday.

aftermath.

Roger Bockrath, a retired photojournalist who was photographing the afternoon show, chronicled the routine and witnessed the crash. He said Andreini, flying into a sometimes gusty wind, passed on two attempts before trying a third time, hitting the tarmac and sliding to a stop in an open field.

"He got down too low and hit the tarmac. He skidded about 500 feet and just sat there.

The plane was essentially intact, just wrong side down," Bockrath told The Sacramento (Calif.) Bee.

Bockrath said nearly 2½ minutes went by before someone appeared with a fire extinguisher. By then, the aircraft was fully engulfed and collapsing from the heat. He said it took a total of five minutes before fire crews arrived.

National Transportation Safety Board is heading up an investigation.

NATION

Studies: 'Young' blood rejuvenates older mice

By MALCOLM RITTER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If Mickey Mouse is feeling his age at 86, scientists may have found just the tonic: the blood of younger mice.

Older mice got stronger, exercised longer and performed better mentally after they were injected with blood from young mice, or even just with a substance that's more abundant in younger blood.

Someday, if more research goes well, that may lead to a way

to treat some infirmities of old age in people. In the meantime, scientists have a warning for do-it-yourselfers.

"Don't try this at home," said Saul Villeda, of the University of California, San Francisco, an author of one of three papers published online Sunday by the journals Nature Medicine and Science.

He worked with mice that were roughly the equivalent of people in their 20s and 60s. Researchers repeatedly injected the older

mice with blood from either the younger animals or other aged mice. Those that got the young blood did better in learning and memory tests than the mice given the older blood. For example, they performed better at recalling where to find a submerged platform in a maze.

Villeda said the researchers are trying to figure out what's in the young blood that made the difference.

The two other papers, from Harvard University, focused on a

substance that is more abundant in the blood of younger mice than old. That protein, called GDF11, is also found in human blood and its concentration also appears to decline with age, said Amy Wagers, an author on both papers.

On average, aging mice that got injections of it showed greater grip strength and more endurance on a treadmill than untreated mice.

The Harvard scientists also found that exposing older mice to the blood of younger mice pro-

duced more blood vessels and blood flow in the brain. Injections of GDF11 had a similar effect.

Lee Rubin, a study author, said those results suggest further work may lead to a way to treat age-related mental decline and perhaps dementia in people.

Wagers and Villeda said it's not clear whether GDF11 explains the results of Villeda's study. Wagers said she suspects other substances in blood can also help aging animals.

Supreme court ruling backs prayer at NY town council meeting

By MARK SHERMAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court said Monday that prayers that open town council meetings do not violate the Constitution even if they routinely stress Christianity.

The court said in 5-4 decision that the content of the prayers is not significant as long as officials make a good-faith effort at inclusion.

The ruling was a victory for the town of Greece, N.Y., outside of Rochester.

In 1983, the court upheld an opening prayer in the Nebraska legislature and said that prayer is part of the nation's fabric, not a violation of the First Amendment. Monday's ruling was consistent with the earlier one.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing for the majority, said the prayers are ceremonial and in keeping with the nation's traditions.

"The inclusion of a brief, ceremonial prayer as part of a larger exercise in civic recognition suggests that its purpose and effect are to acknowledge religious leaders and the institutions they represent, rather than to exclude or coerce nonbelievers," Kennedy said.

Justice Elena Kagan, in a dissent for the court's four liberal justices, said the case differs significantly from the 1983 decision because "Greece's town meetings involve participation by ordi-

nary citizens, and the invocations given — directly to those citizens — were predominantly sectarian in content."

A federal appeals court in New York ruled that Greece violated the Constitution by opening nearly every meeting over an 11-year span with prayers that stressed Christianity.

From 1999 through 2007, and again from January 2009 through June 2010, every meeting was opened with a Christian-oriented invocation. In 2008, after residents Susan Galloway and Linda Stephens complained, four of 12 meetings were opened by non-Christians, including a Jewish layman, a Wiccan priestess and the chairman of the local Baha'i congregation.

A town employee each month selected clerics or lay people by using a local published guide of churches. The guide did not include non-Christian denominations, however. The appeals court found that religious institutions in the town of just under 100,000 people are primarily Christian, and even Galloway and Stephens testified they knew of no non-Christian places of worship there.

The two residents filed suit and a trial court ruled in the town's favor, finding that the town did not intentionally exclude non-Christians. It also said that the content of the prayer was not an issue because there was no desire to proselytize or demean other faiths.

Police: Nude, exercising man killed by car in Ore.

PORTLAND, Ore. — Portland Police said a naked man who was reportedly doing push-ups in the road was struck and killed by a car early Sunday.

Officers responded after getting a report just after 4 a.m. that a naked man was running in traffic near North Columbia Boulevard and Portsmouth Avenue.

A second report came in that the man was doing push-ups in road, and a third said he had been hit by a car.

Police said the driver who hit the pedestrian was not impaired by alcohol or drugs.

The road was closed for several hours. The state medical examiner's office will conduct an autopsy. Police did not release names Sunday.

From The Associated Press



NATE BILLINGS, THE (OKLAHOMA CITY) OKLAHOMAN/AP

An Edmond, Okla., firefighter looks at a blaze raging in a mobile home park amid wildfires in Logan County on Sunday.

Okla. fire kills 1, destroys homes

The Associated Press

GUTHRIE, Okla. — Firefighters worked through the night and into early Monday to battle a large wildfire that destroyed at least six homes and left one person dead after a controlled burn spread out of control in Oklahoma.

The wildfire broke out Sunday afternoon in the central part of the state and by 9 p.m. had burned up to an estimated 6 square miles of land as well as several homes, Guthrie Fire Department Chief Eric Harlow said. Aerial television footage showed the fire still burning at daybreak Monday, and Harlow said the fire was about 75 percent contained.

About 1,000 people were evacuated from homes in Guthrie, about 35 miles north of Oklahoma City, on Sunday, according to the fire department. Harlow said a 56-year-old man who did not leave was found dead in his home Sunday night.

The Guthrie Fire Department said six homes were destroyed and that the number of damaged or destroyed homes was expected to rise Monday. Fire department crews were assessing the fire and damage by helicopter at daybreak Monday.

Tabitha Diamond, who lives a few miles from Guthrie, told KOCO-TV that she was return-

ing from a music festival in Noble when she saw the flames and sped home. The fire missed her place but destroyed a nearby trailer home.

"It didn't get close enough, but it got too close," she said.

The American Red Cross set up a shelter at a church in Guthrie for those affected by the fire.

High winds and dry conditions fueled several wildfires in Oklahoma on Sunday, and those conditions were expected to persist Monday. The National Weather Service predicted a high temperature of 100 degrees in Guthrie on Monday, with winds gusting up to 31 mph.

NATION

Schools seek relaxing of healthier lunch program

By MARY CLARE JALONICK
The Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Becky Domokos-Bays, of Alexandria City Public Schools in Virginia, has served her students whole-grain pasta 20 times. Each time, she said, they rejected it.

Starting next school year, pasta and other grain products in schools will have to be whole-grain rich, or more than half whole grain. That includes rolls, biscuits, pizza crust, tortillas and even grits.

The requirement is part of a government effort to make school lunches and breakfasts healthier. Championed by first lady Michelle Obama, the new standards have been phased in over the last two school years, with more changes coming in 2014.

Some schools say the changes have been expensive and difficult to put in place, and school officials are asking Congress and the Agriculture Department to roll back some of the requirements. Their main concern: finding enough whole-grain-rich foods that kids like, lowering sodium levels and keeping fruits and vegetables from ending up in the trash.

In interviews, school nutrition directors across the country mostly agreed that healthy changes were needed in school lunches — long famous for daily servings of greasy fries and pizza. Kids have adapted easily to many of the changes, are getting more variety in the lunch line and are eating healthier.

But Domokos-Bays and other school nutrition directors say the standards were put in place too quickly as kids get used to new tastes and school lunch vendors

rush to reformulate their foods. When kids don't buy lunch, or throw it away, it costs the schools precious dollars.

"The regulations are so prescriptive, so it's difficult to manage not only the nutrition side of your businesses but the business side of your business," Domokos-Bays said.

Some of the main challenges reported by school nutrition directors:

Whole grains

While many kids have adapted to whole grain, some schools are having problems with whole-grain-rich pastas, which can cook differently. USDA's Janey Thornton, a former school nutrition director, says the government is working with the food industry to develop better pastas.

Whole grains have also proved a hard sell for some popular regional items, like biscuits and grits in the South. Lyman Graham, of the Roswell, N.M., school district said tortillas are one of the most popular foods in his area, but the whole wheat flour versions are "going in the trash."

Sodium

Schools will have to lower the total sodium levels in school meals next school year and then will have to lower them even further by 2017.

School lunch directors say the 2017 target — 640 milligrams total in an elementary school lunch and 740 milligrams in a high school lunch — isn't feasible and say kids will reject the foods.

USDA's Thornton acknowledged the food industry isn't there yet but encourages frustrated school lunch directors to "worry about today first before we imagine the worst down the road."

Fruit, vegetables

The standards require every student to take a fruit or vegetable to create a balanced plate. The reaction among students has been mixed.

"If the kids don't eat the food, then all I have is healthy trash cans," said Peggy Lawrence, director of nutrition at the Rockdale County Public Schools in Georgia.

Snacks

Schools will for the first time this year have to make sure that all foods, including vending machines and a la carte lines, meet healthier standards. While many schools have already moved to make snacks healthier, others depend on snack money to help operate their lunchrooms and are worried about a sales dip.

The School Nutrition Association has asked Congress and the USDA to require that only 50 percent of foods be whole-grain-rich, to suspend the 2017 sodium requirements and to stop requiring students to take a fruit or vegetable.

Margo Wootan, a nutrition lobbyist for the Center for Science in the Public Interest who has pushed for healthier meals, said relaxing those standards could gut the program. "You can't call a meal a meal without a fruit or vegetable," she said.



SUSAN WALSH/AP

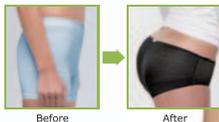
Biden Arias-Romeros, 5, left, and Nathaniel Cossio-Boatwright, 6, eat lunch at the Patrick Henry Elementary School in Alexandria, Va., on April 29.

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Teachers not as diverse as students

By JESSE J. HOLLAND
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. teachers are nowhere near as diverse as their students.

Almost half the students attending public schools are minorities, yet fewer than 1 in 5 of their teachers is nonwhite.

New studies from the Center for American Progress and the National Education Association are calling attention to this "diversity gap" at elementary and secondary schools in the United States. The groups want more to be done to help teachers more accurately mirror the students in their classrooms.

Teachers are always pushing them to do better, said Kevin Gilbert, coordinator of teacher leadership and special projects for the Clinton Public School District in Clinton, Miss.

It becomes easier for students to believe "when they can look and see someone who looks just like them, that they can relate to," said

Of 3.3 million public school teachers in 2012, 82 percent were white, 8 percent were Hispanic, 7 percent were black and about 2 percent were Asian.

Gilbert, a member of the NEA's executive committee. "Nothing can help motivate our students more than to see success standing right in front of them."

More than minority students would benefit from a more diverse teacher corps, said Ulrich Boser, the author of the center's report.

"Even in a place like North Dakota, where the students aren't particularly diverse relative to the rest of the country, it's important for our social fabric, for our sense as a nation, that students are engaging with people who think, talk and act differently than them but can also be just as effective at

raising student achievement in the classroom," he said.

There were about 3.3 million teachers in American public elementary and secondary schools in 2012, according to a study by the National Center for Education Statistics. It said 82 percent were white, 8 percent were Hispanic, 7 percent were black and about 2 percent were Asian.

Students are a different story. In 1993, minority students made up 91 percent of the public school population; it was 41 percent in 2003.

The Center for American Progress' most recent statistics show 48 percent of the students in public schools are nonwhite — 23 percent Hispanic, 16 percent black and 5 percent Asian — and that percentage is expected to continue to increase.

"We project that this fall, for the first time in American history, the majority of public school students in America will be nonwhite," Education Secretary Arne Duncan said last week.

WORLD



PHOTOS BY DARKO VOJNOVIC/AP

Pro-Russia gunmen atop armored personal carriers pass by barricades on a road leading into Sloviansk on Monday.

Forces clash in east Ukraine

The Associated Press

SLOVYANSK, Ukraine — Ukraine sent an elite national guard unit to re-establish control over the southern port city of Odessa on Monday and troops fought pitched gunbattles with a pro-Russia militia that had seized an eastern city.

The twin moves reflected an apparent escalation of efforts to bring both regions back under Kiev's control. The possible loss of Odessa in the southwest and parts of eastern Ukraine could be catastrophic for the new government, leaving the country landlocked, cut off entirely from the Black Sea.

Ukraine already lost a significant part of its coastline in March, when its Black Sea peninsula of Crimea was annexed by Russia.

Gunfire and multiple explosions rang out Monday in and around Sloviansk, a city of 125,000 that has become the focus of the armed insurgency against the new interim government in Kiev.

Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said in a statement that government troops were battling about 800 pro-Russia forces, which were deploying large-caliber weapons and mortars. His agency reported four officers killed and 30 wounded in the fighting.

A pro-Russia militia spokesman in Sloviansk said an unspecified number of people were killed and wounded in the clashes, including a 20-year-old woman killed by a stray bullet.

Both sides indicated fighting was taking place at several sites around the city. An Associated Press crew saw at least four ambulances rushing injured people to a city hospital and one militiaman being carried in for medical treatment.

With tears and red roses, pro-Russia activists gathered Monday in Odessa for the funeral of a regional member of parliament, Vyacheslav Markin, who died two days after the fire from his burns. Markin was known for speaking out against the central government in Kiev.

Activists shouted "Hero! Hero!" and vowed to avenge his death.

"Kiev doesn't control the situation in the country, Kiev controls only one half of Ukraine," said 32-year-old Dmitry Sheiko, who was wearing the St. George black-and-orange ribbon, a ubiquitous symbol of the pro-Russia protest movement.



A nurse helps an armed, wounded pro-Russianman get into a car Monday after surgery at a local hospital in Sloviansk, eastern Ukraine.

"Even in Odessa they can't maintain order, which means that we will restore order ourselves."

Despite those promises, the city remained calm on Monday and the pro-Russian forces made no attempt to occupy government buildings in Odessa. People gathered around the scorched building to lay flowers and commemorate victims of the fire, but the crowd was peaceful despite the anger of many.

"This is a tragedy for all of Ukraine," said Nadezhda Yelenchuk, a 42-year-old schoolteacher. "This is the result of a civil war that has already begun in Ukraine. We need a powerful government that will stop the bloodshed."

Riots over the weekend brought into question the loyalty of Odessa's police forces. On Sunday, pro-Russian demonstrators stormed the Odessa police headquarters and freed 67 people who had been detained in the rioting.

The Interior Ministry said in a statement

Monday it was sending an elite national guard unit from Kiev to re-establish control in the city, and said 42 others arrested during the rioting were being sent to another region for investigation, presumably to prevent local police from releasing more prisoners.

The international community has accused Russia of fomenting the unrest in an attempt to destabilize Ukraine and derail the upcoming May 25 presidential elections. Russia, however, has vociferously condemned Ukraine's security operations in the east and blamed the central government in Kiev for not preventing the Odessa fire.

On Monday, the Russian Foreign Ministry published a 70-page report that it said listed human rights violations by "ultranationalist, neo-Nazi and extremist forces" in Ukraine. The Kremlin wrote that the ministry report "confirms that ... violations of basic human rights in Ukraine have become widespread."

Malaysian plane's likely flight path gets 2nd look

By KRISTEN GELINEAU
The Associated Press

SYDNEY — An international panel of experts will re-examine all data gathered in the nearly two-month hunt for the missing Malaysia jet to ensure search crews who have been scouring a desolate patch of ocean for the plane have been looking in the right place, officials said Monday.

Senior officials from Malaysia, Australia and China met in the Australian capital to hash out the details of the next steps in the search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which will center on an expanded patch of seafloor in the Indian Ocean off Western Australia. The area became the focus of the hunt after a team of analysts calculated the plane's likeliest flight path based on satellite and radar data.

Starting Wednesday, that data will be re-analyzed and combined with all information gathered thus far in the search, which hasn't turned up a single piece of debris despite having crews scour more than 1.8 million square miles of ocean.

"We've got to this stage of the process where it's very sensible to go back and have a look at all of the data that has been gathered, all of the analysis that has been done and make sure there's no flaws in it, the assumptions are right, the analysis is right and the deductions and conclusions are right," Angus Houston, head of the search operation, told reporters in Canberra.

Investigators have been stymied by a lack of hard data since the plane vanished on March 8 during a flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. A weeklong search for surface debris was called off last week after officials determined any wreckage that may have been floating likely has sunk.

"Unfortunately, all of that effort has found nothing," Australian Transport Minister Warren Truss said. "We've been confident on the basis of the information provided that the search area was the right one, but in practice, that confidence has not been converted into us discovering any trace of the aircraft."

Houston has warned that the underwater search may drag on for up to a year.

Houston and Truss met with Malaysian Defense Minister Hishammuddin Hussein and Chinese Transport Minister Yang Chuantang in Canberra on Monday to map out the next steps of the underwater search, which will focus on a 23,000-square-mile patch of seafloor. Officials are contacting governments and private contractors to find out whether they have specialized equipment that can dive deeper than the Bluefin 21, an unmanned sub that has spent weeks scouring the seafloor in an area where sounds consistent with a plane's black box were detected in early April.

The Bluefin can dive only to depths of 2.8 miles — and parts of the search zone are likely deeper than that. Adding to the difficulties is the fact no one really knows exactly how deep the water in the search area is.

In addition to deeper diving capabilities, the new equipment will be able to send information back to crews in real time. The Bluefin's data can be downloaded only after it returns to the surface following each of its 16-hour dives.

MIDEAST

Nigeria militants threaten to sell kidnapped girls

By MICHELLE FAUL
The Associated Press

LAGOS, Nigeria — Nigeria's Islamic extremist leader threatened in a videotaped statement seen Monday to sell the more than 200 teenage schoolgirls abducted from a school in the remote northeast of the country three weeks ago.

Abubakar Shekau for the first time also claimed responsibility for the April 15 mass abduction, in a video reviewed by The Associated Press.

"I abducted your girls," said the leader of Boko Haram, which means "Western education is sinful."

"By Allah, I will sell them in the marketplace," he said in the hourlong video that starts with fighters lofting automatic rifles and shooting in the air as they chant "Allahu akbar!" or "God is great."

It was unclear if the video was made before or after reports emerged last week that some of the girls have been forced to marry their abductors — who paid a nominal bride price of \$12 — and that others have been carried into neighboring Cameroon and Chad. Those reports could not be verified.

An intermediary who has said Boko Haram is ready to negotiate ransoms for the girls also said two of the girls have died of snakebite and about 20 are ill. He said Christians among the girls have been forced to convert to Islam. The intermediary, an Islamic scholar, spoke on condition of anonymity because his position is sensitive.

Nigeria's police have said more than 300 girls were abducted. Of that number, 276 remain in captivity and 53 escaped.

The mass abduction and the



SUNDAY ALAMBA/AP

Femi Falana, center, a lawyer and human rights activist, leads a mass demonstration Monday in Lagos, Nigeria, calling on the government to increase efforts to rescue the hundreds of missing girls kidnapped from a government secondary school.

military's failure to rescue the girls and young women has roused national outrage, with protests in major cities. Protesters accused President Goodluck Jonathan of being insensitive to the girls' plight.

First lady Patience Jonathan fueled anger Monday when a leader of a protest march said she ordered the arrests of two protest leaders, expressing doubts there was any kidnapping and accused the protest leaders of belonging to

Boko Haram. It was unclear what authority she would have to give such orders, since there is no office of first lady in the Nigerian constitution.

The first lady's office denied there were any arrests.

But Saratu Angus Ndiripaya, of Chibok, said State Security Service agents drove her and protest leader Naomi Mutah Nyadzar to a police station Monday after an all-night meeting at the presidential villa in Abuja, the capital. She

said police immediately released her but that Nyadzar remains in detention.

Deputy Superintendent Daniel Altine, police spokeswoman for Abuja, said she had no information but would investigate.

On Sunday night, Jonathan said his administration is doing everything possible. On Friday, he created a presidential committee to go to the affected Borno state to work with the community on a strategy for the release.

UN: Polio now a world health emergency

By MARIA CHENG
The Associated Press

LONDON — The spread of polio is an international public health emergency that could grow in coming months and ultimately unravel the nearly three-decade effort to eradicate the crippling disease, the World Health Organization said Monday.

The agency described the ongoing polio outbreaks in Asia, Africa and the Middle East as an "extraordinary event" requiring a coordinated international response.

"Until it is eradicated, polio will continue to spread internationally, find and paralyze susceptible kids," Dr. Bruce Aylward, who leads WHO's polio efforts, said during a press briefing.

Polio usually strikes children under 5 and is most often spread via infected water. There is no

specific treatment or cure, but several vaccines exist.

Experts are particularly concerned the virus continues to pop up in countries previously free of the disease, such as Syria, Somalia and Iraq — where civil war or unrest complicates efforts to contain the virus. That spread has happened during what has traditionally been the low season of the disease, leaving experts worried that cases could spike even further in the coming months.

Last week, WHO convened an emergency committee to decide whether the ongoing polio outbreaks — in at least 10 countries — merit the declaration of an international health emergency.

Declaring such an emergency means numerous measures will be adopted, including requiring people from countries currently exporting cases to have a certifi-

cate of polio vaccination before being able to travel internationally. Those measures will be reviewed in three months, WHO said.

As of the end of April, there were 68 confirmed polio cases, compared with just 24 at the same time last year. In 2013, polio reappeared in Syria, sparking fears the civil unrest there could ignite wider outbreaks across the region; the virus has also been identified in the sewage system in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, though no cases have been spotted.

An independent monitoring board set up by WHO to assess progress in eradicating polio has described the problems as "unprecedented" and said the situation in Pakistan was "a powder keg." Dozens of Pakistani polio workers have been killed in the last two years, and the vast majority of new cases are in Pakistan.



BEN CURTIS/AP

A Somali child receives a polio vaccine at the Medina Maternal Child Health center in Mogadishu, Somalia.

Strong quake jolts Tokyo; few injured

The Associated Press

TOKYO — A strong earthquake jolted Tokyo early Monday, rattling windows and nerves, though there were no initial reports of major damage. The national broadcaster NHK, citing local authorities, said 17 people were reported injured, some of them from falls as the quake struck.

The Japan Meteorological Agency said the quake at 5:18 a.m. local time had a magnitude of 6.0 and was centered 99 miles under the seabed near Izu Oshima island, south of Tokyo.

The quake was felt across a wide area of Japan, with the strongest shaking registered in central Tokyo, the agency reported. Tokyo Fire Department reported that four people were injured, but details were not immediately available.

The national broadcaster NHK said it was the strongest quake felt in the Japanese capital since the aftershocks of a magnitude-9 earthquake and tsunami in March 2011 near the northeastern coast that left more than 18,500 people dead or missing.

There were no reports of damage or other abnormalities from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant, which was crippled in the 2011 disasters, leading to the closure of Japan's nuclear reactors for safety checks.

Smuggling boats capsized off Greek island; at least 22 drown

By NICHOLAS PAPHITIS
The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — A yacht and a dinghy crammed with immigrants trying to enter Greece capsized Monday in the eastern Aegean Sea, leaving at least 22 dead, including four children, and potentially several more missing in one of the deadliest such accidents in Greek waters in recent

years.

The vessels had been trying to enter Greece illegally when they overturned before dawn off the coast of the island of Samos, near the Turkish coast. It was not immediately clear what caused the overloaded craft to capsize.

The Greek coast guard said 36 people — 32 men, three women and a child — were rescued, and two of them — a man and a child

— were airlifted to a hospital on the mainland. The survivors were identified as 23 Somalis, nine Syrians and three Eritreans, the coast guard said. The child's nationality and the nationalities of those who died were not immediately known.

Coast guard officials recovered the bodies of two women, a man and a boy from the sea, and later found another 18 bodies — includ-

ing three children — inside the yacht after it was towed to Samos.

Survivors told the coast guard between 60 and 65 people had been on the 30-foot yacht and the 6-foot dinghy that had set off from Turkey.

"We can't give a precise number of missing people with any certainty," Coast guard spokesman Nikos Lagadinos told The Associated Press before the overturned yacht had been searched.

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OPINION

Nobody's going to tell me to ban 'bossy'

By GINA BARRECA

I've been bullied into writing about the "Ban Bossy" movement. Students, former students, friends who have young daughters, and now a woman in Kentucky, someone I've never met who lives in one of the two states I've never even visited (the other is Alaska), all insist that I must have something to add to this discussion.

My nemesis in the Bluegrass State chided me for sidestepping Sheryl Sandberg's initiative — uncannily coinciding with the launch of the Facebook CO's latest book to ban the word "bossy" so that girls can be free of the stigma attached to being regarded as assertive and in control.

With support from Michelle Obama, Melinda Gates, Beyonce and the Girl Scouts — a group I adore, especially since they awarded me their Storytelling badge and thereby turned a lifetime of fibbing into a legacy of nonfiction narrative — Ban Bossy has become a big deal.

Media attention focusing on how "bossy" is used as a bludgeon against energetic, ambitious and articulate girls has been going on for several months. Frankly, I thought I could duck it. No, I suppose that's not exactly evidence of a leadership perspective, but it was nevertheless my goal in this particular instance.

Why? Why can't I embrace Ban Bossy?

Here are my three reasons:

■ I don't like the idea of banning words. Not only doesn't it work, it backfires. (Do I need to provide examples? Just choose random letters — C, M and N — and you'll hear your own versions of banned words. (If you don't, do not write to me to ask what they are). It raises the specter of censorship not only in its most ineffective form but also in its most pernicious one; we can encourage people to avoid poisonous and insulting terms, but who has the authority to ban a word? What we can do, of course, is to make people who use certain words

feel as if they are outcasts and perhaps demotionally possessed. Let's try that.

■ I don't think "bossy," which after all includes the word boss, is really such a bad thing. I know, I know (I understand, I understand) that children are susceptible to the slings and arrows of confining and discomforting labels. If you're called stupid and ugly, you are likely to grow up thinking of yourself as stupid and ugly. This is especially true for children who are real outliers of one sort or another: kids with disabilities, emotional and social, as well as physical; kids who are poor and from families that are more

worried about getting a roof over their heads than the possible effects of the glass ceiling even though their daughters might help raise them up from desperation; kids lost to inner worlds unreachable by anyone except the most patient caregiver.

"Bossy" is not one of the world's sharpest arrows; it's more like a rubbery slingshot. But that's where a lesson in resilience is useful; girls need to be to speak up, make trouble, act for themselves and evidence such mastery (not mistressery, but mastery) of rhetoric, debate and humor that an antagonist can use any damn word as ammunition without ever getting close to nicking the shield of intelligence, strength and ingenuity the girls hold fast.

■ Maybe I could embrace the concept if its catchphrase appeared aware of its own irony: "Ban Bossy" is a very bossy thing to say.

Thirty years of teaching young women speaking with men and women and writing the lives lived by girls and women has taught me this: Whenever a girl or woman opens her mouth and utters something other than a baby-voiced cooing noise, someone will malign her. Hey, there are folks with nothing else to do. But such responses should be an inspiration to, and a lesson in, how to be more powerful, not an argument against it.

How about this instead? Let's be able to say of our daughters what Shakespeare says of one of his characters: "And though she be but little, she is fierce." That's the kind of momentum I'll join — one where I can stamp my feet and make some noise.

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books and a columnist for the Hartford Courant.



Ruling gives EPA legal backing on climate change

San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News editorial

The Supreme Court decision handing the Environmental Protection Agency an important clean-air victory last Tuesday was refreshing in every sense of the word.

The court's 6-2 ruling upheld the EPA's authority to limit power plant emissions that blow across state lines. It's a crucial step forward for President Barack Obama's effort to improve the air quality of states downwind from polluting coal-fired plants.

Better still, the ruling sets the stage for the EPA's new climate change regulations, which are expected to be released in June.

Critics argue that the rules will be just one more attempt to reduce the nation's reliance on its 600 coal-fired power plants. They're right. The sooner the better.

Power plants estimate the costs of implementing the EPA rule at about \$800 million a year. But emissions from burning coal force states to spend tens of billions of dollars every year in health and environmental costs.

In effect, the court's ruling says power plants in 28 states in the East, Midwest and South have a responsibility to reduce the sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide pollution that goes into the air and drifts to other

In effect, the court's ruling says power plants in 28 states in the East, Midwest and South have a responsibility to reduce the sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide pollution that goes into the air and drifts to other states.

states.

Downwind cities and states have argued for years that pollution from coal-fired plants outside their jurisdictions has prevented them from meeting air pollution standards. The court validated this claim, laying to rest the contention that the EPA had placed an unfair economic burden on polluters.

Coal-fired plants are the single largest source of the nation's carbon emissions, responsible for about 40 percent of the total.

The president ordered the EPA last year to issue new regulations to fight global warming this June. He has confidence that this nation's innovators can find ways to make cleaner, renewable sources of energy more practical and affordable, and so do we.

The Supreme Court ruling provides the legal backing needed to move forward.

The EPA is expected to direct states to craft their own plans for meeting clean air

standards. That could include reducing energy demand by requiring greener buildings and implementing more cap-and-trade programs like California's.

And, thanks to the court, the EPA and downwind states will have leverage to force power plants to take responsibility for their emissions.

Obama recognizes the obligation to fight global warming for the sake of future generations — and perhaps even our own. The latest peril disclosed last week is growing acidity in the world's oceans, harming sea creatures in a food chain.

The fear has been that a divided Congress and a right-leaning Supreme Court would prevent the president and the EPA from acting to curb pollution. The court laid that notion to rest.

Now it's up to the EPA to set effective regulations that spur innovation to meet our energy needs without destroying our world.

OPINION

Good first step to ending failed drug war

Seattle Times editorial

Finally, the U.S. government is waking up to the realization that it cannot jail its way out of a drug problem.

President Barack Obama's Department of Justice last year stopped making the problem worse, easing mandatory minimum sentencing in some cases. Last week, it offered a relatively narrow window for retroactive review. The DOJ laid out criteria for a new and welcomed opportunity for inmates who have served at least a decade for low-level, nonviolent offenses to apply for clemency.

Decades of adherence to failed War on Drugs policies has helped make the U.S. the world's largest jailer, with only 5 percent of the planet's population but 25 percent of its inmates. Of the nearly 217,000 federal inmates, half are incarcerated for drug crimes, according to the Bureau of Prisons. Yet drug usage has risen 2,800 percent since the War on Drugs began in 1971.

That absurd juxtaposition has forced cities, including Seattle, and states, led by Washington and Colorado, to form a controlled revolt against marijuana laws, the low-hanging fruit of drug-policy reform.

But the federal government, until re-

Decades of adherence to failed War on Drugs policies has helped make the U.S. the world's largest jailer, with only 5 percent of the planet's population but 25 percent of its inmates. Of the nearly 217,000 federal inmates, half are incarcerated for drug crimes, according to the Bureau of Prisons.

cently, has mostly ignored the clamor. Congress in 2010 finally ended a disparity in cocaine sentencing laws that sent mostly black users of crack to prison for two years longer, on average, than mostly white users of powdered cocaine. Congress, locked in dysfunction, hasn't made that law retroactive, or done anything else toward meaningful drug reform.

Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder are making an end run around the legislative branch by turning to clemency, the tool of the executive.

How far they are willing to go is an open question. Criteria for this clemency initiative are vague, requiring no "significant" criminal history and "demonstrated good conduct" in prison. Used broadly, about 7,000 or more inmates could be freed. Expect fewer.

In the meantime, Congress remains wedded to failed drug policies. Members of Congress should wake up and realize drug-sentencing reform is a populist issue. More than half of Americans favor legalizing marijuana. And the issue is increasingly a bipartisan affair. Texas Gov. Rick Perry, a likely GOP presidential candidate, advocated to "shut prisons down" at the recent Conservative Political Action Conference. Sens. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Mike Lee, R-Utah, are co-sponsors of the Smarter Sentencing Act, which would make retroactive the 2010 crack cocaine sentencing fix.

Obama and Holder, the first blacks to hold either job, speak eloquently about communities of color hollowed out by the racially disproportionate effect of the War on Drugs. Good for them for leading. They shouldn't be alone.

Guidelines for clemency

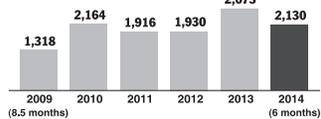
The U.S. Justice Department's new program to pave the way for certain federal prisoners to seek clemency is an effort to scale back the use of mandatory sentences and reduce the prison population.

Criteria for seeking clemency

- Likely would have received a substantially lower sentence if convicted today
- Nonviolent, low-level offenders without significant ties to large-scale criminal organizations, gangs or cartels
- Served at least 10 years of their prison sentence
- Do not have a significant criminal history
- Demonstrated good conduct in prison
- No history of violence before or during time in prison

Number seeking clemency

Petitions for pardon or commutation, by fiscal year, during the presidency of Barack Obama, who has granted 61 clemency actions



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice

Chicago Tribune/MCT

Millennials have good reason for trust issues

By CATHERINE RAMPPELL

We already knew that millennials don't trust people in general. Now we also know how little they trust people (and institutions) in particular.

Perhaps with good reason.

In March, a Pew survey made headlines because it found that just one in five millennials believes that "generally speaking, most people can be trusted," a much lower share than other generations surveyed. A new survey from Harvard's Institute of Politics now finds that whatever faith young people may have had in specific U.S. institutions and authority figures is also rapidly crumbling.

Just a third of Americans ages 18 to 29 said they trust the president to "do the right thing" most or all of the time. Forty-seven percent said the same of the U.S. military, the first time faith in the military dipped below a majority since Harvard started asking this question several years ago. And it goes way downhill from there.

About a third or less of Generation Selfie said they expect the following institutions to do the right thing at least most of the time (in order of most trusted to least): the Supreme Court, the United Nations, local government, state government, the National Security Agency, federal government, Congress, Wall Street and, dead last, the media.

Basically it's disaffection and distrust all around. Apparently, we millennials don't even trust Jay-Z anymore.

Why are you so cynical about our leadership, institutions and compatriots?

Maybe today's youth, with our backward hats, loud music and wanton hookup culture, are sick of being the punching bag of pundits and politicians everywhere.

Depending on the week and the op-ed piece, we whippersnapping Gen-Yers are allegedly either aggressive, overachiev-



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

The U.S. Supreme Court is the most trusted American institution among millennials, while many other institutions and authority figures are not regarded highly.

ing, overscheduled Organization Kids who want to muscle out our elders from the best jobs or we are uniformly lazy, unmotivated Peter Pans who won't leave our parents' basements. (Sorry haters, you can't have it both ways.) We are also, just for good measure, overly individualistic, spoiled, immoral, disrespectful ne'er-do-wells.

Never mind that nearly identical accusations were levied against earlier generations by their own elders. (Has no other pundit seen "Bye Bye Birdie"? Adults today!)

The freely flowing slander aside, consider the economic circumstances unleashed upon our generation. The job market we graduated into, frankly, stinks. You'd be stuck in your parents' basement, too, if the unemployment rate facing you were 12.2

percent (as it was for 20- to 24-year-olds in March).

It rarely feels like current public policy is looking out for our interests, by stoking job creation or otherwise. To paraphrase Ronald Reagan, we didn't leave U.S. institutions; U.S. institutions left us.

Student loan rates are expected to rise again, and student loans still can't be discharged in bankruptcy. While the Affordable Care Act has made it easier for some young people to stay on their parents' health insurance plans, "young invincibles" who join the individual market must pay rates much higher than are actuarially fair to subsidize older, sicker, more expensive Americans.

Those of us who have jobs are, of course, already subsidizing our elders by paying

the taxes that fund their entitlements. Yes, there have been intergenerational transfers from the young to the old since well before we millennials were twinkles in our parents' eyes. And, indeed, many of us (myself included) are happy to have our tax dollars used to keep the elderly out of poverty and in decent health. But please don't ask us to fund the ever-growing legions of retirees and call us lazy parasites in the same breath, especially since most of us don't believe we'll ever be on the beneficiary end of the intergenerational transfer system. Fifty-one percent of millennials say they don't believe there will be any money for them in the Social Security system by the time they retire, while just 6 percent expect to receive Social Security benefits at levels adequate for current retirees.

Distressingly, millennials' rising mistrustfulness of U.S. institutions and political leadership is discouraging us from trying to make the system better. The Harvard poll also finds that, over the past four years, young people have become more likely to agree that "elected officials don't seem to have the same priorities I have" and "political involvement rarely has any tangible results." Perhaps as a result, the share of respondents who say they'll "definitely be voting" in the 2014 midterm elections slipped to 23 percent, down from 34 percent when the question was asked last fall.

Disengagement from democracy and its institutions is never the best way to respond to personal insults and economic injuries. Part of the reason politicians ignore the challenges millennials face is that so many of us can't be bothered to vote as if; further withdrawal seems unlikely to orient the system toward our interests and priorities.

Rampell comments on economics, policy and culture, and anchors The Washington Post's Rampage blog.

NATION

All American gun metaphors

Everyday talk loaded with trigger-happy slang

By LONDON Y. JONES

Special to *The Washington Post*

Sometimes it's the off-hand remark that's the most telling. Indeed, the way we Americans casually, often unthinkingly, incorporate gun metaphors into our everyday slang says a lot about how deeply embedded guns are in our culture and our politics, and how difficult it is to control or extract them. Consider this

list, presented as bullet points — which are themselves so conventional, so central to the typography of mind-numbing PowerPoint presentations, that you can forget what their shape represents.

Bite the bullet Meaning to power through something unpleasant, the term comes from the practice of providing wounded soldiers a bullet to clench their teeth on while they underwent surgery without anesthetic. British

writer Rudyard Kipling is thought to have been the first to use the expression figuratively. His 1891 novel "The Light That Failed" includes this line: "Bite on the bullet, old man, and don't let them think you're afraid."

These days, people are more likely to bite the bullet if they have to accept an unpleasant truth. And politicians are often urged to bite the bullet and compromise — suggesting that coming together to pass legislation is as painful as amputation while fully sentient.

Fizzle In the late Middle Ages, "fizzle" was an onomatopoeic word used when someone surreptitiously passed gas.

But its modern meaning is more closely associated with guns. For early muzzle-loading flintlock rifles, gunpowder was poured down the barrel, secured with a piece of cloth tamped into place by a ramrod and then ignited by a spark struck from the

flint. If it misfired, you had a "fizzle."

So writing about "the great gun-control fizzle" after the Newtown shooting is more freighted than writing that a politician's prospects have fizzled. See also: "flash in the pan" (when the gunpowder flares but the bullet fails to fire) and "blow your wad" (when you've forgotten to load shot before firing the gun, therefore wasting the "wad" of cloth; the phrase only later took on a sexual connotation).

Hotshot Washington is full of them: hotshot politicians, hotshot lobbyists, hotshot lawyers, hotshot journalists. There are also the elite Hotshot crews who work the fire lines in the American West. Use of the term to suggest confident success — or an overinflated sense of one's own success — dates to the 1920s. But earlier, a hotshot was understood to be a reckless person, overeager to discharge his weapon. And of course, Washington doesn't have any people like that. Literally, hotshots were cannonballs warmed in a furnace and designed to set fire to enemy war-

ships or buildings. The metaphor, though, may have more to do with being headstrong. See also: big shot, big gun, trigger-happy.

Keep your powder dry Meaning preserve your resources until you really need them, the phrase relates to the idea that wet gunpowder won't explode. The 1834 poem "Oliver's Advice" attributes the line to Oliver Cromwell, who supposedly told his troops as they were preparing to cross a river at the opening of the English civil war: "Put your trust in God, my boys, and keep your powder dry." In February, President Obama used the phrase while meeting with Senate Democrats opposed to expanding international trade.

What the president probably had in mind was that the caucus should avoid internal squabbles and get behind the goal of retaining its Senate majority. But as William Safire noted after President Bill Clinton used "keep your powder dry" to encourage bipartisan cooperation, "The phrase 'keep your powder dry' is not meant to 'stay calm' but carries an implicit, most ominous threat: 'and be prepared to blow the enemy's head off at the propitious moment.'"

Loaded for bear Meaning prepared for a serious confrontation, it derives from the idea that hunters want the right ammunition for the game they're going after. On the American frontier, if you were hunting squirrels, a small shot would suffice. But for brown bear, you needed a more powerful charge of powder and a heavier shot. Sarah Palin titled a fundraising video for 2014 candidates "Loaded for Bear" — signaling both her rough-and-ready Alaska roots and her willingness to take on big political fights.

Offhand remark A comment made without preparation or premeditation, this term has its origins in "offhand shooting" — firing a rifle quickly, while standing, without using the steadying support of a rest. When preparing for the Lewis and Clark expedition, Meriwether Lewis instructed his riflemen to practice "at the distance of 50 yards offhand shooting" — an offhand remark from Secretary of State John Kerry is thought to have led to the Syrian government's agreement to surrender its chemical weapons. He'd probably like to be known more for his careful diplomacy.

Petshot Originally a gunshot fired at an easy target, without regard to style or sportsmanship,

in the hope of killing an animal just to fill a cooking pot. Today it suggests opportunistic or unfair criticism — and is standard to the political arsenal, especially during staged political debates. (And when one candidate appears to win the debate handily, we can say he was able to eat his opponent for breakfast.) See also: cheap shot, gotcha, zinger.

Silver bullet In folklore across many cultures, a bullet made of silver is the only way to kill a werewolf or devil. The Lone Ranger was armed with them in the 1950s TV show and the 2013 movie. Today, silver bullets are most useful for scoring the idea that there are simple solutions to complicated problems. Condoleezza Rice testified that "there was no silver bullet that could have stopped the 9/11 attack." Obama resorts to the "no silver bullet" formula so frequently — in the context of job growth, energy, health care — that *The Washington Post* has called it "a metaphorical dependency that makes you wish somebody could slip him a box or two of the ammo." However, experiments suggest that silver bullets are slower and less accurate than lead ones.

Small-bore Refers to a narrow gun barrel, with room for a bullet of .22 caliber or less. It comes up in politics to describe politicians with narrow outlooks and policy proposals that are trivial or incremental. It's a perennial criticism of State of the Union addresses packed with line items to please every constituency.

Snapshot The hunting term refers to a hurried shot, fired without taking aim, at a moving animal. It's been used in the context of photographs and of otherwise capturing a moment in time since the 1890s. Today, people often talk about polling providing a snapshot of public opinion. Presumably, though, reputable pollsters use more rigorous methodology than the metaphor implies.

These words are at home in our language. I only began to notice how old they are, and how persistently they live on, when working on a biography of William Clark and Andrew Lewis and Clark's original journals, which show how firearms played a major role in what they did and thought about.

We should be watchful that, while we argue in the front yard about gun-control laws today, the metaphors associating Lewis and Clark's gun use don't sneak through the back door.



ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING
Stars and Stripes

SHIFTING GEARS

Keyless start

BY JEFF GREEN
AND JEFF PLUNGIS
Bloomberg News

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. — The furor over General Motors' deadly ignition switch has the potential to doom the car key, a technology drivers have been using for 65 years.

Testifying before Congress last month, GM Chief Executive Officer Mary Barra said the recall of 2.59 million affected cars may prompt the company to make push-button start standard in all its vehicles. The shift by the largest U.S. automaker would hasten a technological evolution that started with the hand-crank starter more than a century ago, before Chrysler introduced the keyed ignition across its lineup in 1949.

Push-button start, which showed up in Mercedes models in the late 1990s, is now an option in 72 percent of 2014 cars and trucks in the U.S., according to Edmunds.com. In a survey conducted by auto researcher AutoPacific, consumers ranked the technology the fifth-most coveted upgrade for \$100 or less. Last month the New York auto show used a push button as its logo.

"People really see the push button as a convenience and a luxury feature," said Bill Vismic, senior editor at Edmunds.com. "The ignition switch is a very fussy, electro-mechanical part that's seen as less reliable."

Drivers were complaining about key ignitions long before GM discovered switches in the Chevrolet Cobalt and Saturn Ion could slip out of the "on" position, shutting off the engine and disabling air bags. The defective part has been linked to at least 13 deaths.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has logged more than 18,000 complaints about key ignitions, according to a Bloomberg News analysis. They involve multiple models and carmakers and range from keys getting stuck to vehicles stalling at high speeds and even cars starting on their own.

GM's faulty key ignition is fairly typical of the flaws cataloged by NHTSA over the years. The key could be inadvertently jarred by a knee or uneven road or weighed down by a heavy key chain. GM is under investigation because it waited more than a decade to recall the affected cars.

The recalled Chevrolet Cobalt and Saturn Ion models don't in fact top the list of ignition-related complaints in the NHTSA database. That distinction goes to Ford's Focus, which garnered more than 2,000 complaints about keys getting stuck or not turning, primarily in models from 2000 to 2005. Because Ford decided the flaw didn't imperil drivers, the company declined to recall the cars and instead alerted dealers to the problem so they could fix it.

"There was no safety risk, as this could only occur when the car was parked and the driver shut off the engine and tried to remove the key," Kelli Felker, a Ford spokeswoman, said in an email.

Automakers have recalled about 21 million vehicles for issues related to the keyed ignition switch, including more than 8.8 million from Ford, 5.5 million from GM, 3.5 million from Honda and 1.6 million from

Chrysler and its predecessors.

"The biggest weakness for the key has always been that it was a rotating device; if you weigh it down, you can wear it out," said John Wolkonowicz, an independent auto analyst, who acknowledges replacing an ignition switch in a 1980s GM model after loading down the key ring with about 25 keys.

Push-button start has few moving parts and simply sends an electronic signal to the engine. The button works only if the driver brings a small remote unit, such as a keyless fob that also locks and unlocks the doors, into the vehicle.

The push-button system may be a boon as Americans age because it doesn't strain

GM recall may spell the demise of the ignition key

'The biggest weakness for the key has always been that it was a rotating device; if you weigh it down, you can wear it out.'

John Wolkonowicz
Independent auto analyst

the wrist like turning a key, said Karl Brauer, a senior analyst with auto researcher Kelley Blue Book, who said that was a frequent complaint among disabled drivers he's interviewed about making cars easier to drive.

Not that push-button start is trouble-free.

In 2009, a police officer couldn't shut off a button-start Lexus ES 350 after a floor mat got wedged in a pedal. He and three others died. That model required the driver to hold the start button down for as long as three seconds to stop the car. In 2011, NHTSA proposed a new standard of a half-second hold. The Society of Automotive Engineers recommends a range of a half-second to two seconds.

The agency also proposed giving drivers

an audible warning if they exit a car without turning the engine off. In several cases, drivers mistakenly started their parked cars in enclosed garages, sometimes leading to a deadly build-up of carbon monoxide. In one such incident in 2010, a Florida woman died and her boyfriend was seriously impaired.

Getting used to new technology always takes time, said Vismic, of Edmunds.com. He recalled stopping by his house to drop off his gym bag and leaving the car running outside. It was only later when he tried to restart the vehicle that he realized he'd left the starter fob in the gym bag.

"We're asking people to unlearn something which was developed over generations of habit," he said. "You turned the key and it started or stopped."



ADAM BERRY/Bloomberg News

The ignition button of a Mercedes SLS AMG is seen at its premiere at the 2009 Frankfurt Motor Show.



OLIVER DOUBLEY, AP/WIDE WORLD

General Motors CEO Mary Barra testifies at a hearing on "The GM Ignition Switch Recall: Why Did It Take So Long?" April 1 in Washington, DC.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Victim intervenes; teen gets lighter sentence

OH CANTON — A young Ohio man changed his mind about going to trial for attempted murder, instead pleading guilty to a lesser charge after his reputed victim intervened.

Craig Burgess, 18, of Canton, would have faced 11 years in prison had he been convicted at trial, set to begin Thursday.

His reputed victim, Bill Fowler, talked the teen into pleading guilty to felonious assault and asked that he get a light sentence.

Burgess was sentenced to four years in prison, with a chance for early release after three months.

Burgess was accused of plotting to rob and kill Fowler, his mother's former boyfriend and the man he considers his father.

Fowler said Burgess isn't a bad kid and just needs a chance to straighten his life out.

Cathedral hosts blessing of bicycles

NY NEW YORK — More than 300 cyclists had their bicycles blessed at a New York City cathedral.

The cyclists — and a few children on scooters — attended the blessing at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in Manhattan.

The annual event draws cyclists from all over the city to have their beloved vehicles blessed.

They also held a moment of silence for bicyclists killed while riding in the last year.

The event, now in its 16th year, has grown dramatically. Only 10 or so riders attended the first blessing.

The Rev. Canon Julia White-worth concluded the ceremony by leading a procession of cyclists around the cathedral, the city's largest.

Police officer pleads guilty to selling drugs

FL WEST PALM BEACH — A South Florida police officer has pleaded guilty to selling drugs illegally while in uniform and carrying his service weapon.

Court records show that Dewitt McDonald 45, pleaded guilty in federal court last week. McDonald is an officer with the West Palm Beach Police Department.

Authorities said McDonald also operated a pair of health and wellness clinics. Through those, he acknowledged illegally selling steroids and other prescription drugs.

McDonald also admitted in March that he delivered rugs to another police officer while carrying his weapon and on duty.

McDonald faces a sentence of between five years and life in prison. A Fort Lauderdale federal judge is scheduled to sentence him on July 18.

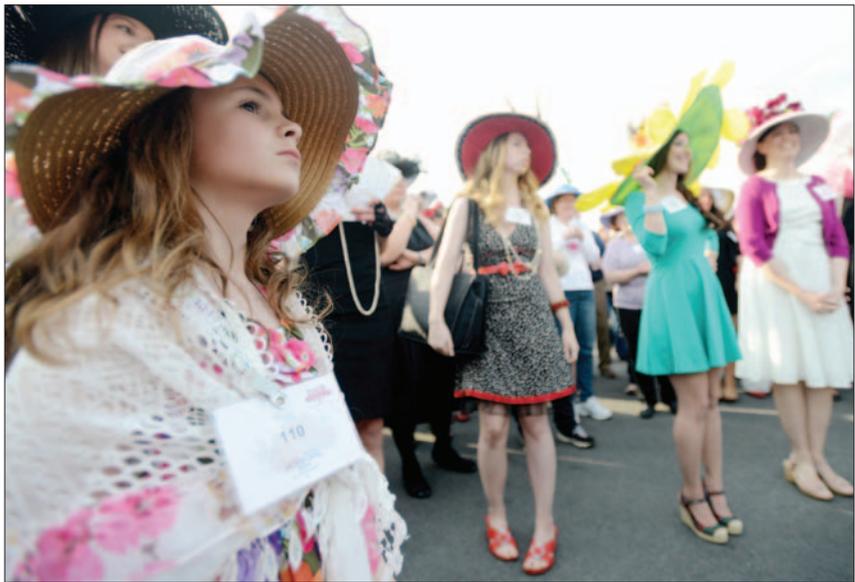
PETA's bid for turkey memorial denied

UT SALT LAKE CITY — An animal rights activist's request to install a roadside memorial at the site where hun-

THE CENSUS

\$1.9M

The estimated wholesale value of more than a ton of marijuana the U.S. Coast Guard seized after intercepting a drug smugglers' boat in the Caribbean Sea. Officials said the Cutter Dependable was on patrol April 23 in the Caribbean when it stopped a speedboat that had been spotted by a Coast Guard helicopter. Four suspected smugglers were taken into custody and the 48 bales later tested positive for marijuana.



Hat parade

Summer Rose Knight, 9, left, of Scranton, Pa., waits as the judges deliberate Saturday during the Run for the Roses Hat Revue at the Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

dreds of turkeys died in a Utah truck crash has been denied.

The Utah Department of Transportation on Friday rejected the request made by Amy Meyer, of Salt Lake City, on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, saying it didn't meet the agency's policy standards.

The memorials allow grieving families to memorialize loved ones who die in highway crashes.

Meyers argued the condition should be overlooked because turkeys in the factory-farming industry have no living relatives. She proposed that PETA's memorial urge people to "try vegan."

A truck hauling 720 turkeys crashed April 24 on a highway northeast of Provo, killing all but two dozen of the birds.

Anniversary marked of the fall of Old Man

NH FRANCONIA — New Hampshire residents paid their respects to the Old Man of the Mountain this past weekend.

Saturday marked 11 years since the 40-foot-tall natural rock formation resembling a man's face crashed from its perch above

Franconia Notch. About 200 people visited the site for the 10th anniversary last year.

Adopted as the state emblem in 1945, the Old Man still appears on the state quarter, highway signs and license plates.

The Old Man of the Mountain Legacy Fund, a nonprofit organization, had planned a \$5 million memorial but donations dried up after the initial phase was completed in 2011.

State Police welcome 42 new troopers

IL SPRINGFIELD — Illinois State Police officials are welcoming 42 new troopers, including more than a dozen who are veterans.

The new officers took their oaths and received their Illinois State Police stars during a graduation ceremony Friday in Springfield.

According to a news release, the new troopers completed 25 weeks of physical and classroom instruction. They now are required to participate in a 14-week field training program.

The cadet class is the second under newly passed legislation that allows veterans who have

earned Afghan or Iraqi campaign medals to apply even if they don't have college degrees. Friday's graduates included 14 veterans; 10 were hired under the new legislation.

The new troopers will be assigned throughout the state. Another cadet class is scheduled to begin in June.

Senator asks FDA to block powdered alcohol

NY ALBANY — U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer is asking the Food and Drug Administration to prevent a powdered alcohol from reaching store shelves this fall, saying that it would become "the Kool-Aid of teen binge drinking."

The New York Democrat in a letter says the product Palcohol can be mixed with water, sprinkled onto food or even snorted and easily concealed.

Palcohol's parent company Lipsmark disagrees, saying it would be painful to snort and will be sold under the same restrictions as liquid alcohol.

He said the FDA should intervene because of health risks, like it did with caffeinated, fruit-flavored alcoholic beverages that

appealed to young people. The federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau gave Palcohol label approvals April 8, though they were later withdrawn.

The company plans to resubmit them.

Fugitive spends chilly night in woods

MN ORR — One Eagan fugitive might have been better off giving himself up to police rather than spend a freezing night in a forest.

The 30-year-old was wanted for stalking. So when deputies in St. Louis County pulled him over for a traffic stop Wednesday afternoon in Orr, he took off on foot toward Pelican Lake.

Troopers and deputies scoured the area but couldn't find him.

Early the next morning, they got word that he'd come out of the woods voluntarily. He appeared to be suffering from hypothermia and exposure.

Eystanders detained him until a deputy came and arrested him. He was hospitalized overnight and then was taken to jail.

From wire reports

FACES

‘Spider-Man 2’ ropes in \$92M in first weekend

The Associated Press

Spider-Man can still sling it at the box office.

“The Amazing Spider-Man 2” debuted with \$92 million in North American theaters over the weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. It was the fifth movie about Marvel’s web-slinging superhero to hit theaters in the past 14 years.

The release of “The Amazing Spider-Man 2” essentially kicks off Hollywood’s summer season and its annual parade of sequels and spectacle. Marvel movies have regularly commenced summer moviegoing in recent years, and the “Spider-Man 2” opening begins the season with a business-as-usual blockbuster performance.

Last week’s No. 1 film, the female revenge comedy “The Other Woman,” starring Cameron Diaz, slid to a distant second with \$14 million in its second weekend.

The rebooted “Spider-Man” franchise starring Andrew Garfield and Emma Stone isn’t performing quite as strongly as Sam Raimi’s trilogy with Tobey Maguire. On opening weekends, the Raimi films grossed, in order: \$114.1 million, \$88.2 million and \$151.1 million.

“Spider-Man 2,” which began rolling out overseas two weeks ago, is also doing huge international business. It has already grossed \$161 million abroad, and it added another \$116 million over the weekend.

“Spider-Man” follows Marvel’s “Captain America: The Winter Soldier,” released by Disney, by a month. (The “Captain America” sequel is still in the top 5, with \$7.8 million in its fifth week.)

The marketplace made way for “Spider-Man” over the weekend with no other new wide releases. “Heaven Is for Real” continued to appeal to faith-based audiences, hauling in \$8.7 million in its third week.



Rivera

Network: Rivera still on ‘Glee’

Naya Rivera is still a Glee. “There is no truth to the rumor Naya has been fired from the show,” the Fox Network noted in a statement released to The Associated Press Saturday night, which concluded, “She remains under contract to ‘Glee.’”

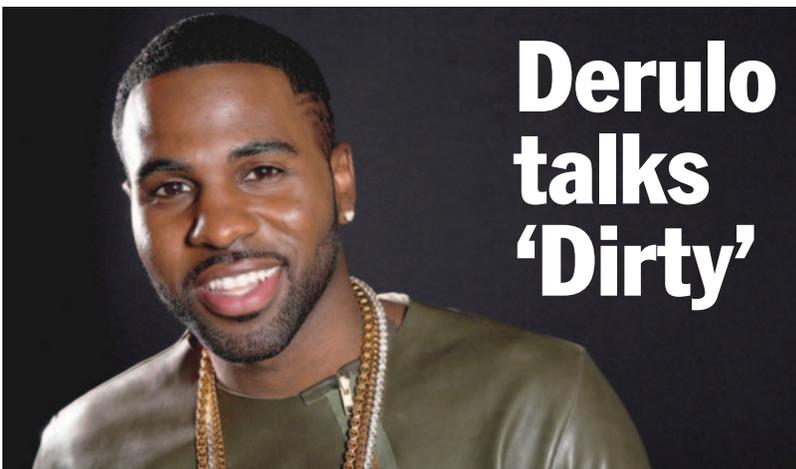
Rivera plays Santana Lopez, a lesbian glee club member, on the popular musical drama.

‘Glee’ had its fifth-season wrap party Friday. The season finale is set to air in the U.S. on May 20.

Show co-creator Ryan Murphy has said the series’ sixth season will be its last.

It’s been a difficult year for the series’ cast and crew. Actor Cory Monteith, who had been romantically linked to actress Lea Michele, died in July 2013 of a drug overdose.

From The Associated Press



MATT SAYLES, INVISION/AP

Singer/songwriter Jason Derulo, 24, says his latest work reflects his professional and personal evolution. “I’m comfortable with talking about what my life is and things that I go through,” he said. Derulo’s hits include “Whatcha Say” and “In My Head.”

Hit single, latest album show artist’s musical growth

BY NICOLE EVATT
The Associated Press

Jason Derulo knows his recent hit, “Talk Dirty,” is risqué, but he’s not too worried about it.

“I try to be conscious of offending anybody, but not that much,” he said. “I really just try to do my thing and of course there is going to be backlash on every song that I do, so I don’t worry myself too much on that. People saying things like ‘objectifying women.’ I’m like, ‘What are you even talking about?’”

“Talk Dirty” has dominated pop radio, and the song has peaked at No. 3 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. It has sold 3.2 million tracks and features lyrics like “but your booty don’t need explaining” and “first-class seat on my lap girl.”

“I wasn’t surprised that it would hit mainstream. I think in 2014 things you know, are getting more and more free (and liberal),” he said. “I hear a lot worse.”

The smash is from Derulo’s third album of the same name; it debuted at No. 4 on the Billboard 200 albums chart last month. The album was released internationally last September under the title “Tattoos,” but the renamed American version features

some new tracks.

Derulo, 24, says both his new album and single reflect his growth as a singer and songwriter.

“I’m comfortable with talking about what my life is and things that I go through,” said Derulo, whose hits include “Whatcha Say” and “In My Head.”

“This album is a direct representation of who I am as a person and how I speak,” he added. “If I was talking to my best friend, you know, this is how I would explain it.”

The album is Derulo’s first to feature guest stars, and hip-hop acts are a strong part of the pop singer’s project. Snoop Dogg, 2 Chainz, Pitbull, Tyga and Kid Ink make appearances.

Derulo, who is finding more success on the urban charts thanks to “Talk Dirty,” says he started musically in the hip-hop scene.

“Most people don’t know my background, but when I first started writing songs for other people it was for hip-hop artists,” said Derulo, who co-wrote Birdman’s “Bossy” and songs for Diddy that didn’t make the album.

“The world knew me as a pop artist when I first came out, which was cool, you know. I think I’m the first black male artist to actually come out as a pop artist,” he added.

GLAAD fetes ‘Orange Is the New Black’

The Associated Press

GLAAD celebrates “Orange Is the New Black.” The Netflix show set in a women’s prison was named outstanding comedy series at the 25th annual GLAAD Media Awards’ New York ceremony.

George Takei received the Vito Russo award, presented to an openly gay media professional for promoting equality for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

Other winners in the May 3 event included the films “Concussion” and “Philomena” and Oprah Winfrey’s interview with openly gay professional basketball player Jason Collins.

Singer Allman sues to stop movie after train crash

Singer Gregg Allman is suing to stop movie producers from reviving a film based on his life story after a camera assistant was killed by a freight train while working

on the project in southeast Georgia.

A lawsuit filed by the Allman Brothers Band singer in Savannah says Unclaimed Freight Productions lost its rights to make the film “Midnight Rider” when it failed to begin principal photography by Feb. 28. Production was suspended after a train plowed into director Randall Miller’s crew on a trestle Feb. 20. Crew member Sarah Jones was killed, and six others were injured.

The lawsuit, filed last week, says producers have told Allman’s representatives they intend to revive the project despite the singer’s objections.

Efreem Zimbalist Jr., star of ‘The FBI,’ dead at 95

Efreem Zimbalist Jr., the son of famous musical parents who established his own lasting celebrity in two of television’s most popular series, “77 Sunset Strip” and “The F.B.I.,” died May 2 at age 95.

Zimbalist’s good looks and cool, deductive manner made him the ideal star as the hip private detective ferreting out Hollywood miscreants in “77 Sunset Strip,” which aired from 1958 to 1964. As soon as that show ended he segued seamlessly into “The F.B.I.,” which aired from 1965 to 1974.

Other news

■ It’s a girl for Kerry Washington and retired NFL player Nnamdi Asomugha. A birth certificate released May 2 shows the couple’s daughter Isabelle Amarachi Asomugha was born around 5 p.m. on April 21 in Los Angeles. The parents haven’t announced the baby publicly.

■ Nicholas Martin, an actor-turned-director who ran two important Massachusetts theater companies and earned a Tony Award nomination for directing “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike” on Broadway last year, died April 30 after battling throat cancer. He was 75.

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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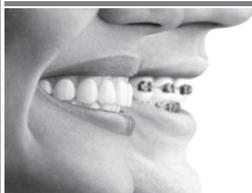
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Non Sequitur



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Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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48									50		
51									53		

ACROSS

- 1 Leading man?
- 5 Surmounting
- 9 — Beta Kappa
- 12 Game played on horseback
- 13 Caesar's "I" name?
- 14 Tatter
- 15 Orangey liqueur
- 17 Raw mineral
- 18 Section
- 19 Beneficial possession
- 21 Fossied (on)
- 24 Genealogy chart
- 25 Help a hood
- 26 Migraine, e.g.
- 30 Actor Cage, to fans
- 31 Baseball's Sosa
- 32 Eg. and Syr., once
- 33 Miscellaneous remnants

DOWN

- 1 Suitable
- 2 "Le Coq —"
- 3 "The Greatest"
- 4 Tyke
- 5 Declare openly
- 6 Criterion
- 7 Indivisible
- 8 "Roses of —" (pop song of WWI)
- 9 Bring legal action against
- 10 Aescopian runner-up
- 11 "— a Kick Out of You"
- 12 Young chap
- 20 Vast expanse
- 21 Combo
- 22 Rose's love, in the theater
- 23 Denominational
- 24 Scots' 26-Down
- 26 See 24-Down
- 27 Ostrich's cousin
- 28 Barber's concern
- 29 Blunders
- 31 Courtroom conference
- 34 Manipulate fraudulently
- 35 Boil
- 37 Pen name?
- 38 Variety of lettuce
- 39 Farm fraction
- 40 Italian wine area of Italy
- 41 Plumbrum
- 44 "There — tide ..."
- 45 Cartesian conclusion
- 46 Egg (Pref.)
- 47 Profit

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	O	S	S	P	I	C	P	A	D	S
A	L	A	C	A	R	T	E	A	L	O
C	A	M	E	R	O	O	N	S	I	Z
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5-6

CRYPTOQUIP

TJCM AYL ARGZU TYMN

UPFC JRSJ - BGNRCM

KCSQFCU, R NYDC RN NJCL

UJPKZC YN VJRD BCYU.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: UPCOMING NETWORK SITCOM ABOUT A FRIENDLY BUT MOTLEY GROUP OF BOWLERS: "DIFF'RENT STRIKES."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals T

HORSE RACING/BOXING

California Chrome taking it easy for week

Derby winner will head to Preakness just in time to 'let him get familiarized with' Pimlico

By GARY B. GRAVES
The Associated Press

A LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Sherman has not had a big operation or wealthy clients who infused cash and horses into his stable.

But the 77-year-old trainer can now say he won the Kentucky Derby.

A day after California Chrome raced to a 1 1/4-length victory as the 5-2 favorite in the Derby, Sherman and his star horse received a stream of visitors at Churchill Downs.

"It's pretty cool. I can tell you," he said Sunday. "Beating all the big boys, and maybe they had their doubts that this horse wasn't a runner, but when you run against him you find out. He's the real McCoy, this one."

Now the oldest trainer to win the Derby and his horse are headed to Baltimore for the Preakness in two weeks, the next step on the Triple Crown trail.

It will be Sherman's first trip to Maryland since 1959, when he was a jockey at the old Bowie Downs. He rode some races at Laurel during his 23 years in the saddle, but has never visited Pimlico.

Sherman plans to keep California Chrome at Churchill Downs before sending him to Baltimore, possibly on May 12.

"Five days at Pimlico would be perfect for me," said Sherman, who will briefly return to his Southern California base, where he trains 20 horses. "That way



GARRY JONES/AP

Kentucky Derby winner California Chrome walks the shed row with assistant trainer Alan Sherman at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky., on Sunday.

I wouldn't have to do much with him. Just school him, stand him in the gate and let him get familiarized with the surroundings."

California Chrome appeared to bounce out of the 19-horse Derby in good order, leaving just a handful of grain in his feed tub after the race. Jockey Victor Espinoza said he eased the colt over the

final 70 yards.

"He said he didn't ask him for too much thinking about saving something for the next one, for the Preakness," Sherman said, adding that his colt is "speaking now. He's full of himself."

Sherman typically likes to give his horses plenty of time off between races, but California

Chrome's owners Steve Coburn and Perry Martin thinking big and talking bigger.

"They're not shy about saying their colt has the talent to win the Triple Crown."

"I told people this colt will go down in history," said Coburn, the more talkative of the partners. "When he wins the Triple Crown,

he will be the first California-bred to ever win a Triple Crown. That's where we're going."

Of course, California Chrome will run in the Preakness with a target on him, the competition ripe to try and knock off the Derby champ. Already other horses are lining up to take him on.

Commanding Curve, the Derby runner-up, and seventh-place finisher Ride On Curlin could possibly show up for the Preakness, which has a maximum field of 14. The possible new shooters include Pablo Del Monte, whose owners decided not to run in the Derby; Federico Tesio winner Kid Cruz; Illinois Derby winner Dynamic Impact; Bayern, trained by Bob Baffert; and Social Inclusion, who ran third in the Wood Memorial.

Like his trainer, California Chrome typically stays close to home. The colt made his first trip out of state for the Derby. Sherman built a low-key but respected training operation first in the San Francisco Bay area and now in the Los Angeles area, but rarely travels outside the state to race.

Still, he and his horse impressed some of racing's big-name trainers.

"I thought he reflected Art Sherman," trainer Steve Asmussen said about California Chrome.

"He wasn't overwhelmed by the situation, did what he did and went about his business as usual and looked like a winner every step of the race. I would expect him to be able to be in the best shape in two weeks."

After close call, Mayweather says 'we'll do it again'

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Floyd Mayweather Jr. was all smiles as he headed up an escalator with his large entourage, turning to flash a thumbs-up at fans greeting him.

Mayweather escaped to fight another night, and the fight may be against the man who conceals a record to handing him the first defeat of his 16-year pro career.

Marcos Maidana nearly did what 45 other fighters couldn't, taking the fight to Mayweather before losing a 12-round majority decision that angered both the Argentine and the fans at MGM Grand arena.

Mayweather was hit more than any bout in his career, and needed to rally from the middle rounds to keep his unbeaten record. Maidana called the richest fighter in the world an ordinary boxer and said he deserved a rematch in September.

"If the fans want to see us do it again, we'll do it again," Mayweather said.

Maidana threw twice as many punches, but Mayweather was

more efficient in landing more than half his shots in a fight where the 37-year-old was tested to the limit. Mayweather won five of the last seven rounds on two scorecards and six of the last seven on the third to pull out the win.

Bleeding from a cut by his right eye from a head butt in the fourth round that he said blinded him for two rounds, Mayweather had to reach deep into his bag of tricks to salvage what had been expected to be a relatively easy \$32 million pay day against the 6-1 underdog.

Maidana landed more punches against Mayweather than any fighter ever had, showering him with overhand rights that often found their mark on the top of his head. Mayweather countered with straight right hands and left hooks, but was never able to hurt his challenger in the welterweight title fight.

Mayweather said he decided to stand inside and fight Maidana to please the fans.

"I was in a tough competitive fight," Mayweather said. "I normally like to go out there and box

and move. But he put pressure on me, so that's when I decided I'd make it competitive and fight differently. I wanted to give the fans what I know they wanted to see, so I stood there and fought him."

In the end, though, Mayweather got the win — just as he did in his previous 45 fights. The decision was met with disbelief by Maidana and booed heavily by the crowd. He retained his welterweight title by winning 117-111 on one scorecard and 116-112 on another. A third judge had it even at 114-114.

The Associated Press scored it for Mayweather 115-113.

Mayweather is in the middle of a six-fight deal with the Showtime network and is supposed to fight again in September. The one possible opponent other than Maidana would be Amir Khan of England, who looked good in his welterweight bout on the same card when he won a decision over Luis Collazo. But Kahn can't fight in September because his training would be interrupted by the Muslim holiday Ramadan.



ERIC JAMISON/AP

Floyd Mayweather Jr., right, and Marcos Maidana both react at the end of their welterweight title fight as if they won on Saturday in Las Vegas. Mayweather won the bout by majority decision.

ATOS RACING

Scoreboard

- Aaron's 499**
Sunday
At Talladega Superspeedway
Talladega, Ala.
Lap length: 2.66 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
 1. (34) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 188 laps, 123.2 rating, 47 points, \$303,315.
 2. (25) Greg Biffle, Ford, 188, 115.1, 44, \$265,985.
 3. (27) Clint Bowyer, Toyota, 188, 67.2, 41, \$215,151.
 4. (18) Brian Vickers, Toyota, 188, 81.8, 41, \$181,760.
 5. (3) A.J. Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 188, 86.2, 39, \$154,113.
 6. (2) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 188, 83.8, 39, \$167,384.
 7. (8) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 188, 107.6, 36, \$150,778.
 8. (42) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 188, 87.7, 36, \$148,445.
 9. (29) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 188, 94.8, 35, \$140,590.
 10. (23) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 188, 65.5, 34, \$152,795.
 11. (41) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 188, 64.6, \$104,410.
 12. (19) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 188, 103.4, 33, \$152,276.
 13. (15) Aric Almirola, Ford, 188, 66.3, 31, \$143,821.
 14. (4) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 188, 74.7, 31, \$130,018.
 15. (2) Martin Dillon, Chevrolet, 188, 79.4, 29, \$151,146.
 16. (17) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, 188, 55.7, 28, \$118,043.
 17. (43) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 188, 85.2, 27, \$130,493.
 18. (6) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 188, 45.8, 27, \$109,735.
 19. (26) Marcos Ambrose, Ford, 188, 61, 26, \$127,280.
 20. (36) Josh Wise, Ford, 188, 48.8, 24, \$85,635.
 21. (31) Cole Whitt, Toyota, 188, 58.2, 23, \$93,160.
 22. (7) Danica Patrick, Chevrolet, 188, 74.9, 23, \$106,835.
 23. (16) Jamie Johnson, Chevrolet, 188, 99.8, 22, \$148,871.
 24. (37) Terry Labonte, Ford, 188, 38.7, 20, \$109,165.
 25. (28) Michael Waltrip, Toyota, 188, 42.9, 19, \$105,410.
 26. (30) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 188, 69, 19, \$104,110.
 27. (48) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 188, 53.4, 17, \$113,107.
 28. (43) Alex Bowman, Toyota, accident, 187, 62.4, 16, \$94,510.
 29. (32) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 187, 62.4, 15, \$91,960.
 30. (10) Carl Edwards, Ford, accident, 182, 52, 15, \$111,110.
 31. (24) Ryan Truex, Toyota, accident, 182, 62.5, 13, \$92,460.
 32. (24) Joey Logano, Ford, accident, 174, 91.3, 13, \$131,301.
 33. (9) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, accident, 174, 82, 11, \$91,185.
 34. (22) Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, accident, 174, 50.1, 11, \$91,960.
 35. (39) David Ragan, Ford, accident, 174, 56.2, 9, \$90,785.
 36. (11) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 171, 77.6, 8, \$139,742.
 37. (13) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 160, 32.7, 8, \$109,138.
 38. (13) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 160, 32.7, 8, \$109,138.
 39. (11) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 156, 69.1, 6, \$127,626.
 40. (40) David Gilliland, Ford, engine, 150, 60.2, 5, \$84,690.
 41. (40) Ryan Blaney, Ford, accident, 136, 77.6, 5, \$127,620.
 42. (1) Brian Scott, Chevrolet, accident, 127, 41, 5, \$91,185.
 43. (12) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, accident, 136, 44.2, 1, \$99,348.

Fastest Lap: 1:15.148
Average Speed of Race Winner: 118.14 mph
Time of Race: 3 hours, 17 minutes, 16 seconds.
Margin of Victory: Under Caution.
Caution Flags: 8 for 31 laps.
Lap Leaders: 48 among 23 drivers.
Lead Changes: 18 among 23 drivers.
Green Flag Leaders: R Menard 1; D Patrick 6; J Gordon 8; D Patrick 9; L Keselowski 10; J Logano 14; J Edwards 15; P Menard 16-19; M Kenseth 20; J Logano 21-31; D Hamlin 32-34; C Edwards 35-37; J Logano 38; J Edwards 39; D Hamlin 40; J Logano 42-51; D Gilliland 52; D Hamlin 53; J Edwards 54; Biffle 57-58; Johnson 59; G Biffle 60-94; C Edwards 95; M McDowell 96; G Biffle 97-106; D Ragan 107; M Kenseth 108; D Hamlin 109-112; T Bayne 113-118; D Earnhardt Jr. 109-112; J Logano 113-118; D Earnhardt Jr. 109-112; R Newman 138; C Mears 140-141; G Biffle 142-145; D Earnhardt Jr. 146-151; G Biffle 152-155; J Logano 156-157; B Vickers 163; D Hamlin 164-165; B Vickers 166-167; K Harvick 168-180; D Hamlin 180-187; K Harvick 188; D Hamlin 189-189.
 NASCAR Driving Formulas:
 A maximum of 150 points can be attained in a race.
 The formula combines the following categories: Wins, Finishes, Top-15 Finishes, Average Running Position While Green, Average Speed, Most Laps Led, Green, Fastest Lap, Lead Most Laps, Lead-Lap Finish.

Hamlin finally conquers Talladega

Joe Gibbs Racing driver holds off Harvick for first win at superspeedway

By JENNA FRYER
 The Associated Press

DTALLADEGA. Alamy Hamlin refused to worry about earning a spot in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship, even as driver after driver won a race to theoretically claim one of the 16 berths.

Under the new "win and you're in" format, the pressure is on for drivers to reach Victory Lane during the regular season. Not since 2003 have 16 drivers won during the first 26 races, but the Sprint Cup Series is now on pace to hit that mark again — meaning one win might not be enough to guarantee a spot in the Chase.

Hamlin became the eighth driver to win this season with his Sunday victory at Talladega Superspeedway. Through 10 races, only Kevin Harvick and Joey Logano have won multiple times, and former series champions Jimmie Johnson, Jeff Gordon, Matt Kenseth and Tony Stewart are still seeking their first victories.



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Denny Hamlin of Joe Gibbs Racing takes the checkered flag under caution during the Aaron's 499 race at Talladega Superspeedway on Sunday in Talladega, Ala. Hamlin is the eighth winner in 10 Sprint Cup races this season. Not since 2003 have 16 drivers won during the first 26 races.

"I wasn't ever worried, but you get a little bit more panicked when it's, 'Win a race and you're in the Chase,'" Hamlin said. "You see all these guys logging wins, wins, wins, and the next thing you know they're running out of Chase spots. Now we can be a little bit more relaxed."

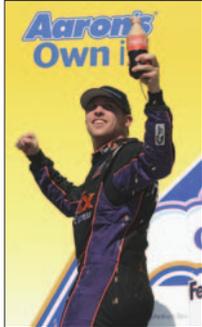
The victory was the first points win of Hamlin's career at a restrictor-plate track. He'd won four exhibition races at Daytona, but never when it counted.

He earned Sunday's win by beating Harvick in a drag race after a restart with two laps to go, and was still out front when NASCAR froze the field on the last lap because of debris on the track.

"We really just want to win races, regardless of the implications of what this means for the Chase," Hamlin said. "It feels so good to be back in Victory Lane in a points-paying event. It feels great. I've got tons of exhibition wins on superspeedways, but none with points. I like it."

Here's five things that happened Sunday at Talladega:

- 1 Where was Dale?** Daytona 500 winner Dale Earnhardt Jr. thrilled the crowd by leading three different times for 26 laps on Sunday. But when it was time to race for the victory, he was nowhere to be found.
- 2 NASCAR's most popular driver** chose to lay back in the field after stopping for gas with 36 laps to go, and he never ran higher than 13th the rest of the day. He finished a disappointing 26th.
- 3 He did try to make a move** in the outside lane late in the race, but his momentum was stopped there when Michael McDowell pulled out in front of him.
- 4 "Anytime somebody jumps in the outside lane in front of you, you are not going to shove them**



RAMIER ERNHARDT/AP

Denny Hamlin celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR Aaron's 499 race on Sunday in Talladega, Ala.

- 2 Danica drives to the front:** For the first time in her career, Danica Patrick led laps at a track other than Daytona.
- 3 The crowd gave a thunderous cheer** when she drove to the front in the opening laps of the race, and she stayed there for six trips around Talladega. She'd entered the race with only two laps led on the season, both in the Daytona 500, a race she also led last year.
- 4 She finished 22nd.**
- 5 "It was good out front,"** she said. "I wish I could have stayed there."
- 6 Tough break for BK:** Brad Keselowski, a two-time Talladega winner, angered many of his fellow



Points standings

No. Driver	Points
1. Jeff Gordon	344
2. Matt Kenseth	344
3. Kyle Busch	343
4. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	338
5. Carl Edwards	328
6. Joey Logano	305
7. Jimmie Johnson	304
8. Greg Biffle	300
9. Ryan Newman	299
10. Brian Vickers	297
11. Brad Keselowski	294
12. Denny Hamlin	292

drivers for his aggressive driving on Sunday.

The 2012 Sprint Cup champion spun after darting in front of Patrick for the lead early in the race, in part because his crew chief said he didn't have the space to make the move. It caused enough damage to drop him six laps off the pace.

Keselowski, racing aggressively to try to get his laps back, later triggered a 14-car accident with 51 laps remaining.

"Brad made a pretty bold move early, a mind-boggling move, going in front of Danica and spun out in front of the field and got away with it," Matt Kenseth said. "This time we weren't so lucky. If it was the other way around and it was anybody else except for him, we'd all be getting lectured."

Jeff Gordon also chastised Keselowski.

"I had seen him for several laps driving over his head being pretty aggressive," Gordon said. "He wasn't doing anybody any favors, nor himself."

Keselowski accepted blame.

"I just spun out in front of the whole field," he said.

4 Biffle's bad break: Greg Biffle will be re-thinking the finish of Sunday's race for a long time after a late caution prevented him from making an attempt at winning the race.

He was second behind Hamlin and considering when to make his move when NASCAR threw the yellow flag for debris on the track. It froze the field on the final lap of the race and Biffle had to settle for second while Hamlin took the checkered flag.

It would have been a rewarding win for Biffle, who is still looking for a victory to help move him closer to earning a spot in the Chase.

"It's sort of bittersweet for us," Biffle said. "We've still got some work to do, but it sure would have been a nice get a win toward the Chase."

5 Hot feet: Many drivers complained throughout the race about their feet getting too hot on the floorboard of the cars during the race. It led to a funny post-race exchange between Biffle and third-place finisher Clint Bowyer.

Bowyer: "It's just excruciating out there, it's unbelievable."
 Biffle: "I'm glad somebody else's feet were hot because mine were in fire all day. It wasn't even that hot out."
 Bowyer: "Did you do the old cross-over for a while?"
 Biffle: "Yeah, my heels were burned up."
 Bowyer: "I had to use my left foot for a little while."
 Biffle: "I'm not sure why."
 Bowyer: "Pays pretty good, though, so we'll get through it."
 Asked what he did with his right leg while trying to drive with his left, Bowyer ended with: "Pick it up, stick it out the window, whatever you could do. It was hot."

NHL PLAYOFFS

Penguins respond with Game 2 win

Fleury shuts out listless Rangers to even second-round series at 1-1

By Will Graves
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — With their captain under fire and their season on the brink of collapse, the Pittsburgh Penguins responded with a crackling show of force.

Of course, having the New York Rangers look like a team only too happy to get back home with a split helped.

Kris Letang broke a scoreless tie in the second period and Marc-Andre Fleury made 22 saves for his franchise-record seventh playoff shutout to lift the Penguins to a 3-0 victory on Sunday night, tying the second-round series 1-1.

Letang's 15th career postseason goal matched Larry Murphy's record for Penguins defensesmen. Jussi Jokinen scored during the third-period power play and Evgeni Malkin added an empty-net goal for the Penguins, who pushed around the weary Rangers.

Fleury earned his 50th career playoff victory.

"I thought to a man our players were extremely good all night," Pittsburgh coach Dan Bylsma said. "It wasn't a huge win for us."

Game 3 is Monday at Madison Square Garden in New York.

Henrik Lundqvist made 32 saves for New York, but the Rangers mustered little offense while playing their fourth game in six days. Not that coach Alain Vigneault wanted to blame fatigue for a listless performance.

"Did my goaltender look tired? He was on top of his game," Vigneault said. "If he's not tired, nobody else should be."



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

Pittsburgh Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury stops a shot by New York Rangers' Rick Nash in the first period of Game 2 of their second-round playoff series on Sunday in Pittsburgh. It was one of 22 saves for Fleury, who earned his seventh career playoff shutout in the 3-0 win.

They had their chances to jump ahead early, only to be let down again by an anemic power play.

Three times in the first 10 minutes a Penguins player skated to the penalty box, and three times the Rangers spent two minutes milling about as though they were killing time before getting back to even strength. The Rangers finished 0 for 4 with the man advan-

tage and haven't scored the last 29 times they've had an extra stretch on the ice.

"It could have given us some momentum, and we didn't finish," Vigneault said. "I've got to find the right trigger points here to make it work. We'll spend the night trying to figure it out."

Only Lundqvist seemed interested in sending the Rangers back

to New York with a commanding 2-0 lead. He was brilliant, particularly when Pittsburgh captain Sidney Crosby was on the ice.

Crosby finished with a game-high six shots. During one stretch at the end of the first period he produced a pair of scoring opportunities, including a nifty deke around two defenders, before he ripped a wrist shot that just missed the net.

Scoreboard

Second round

(Best-of-7; x if necessary)

EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Montreal 1, Boston 1	
Montreal 4, Boston 3, 2OT	Chicago 6, Montreal 3
Tuesday: at Montreal	Tuesday: at Montreal
Thursday: at Montreal	Thursday: at Boston
Saturday: at Boston	Saturday: at Montreal
x-Wednesday, May 14: at Boston	x-Wednesday, May 14: at Boston
N.Y. Rangers 3, Pittsburgh 2, OT	N.Y. Rangers 1, Pittsburgh 1
Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 0	Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 0
Monday: at N.Y. Rangers	Monday: at N.Y. Rangers
Wednesday: at N.Y. Rangers	Wednesday: at N.Y. Rangers
Friday: at Pittsburgh	Friday: at Pittsburgh
x-Sunday: at N.Y. Rangers	x-Sunday: at N.Y. Rangers
x-Tuesday, May 13: at Pittsburgh	x-Tuesday, May 13: at Pittsburgh
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Chicago 2, Minnesota 0	
Chicago 5, Minnesota 2	Chicago 4, Minnesota 1
Tuesday: at Minnesota	Tuesday: at Minnesota
Friday: at Minnesota	Friday: at Minnesota
x-Sunday: at Chicago	x-Sunday: at Chicago
x-Tuesday, May 13: at Minnesota	x-Tuesday, May 13: at Minnesota
x-Thursday, May 15: at Chicago	x-Thursday, May 15: at Chicago
Los Angeles 1, Anaheim 0	Los Angeles 1, Anaheim 0
Los Angeles 3, Anaheim 2, OT	Los Angeles 3, Anaheim 2, OT
Monday: at Anaheim	Monday: at Anaheim
Thursday: at Los Angeles	Thursday: at Los Angeles
Saturday: at Los Angeles	Saturday: at Los Angeles
x-Monday, May 13: at Anaheim	x-Monday, May 13: at Anaheim
x-Wednesday, May 14: at Los Angeles	x-Wednesday, May 14: at Los Angeles
x-Friday, May 16: at Anaheim	x-Friday, May 16: at Anaheim

Sunday

Penguins 3, Rangers 0

N.Y. Rangers	0	0	0=0
Pittsburgh	0	1	2=3
Second Period—1, Pittsburgh, Letang 2 (Malkin, Kunitz), 16:26			
Third Period—1, Pittsburgh, Jokinen 4 (Neal, Letang), 16:30 (pp), 3, Pittsburgh, Malkin 4 (Letang), 18:00 (en)			
Shots on goal—N.Y. Rangers 7-10-5=22, Pittsburgh 9-16-14=35			
Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 0 of 4; Pittsburgh 1 of 3			
Goalies—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 5-4-0 (34 shots-32 saves), Pittsburgh, Fleury 5-2-0 (22-32)			
A—18,638 (18,387), T—2:32.			

Blackhawks 4, Wild 1

Minnesota	0	1	0=1
Chicago	1	1	2=4
First Period—1, Chicago, Toews 4 (Hossa, Bickell), 11:00			
Second Period—2, Chicago, Saad 1 (Bickell, Letang), 16:00			
Third Period—3, Minnesota, McCormick 3 (Hossa, Bickell, Letang), 17:15-5:55			
Shots on goal—Minnesota 2-13-4=19, Chicago 7-9-7=23			
Power-play opportunities—Minnesota 0 of 2; Chicago 1 of 2			
Goalies—Minnesota, Bryzgalov 1-4-0 (21 shots-18 saves), Chicago, Crawford 2-2-0 (19-27), T—2:20.			

Bickell powers Blackhawks to 2-0 lead over Wild

By Jay Cohen
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Bryan Bickell had an open look on a break in the third period, and shot the puck off the crossbar. He then tried the other side of the ice, and that worked out quite well for him and the Chicago Blackhawks.

Bickell had a goal and two assists, and the Blackhawks beat the Minnesota Wild 4-1 on Sunday to take a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference semifinals.

Brandon Saad scored his first two goals of the postseason, and Chicago earned its sixth consecutive win despite stretches of lackluster play in the second and third periods. Corey Crawford made 18 saves in another solid performance.

"There were bits of that third where it wasn't looking good, but we just stuck with it," Bickell said. "Leave it to our D and Crawford to keep the puck out of the net. We need to be smarter defensively in positioning, but we stuck with it and got over the hump."

Cody McCormick scored his second career playoff goal, but Minnesota missed another chance

to steal home-ice advantage from the defending Cup champions.

"We weren't that far off," Wild coach Mike Yeo said. "Even though, again, I know we can play better. We weren't that far off. That game was hanging for us."

The series opener was tied at 2 in the third period before Patrick Kane scored two of Chicago's final three goals in a 5-2 victory on Friday night. Game 3 is Tuesday night in Minnesota.

Clayton Stoner and Erik Haula made nice passes to set up McCormick's first playoff goal in three years 2 minutes into the third, trimming Chicago's lead to 2-1. Crawford then batted a potential tying shot from Charlie Coyle over the crossbar.

"I almost missed it, where it might have gone in," Crawford said. "Just enough to land on top." The Blackhawks eventually regained their composure and turned up the pressure again. Coming down the right side, Bickell shot the puck off the crossbar on a break with 4:39 to go.

Given a second chance, the physical forward delivered. Bickell skated up the left side, got a



NAM Y. HUN/AP

Chicago Blackhawks' Bryan Bickell, center, celebrates with Marian Hossa after scoring a goal in the third period in Game 2 of their second-round playoff series in Chicago on Sunday.

pass from Marian Hossa and buried his shot into the upper right corner to extend Chicago's lead to 3-1 at 17:15.

It was Bickell's fifth goal of the playoffs. He also has three assists after he had nine goals and eight

assists in last year's playoffs.

"It's that time of year. I enjoy it," said Bickell, who had just 15 points during a disappointing regular season. "This is a crucial time for this team. We need for me and this team to step up."

Saad added an empty-net goal, and the Blackhawks improved to 5-0 at the United Center in this postseason series.

"You always want to help produce and make plays and score goals, so that definitely felt good," Saad said.

Chicago took a 2-0 lead for the second straight game. Jonathan Toews scored a rebound goal after goalies Ilya Bryzgalov stopped Hossa on a breakaway in the first, and Saad sent a shot over Bryzgalov's right shoulder right after a power play expired in the second.

Haula had a great scoring opportunity on the right side of the net after Crawford lost track of the puck in the first. But Ben Smith got it back, and Haula put a drive off the side of the net.

"I'm disappointed that we're here down 2-0, frustrated," Wild star Zach Parise said. "But we understand that we didn't play nearly well enough to win. I think that's what we're upset about, so no much being down 2-0. That's not fun, either, but the way we played wasn't good enough, and definitely not good enough to beat the Blackhawks."

MLB

NL roundup

Giants increase Braves' skid to 6

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The San Francisco Giants put together quite a mind-boggling statistic in their first three-game sweep over the Atlanta Braves at Turner Field.

San Francisco did not have a hit with a runner in scoring position, but won three straight over Atlanta. Credit belongs to strong pitching and seven home runs.

Brandon Crawford hit two home runs and Madison Bumgarner helped the Giants beat Atlanta 4-1 Sunday, handing the Braves their sixth straight loss.

The Giants were 0-for-4 with runners in scoring position on Sunday and 0-for-7 in the series. Still, the NL West leaders left town with a five-game winning streak.

"That's incredible," manager Bruce Bochy said. "What a job our pitching did here. ... The long ball, that's what won it for us because we couldn't get a hit. They had great pitching as well."

It was San Francisco's first sweep in Atlanta since 1988 — long before Turner Field opened in 1997 and before Bumgarner was born in 1989.

The Braves' skid is their longest skid since an eight-game slide in May 2012. Atlanta, which leads the NL East, was held to one run in each of the losses to San Francisco.

Bumgarner (3-3) allowed one unearned run and three hits in six innings, striking out nine.

Improved control allowed Bumgarner earn his first win since April 11. He walked only one batter after issuing a combined eight passes in his last three starts.

"I still felt like I got behind a lot of times when I wanted to get ahead, but it's a big step forward," Bumgarner said.

Santiago Casilla pitched the ninth for his first save. Closer Ser-

gio Romo was rested after recording saves in two straight games.

Crawford gave the Giants a 2-1 lead with his homer off Alex Wood (2-5) in the fourth. Crawford hit a two-run shot off Jordan Walden in the eighth for his first career multihomer game. He began the day with only one homer this season.

Wood lost his fourth straight start, again receiving almost no run support. The one run scored by Atlanta on Sunday is the only offense Wood has received in that span, which included back-to-back 1-0 losses.

Marlins 5, Dodgers 4: Jeff Baker hit a winning double off the wall against Jamey Wright (2-2) with two outs in the ninth as both Miami edged Los Angeles.

Mets 5, Rockies 1: Dillon Gee (3-1) allowed six hits in six innings, extending his scoreless streak to a career-best 16 innings as New York avoided a four-game sweep by host Colorado. He is 13-6 with a 2.66 ERA since last May 30.

Reds 4, Brewers 3: Chris Heisey scored from first on Todd Frazier's 10th-inning double into the left-field corner off Tyler Thornburgh (3-1) as host Cincinnati took three of four against Milwaukee, which is still a big league-best 21-11.

Padres 4, Diamondbacks 3: Cameron Maybin reached base after an overturned umpire's call, then scored on Yonder Alonso's short grounder in the ninth off Oliver Perez (0-1) as host San Diego beat Arizona to stop four-game losing streak.

Interleague

Blue Jays 7, Pirates 2: Colby Rasmus hit a grand slam and Melky Cabrera added a two-run homer as visiting Toronto beat Pittsburgh.



MARK DUNCAN/AP

The Chicago White Sox's Dayan Vicedo, right, celebrates his three-run homer in the ninth inning with Moises Sierra, left, and Gordon Beckham against the Indians on Sunday in Cleveland. Vicedo's blast gave the White Sox a 4-3 win and helped the White Sox avert a three-game sweep by the Indians.

AL roundup

White Sox's Vicedo rocks Indians with 3-run homer

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — One swing by Dayan Vicedo provided a dramatic turnaround for the Chicago White Sox.

Vicedo hit a three-run homer in the ninth inning off John Axford, lifting the White Sox over the Cleveland Indians 4-3 and stopping a four-game losing streak.

After the ball cleared the right-field fence, Vicedo pointed to Chicago's dugout, which erupted in celebration.

"That was for the team. That was very exciting," he said.

Other than Jose Abreu's major league-leading 12th homer, a solo drive in the first inning, the AL's highest-scoring team couldn't manufacture any runs.

Corey Kluber struck out a career-high 13 in eight innings, including a team-record seven straight. He allowed three hits and two walks, leaving with a 3-1 lead after 110 pitches.

"It's good for the guys to just stay with it," Chicago manager Robin Ventura said. "Even though it looks bleak, you can still make a little bit of a comeback." Axford (0-2) walked Gordon Beckham leading off the ninth, but struck out Abreu. Adam Dunn walked, and Vicedo homered on a 2-2 pitch.

"I was looking for a pitch I could make good contact with," Vicedo said. "He made a mistake and I made him pay for it."

Axford gave up the homer on a 96 mph four-seamer.

"I fell behind in the count to too many guys and it didn't work out," he said. "I put two guys on base without me even challenging. I just couldn't find it. The home run was on a fastball. Not a very good pitch, obviously."

Indians manager Terry Francona, citing pitch count and the narrow lead, didn't second guess himself for pulling Kluber.

"If anyone got on base, he was going to come out of the game and I didn't think that was fair to him," Francona said.

Kluber had no problem with Francona's strategy. "That's not my decision. I trust Tim's judgment," he said.

Axford has blown two saves in 11 chances, both against the White Sox. He gave up a walkoff homer to Alexei Ramirez in the ninth inning on April 13 at Chicago.

Daniel Webb (2-0) pitched the eighth and Matt Lindstrom threw a one-hit ninth for his fourth save in seven chances.

George Kottaras, the Indians' backup catcher, became the first player to homer in his first two plate appearances for Cleveland.

Andre Rienzo allowed three runs and seven hits in 4½ innings. Kluber's streak began when he struck out Gordon Beckham and Abreu for the final two outs of the third. He fanned Dunn, Vicedo and Ramirez in the fourth, and Jordan Danks and Tyler Flowers struck out beginning the fifth. Leury Garcia broke the streak by walking on a 3-2 pitch, and Kluber struck out Alejandro De Azza.

Kluber fell two strikeouts short of the AL record set by Doug Fister for Detroit against Kansas City on Sept. 27, 2012. Tom Seaver holds the major league record of 10 for the New York Mets against San Diego on April 22, 1970.

Lonnie Chisenhall had an RBI single for Cleveland in the third.

Rays 5, Yankees 1: Wil Myers had a three-run, inside-the-park homer on a drive off the top of the center-field fence and drove in four runs as visiting Tampa beat New York.

Rangers 14, Angels 3: Prince Fielder had a pair of RBI doubles that ended a drought of 39 at-bats without an extra-base hit to help Texas beat host Los Angeles.

J.P. Arencibia hit his first homer and Michael Choice added a three-run drive for Texas.

Tigers 9, Royals 4: Justin Verlander (4-1) took a no-hit bid into the sixth inning and won his fourth straight decision, helping visiting Detroit complete a three-game sweep of Kansas City and extend its winning streak to a season-high five games.

Twins 5, Orioles 2: Phil Hughes (3-1) gave up two runs and six hits in 6½ innings to win his third straight start. After a single by Nick Markakis starting the game, Hughes retired his next 14 batters.

Mariners 8, Astros 7: Robinson Cano and Willie Bloomquist each drove in two runs as Seattle pulled away in a four-run third and dropped host Houston to a big league-worst 10-21.



DAVID TULLIS/AP

San Francisco's Brandon Crawford hits a two-run home run in the eighth inning as the Giants extended the Atlanta Braves' losing streak to six games with a 4-1 win on Sunday in Atlanta.

MLB

Cardinals rally in ninth to knock off rival Cubs



PAUL BEATY/AP

The Cardinals' Yadier Molina hits a two-run single in the ninth inning to beat the Cubs 5-4 on Sunday in Chicago.

By JOHN JACKSON
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Yadier Molina had a simple goal for his ninth-inning at-bat with the bases loaded and the score tied on Sunday. "I was looking not to strike out," he said.

After fouling off some tough two-strike pitches, Molina hit a ground-ball single up the middle to drive in two runs and the St. Louis Cardinals snapped out of an offensive funk with a 5-4 victory over the Chicago Cubs.

"I got a little lucky that they were playing me to pull," Molina said. "It was a good at-bat. I was able to put the ball in play and good things happened."

Molina, moved into the No. 2 spot to jump start the lineup, was 0-for-4 before coming through in the ninth.

But it was a wild pitch in the seventh inning that allowed the Cubs to tie the score at 3 that had Molina more frustrated. The pitch from reliever Carlos Martinez was in the dirt and trickled through Molina's legs, allowing Luis Valbuena to score.

"I was there," Molina said. "I don't know. It's one of those things. I was ready for it and the ball still goes through my legs."

Kevin Siegrist (1-1) got the win in relief, while Trevor Rosenthal picked up his eighth save in as many opportunities despite a scare in the ninth inning.

Hector Rondon (0-1) took the loss for the Cubs, who were attempting to win four straight games for the first time since July.

While Cardinals manager Mike Matheny had looked for Molina, one of his hottest hitters, to get the offense going, it was a couple of

struggling batters at the bottom of the lineup that got things started early.

With two outs in the second inning and Jhonny Peralta on first base, Randall Grichuk drilled a triple into the right-center field gap for a 1-0 lead. Mark Ellis, who went 3-for-4, followed with a double to left-center to make it 2-0.

Both Grichuk (167) and Ellis (143) entered hitting well below .200.

St. Louis stretched the lead to 3-0 in the third as Matt Adams doubled home Matt Holiday.

The Cubs pulled within 3-2 in the fourth with some clutch two-out hitting. With one out, Ryan Kalish singled and John Baker walked.

After a groundout moved the runners to second and third, Cubs starter Jason Hammel singled to right to drive in both.

Molina's go-ahead single to center came on the sixth pitch of the at-bat from Rondon.

"I thought I made a good pitch today, but something happened," Rondon said.

Molina seemed more relieved that the wild pitch wasn't a factor than he drove in the game-deciding runs.

"(Molina) does a good job of not wearing his emotions and how frustrating that is for him," Matheny said. "It's hard to count the number of balls he keeps in front of him, the number of runs he saves. It's something we don't take for granted."

Valbuena doubled in the run with two outs in the ninth to make it 5-4, but Rosenthal got Anthony Rizzo to ground out to end the game.

"Guys kept grinding it out," Cubs manager Rick Renteria said. "We just fell a little short."



LAURENCE KESTENSON/AP

Philadelphia pitcher Roberto Hernandez allowed just four hits in 7½ innings and helped the Phillies beat the Washington Nationals 1-0 on Sunday in Philadelphia.

Hernandez sharp in Phils' victory

By AARON BRACY
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Roberto Hernandez might want to have his next start switched, as well.

Hernandez pitched four-hit ball for 7½ innings, outdueling Gio Gonzalez and leading the Philadelphia Phillies past the Washington Nationals 1-0 Sunday.

Chase Utley hit an RBI single in the first inning for the only run.

Hernandez (2-1) struck out three and walked three. His start was moved up two days because Cole Hamels had the flu, and he retired 14 of 15 batters in the middle innings.

"Not a big deal, whatever I had to do," Hernandez said. "I kept the ball down and tried not to over-throw. I'm happy. It was a great game for my team and for me, too."

Philadelphia manager Ryne Sandberg likes what Hernandez has added to the Phillies' rotation as the fifth starter.

"We like his stuff," Sandberg

said. "He's a ground ball pitcher. He has a durable arm. He likes the ball. He's reliable and he can throw a lot of pitches in the game."

"I like the way he's throwing. He solidifies our rotation and is a good complement. He's funky out there, he's different and I like what he's doing right now."

Mike Adams and Antonio Bastardo each got an out in the eighth. Jonathan Papelbon got his ninth save in 10 chances.

Gonzalez (3-2) allowed four hits in 7½ innings. He struck out seven and walked two.

"It was just a good pitchers' duel," Gonzalez said. "I just tried to keep us in the game as long as possible."

Philadelphia scored when Jimmy Rollins hit a one-out triple and Utley followed with a single.

"That set the tone for our game," Sandberg said.

Ben Revere tripled with one out in the Philadelphia third, and Gonzalez didn't give up another hit until Jayson Nix's leadoff single in the eighth.

"Go pitched well and their guy did too," Nationals manager Matt Williams said. "It was a good, old-fashioned pitching duel."

Gonzalez got some help from his defense during that stretch, as Nate McLouth robbed Rollins of a hit with a diving catch in left field to open the sixth.

McLouth didn't have success with the bat, though, going 0-for-3. He has just four hits in his last 44 at-bats, and has been filling in for the injured Bryce Harper.

Denard Span opened the eighth with a single off Hernandez and the Philadelphia starter departed after Kevin Frandsen's sacrifice bunt.

Williams, who gave up the lead and took the loss in Friday night's series-opening loss to the Nationals, got Jayson Werth to ground out. Bastardo then relieved and walked Adam LaRoche before striking out Anthony Rendon.

"We've had some really key hits over the course of the season," Williams said. "It just wasn't our day."

Barton saves game in 10th as A's win

By KEN POWTAK
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Daric Barton didn't bat and barely got on the field. He still made the game-saving play.

Yoenis Cespedes drove in the go-ahead run on an infield single with the bases loaded in the 10th and Barton, playing first, cut down the potential tying run at third in the bottom of the inning as the Athletics averted a three-game sweep with a 3-2 win over the Boston Red Sox on Sunday.

"He made a terrific play," Oakland manager Bob Melvin said. "That's a gutsy play. That's a play that if the runner gets over, they can win the game with a hit. A gutsy play."

Boston's Will Middlebrooks opened the inning with a single and went to second on the hit when center fielder Coco Crisp had the ball bounce away for an error.

With Barton playing in, guarding for a bunt, Jackie Bradley Jr. bounced it to first. Barton fired to third, cutting down Middlebrooks.

"My whole goal was obviously to get the guy at third whether it was a bunt or a ground ball to me," Barton said. "It feels good. I've learned to be ready. Anything can happen at any time, but I've learned to be ready when they call my name and go out there and do my job."

Barton came in when Josh Reddick left with a sprained ankle in the ninth.

Jim Johnson (3-2) then got Dustin Pedroia to bounce into a game-ending double play.

Middlebrooks was somewhat surprised and impressed by the play.

"I was breaking off the bat. I didn't know it was to his right, to his left or right at him. Unfortunately it was right at him," he said.

This is the big leagues. People are supposed to make plays like that. Normally you don't see a first



STEVEN SENNE/AP

Oakland's Yoenis Cespedes hits an RBI-double in the sixth inning on Sunday to help the A's beat the Boston Red Sox 3-2 in 10 innings on Sunday in Boston.

baseman that far in, but he made a good play. Hats off to him."

A.J. Pierzynski hit a solo homer for the Red Sox, who failed to reach 500 for the first time since the fourth game of the season.

Oakland closed a 10-game road trip 5-5 and avoided its second three-game sweep in its past four series. The Athletics were swept at home by Texas April 21-23.

Red Lovrie had a two-out double off Chris Capuano (1-1) and after the bases were loaded with an intentional and regular walk, Cespedes beat out a slow roller to third against reliever Burke Badenhop.

Johnson also got a double-play groundout by Jonny Gomes to end the ninth.

Boston starter John Lackey gave up two runs on five hits in six innings, walking three and striking out four.

Oakland's Sonny Gray also pitched six, giving up two runs and six hits, walking two with three strikeouts.

NBA PLAYOFFS

76ers PG Carter-Williams wins RoY

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Michael Carter-Williams received the NBA rookie of the year award on Monday, something to show in a dismal season for the Philadelphia 76ers.

Carter-Williams was only the third player since 1950-51 to lead all rookies in scoring (16.7), rebounding (6.3) and assists (6.2), joining Oscar Robertson (1960-61) and Alvan Adams (1975-76).

Despite the performance of their dynamic guard, the Sixers were awful this season. They went 19-63 and tied an NBA record by losing 26 straight games.

Carter-Williams received 104 of a possible 124 first-place votes. Victor Oladipo of the Orlando Magic finished second and Trey Burke of the Utah Jazz was third.

Allen Iverson is the only other player in Sixers history to win the award. The 11th overall pick in last year's draft, Carter-Williams is the first player picked 10th or lower to win since Mark Jackson did it in 1987 for New York.

Carter-Williams had a spectacular season posting 27 points, 12 assists and nine steals to lead the Sixers to a stunning 114-110 vic-



MICHAEL PEREZ/AP

Philadelphia 76ers point guard Michael Carter-Williams won the NBA's Rookie of the Year Award. The league said Monday that he received 104 of a possible 124 first-place votes.

tory over the two-time defending champion Miami Heat. He was the second rookie after Shaquille O'Neil to be the Eastern Conference player of the week in his first week in the NBA.

"By opening night, it was clear

to us that Michael belonged," Sixers President Sam Hinkie said. "We congratulate him on this unique achievement and look forward to helping him put in the work necessary to garner even greater success in the future."

Scoreboard

First round	Conference semifinals
Eastern Conference Indiana 4, Atlanta 3	Best-of-7 (4 if necessary) Eastern Conference Miami vs. Brooklyn
Atlanta 101, Indiana 95	Tuesday: Brooklyn at Miami
Indiana 95, Atlanta 88	Thursday: Brooklyn at Miami
Atlanta 107, Indiana 97	Saturday: Miami at Brooklyn
Indiana 91, Atlanta 88	Monday: Miami at Brooklyn
Atlanta 107, Indiana 97	Wednesday, May 14: Brooklyn at Miami
Brooklyn 104, Toronto 87	Friday, May 16: Miami at Brooklyn
Brooklyn 100, Brooklyn 95	Sunday, May 18: Brooklyn at Miami
Brooklyn 102, Toronto 98	Indiana vs. Washington
Toronto 100, Brooklyn 95	Wednesday: Washington at Indiana
Toronto 115, Brooklyn 113	Friday: Indiana at Washington
Brooklyn 97, Toronto 97	Sunday: Indiana at Washington
Brooklyn 104, Toronto 103	Tuesday, May 13: Washington at Indiana
Washington 4, Chicago 1	Thursday, May 15: Indiana at Washington
Washington 102, Chicago 95	Friday, May 16: Washington at Indiana
Washington 101, Chicago 99, OT	Sunday, May 18: Washington at Indiana
Chicago 106, Washington 98	Western Conference
Washington 75, Chicago 69	San Antonio vs. Portland
San Antonio 4, Dallas 3	Tuesday: Portland at San Antonio
Dallas 113, San Antonio 92	Thursday: Portland at San Antonio
Dallas 109, San Antonio 108	Saturday: San Antonio at Portland
San Antonio 109, Dallas 103	Monday, May 12: at San Antonio
Dallas 113, San Antonio 111	Portland at San Antonio
Memphis 3, Oklahoma City 1	San Antonio at Portland at San Antonio
Oklahoma City 106, Memphis 86	Friday, May 16: San Antonio at Portland
Oklahoma City 105, OT	Wednesday, May 19: Portland at San Antonio
Memphis 98, Oklahoma City 95, OT	Monday, May 19: Portland at San Antonio
Oklahoma City 92, Memphis 99, OT	Oklahoma City vs. L.A. Clippers
Memphis 100, Oklahoma City 99, OT	Monday: L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City
Oklahoma City 120, Memphis 109	Wednesday: L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City
L.A. Clippers 4, Golden State 3	Friday: Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers
Golden State 120, L.A. Clippers 105	Sunday: Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers
L.A. Clippers 138, Golden State 95	Tuesday, May 13: L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City
Golden State 118, L.A. Clippers 97	Thursday, May 15: Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers
L.A. Clippers 113, Golden State 103	Sunday, May 18: L.A. Clippers at Oklahoma City
Golden State 110, L.A. Clippers 99	
L.A. Clippers 116, Golden State 121	
Portland 4, Houston 2	
Portland 122, Houston 120, OT	
Houston 125, Houston 105	
Houston 121, Portland 116, OT	
Portland 123, Houston 100, OT	
Houston 108, Portland 98	
Portland 99, Houston 98	

Spurs 119, Mavericks 96
Dallas — Marion 25 12 5, Nowitzki 8-21 6-7 22, Dalembert 1-3 0-0 2, Calderon 2-8 0-0 4, Ellis 3 11-4 12, Carter 4-12 0-0 10, Blair 4-5 0-0 8, Harris 6-10 2-2 17, Wright 3-0 0-6, Crowder 1-4 0-0 2, Larkin 0-1 0-0 0, Ellington 2-4 2-5, B.James 0-0 0-0, Totals 36-88 15-17 96.
SAN ANTONIO — Leonard 7-14 0-1 15, Duncan 7-8 1-2 15, Splitter 0-1 2 1, Parker 11-19 10-13 32, Green 5-7 2-2 16, Davis 3-2-2 8, Ginobili 7-8 3-20, Bellini 2-4 0-0 5, Mills 2-8 1-2 7, Hayes 0-0 0-0 0, Bonner 0-0 0-0 0, Joseph 0-0 0-0 0, Ayres 0-2 0-0 0, Totals 42-74 25-33 119.
Dallas 23 23 22-26-19
San Antonio 35 33 25-25-19
Three-Point Goals—Dallas 9-25 (Harris 3-3, Ellington 2-4, Ellis 2-6, Carter 2-6, Marion 0-1, Crowder 0-1, Nowitzki 0-2, Calderon 0-2, San Antonio 10-24 (Green 4-6, Ginobili 2-3, Mills 2-6, Bellini 1-2, Leonard 1-5, Parker 0-1, Diaw 0-1). Fouled Out—Nones. Rebounds—Dallas 46 (Nowitzki 9), San Antonio 48 (Duncan 8). Assists—Dallas 21 (Carter, Calderon 4), San Antonio 21 (Diaw, Ginobili 5). Total Fouls—Dallas 21, San Antonio 21. Technicals—Dallas Coach Carlisle, Parker. Flagrant Fouls—Blair, Crowder. A—18,581 (18,789).
Nets 104, Raptors 103
BROOKLYN — Johnson 11-25 3-5 26, Pierce 4-10 0-0 10, Garnett 5-8 2-3 12, Williams 3-8 7-10 13, Anderson 2-6 0-5, Blatche 4-7 1-2 5, Thornton 4-8 5-6 17, Kirilenko 0-0 0-0 0, Plumlee 1-2 2-2 Livingston 4-5 2-2 10, Teletovich 0-3 0-0 0, Totals 37-81 23-30 104.
TORONTO — Ross 5-12 1-3 11, Amundson 4-12 2-20, Valanciunas 1-3 1-1 3, Lowry 7-15 12-14 28, DeRozan 5-12 7-7 18, Patterson 5-9 6-16 16, Vasquez 1-3 0-0 0, Almons 1-3 0-0 3, Fields 0-0 0-0 0, Hayes 1-2 0-0 2, Totals 35-79 29-33 103.
Brooklyn 26 35 20-24
Toronto 28 25 20-30-103
Three-Point Goals—Brooklyn 8-23 (Thornton 4-6, Pierce 2-4, Anderson 1-4), Johnson 1-5, Williams 0-1, Teletovich 0-0, Toronto 4-13 (Lowry 2-4, DeRozan 1-2, Salmons 1-3, Vasquez 0-1, Ross 0-3). Fouled Out—A-Johnson. Rebounds—Brooklyn 51, Toronto 43. Assists—Brooklyn 19, Toronto 15. Total Fouls—Brooklyn 26, Toronto 27. Technicals—Garnett, DeRozan. A—20,457 (19,800).

Bigger stage, brighter lights

Wall, Lillard getting their chance to shine as second round begins

By TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

MIAMI — John Wall was the No. 1 pick in the 2010 NBA draft. Damian Lillard hit perhaps the signature shot of the opening round of these playoffs.

Within the game, both are already considered stars.

Over the next couple weeks, casual fans might see why Wall and Lillard will be on the biggest stages of their pro careers starting Monday, when the conference-semifinal round of the NBA playoffs gets underway. Major challenges await them both — Wall and the Washington Wizards take on East No. 1 seed Indiana, while Lillard and the Portland Trail Blazers face West No. 1 seed San Antonio.

But if the first round was any indicator, neither will fail to embrace the spotlight that's coming their way.

"Miami plays a bigger light," Miami guard Dwyane Wade said. "These guys are very good, young, talented players. Now you're getting an opportunity to see what the future of the NBA looks like with these young guys."

Plenty of the usual suspects — Wade, LeBron James, Kevin Durant, Tim Duncan, Tony Parker, Paul George, Russell Westbrook, Chris Paul, Blake Griffin — are in the second round, and it's fairly common to see them on television either playing the game or flexing their stardom in other ways.

Wall and Lillard, they don't exactly have the same status.

Then again, neither had been in the playoffs before now, either. Wall and Bradley Beal — another postseason rookie — combined to average 38.6 points per game in Washington's surprisingly easy five-game ouster of Chicago in the opening round.

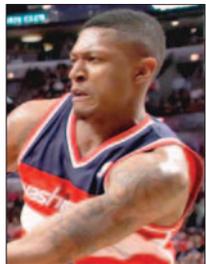
Lillard made 23 three-pointers in the first round, the first 22 of them all likely to be forgotten, the last one likely to get replayed for generations. His buzzer-beating 25-footer won Game 6 for Portland and finished off the Blazers' series with Houston.

"That's definitely the biggest shot of my life — so far," Lillard said.

Here comes the second round, the biggest chance of his NBA life — so far.

Five things to know about the conference semifinals:

1 Home matters: Yes, road teams won a whopping 24 of the 50 games played in the opening round. But in the end, home court ultimately



Wizards guard Bradley Beal has combined with teammate John Wall to average 38.6 points per game in the playoffs.

proved critical, with San Antonio, Oklahoma City, the Clippers and Indiana all winning Game 7's at home. Toronto was the only home-court team to fall in a Game 7, losing to Brooklyn by a point.

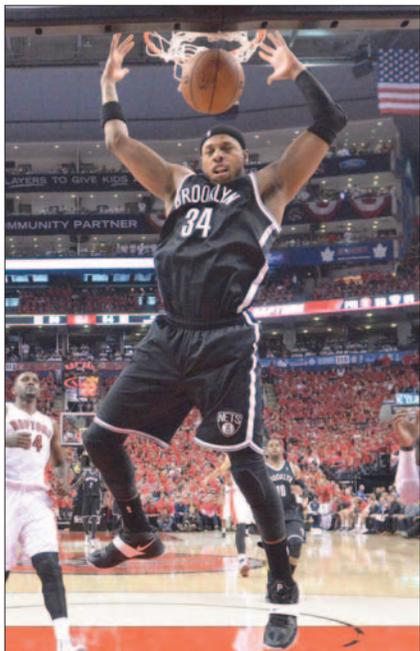
2 Winning is hard: Here's something that illustrates how tough it is to win even a first-round series in the NBA: Miami and Oklahoma City are the only teams to appear in the conference semifinals in each of the past four seasons. How hard is year-in, year-out success these days? Consider that six of the eight conference-semifinalists in 2010 didn't even make the playoffs this year.

3 Calmer Clippers: The safest bet of the second round is that the Clippers will face much less drama than they did in the opening series. While the Donald Sterling story surely won't go away anytime soon, the Clippers should be able to have their minds more on basketball now — and that will be critical as they face the Thunder and Durant, the presumed MVP-in-waiting.

4 Upset watch: The top two seeds in both the East (Indiana, Miami) and West (San Antonio, Oklahoma City) all made the second round. History says at least one of them won't be going any further. Not since 2005 have the conference finals both been of the No. 1 vs. No. 2 variety.

5 Fisher chasing history: If Oklahoma City doesn't get swept by the Clippers, Derek Fisher will likely stand alone atop an NBA all-time list. Fisher has played in 155 postseason wins, tied with Robert Horry for the most in league history.

NBA PLAYOFFS



NATHAN DENETTE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Brooklyn Nets forward Paul Pierce dunks the ball during Sunday's Game 7 in Toronto. Pierce and teammate Kevin Garnett were brought in from Boston by Brooklyn for the express purpose of helping to end the Miami Heat's Eastern Conference dominance. They'll get their chance when the two teams meet in their best-of-7 conference semifinal series beginning on Tuesday in Miami.

Nets head south to Miami after triumph in Toronto

Brooklyn 4-0 against Heat in regular season

By IAN HARRISON
The Associated Press

TORONTO — After a nail-biting triumph in Toronto, the Brooklyn Nets are moving on to Miami.

Paul Pierce blocked Kyle Lowry's shot from the lane on the final play of the game and the Nets held off the Toronto Raptors 104-103 in Game 7 on Sunday to advance to the second round of the playoffs.

The Nets will begin the conference semifinals Tuesday night against the two-time defending NBA champion Heat. Brooklyn went 4-0 against Miami in the regular season.

"That goes out the window," Nets forward Kevin Garnett said. "This is the postseason. They're playing very well, they went right through Charlotte without a beat and they have a lot of confidence."

After taking down Atlantic Division champion Toronto with a hard-earned road win in front of a loud, hostile crowd, the Nets aren't short on confidence, either.



NATHAN DENETTE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Brooklyn Nets head coach Jason Kidd, left, and players Deron Williams, center, and Andray Blatche celebrate after Sunday's Game 7 win over the Toronto Raptors in Toronto.

"These types of wins build character," Pierce said.

The Heat have been idle for a week since sweeping the Bobcats, but Brooklyn's Shaun Livingston said the downtime can be "a gift and a curse."

"We've been playing, we obviously have a rhythm," Livingston said.

Slowed by foul trouble and struggling with his shot Sunday, Pierce still found a way to come up big. Pierce had more fouls

(three) than points (none) in the second half, but his only block of the game couldn't have been more vital.

"I really didn't have a great offensive game, I was in foul trouble for most of the night," Pierce said.

"Sometimes you've got to find ways to help your ballclub win."

The Raptors, set a franchise record with 48 wins this season, have not won a playoff series since 2001, losing in all three appearances.

Spurs face formidable foe after dispatching Mavs

By RAUL DOMINGUEZ
The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — The San Antonio Spurs barely had time to exhale Sunday after a grueling seven-game series with the Dallas Mavericks before an even more demanding test was presented.

How do the veteran Spurs expect to keep up with the young and energetic Portland Trail Blazers, who upset the fourth-seeded Houston Rockets in a six-game series?

"Can I get a couple of hours," San Antonio guard Manu Ginobili said. "We haven't watched them at all; we played them a few times. What we know is that they are packed with shooters. They can really shoot the ball. The fact that you've got to contest them and not let them take easy threes creates a lot of room for them to attack the rim. It's going to be very important to have a very good one-on-one defense because when they start hitting threes and getting to the rim, it gets really hard."

The series opens Tuesday in San Antonio.

The teams split four regular-season games, with the Trail



ERIC GAY/AP

San Antonio Spurs point guard Tony Parker will have his hands full defending Portland's Damian Lillard in their second-round matchup against the Trail Blazers. The teams split their regular-season series 2-2.

Blazers winning the first two meetings and the Spurs capturing the last two. San Antonio's victories were part of a 24-5 record after the All-Star break while earning the league's best record.

But the Mavericks proved that what happens in the regular season doesn't always matter in the playoffs.

After being swept in four regular-season games and losing Game 1 to extend its skid against

San Antonio 10 games, Dallas rallied to push its intrastate rival to the brink of an unexpected early elimination. The Spurs responded with their best performance of the series Sunday, rolling to a 119-96 victory in

Game 7.

"That was a great warm-up, if I can call it a warm-up," said Tony Parker, who had 32 points in Game 7. "It was tough to play them because Dirk is one of the best ever and Monta Ellis played great in the series. It's going to be pretty much more of the same."

Another sharp-shooting big man and energetic guard playing off pick-and-rolls, except playing the part of Nowitzki and Ellis for the Blazers are the younger LaMarcus Aldridge and Damian Lillard.

Aldridge averaged 29.8 points against Houston, including a pair of 40-plus point games to open the first-round series. Lillard averaged 25.5 points and hit a series-clinching three-pointer in Game 6.

"It is obviously one heck of a team," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "We had trouble with them all year long. They have guys on the team that they aren't guarded yet. They are young, energetic. Terry (Stotts, Portland's coach) does a great job. They know what they want to do and they are playing great basketball. It will be a big challenge, obviously."

SPORTS



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Penguins goalie shuts out
Rangers to even series | **Page 26**

NBA PLAYOFFS

Second stage

Conference semifinals bring brighter
spotlight for young stars Wall, Lillard

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Washington's John Wall, left, and Portland's Damian Lillard, right, already well-known to hoops aficionados, have the chance to raise their profiles among casual fans in the coming weeks as they each lead their teams into the second round of the NBA playoffs.

AP photos



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