STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 73, No. 146 ©SS 2014 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014

平成12年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価￥100

$1.00

WEEKEND EDITION EUROPE & PACIFIC

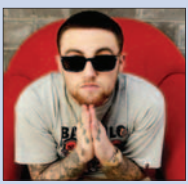
Space exploration

AMBITIOUS 'INTERSTELLAR' COMES TO BASE THEATERS
PAGE 24

VIDEO GAMES

'Sunset Overdrive' provides plenty of zombie-slaying fun
Page 26

MUSIC



Will 2014 go down as rap's worst year ever?
Page 36

SPORTS

Buckeyes-Spartans promises high score for Big Ten clash
Back page

THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL: 25 YEARS LATER

MARKUS SCHREIBER/AP

People gather around an original segment of the Berlin Wall marking the former border at Potsdamer Platz on Sept. 25 in Berlin. On Sunday, Germany celebrates the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Wall.

The Wall is history, but barriers to peace remain

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

At a border camp in the German town of Hof, a stunned Maj. Mark Hertling watched as East met West and the war he spent his young career preparing for was disappearing before his eyes.

"We were there the night the Trabants started coming across the border and a lot of people were confused about what to do," recalled Hertling, who in November 1989 was an officer with the 1st Armored Division. "I was like 'holy crap, this is a new age'."

Days later, Hertling was back at his home station in Ansbach, Germany, where he met up with a buddy for beers at a local festival. They reflected on the ramifications of the Berlin Wall's fall.

SEE HISTORY ON PAGE 19

Obama says he'll work with Congress on war powers

BY DEB RIECHMANN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama said Wednesday he would ask Congress for specific powers to fight Islamic State militants, opening the door to a potentially lengthy and contentious debate over the nature and extent of American engagement in Iraq and Syria.

Obama's announcement, during a news conference the day after his party was thrashed by Republicans in elections, was not wholly unexpected. But it represented a significant shift from his earlier position that while he would welcome congressional backing, he had legal authority to take military action under existing statutes.

Republicans took the Senate, and will soon run both houses of Congress.

When Obama approved U.S. airstrikes in late September against extremists who have captured territory across Syria and Iraq, he used legal grounds of congressional authorizations that President George W. Bush relied on more than a decade ago. The White House said then that under the 1973 War Powers Act, the Bush-era congressional authorizations for the war on al-Qaida and the Iraq invasion gave Obama authority to act without new approval.

SEE OBAMA ON PAGE 9

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"'Mom, we got down on the ground and then the mortar landed next to me. I passed out. It hurt so bad. Then I realized that I don't want to die and I came around.'"

— Oksana Safonova, relating what her son Kirill, 11, told her about how he survived the shelling of a high school in Donetsk, Ukraine.

See story on Page 14

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Soldiers lost a lot of sleep in Iraq, Afghanistan
2. USS McCampbell chief dies while on leave in Thailand
3. Soldier in Korea gets helmet that saved his life in Afghanistan
4. Would-be atheist chaplain files suit over Navy's rejection of application
5. Army's last active-duty Vietnam-era draftee retires

COMING SOON

Shifting Gears
All-American SUV goes global

TODAY IN STRIPES

Advice	42, 46-47
Classified	50-52
Comics	42, 46-47
Crossword	42, 46-47
Faces	43
Faith	20
Health & Fitness	40
Letters/Opinion	44-45
Sports	52-64
Weather	48
Weekend	21-42

WAR/MILITARY

New Army regs include term 'Negro'

Stars and Stripes

Army regulations published in October allow a black or African-American servicemember to be categorized with the term "Negro" or "Haitian."

The passage, found in the "Army Command Policy," known as regulation AR 600-20, is in a section detailing the Army's equal opportunity program.

The Army said it was uncertain when the term was added to the regulations, according to CNN, which first reported its inclusion.

Negro was commonly used to refer to African-Americans through the 1960s until it fell out of favor in the wake of the civil rights movement of the era.

An Army spokesman told CNN that the use of the word comes from an outdated section that 'will be updated shortly.'

The U.S. Census Bureau announced last year that it would no longer use the term Negro on its forms as of 2014. The term had been in continuous use since the Census of 1900.

The Department of Defense collects extensive demographic data on the makeup of the military force for issues such as equal opportunity and ensuring discrimination does not take place.

CNN reported that an Army official familiar with the document said it is possible the word was added so that when soldiers self-report on forms, they would have an opportunity to identify themselves as Negro, if they so chose.

A military officer specializing in personnel issues for the Defense Department, however, called that "the dumbest thing I have ever heard," noting the Pentagon does not use the word in any of its extensive collection of demographic data, CNN reported.

Lt. Col. S. Justin Platt, an Army spokesman, told CNN that the use of the word comes from an outdated section.

"The racial definitions in AR600-20 para. 6-2 are outdated, currently under review, and will be updated shortly," he said. "The Army takes pride in sustaining a culture where all personnel are treated with dignity and respect and not discriminated against based on race, color, religion, gender and national origin."

US sends long-held Gitmo prisoner to Kuwait

By Ben Fox
The Associated Press

MIAMI — One of the longest-held prisoners at the U.S. detention center at Guantanamo Bay was sent home to Kuwait on Wednesday, the first release based on the determination of a review panel that has been re-evaluating some men previously classified as too dangerous to release.

Fawzi al-Odah had been told his release was imminent but didn't know the date until shortly before he boarded the flight back to his country from the base in southeast Cuba, his lawyer, Eric Lewis, said.

Al-Odah, 37, had been the focus of an arduous battle to secure his release that had the support of his government. Lewis, who spoke to him about a week before the departure, said the prisoner just wanted to get on with life.

"There's no bitterness, there's no anger," Lewis said. "There's just excitement and joy that he will be going home."

Al-Odah faces a minimum of one year at a militant-rehabilitation center on the grounds of a Kuwaiti prison under the transfer agreement. Lewis said that after six months al-Odah will be eligible to leave for part of the day to work or see family.

Al-Odah arrived back in Kuwait early Thursday, said Kuwaiti political science professor and human rights activist Ghanim al-Najjar, who closely follows the issue of Kuwaiti detainees at Guantanamo.

His transfer brings the detention center population to 148 and is the first since May, when President Barack Obama angered Congress by trading five Taliban prisoners for captive Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl without notifying lawmakers.

The release of al-Odah was criticized by U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and a chief proponent of keeping the prison open. The New Hampshire Republican called it "yet another dangerous example of the Obama administration's misguided motivation to empty and then close Guantanamo rather than protect the national security interests of the United States."

Al-Odah had been at Guantanamo since February 2002, and was one of the first prisoners brought to the base on suspicion of links to al-Qaida or the Taliban. The Obama administration has pledged to keep trying to close the facility, which opened in January 2002, and additional releases are expected in the coming months, so al-Odah's record as the longest-held detainee to be released isn't likely to stand long.

Al-Odah

Fawzi al-Odah had been at Gitmo since February 2002.

His father, Khalid al-Odah, said in several interviews with The Associated Press over the years that his son was only a teacher in Afghanistan who had been wrongly turned over to the U.S. authorities in exchange for a bounty.

"Sometimes my wife calls my other son Fawzi. Other times I wake up in the middle of the night and find her sleeping in Fawzi's room," the father said in a 2005 interview. "It's an unbearable sadness most of the time."

The Kuwaiti government hired high-profile lawyers and lobbyists to push for the release of a dozen of its citizens at Guantanamo, an effort set back when one carried out a suicide bomb attack in Iraq in April 2008.

An Obama administration task force charged with evaluating all the prisoners at Guantanamo placed al-Odah and another Kuwaiti among a group slated for indefinite "law of war detention." The men in this group can't be prosecuted, typically because there is not enough evidence, but the government considers them too dangerous to release.

The administration also set up a Periodic Review Board that has been slowly re-evaluating the prisoners with parole-style hearings to determine if some can be released as part of an overall effort to eventually close the detention center.

In July, the board determined that al-Odah had most likely undergone terrorist training in Afghanistan and may have fought alongside al-Qaida or the Taliban. The board, however, decided he had only a low level of training, did not have a leadership position in either group and could be released under certain conditions. The board has cleared a handful other detainees but they have not yet been released.

The board determined that Faez al-Kandari, the last remaining Kuwaiti at Guantanamo, should still be held. His military lawyer, Air Force Lt. Col. Barry Wingard, said Wednesday that he saw no immediate prospects for the release of his client.

GET INTO A 2015 BMW 3 SERIES FOR ONLY $399 A MONTH

No down payment required and a rate as low as .89% APR.*

BAVARIAN Motor Cars GmbH

- Stateside & European trade-In program
- Large inventory
- Loaner cars available while special orders are built

scu@bavarianmotorcars.com

BMW Military Car Sales Program

bavarianmotorcars.com/scu • 0800.24.66377

Apply today online at servicecu.org, at any of our branch locations or by phone 24/7 at 00800.4728.2000

SERVICE® CREDIT UNION

Follow us ›

LIVE PERSON SERVICE 24/7 • 00800.4728.2000 • 314.493.4384/4385 • SERVICECU.ORG/stripes

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA

*Rate shown is Annual Percentage Rate (APR) and is accurate as of 11/01/2014. Offer begins 11/01/14 and ends 12/31/2014 and is subject to change or be discontinued without notice. Rate shown includes a .35% reduction for military direct deposit and automatic payment (example: 1.24% APR less .35% = .89%). Example: A $30,000 auto loan with a rate of .89% APR for 80 months. Monthly payment is approximately $386.39. Total finance charge is approximately $342.16. Loan approval and APR subject to credit worthiness. Floor rate is .89%. No down payment required. Other vehicles may apply. May be limited to available inventory. No other discounts apply. Direct deposit of entire net pay and automatic payment must be maintained. Individual must be a member of Service Credit Union or eligible for membership to apply. Offer subject to change without notice.

WAR/MILITARY

NATO chief hails Afghanistan's 'new chapter'

By Carlo Munoz
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, during an unannounced visit to Afghanistan on Thursday, promised continued alliance support after foreign combat troops leave the country by year's end.

"NATO and our partners have stood with Afghanistan for more than a decade," Stoltenberg said during a joint news conference with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. "Next year, we will open a new chapter. The future of Afghanistan will be in Afghan hands. But our support will continue."

Stoltenberg

After the NATO-led combat mission ends this year, about 12,000 foreign troops — 9,800 of them American — will remain primarily to advise and assist Afghan security forces.

Ghani praised the alliance's efforts, noting that NATO troops have "stood shoulder to shoulder" with Afghan National Security Forces during the bloodiest days of the 13-year war. While he said he was confident Afghan forces will be able to secure the country after 2014, Ghani noted that effort would depend on continued financial backing from Washington and NATO.

NATO has committed to fund Afghanistan's 350,000 security forces at $4.1 billion annually. At a NATO summit in Wales in September, alliance leaders committed to continue funding through 2017.

Afghanistan's new president was supposed to attend that summit, but because election results were still in dispute the country was represented by the defense minister. Stoltenberg invited Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah — chief executive in the new unity government and Ghani's rival in the protracted election — to attend a NATO ministerial meeting on Dec. 2.

Stoltenberg said NATO wanted to develop its "long-term partnership with Afghanistan."

"At the same time, we count on our Afghan partners to play their part."

As the U.S. and its allies continue to withdraw combat forces, there are concerns that the Afghan forces are not ready to take over full responsibility for the country's security, especially given the high casualty tolls they have suffered this year in fighting Taliban insurgents.

In an interview with Foreign Policy magazine earlier this week, Gen. John Campbell, the top U.S. officer in Afghanistan, said he was reviewing whether Afghan forces were ready and whether he should recommend through his chain of command that additional NATO forces stay longer.

The Pentagon remains focused on the postwar troop numbers and the deployment schedule laid out by the White House, International Security Assistance Force-Joint Command chief Lt. Gen. Joseph Anderson said Wednesday.

Anderson declined to comment during a video briefing from Kabul for Pentagon reporters on whether Campbell was seriously considering a U.S. postwar force above the 9,800 specified by the White House and Pentagon.

"The 9,800 number is the number, and that's the number that we're moving towards on Dec. 31st," Anderson said. "And anything beyond that number is not in my ballpark."

He said any analysis being done by Campbell's staff regarding the postwar plan is "a logical, natural thing that we all do, based on the environment" in Afghanistan.

munoz.carlo@stripes.com

Unbelievable savings on low mileage ex-Demo models!
ALL CARS MUST BE SOLD!

We need to make room for new inventory, so we've slashed the prices on all remaining BMW ex-Demo cars at our locations in Germany. **Act now while stocks last!**

	Model Year	Model	Type	Ext. Color	Int. Color	USMSRP	Super Saver Price	Total Super Savings
1	2014	BMW 528i xDrive Sedan	ex-Demo	Cashmere Silver	Black Leather	$ 59.825	$ 50.995	$ 8.830
2	2014	BMW 328d xDrive Sedan	ex-Demo	Mineral Grey Met	Black Leather	$ 52.225	$ 45.030	$ 7.195
3	2014	BMW 535d xDrive Sedan	ex-Demo	Glacier Silver Met	Black Leather	$ 73.375	$ 60.290	$ 13.085
4	2014	BMW 328i Sedan	ex-Demo	Mineral Grey Met	Black L'ette	$ 46.275	$ 39.890	$ 6.385
5	2012	BMW X1 xDrive35i	ex-Demo	Glacier Silver Met	Black L'ette	$ 45.925	$ 38.710	$ 7.215
6	2014	BMW 535i xDrive Sedan	ex-Demo	Glacier Silver	Black Leather	$ 71.875	$ 62.425	$ 9.450
7	2014	BMW 228i Coupé	ex-Demo	Black Sapphire Met	Oyster Leather	$ 47.750	$ 41.570	$ 6.180
8	2014	BMW 328i Sedan	ex-Demo	Imperial Blue Met	Veneto Beige	$ 51.550	$ 44.765	$ 6.785
9	2014	BMW 328d xDrive Sport Wagon	ex-Demo	Alpine White	Brown Leather	$ 56.200	$ 48.510	$ 7.690
10	2012	BMW 328i Sedan	ex-Demo	Mineral White Met	Black Leather	$ 49.750	$ 43.035	$ 6.715
11	2014	BMW 528i xDrive Sedan	ex-Demo	Callisto Grey	Mocha Leather	$ 65.400	$ 56.690	$ 8.710
12	2014	BMW 328d xDrive Sport Wagon	ex-Demo	Imperial Blue Met	Veneto Beige	$ 55.125	$ 47.670	$ 7.455
13	2014	BMW 428i Coupé	ex-Demo	Melbourne Red Met	Black Leather	$ 51.950	$ 46.495	$ 5.455
14	2014	BMW M5 Sedan	ex-Demo	Monte Carlo Blue	Lt Grey Leather	$ 128.355	$ 110.455	$ 17.900
15	2014	BMW 528i xDrive Sedan	ex-Demo	Black Sapphire Met	Black Leather	$ 60.725	$ 52.395	$ 8.330

More low mileage ex-Demo models at reduced prices in stock!

- US Home Shipping incl.
- US Specifications
- Trade-In Program available
- Factory Warranty
- Financing assistance
- Tax-Free

servicecu.org/autocenter

SERVICE CREDIT UNION ★★★★★

LOAN RATES AS LOW AS .49% ONLINE ONLY

PENTAGON CAR SALES • www.PentagonCarSales.com

Germany

Ramstein
Kindsbacher Str. 47
66877 Ramstein-Miesenbach
Tel: 06371 61 39 90

Kaiserslautern
Kaiserstrasse 1
67661 Kaiserslautern
Tel: 0631 351 90 40

Kaiserslautern
Kaiserstrasse 22
67661 Kaiserslautern
Tel.: 0631 3547 900

Wiesbaden
Ludwig-Wolker-Str. 14
55252 Mainz-Kastel
Tel: 06134 567 80

Spangdahlem
Im Kreuzgarten 1 A
54529 Spangdahlem
Tel: 06565 93 69 90

*Must meet minimum credit score criteria. Rate shown is Annual Percentage Rate (APR) and is a special promotional rate offered to Pentagon customers. Prior purchases and existing Service Credit Union loans excluded. Rate is accurate as of 11/1/2014. Offer ends 12/20/2014 and is subject to change or be discontinued without notice. Rate shown includes a .35% reduction for military direct deposit and automatic payment, a .50 Pentagon special and a .40 special online discount (example: 1.74% APR less 1.25% = .49%). Example: A $30,000 auto loan with a rate of .49% APR for 63 months. Monthly payment is approximately $482.44. Total finance charge is approximately $393.70. Loan approval and APR subject to credit worthiness. Floor rate is .89%. No other discounts apply. Direct deposit of entire net pay and automatic payment must be maintained. Individual must be a member of Service Credit Union or eligible for membership to apply. Qualifying member must apply, qualify and be approved for a Service Credit Union loan.

VETERANS

Chief: VA can't fire during investigations

By Heath Druzin
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The secretary of Veterans Affairs fired another shot in the battle over the continued employment of senior officials at the center of a national scandal, saying he cannot dismiss them while criminal investigations are ongoing.

That contradicts what a Justice Department official told congressional committee investigators, as first reported by Stars and Stripes. That official said the Department of Justice "takes no position" on such employment matters.

But when questioned Thursday at a reporter's roundtable, Veterans Affairs Secretary Bob McDonald said his hands are tied.

"We need to wait for the FBI to finish their investigations before we can act," he said.

The Department of Justice did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The VA has been embroiled in scandal since whistleblowers reported the existence of secret wait lists and records manipulation at a Phoenix Veterans Affairs Health Care system. Subsequent investigation revealed similar problems nationwide and cost former VA Secretary Eric Shinseki his job.

The VA has been under intensifying scrutiny for continuing to pay senior leaders who have been linked to the scandal. In particular, the Phoenix system's director, Sharon Helman, and her continued employment have come in for heavy criticism. A report by the VA Inspector General's office accused her of presiding over an office that falsified documents and the creation of secret wait lists to make it appear patient wait times were shorter than they were and recommended she be fired.

She remains on paid leave, collecting her $170,000 salary.

Several other VA officials implicated in wrongdoing have been able to retire before they were fired, meaning they kept benefits they otherwise may have lost. In those cases, McDonald said his hands are tied by the law.

"The law says you can not claw back retirement earned over a career unless a person commits treason or a treasonous-like activity," he said.

Critics are also saying the VA has missed a deadline for issuing "choice cards" that would allow some veterans to be covered by their benefits for care outside the VA system.

"It's tragic that not only did the department fail to meet the deadline, but it then chose to paper-over the fact by releasing a letter from Secretary McDonald claiming they are in the process of rolling out the choice card while providing few concrete specifics," Concerned Veterans of America CEO Pete Hegseth said in a released statement.

The law states that "the Secretary shall, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, issue to each veteran described" in the bill. Nov. 5 marked 90 days after the enactment of the law.

On Thursday, McDonald said the VA is working to roll out the cards responsibly so that veterans are clear about whether they are eligible and denied that they had missed a deadline. The cards are to be sent out in three phases and all are to be mailed out by January, according to a Wednesday blog post by McDonald. The VA has begun mailing cards to the first group, veterans who live more than 40 miles from a VA facility.

"The law didn't specify specifically," he said, "which cards would go out on which day or to which addresses."

druzin.heath@stripes.com
Twitter: @Druzin_Stripes

Michael Bonfigli, The Christian Science Monitor/AP

Veterans Affairs Secretary Bob McDonald speaks at a media breakfast Thursday in Washington.

GET SET, GO! GET GO REWARDS.

Get rewarded by earning 1 point for each $1 in purchases and watch the rewards quickly pile up. Find out for yourself why so many of our members shop with **GO REWARDS**®!

Experience many other benefits of the **GO REWARDS** card:

> No annual fee*
> No balance transfer fee
> Redeem for travel, cash, gift cards, or merchandise
> No limits to the points you can earn
> No foreign transaction fees

NAVY FEDERAL Credit Union®

ARMY
MARINE CORPS
NAVY
AIR FORCE
COAST GUARD
DoD

Find a complete list of worldwide locations along with international calling information at **navyfederal.org**.

Federally insured by NCUA. *Rates range from 9.49% APR to 18% APR, are variable, and are based on creditworthiness. ATM cash advance fees: None if performed at a Navy Federal branch or ATM. Otherwise, $0.50 per domestic transaction or $1.00 per overseas transaction. © 2014 Navy Federal NFCU 13111-A (9-14)

MILITARY

Rotational BCT set to replace 2ID in S. Korea

By Ashley Rowland and Jon Harper
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — A decades-old 2nd Infantry Division unit stationed near the tense South-North Korea border will deactivate and be replaced by a U.S.-based rotational brigade combat team, according to the Pentagon.

The 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team will be deactivated in June 2015 and immediately replaced by approximately 4,600 soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, the Defense Department announced Thursday.

Troops are typically stationed in South Korea on one- or two-year tours, leading to frequent turnover within units.

The deactivation and switch to nine-month rotational deployments is part of a U.S. Army rotational plan that calls for similarly sized and capable units from the United States to train and deploy together.

"There's no loss in capability," Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren told reporters. "Some would argue that the capability might even be slightly higher because it's a trained unit that arrives there in Korea prepared to act.

"We believe that any loss to continuity with familiarity to the terrain will be made up by a single cohesive unit that is familiar with working with each other."

One commander recently told Stars and Stripes that the use of rotational deployments led to greater stability during his unit's time in Korea.

"It allowed us to reach a level of proficiency and maintain it by not changing out our people," said Lt. Col. Arthur Sellers, commander of the Fort Hood-based 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, which left South Korea in October after a nine-month tour.

The battalion was replaced by the 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, also out of Fort Hood.

The 1st Armored Brigade, nicknamed "the Iron Brigade", has been headquartered in South Korea since 1965. The 1ABCT has been awarded South Korea's Presidential Unit Citation three times for its contributions to South Korea's national security and defense.

"The Iron Brigade has played an integral role in the defense of the Korean Peninsula," Warren said. "It trained and worked alongside its South Korean partners to deter aggression."

The deactivation plan was conceived last year.

Warren said it does not portend a reduction in the overall U.S. military presence in Korea. There are 28,500 U.S. troops based there.

After the unit is deactivated, soldiers who were part of the unit will move on to other assignments throughout the Army, Warren said.

rowland.ashley@stripes.com
harper.jon@stripes.com
Twitter: @JHarperStripes

Marine standoff protest aired

By Matthew M. Burke and Chiyomi Sumida
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Local community leaders met with Marine officials Wednesday to protest the handling of an Oct. 30 incident in which a Marine barricaded himself in his on-base home with a firearm, leading to a standoff with military police, officials said.

Officials say they were not informed about the Camp Lester incident until after it was over, according to a spokesman for Chatan Mayor Masaharu Noguni.

Noguni and a delegate from the Chatan town assembly filed the formal protest with Marine Corps headquarters on Camp Foster following a unanimous vote by the assembly.

"Should the rifle have been fired, it would have been a grave life-threatening matter to the neighboring community," the resolution said. "No one was informed outside the military base during the time the incident was ongoing, exposing local residents to a life-threatening situation, which is nothing but disregard of human life and the military's nature to cover up."

The Marine, whose name has not been released, was talked out peacefully, neighbors and officials said. No one was injured.

Neighbors told Stars and Stripes about the weapon and said they had been evacuated early in the day. Marine officials would not comment on how the Marine got the rifle, citing an ongoing investigation.

Noguni's chief secretary, Morimasa Sakumoto, said the house where the incident took place can be seen from the town office porch, which is adjacent to the base's north end.

"Should the rifle have been fired, this building is within the firing range," Sakumoto said.

According to Sakumoto, Marine officials said although the suspect had a rifle there was no danger of him firing as he was contained in the bathroom and his mental condition was calm and stable.

During the incident, Marine officials put out several statements to local media and announcements on social media for base residents but did not mention a weapon was involved.

Camp Lester is a well-populated family housing area and home to Camp Lester middle school, which observed normal school hours that day.

Marine officials said at the time that there was no danger to the local community because the home, atop a hill in an isolated section of the base, had been secured by emergency personnel and MPs.

burke.matt@stripes.com
sumida.chiyomi@stripes.com

Because of you,
we *never* received a bill.

St. Jude patient Izarah with her father, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Isaac

Proud member of the Combined Federal Campaign #10560

800-822-6344
stjude.org/cfc

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

©2014 ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (18438)

MILITARY

Dempsey: Ebola mission likely to last 18 months

By Jon Harper
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The military mission to combat Ebola in West Africa probably will last until 2016, according to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Pentagon is providing logistical, engineering and other support to other U.S. government agencies and international organizations trying to contain the outbreak and treat victims. The virus already has killed about 5,000 people in recent months.

There are 1,934 Defense Department personnel deployed to the region — 1,759 in Liberia and 175 in Senegal — to participate in Operation United Assistance. Officials have said that presence could increase to about 4,000.

"Is it a four-year mission? Probably not. But I bet it's every bit of 18 months, which would be three rotations of six-month deployments," Gen. Martin Dempsey told an audience at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs on Thursday.

The DOD effort began in earnest in September. By Dempsey's estimated timetable, Operation United Assistance likely will last until early 2016.

Dempsey said the results of the international effort have been mixed.

"We think we're making some progress in Liberia," but "Sierra Leone is not trending favorably and nor is Guinea … We'll see what happens with that," he said.

Dempsey

The Obama administration is getting ready to submit a request to Congress to fund the effort. Dempsey said the money likely would go to USAID, which then would reimburse DOD for expenses incurred.

The chairman described the mission not as a humanitarian effort, but as a "stability operation" — a loaded term within Washington policy circles because it brings to mind the protracted campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan. Obama administration officials have said that the U.S. military won't be engaging in those kinds of missions in the foreseeable future.

"The fight against Ebola is a stability operation … We're trying to bring stability to a region of West Africa that is inherently unstable and to contain that disease there and … try to stabilize" the area, he told the audience.

"You can call it what you want," he said, "but it's a stability operation … [even though] we said that we're not going to do stability operations."

harper.jon@stripes.com
Twitter: @JHarperStripes

'The fight against Ebola is a stability operation … We're trying to bring stability to a region of West Africa that is inherently unstable and to contain that disease there and … try to stabilize (the area).'

Gen. Martin Dempsey
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Packages line shelves while waiting to be picked up at the base post office at RAF Mildenhall, England, in December 2012.

Deadlines for holiday mail are approaching

By Adam L. Mathis
Stars and Stripes

RAF MILDENHALL, England — Christmas may be almost two months away, but servicemembers and civilians stationed overseas should make plans now to get packages and cards in the mail in time for the holidays.

Customers planning to send mail by standard post should do so by Saturday, Defense Department officials said in a Navy release.

Most deadlines for faster mail services fall in early December with procrastinators able to ship packages via express mail as late as Dec. 17 from Europe and the Pacific, according to the Navy.

Officials in Europe said late shipping can mean longer waits in the post office and can cost more money. Packages ready by Nov. 26 can be shipped via space-available mail for less.

"Space-available mail service takes longer to arrive to end destination and moves on a space-available basis once it arrives in the States," said Lionel Rivera, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa postal operations branch public affairs officer, in a USAFE-AFAFRICA release.

Mail deadlines for APO AE Zip codes 090-098 and FPO AP 962-966:

- Standard post — Nov. 8;
- Space-available mail — Nov. 26;
- First class/priority mail (this includes letters and cards) — Dec. 10; Dec. 3 for Iraq, Afghanistan and Middle East;
- Priority mail express — Dec. 17 (not available for Iraq, Afghanistan and Middle East).

mathis.adam@stripes.com
Twitter: @AMathisStripes

More funds needed for Fort Hood memorial

The Associated Press

KILLEEN, Texas — Plans for a Central Texas memorial to victims of the 2009 Fort Hood shooting rampage have fallen about $78,000 short to complete the site.

The Killeen Daily Herald reports fundraising, as of Wednesday's fifth anniversary of the deadly gunfire, continues on the $402,000 project.

The Color Up Killeen 5K run on Saturday will benefit the Fort Hood November 5 Memorial planned near the Killeen Civic and Conference Center.

Thirteen people were killed and more than 30 wounded in the attack blamed on an Army psychiatrist. Nidal Hasan was convicted and was sentenced to death.

The memorial will include 13 U.S. flags, an open-air pavilion and 13 black granite columns.

Former Killeen Mayor Fred Latham said crews began surveying the property last week and put stakes into the ground.

YES
Click today...cash today™
www.militaryloans.com
omni financial
"We love to say yes"®

Tired of companies refusing to ship to your APO or FPO address? Sign up for your free US mailing address at APOBox.com and start getting what you need, where ever you are.
ship it
track it
get it
DOD PHOTO
APO Box
One Address - One World

DBA LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR FREE
INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS
The Law Offices of Barnett & Lerner, P.A.
KNOW AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS
INJURED CIVILIAN WORKERS
If you work for a company under contract with the United States Government outside the U.S., and fall ill or are injured at work, you may be entitled to benefits under the Defense Base Act. This law protects all injured employees, regardless of their citizenship or nationality. Under law, you may be entitled to select a doctor and you may be entitled to wages if unable or restricted from working.
DON'T BE FOOLED BY FANCY WEBSITES
Before hiring an attorney, check their trial experience at www.oalj.doi.gov. Type "David C. Barnett" or "Barry Lerner" in the "For" box on the top right side of the home page and you will find over 300 rulings after trial. NO ONE CAN MATCH OUR EXPERIENCE
Barnett & Lerner Professional Association
Fighting for injured workers
HIRE US ON YOUR COMPUTER
www.injuredoverseas.com
You can now hire Barnett & Lerner, P.A. from your computer
SCAN WITH PHONE
Phone: 954.920.7400 US Toll Free: 888.732.7425

MILITARY

Humanist rejected as chaplain files lawsuit

By Chris Carroll
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — An atheist Navy chaplain candidate is going to court over the service's rejection of his application.

Religion scholar and former youth minister Jason Heap filed suit Wednesday along with the organization backing him, the Humanist Society, alleging that the military unfairly passed him over earlier this year not because he lacked qualifications, but because he doesn't believe in a traditional religion.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Va., names as defendants Navy Secretary Ray Mabus, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and a number of other Department of Defense and Navy personnel, including the current and former top Navy chaplains. DOD officials said they could not comment.

In addition to asking the court to recognize that Heap's constitutional rights were violated, the lawsuit asks for his instatement as a Navy chaplain and the designation of the Humanist Society as the official endorsing agent for humanist chaplains.

Heap applied to become a chaplain in July 2013 and learned this past spring that the Navy had declined his application without explanation.

According to the lawsuit, Navy officials were eager to enroll a chaplain with Heap's educational background, which includes degrees from Texas Christian University and Oxford University. When they discovered he was seeking to enter the chaplaincy as a humanist who believes in living an ethical life based on nonreligious principles, his application went off track amid political protests, the suit alleges.

Heap's opponents in Congress and elsewhere ridicule the idea of chaplains who don't follow a religion. "The notion of an atheist chaplain is nonsensical; it's an oxymoron," said Rep. John Fleming, R-La., sponsor of a 2013 amendment to block atheist chaplains.

With Republicans set to assume control of the Senate, Ron Crews, executive director of the Washington-based Chaplains Alliance for Religious Liberty, told Stars and Stripes he hopes the Senate will soon ratify similar language in the National Defense Authorization Act. Appointing an atheistic humanist chaplain would turn the definition of the job on its head, Crews said.

"Historically, that word has meant someone who represents a spiritual, faith-based denomination and/or religious group, who provides ministry from a faith-based perspective to members of the armed forces," he said. "That's what chaplains have done since our founding in 1775. A humanist does not meet the criteria."

Supporters say humanist ethical beliefs are constitutionally equal to religious faith and that humanists deserve the same protections and privileges as other religious groups. Heap, the lawsuit contends "adheres to these beliefs with the strength and sincerity of traditionally recognized religious views."

Additionally, they contend chaplains are key contacts for troops on a variety of personnel and quality-of-life matters, ranging from recreational activities to suicide prevention programs. They're also among the only counselors who can speak to troops confidentially.

According to the lawsuit, 3.6 percent of the military identify themselves as humanists.

"As a result of the Navy's decision to deny Dr. Heap's application, there are no Humanist chaplains in the U.S. Navy or in any branch of the armed services," the lawsuit said. "The absence of even a single Humanist chaplain impairs the religious exercise of Humanists in the Navy."

carroll.chris@stripes.com
Twitter: @ChrisCarroll_

Discharged chaplain wins election in Colo.

By Travis J. Tritten
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A former Navy chaplain who was discharged for protesting in uniform at the White House and who claims transgender Americans are driven by a "demon of rape" has a new soapbox: the Colorado statehouse.

Gordon "Dr. Chaps" Klingenschmitt beat out his Democrat challenger Tuesday with a landslide 70 percent of the vote in the state's District 15, according to results published by the secretary of state.

District 15 encompasses Peterson Air Force Base and is near Colorado Springs, Fort Carson and the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Klingenschmitt, 46, who runs the website Pray in Jesus Name, styled himself as a defender of religious freedom in his election campaign. He was kicked out of the service for the uniform violation in 2007 following an a 18-day hunger strike and a rally protesting chaplaincy guidelines.

More recently, he has drawn national attention as an anti-LGBT activist who has claimed gay people "want your soul" and railed against the push to allow a 6-year-old transgender Colorado student access to a co-ed school restroom.

"As a chaplain in the U.S. Navy, I defended religious freedom for everybody," including the rights of Jewish, Muslim and atheist sailors, Klingenschmitt said in a campaign video before the election.

His platform advocated gun rights and opposed domestic spying, abortion and national school standards. His main opponent, Democrat Lois Fornander, was trounced after running for renewable energy, LGBT civil rights, economic equality, and stricter regulation of banks and corporations.

Klingenschmitt, a chaplain for 16 years, takes donations and publishes video messages about religious and political issues on his website. In recent posts, he told followers that a "Satanic evil spirit" is using President Barack Obama and is responsible for domestic spying programs.

The LGBT community is a common subject of his warnings. He criticized the U.S. Air Force chief of chaplains in June for advocating tolerance at an LGBT Pride Month event and said "we should be ashamed America is embracing sin."

Klingenschmitt said the parents of Coy Mathis, the 6-year-old transgender student, were abusing the child, born a boy, by allowing her to dress as a girl, and a proposal to allow co-ed bathrooms at schools in Colorado would lead to sexual assault. "There is a demon of rape inside this movement to violate your daughters," he said.

Klingenschmitt gained notoriety in 2005 as a chaplain when he went on a hunger strike at the White House, saying the Navy pressured him to drop mentions of Jesus at public events and violated his rights. Service guidelines said chaplains should avoid Christian references at nonreligious events out of respect for servicemembers with other religious beliefs.

Klingenschmitt said the service had singled him out "because I pray in Jesus' name." The National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces, the country's largest chaplaincy advocate, called the controversy inflated and misleading.

The Navy had said Klingenschmitt was in good standing at the time, had no pending disciplinary action and had not been punished for religious references in public. That changed when he appeared at another religious rights rally in front of the White House in his Navy uniform in violation of service rules.

He was convicted of the violation in a court-martial and discharged in 2007.

tritten.travis@stripes.com
Twitter: @Travis_Tritten

Over Here or Over There,
We've Got You Covered

GEICO could insure your vehicle and personal property abroad with affordable overseas coverage. See how easy it can be. Contact GEICO Overseas for a free quote today.

GEICO OVERSEAS BENEFITS
- Flexible payment plans
- Worldwide claims service in English
- Maintain a continuous driving record
- Coverage in most countries

GEICO®

geico.com/overseas

Europe: 0049-631-41463100 **USA:** 800-248-4998

overseas@geico.com

AUTO PERSONAL PROPERTY CYCLE MARINE

Representing AIG Europe Limited (NL), AIG Europe Limited, AIG, Mirascon Versicherungsagentur GMBH through GEICO Financial Services GMBH. Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states or all GEICO companies. Motorcycle and ATV coverages are underwritten by GEICO Indemnity Company. Homeowners, renters, boat and PWC coverages are written through non-affiliated insurance companies and are secured through the GEICO Insurance Agency, Inc. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. GEICO Gecko image © 1999-2014. © 2014 GEICO

MILITARY

First Choice Cards going to 320K vets

By Tom Philpott

The Department of Veterans Affairs has mailed its first medical Choice Cards, with letters explaining how to use them, to 320,000 VA-enrolled veterans who live more than 40 miles from any type of VA medical facility.

By late November, another 370,000 vets, those facing waits longer than 30 days for VA appointments, will be the second group to get the cards, said Dr. James Tuchschmidt, the VA's acting principal deputy under secretary for health.

Those are the two groups of veterans eligible immediately to use information on their Choice Cards to try to secure more convenient or timely care than the VA can provide. By the end of January, another 8 million enrolled veterans will receive Choice Cards. Those veterans, however, won't be eligible to use them to access non-VA care unless they move beyond 40 miles away from a VA-owned medical facility or if the VA can't provide care within 30 days. The 30-day window is based on a veteran's preferred date to get care or the date deemed medically necessary by their physicians.

To receive a Choice Card, a veteran must have been enrolled in VA health care by Aug. 1, 2014. Those who have enrolled later are eligible only if they served on active duty in theaters of combat operations in the previous five years.

As veteran advocacy groups have cautioned for months, the Choice Card is not a golden key to unlimited health care from any physician or facility a veteran might choose, despite what some lawmakers touted last summer while making it the featured item of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014.

"It is important to know that the Choice Card does not provide guaranteed health care coverage or an unlimited medical benefit," VA Secretary Bob McDonald explains in a letter to the first card recipients. "In fact, before your Choice Card for this benefit can be used, your eligibility must be verified and you must receive advance authorization from VA."

The card itself is similar to most health insurance cards, with the holder's name shown and a number to call to verify eligibility for outside care. Authorization to use it must be cleared by a program manager for every episode of care.

Those authorized to seek outside care can choose from a network of VA-approved providers or their own providers, if VA approved. To be approved, they must treat Medicare patients and accept Medicare rates or work at a Department of Defense or Indian Health Service facility or in a federally qualified health center.

"They also have to have a valid license to practice," Tuchschmidt said. "We put that stuff in there to make sure that the people we are engaging to see veteran patients are actually qualified to see them."

Angry at the discovery of systemic patient wait-time abuses across the VA health system last spring, Congress gave the VA only 90 days to establish the Choice Card program as a way to guarantee more timely and convenient access to care.

The deadline left the VA with no alternative to getting the program launched without partnering with two current contractors — TriWest Healthcare Alliance, of Phoenix, Ariz., and HealthNet Federal Services, of Arlington, Va. Both already run VA Patient-Centered Community Care, or PC3, networks, which backstop VA health care with networks of primary and specialty care providers. The contracts swiftly were modified to include operation of the Choice Card program and expansion of provider networks and telephone call centers to meet significantly heavier demand.

Providers in the TriWest and HealthNet networks already are pre-screened and certify that they will meet VA measures for timeliness and quality of care, and will transfer medical records promptly back to the VA to ensure continuity of care.

Though the law required cards to be mailed to every eligible enrolled veteran by Nov. 5, VA officials opted for a phased rollout to avoid any program crash.

"It just didn't make sense to mail cards to almost 9 million veterans and try to build a telephone call center [large enough to answer all] those calls and questions," Tuchschmidt said. "It would have been inundated and [also] extraordinarily expensive for a vendor to build that surge capacity."

So the VA chose to send cards first to veterans with mailing addresses more than 40 miles from VA health facilities. In about two weeks, after TriWest and HealthNet have handled the bulk of those calls by verifying eligibility, screening providers and making appointments within a five-day goal, the contractors will begin to process card usage by veterans facing long delays for VA care.

Tuchschmidt noted that the VA medical system continues its stepped-up effort since May to get as many patients as possible off waiting lists and into VA care. The VA had 1.2 million more patient visits in fiscal 2014 than a year earlier, he said, with 500,000 patients seen on weekends and evenings. Also, while awaiting full implementation of Choice Card, many patients facing long waits will be referred to private-sector care under previous VA authorities.

Last month, as the new law required, the VA also streamlined how it pays for outside hospital care and medical services delivered by non-VA providers.

MILITARY UPDATE

Choice Card is to end in three years, or whenever the VA spends all of the $10 billion set aside to fund it. Tuchschmidt predicts the money won't run out before the card program expires in late 2017.

Veterans will find quirks in the how the law or the VA's interpretation affects eligibility. For example, the law's 40-mile rule is based on the distance to any VA health facility, regardless of size or services offered. So if a veteran needs routine care from a cardiologist and lives 100 miles from the nearest VA cardiologist but within 40 miles of a small VA clinic, the clinic's location will disqualify the veteran from using Choice Card to get private-sector cardiology care.

Also, the VA interprets the 40 miles to be a "straight line" distance, not driving distance. That means a veteran won't be able to use outside care if the VA hospital is within 40 miles "as the crow flies," however long it takes to reach by car.

The VA leases but doesn't own medical facilities in Alaska or Hawaii, which means almost all veterans living there can use Choice Cards to get private sector-care if they choose, Tuchschmidt said. The VA also doesn't run any health facilities in New Hampshire. Vets who live there can use the cards unless they live within 20 miles of a VA facility operating in a neighboring state, he said.

The letter sent with each Choice Card invites veterans to get more information on the program online at: www.va.gov/opa/choiceact.

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centreville, VA, 20120, email milupdate@aol.com or twitter: Tom Philpott @Military_Update.

GLOBAL VAN CO., LTD
★ FREE estimate for all moves! ★ Household goods, cars, office, equipment, merchandise delivery
CHATAN BRANCH
ENGLISH SERVICE
Call 098-936-0111
Mon. - Sat. 0800-1700
Closed Sun. & U.S. Holidays
MAIN OFFICE JAPANESE SERVICE
Call 098-899-2114 Mon.-Sat. 0800-1700
Closed Sunday & Japanese holidays
GLOBAL
One call does it ALL!
Global saves you money and time!
LOCAL AND DOMESTIC MOVING • QUALITY SERVICE • ON-TIME EVERYTIME

Thank you...
Join us in thanking Navy Exchange for donating free copies of Stars and Stripes to select military and support personnel at Yokota AB, Camp Zama and NAF Atsugi in Japan.
To subscribe to Stars and Stripes, please email
Pacific: CustomerHelp@stripes.com
Europe: CustomerService@stripes.com today!
NEX Navy Exchange
STARS AND STRIPES

WAR ON TERRORISM

US strikes target al-Qaida wing in Syria

From staff reports

U.S. forces launched airstrikes against five targets of a Syria-based al-Qaida wing that the U.S. believes is plotting attacks in the United States and Europe, including bombings of American commercial airliners.

A Central Command statement said the attacks against the Khorasan group were carried out by B-1 bombers, F-16 fighter jets and MQ-9 Reaper drones and occurred around the northern Syrian town of Sarmada near the border with Turkey.

The statement said the attacks, which took place late Wednesday or early Thursday, destroyed or seriously damaged several vehicles and buildings used by the Khorasan group for meetings, staging areas, IED factories and training facilities.

Syrian activists said the attacks were part of a series of airstrikes, including some against a powerful, hardline rebel group not affiliated with the Islamic State group, which has overrun vast areas of Syria and neighboring Iraq. The attacks represented an apparent widening of targets that could strain relations between Washington and the Western-backed opposition fighting the government of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Activists said the targets included a headquarters and a vehicle belonging to the al-Qaida-affiliated Nusra Front, which works closely with the Khorasan group, as well as a compound of the deeply conservative Ahrar al-Sham rebel group. It marked only the second time the United States had expanded its aerial campaign against Islamic State militants to hit other extremists in Syria.

The strikes took place amid a Nusra Front offensive that has routed Western-backed rebel groups from their strongholds in Syria's Idlib province near the Turkish border. The timing led to speculation in the region that Washington could be trying to curb the militant assault and destroy weapons supplies of hardline rebels and al-Qaida fighters.

However, CENTCOM insisted the attacks were not in response to the Nusra Front offensive and did not target the front "as a whole."

"They were directed at the Khorasan group whose focus is not on overthrowing the Assad regime or helping the Syrian people," the statement said. "These al-Qaida operatives are taking advantage of the Syrian conflict to advance attacks against Western interests."

The U.S. targeted the Nusra Front in the first wave of airstrikes in Syria in late September, accusing it of harboring the Khorasan group. The Americans had not gone after the group since then, until Thursday.

Striking groups whose primary focus is fighting the Assad government risks further enraging many Syrians in opposition-held areas who believe Washington is aiding Assad in his struggle to hold onto power in the country's 3½-year-old civil war. Those Syrians include many whom Washington wants to retrain and organize into an effective force to help fight the Islamic State group.

"We are tired of people saying they are coming to help us, and then they kill us," said activist Asaad Kanjo, based in Idlib.

Nusra Front fighters seized Sarmada and a series of other communities throughout Idlib province earlier this month from a Western-backed and funded rebel group known as the Syrian Revolutionaries Front. The militants have since been massing in Sarmada, closing in on the strategic Bab al-Hawa border crossing with Turkey without physically taking it over.

"Of course they (Americans) would be worried that Nusra could take Bab al-Hawa or seize arm stockpiles going in for other groups, if they are doing that," said Aron Lund, editor of Syria in Crisis, a website run by the Carnegie Endowment.

The Nusra Front is a fierce rival of the Islamic State group, despite their shared extremist ideology. The two factions have been locked in a bloody conflict since early this year, during which Islamic State militants routed Nusra fighters from eastern Syria as they consolidated their hold on a vast tract of territory spanning Syria and neighboring Iraq.

The strikes overnight also marked the first time the U.S. has bombed the hard-line Ahrar al-Sham group, activists said. They said several missiles hit a compound belonging to the group in the village of Babiska in Idlib province. The CENTCOM statement made no mention of targeting Ahrar al-Sham.

Pentagon spokesman Col. Steve Warren said the targets had been carefully selected and that personnel in the affected areas could have included some who were affiliated with the Nusra Front and other organizations. "But these strikes were net specifically targeting any of those other organizations; they were targeting the Khorasan Group," he said.

Ahrar al-Sham is part of the Islamic Front, an alliance of seven powerful conservative and ultra-conservative rebel groups that merged in November last year. The Islamic Front wants to create an Islamic state in Syria governed by Sharia and rejects the Western-backed Syrian National Coalition, but cooperates with some Western-backed rebel groups on the ground.

"Ahrar al-Sham was one of the biggest fighting groups against the (Assad) regime, and it proved its ability to liberate many areas," said opposition activist Abu Abdul-Qader. "They (the Americans) said they would shell the strongholds of terrorists — who they think are terrorists."

Others in the Syrian opposition have said it wasn't strategically wise to widen the scope of U.S. strikes against other rebel groups, because it gives the impression — at the very least — that the U.S. and its allies are siding with Assad forces.

The United States says it still supports Assad's removal from power but is not targeting government forces.

Obama: President says authorization needs updating for the current fight

FROM FRONT PAGE

That law, passed during the Vietnam War, serves as a constitutional check on presidential power to declare war without congressional consent. It requires presidents to notify Congress within 48 hours of military action and limits the use of military forces to no more than 60 days unless Congress authorizes force or declares war.

Administration officials said Obama still believed he had that authority, but with the elections over, he concluded that the time was right to petition Congress for more explicit authority, and is one of a few areas where he will seek to work with lawmakers during the lame-duck session before a new Congress is seated in January.

"The idea is to right-size and update whatever authorization Congress provides to suit the current fight rather than previous fights," Obama told reporters at the White House.

He said he would update congressional leaders about the fight against the Islamic State group during meetings Friday. He said he wanted to start now to craft new authorization but that completing it could carry over into next year when a new Congress will usher in Republican control of the Senate.

The president was guarded about the progress of the military operation against the Islamic State. He said it was too soon to say whether the United States and its allies were winning, noting that it would take a long time to upgrade Iraqi forces to the point where they could reclaim territory now held by the militants. He was even more circumspect about Syria.

"Our focus in Syria is not to solve the entire Syria situation, but rather to isolate the areas in which ISIL can operate," he added, using an alternative name for the Islamic State.

That statement appeared somewhat at odds with a recent memo sent to the White House by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel in which he criticized the administration's Syria policy for failing to connect the campaign against the Islamic State to the broader struggle against President Bashar Assad.

Hagel wrote that unless the U.S. clarified its intentions against the Assad regime, it would fail to enlist allies such as Turkey and France, since those countries are intent on ousting Assad. Other officials said that in internal debates, Hagel has not advocated taking a strong line against Assad, and in fact has echoed the Pentagon's resistance to going to war with the Syrian government.

That will be one of the issues likely to come up in a congressional debate over authorization. Before the election, Congress passed limited authorization to pay for the training and equipping of Syrian rebels. Now the White House is seeking an authorization to use military force that would be tailored to a prolonged fight against the Islamic State.

Sen. Robert Menendez, a Democrat and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said Wednesday that he has made clear that a new authorization was needed and that any prolonged military campaign requires a new authorization approved by Congress. He said he would start the process in the days ahead and that the committee would hold hearings on Iraq and Syria beginning next week. "It is incumbent that Congress take the lead in authorizing the use of force," Menendez said.

In September, during a heated congressional debate over training moderate Syrian rebels, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said a new authorization was something that lawmakers should consider. But he also suggested the lame-duck session was the wrong time to do it and that the vote should wait until next year.

Rep. Adam Schiff, a Democrat and a member of the House Intelligence Committee, on Wednesday called on Boehner to schedule a vote on a new authorization before the current Congress draws to a close.

The New York Times contributed to this report.

FOREIGN SERVICE BENEFIT PLAN
Caring for Your Health Worldwide®

AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
FOREIGN SERVICE BENEFIT PLAN

The Plan that Serves you Overseas and at Home

- Foreign claims paid based on provider billed amount and at in-network coinsurance level
- Online claims filing and EFT reimbursement
- Preventive care paid at 100% when using an in-network or foreign provider
- Acupuncture, chiropractic and massage therapy benefits
- Wellness incentives that lower out-of-pocket costs
- Personalized customer service

Learn more at www.AFSPA.org/open

ELECTION 2014

Obama is defiant, upbeat following gloomy election

By Julie Pace
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A day after Democrats lost control of the Senate and suffered big losses in House and governors' races across the country, President Barack Obama struck a defiant tone. He defended his policies, stood by his staff and showed few signs of changing an approach to dealing with congressional Republicans that has generated little more than gridlock in recent years.

Rather than accept the election results as a repudiation of his own administration, the president said voters were disenchanted with Washington as a whole. And rather than offering dour assessments of his party's electoral thrashing, as he did after the 2010 midterms, the president insisted repeatedly that he was optimistic about the country's future.

"It doesn't make me mopey," he said of the election during a news conference in the East Room of the White House. "It energizes me because it means that this democracy's working."

The president's sunny outlook stood in sharp contrast to the gloomy electorate. Most voters leaving polling places said they didn't have much trust in government and felt the nation was on the wrong track. Those feeling pessimistic were more likely to vote for Republican congressional candidates, according to exit polls.

To some Republicans, the gulf between the public's mood and the president's outlook suggested a White House that's out of touch and refusing to recalibrate after getting a clear message from voters. Reince Priebus, chairman of the Republican National Committee, wondered whether Obama was "detached or in denial."

"In word and tone, he refused to take responsibility or even express humility," Priebus said. "He seemed to suggest the only ideas he's willing to listen to are his own, old, failed ones."

Indeed, Obama spoke only broadly about the need to reassess as he heads into his final two years in office. He said it was "premature" to discuss overhauling his staff or shifting positions on policies. He reasserted his pledge to move forward with executive actions on immigration before the end of the year, despite strong opposition from Republicans. And he rejected the notion that his limited relationships with Republican lawmakers, including the likely Senate majority leader, Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., would hamper potential compromise with the Congress.

Obama's postelection positioning was part of a calculated strategy from a White House eager to avoid a repeat of 2010, when the president declared that Democrats had suffered a "shellacking" — a blunt assessment that came to define that election. This time around, Obama repeatedly refused to publicly analyze the outcome of the election, saying he didn't want to "read the tea leaves on election results."

Privately, Obama's advisers acknowledge that Tuesday's outcome was far worse than what they expected. They say Obama's upbeat approach reflects a president who has spent the past several weeks growing more comfortable with the prospect of Republicans controlling Congress in his final two years in office and is intrigued by the possible opportunities that could open up as a result.

Jacquelyn Martin/AP

President Barack Obama smiles at a reporter after saying that he's missed speaking to the reporters as he is asked a question during a news conference Wednesday in the East Room of the White House.

Advisers disputed the Republican criticism that Obama was tone deaf to the need to adjust to Washington's new political landscape. Announcing an array of administration changes Wednesday would be little more than a gimmick, one adviser said, adding that the president needs to instead show the country over time that he's committed to working alongside Republicans.

The advisers would only discuss the White House's internal thinking on the condition of anonymity.

The president's outreach to Capitol Hill will get underway Friday, when Obama meets with congressional leaders at the White House. The president suggested he'd be up for more one-on-one time with the presumed Senate majority leader.

"I would enjoy some Kentucky bourbon with Mitch McConnell," said Obama, who last year mocked the idea of having a drink with the GOP leader.

Then, offering a glimpse into how little time Obama has spent cultivating a relationship with McConnell over the past six years, the president added, "I don't know what his preferred drink is."

GOP in charge, eager to move on Keystone XL, taxes

By Donna Cassata
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans' resounding victory gives them an opportunity to push legislation that's been bottled up in the Democratic Senate, from targeting elements of President Barack Obama's health care law to constructing the Keystone XL oil pipeline to rolling back environmental regulations.

Democrats suffered a drubbing in Tuesday's midterm elections, and Republicans regained control of the Senate and widely expanded their majority in the House. In command in both chambers in January, Republicans maintained that they have to show they can govern or else voters will show them the door.

"We now have the votes and we have the ability to call the agenda, so stop name-calling and let's actually produce some legislation that helps jobs and the economy and moves our country forward," Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, said in an interview. "I think the country has figured that out, and they've given us the mandate to do it, and we better produce, or they'll kick us out too."

Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., in line as the next Senate majority leader, wrote in a Wall Street Journal op-ed on Thursday that they will focus first on jobs and the economy.

The GOP is expected to provide a more detailed description of the first 100 days of an all-GOP Congress after House leadership elections next week.

House Republicans are counting on McConnell to move ahead on the dozens of jobs bills that have been passed by the House but remained stalled in the Senate.

"It's jobs, jobs, jobs," said Rep. Randy Weber, R-Texas, who also wants to lift the ban on crude oil exports.

Republicans also are counting on a swift vote early next year on building the Keystone XL pipeline to carry oil from Canada to the U.S. Gulf Coast now that Republicans clearly have the numbers in the Senate. The GOP could have as many as 54 Senate seats if Republican Dan Sullivan prevails in Alaska and the party wins a Dec. 6 runoff in Louisiana. The House majority could reach historic levels of 250 out of 435 seats.

"It's in our best interest to show we can function and that we can lead responsibly, and that would involve getting bills that have already passed the House with bipartisan support and get Democrats to join us in the Senate and get those to the president, even something like trade," said Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo.

McConnell signaled Wednesday that he could work with Obama on trade agreements and a tax overhaul as both sides look toward governing rather than gridlock.

It won't be easy. Many of the moderate Democrats who would be willing to compromise were defeated in Tuesday's elections, reducing the number of lawmakers in the middle. In the next Congress, independent Sen. Angus King, of Maine, and moderate Democrats Joe Manchin, of West Virginia; Heidi Heitkamp, of North Dakota; and Jon Tester, of Montana will hold considerable leverage.

Republicans will be under pressure from many in their ranks and outside conservatives to scrap the health care law, but McConnell and the more pragmatic GOP lawmakers acknowledge that is next to impossible because of Obama's veto power.

"If I had the ability, obviously, I'd get rid of it," McConnell said of the Affordable Care Act as he spoke to reporters at a news conference in Kentucky. "Obviously, it's also true he's still there."

McConnell indicated the GOP would push for a repeal of the tax on medical devices, which has some Democratic support, and target the requirement that individuals sign up for health insurance or face a penalty.

Obama told reporters that ending the individual mandate was a nonstarter, calling it a "line I can't cross" because it would unravel the law.

Further complicating the relationship between Obama and the newly empowered Republicans is the president's vow to act unilaterally before year's end to reduce the number of deportations and to grant work permits to millions of immigrants illegally in the United States.

STARS AND STRIPES
However you read us, wherever you need us.
Mobile • Online • Print

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
LETTERS@STRIPES.COM

EUROPE
ADVERTISING
KATHRYN PETERSON
peterson.kathryn@stripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411
CIRCULATION
VAN ROWELL
rowell.van@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST
ADVERTISING
WAYNE VICTOR
victor.wayne@stripes.com
+49(0)981 466 17074
CIRCULATION
ROBERT REISMANN
reismann.robert@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150 DSN 314.583.9150

PACIFIC
ADVERTISING
YUKO SAITO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267
CIRCULATION
MARI MATSUMOTO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3171 DSN 315.229.3171

NATION

Suspect in woman's slaying caught after posting death photos

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — A man accused of slaying his girlfriend, posting photos of her body and the gruesome crime scene online and writing that he wanted authorities to kill him has surrendered.

Authorities said late Wednesday night that David Kalac, 33, was arrested at a transit center in Oregon, about 20 miles south of Portland.

Kalac

Kalac has been charged with second-degree murder in the slaying of Amber Lynn Coplin, 30, in neighboring Washington state. He was transported to Portland, where he was being held on $2 million bail.

Police say they found Coplin's body in a bedroom. Near her head was her driver's license with the word "dead" written on it. The words "bad news" were written on blinds. And the words "she killed me first" were written on a picture on the wall.

An officer was patrolling the area in Oregon when a man came out of a wooded area near a parking lot.

"He basically said, 'I have a warrant for my arrest,'" Clackamas County sheriff's Sgt. Nate Thompson said in a telephone interview. Kalac was cooperative but provided no details about how he got to Wilsonville, the spokesman said.

Washington state detectives have arrived in Portland and hoped to interview him, as well as take possession of the dead woman's car, a 2001 Ford Focus that was found Wednesday afternoon in Portland, about 160 miles south of the crime scene.

Portland police briefly chased the car early Wednesday.

Police have confirmed that gruesome photos posted on a website are of the victim and the Port Orchard crime scene, Wilson said.

Documents: Teen planned attack at Maryland school

The Associated Press

MONKTON, Md. — A Maryland teenager told police he planned to use a stolen handgun to kill his parents, then to drive to his high school and to kill students and teachers as revenge for years of bullying he suffered, according to court documents released Wednesday.

Sash Alexander Nemphos, 16, of Monkton, is charged as an adult, Baltimore County Police said in a tweet. The charges include possession of a destructive device, having a dangerous weapon on school property and theft, according to the probable cause documents.

Nemphos was confronted Saturday by police over thefts from a car and a business, including a handgun. After asking him about the stolen gun several times, the 10th-grader, who officers said was clearly intoxicated, told police he was going to take the gun, drive to his school Monday, shoot the school officer and then take the officer's gun to "kill as many teachers and students as he could."

The documents say the teen also said he had made several bombs to blow up the George Washington Carver Center for Arts and Technology.

Police recovered from his home a handgun, three crude homemade explosives, a suicide note and a journal with all his plans, the probable cause documents said. He was arrested at his home.

Nemphos told officers he had intended to go through with his plan on Halloween and had taken the gun in his backpack to school. But he had forgotten the bombs so he aborted his plan, he said. He also said he was too drunk to carry out the plan, the documents said.

He said he was going to try again Monday and would stay sober to do it, the documents said.

JOSEPH KACZMAREK/AP

Family members surround Keisha Gaither, second from left, mother of kidnapping victim Carlesha Freeland-Gaither, as they celebrate in Philadelphia on Wednesday after investigators said the woman seen on a surveillance video being abducted in Philadelphia had been found safe outside Baltimore.

Police: Abducted woman's fight helped save her life

BY SEAN CARLIN AND MICHAEL R. SISAK
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — An abducted woman's fighting spirit likely helped keep her alive until law enforcement agents rescued her and arrested her suspected captor, Philadelphia's police commissioner said Thursday.

"My understanding is, even after she was in the car and bound, she continued to struggle with this guy," Charles Ramsey told ABC News, hours after police reunited Carlesha Freeland-Gaither with her family at a Maryland hospital. "She's got a lot of fight in her."

Freeland-Gaither, 22, was resting at home in Philadelphia on Thursday and was not yet ready to talk publicly about her three-day ordeal.

Police said Freeland-Gaither, who disappeared Sunday night, had some injuries but was generally doing OK.

Ramsey said detectives are giving her time to settle down before completing interviews.

Cinquetta Barfield said Freeland-Gaither's family will speak to media Thursday evening. Barfield said they had not slept since she disappeared Sunday night.

Law enforcement agents spotted Freeland-Gaither and suspect Delvin Barnes on Wednesday in a car with a broken-out back window in Jessup, Md. They arrested Barnes after he stepped out of the car.

Barnes, 37, was being held Thursday at the jail in suburban Baltimore County, said Scott Shellenberger, the state's attorney for the county.

He was scheduled to have a hearing in suburban Baltimore later Thursday on a charge of being a fugitive from justice in Virginia, according to Shellenberger and online court records. Authorities there said he is wanted in connection with attempted capital murder, assault and malicious injury with acid, explosives or fire.

Barnes couldn't be reached for comment while in custody.

The Philadelphia U.S. Attorney's office said Thursday morning no charges have been filed in the abduction case.

Keisha Gaither, who a day earlier had sobbed as she pleaded for the safe return of her kidnapped daughter, was smiling as she stood before the microphone at a Philadelphia news conference Wednesday evening.

"I'm taking my baby home. Thank you. Thank you so much," she said as authorities announced the nursing assistant's rescue and the arrest of the suspect.

Authorities said there was no indication Freeland-Gaither and the man, who used to live in Philadelphia, knew each other.

"No one else is in danger right now because we got a very dangerous predator off the streets," Ramsey said.

Authorities credited hard work by law enforcement agents in finding Freeland-Gaither. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents had received information from Richmond, Va., to be on the lookout for a vehicle that might have been involved in the abduction, said Tim Jones, resident agent in charge with the ATF in Lanham, Md.

Your free STARS AND STRIPES 2015 Calendar is coming to Japan!

Get your copy on **Friday, November 14,** in your Stars and Stripes Weekend Edition.

Available only in mainland Japan and Okinawa. Copies also available at The New Sanno in Tokyo.

Sponsored by THE NEW SANNO

NATION

MANAGING THE HERD

Custer State Park's annual roundup has become a worldwide attraction

The Associated Press

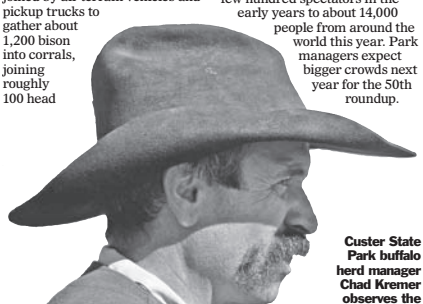
CUSTER STATE PARK, S.D. — The images are much like moviegoers saw during the buffalo hunt when "Dances With Wolves" hit the big screen nearly 25 years ago: hundreds of massive animals shaking the prairie as they kick up dust and stream down the hills.

During the annual Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup in South Dakota's Black Hills on Sept. 26, horseback riders — many of them real-life cowboys — were joined by all-terrain vehicles and pickup trucks to gather about 1,200 bison into corrals, joining roughly 100 head brought in earlier. They're branded and given vaccinations and then the herd is culled, or reduced, to about 900 that will be released back onto the park to roam free for another year. The rest are sold at auction.

The annual event started 49 years ago as a way to manage the herd and ensure there's enough grass for all the animals.

"We'd do it if nobody showed up, but we share it with America," said Craig Pugsley, visitor services coordinator for the park.

The crowd has grown from a few hundred spectators in the early years to about 14,000 people from around the world this year. Park managers expect bigger crowds next year for the 50th roundup.



Custer State Park buffalo herd manager Chad Kremer observes the roundup.

Top: Flag bearer Phil Randall, of Custer, S.D., rides through a pasture at the 49th annual Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup in the southern Black Hills near Custer, S.D., on Sept. 26. Left: Jim Lindsay brands a buffalo calf. Below: Buffalo are moved into the corrals. After the roundup, some of the buffalo were vaccinated, branded, checked for pregnancy and others were sorted for an auction.

PHOTOS BY KRISTINA BARKER/AP

NATION

MICHAEL J. MULLEN, SCRANTON (PA.) TIMES & TRIBUNE/AP

Debris is strewn about the main room inside the airport hangar on abandoned Birchwood Resort grounds in Pocono Township, Pa., on Tuesday where accused Pennsylvania State Trooper killer Eric Frein was arrested Oct. 30.

Guns, laptop found with ambush suspect's capture

BY MICHAEL R. SISAK
The Associated Press

Eric Frein stowed Soviet-era weapons alongside modern technology and found sustenance in bags of beans and a bottle of soy sauce and warmth from candles, a propane stove and camouflage gear.

The survivalist marksman charged in a deadly ambush on a Pennsylvania state police barracks kept more than 100 items in an abandoned airplane hangar that investigators say he commandeered for shelter and storage in the gloaming of a 48-day manhunt.

Frein

After Frein's capture last week, police combed through the barn-like building and recovered a disparate collection. Outlined in court documents Wednesday, the items reflect the military re-enactor's deep interest in war and an innate need to survive the elements and boredom.

There, at the Birchwood-Pocono Airpark about 35 miles south of the Blooming Grove barracks where prosecutors say Frein killed one trooper and critically wounded another, police found a Chinese-made, Soviet-era sniper rifle, a second rifle of the type used by the former Yugoslavian army and a handgun used by the former Czechoslovakian military.

They also found a scope and mount, a bayonet and more than 200 bullets.

Along with the materiel were DVDs, a laptop computer, a pair of storage drives, a solar power converter, earbuds and a wireless mouse, according to a five-page search warrant inventory.

Frein told authorities he used unprotected Wi-Fi hotspots to connect to the Internet, according to court documents, raising the possibility he knew where police were focusing their search efforts each day.

He also had shortwave and weather band radios, along with copies of psalms and scriptures, a composition book and more than a dozen maps, according to the inventory.

Pike County District Attorney Raymond Tonkin released the details to the media Wednesday but said neither his office nor state police would answer questions.

Frein's lawyers did not immediately return a telephone message.

The 31-year-old is being held without bail. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for Nov. 12.

Prior to his capture, state police said they believe Frein had been breaking into cabins and unoccupied vacation homes for food and shelter.

Investigators found evidence of sustenance in the abandoned hangar, according to the inventory, including dozens of empty water bottles, bags of rice, salt and pepper and a spork.

They also found a kit for dressing hunted animals, rolls of toilet paper and paper towels, grooming and first-aid supplies, flashlights and piles of thick clothing and blankets.

During the manhunt, trackers found other items they believe Frein hid or abandoned in the woods, including soiled diapers, empty packs of Serbian cigarettes, an AK-47-style assault rifle and ammunition.

Circus cited for stunt that left 9 injured

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus misused a key rigging component in a hair-hanging stunt, causing a fall that seriously injured eight acrobats from the U.S., Brazil, Bulgaria and Ukraine, federal workplace safety regulators said Tuesday.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited the company for a serious safety violation and proposed the maximum fine, $7,000, for the circus' parent company, Feld Entertainment. It concluded circus staff had improperly loaded a carabiner clip. The company disputed the finding and was deciding whether to contest it, said Stephen Payne, a spokesman for Feld Entertainment.

OSHA investigators said the company attached two rings to the bottom of the carabiner, rather than one, in violation of what it said was industry practice and of the manufacturer's instructions. Investigators said that caused the clip to be overloaded.

Payne disputed that, saying the clip was carrying a lower load than it was rated to hold.

David Michaels, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health, called it a "catastrophic failure," and said it demonstrates the circus industry needs professional engineers to develop, evaluate and inspect the structures it uses in performances.

"We can never put a price on the impact this event had on these workers and their families. Employers must take steps to ensure this does not happen again," he said.

From The Associated Press

CEO: Virgin Galactic may resume tests in '15

The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The space tourism company that suffered a tragic setback when its experimental rocket-powered spaceship broke apart over the California desert could resume test flights as early as next summer if it can finish building a replacement craft, its CEO says.

The sleek composite shell and tail section of the new craft are sitting inside the company's manufacturing facility in Mojave, California.

After more than two years of work, it's beginning to look like a spaceship, but Virgin Galactic CEO George Whitesides said there's much more to be done, from relatively simple things such as installing windows to the more complex fitting of flight controls and other wiring.

The ship — dubbed SpaceShipTwo Serial No. 2 — will replace one that was destroyed last week after its feathering system that controls descent deployed prematurely and aerodynamic forces ripped it apart, killing the co-pilot and seriously injuring the pilot.

In the wake of the accident, workers have focused on building the new ship.

Whitesides said the company will be able to continue flying its mother ship — the much larger jet-powered plane that launches the rocket ship at high altitudes — while federal investigators look into the cause of the deadly crash with the cooperation of the company.

It's possible that test flights for the next spaceship could begin within six months, before the investigation is expected to conclude, Whitesides said.

Scaled Composites, which is developing the spacecraft for Virgin Galactic, has an experimental permit from the Federal Aviation Administration to test the crafts. Just last month, the company had received approval from the agency to resume rocket-powered flights.

When the new ship is ready next year, the FAA said it will conduct a more extensive review to ensure whatever caused last week's mishap has been addressed before allowing test flights to resume.

> **'There was no question it was a tragic setback, but it's one from which we can recover.'**
> **George Whitesides**
> Virgin Galactic CEO

Speculation continues about how far the accident will push back the day when Virgin Galactic's paying customers can routinely rocket dozens of miles from a $219 million spaceport in the New Mexico desert toward the edge of space for a fleeting feeling of weightlessness and a breathtaking view.

Whitesides said the accident has been tough on many levels, but he refused to see it as a roadblock.

"There was no question it was a tragic setback, but it's one from which we can recover," he said. "With Serial No. 2, we'll be putting a stronger, even better ship into initial commercial service and I think we'll be able to get back into test flights soon and carry forward."

Reach out and touch the news with the Stars and Stripes Tablet Edition

The fastest and most reliable way to get the latest military-related news, videos and photos on your iPad®

The latest Tablet Edition offers:

- An all new, easy-to-read layout and design
- Dramatically fast performance and download speeds
- Beautiful, high-resolution original photography
- More categories and more articles than ever before
- Expanded photo and video galleries

All for the same great low price!

Learn more by visiting stripes.com/ipad

Available on the App Store

STARS STRIPES
TABLET EDITION v2.0

Download is available from the Apple App Store. iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

WORLD

ALEX KOLOMOISKY/AP

Injured men lie on the sidewalk after a Palestinian drove a minivan into a crowded train station in Jerusalem on Wednesday. Police said the motorist slammed his car into the train platform in east Jerusalem, killing one person and injuring 13.

Israel: No status change at Jerusalem holy site

BY PETER ENAV
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's prime minister has emphasized there will be no change in the status of a contentious Jerusalem holy site amid spiking tensions in the area.

The statement by Benjamin Netanyahu came a day after a Hamas militant slammed a minivan into a crowd waiting for a train in Jerusalem, killing one person and wounding 13 before being shot dead by police, and a Palestinian motorist drove into a group of soldiers in the West Bank, wounding three.

The second motorist turned himself into Israeli security forces Thursday, the army said.

The attacks came after Palestinians clashed with police at the holy compound — known as the Temple Mount to Jews and the Noble Sanctuary to Muslims — over a push by Israeli activists to widen access to Jews visiting the site.

The clashes, which erupted as Palestinians threw stones and firecrackers in response to a demonstration by Israeli activists, prompted Jordan — which has custodial rights to the site as part of its 1994 peace agreement with Israel — to recall its ambassador in protest at the actions of Israeli security forces.

The wife of the first attacker said he had been angered by the confrontation at the site earlier in the day.

"There will be no change in the status quo at the Temple Mount," government spokesman Mark Regev quoted Netanyahu as telling security officials late Wednesday. "Anyone saying otherwise is expressing a personal opinion and not the views of the government."

Reacting Thursday to comments from Israeli security officials that any change in the status of the site could ratchet tensions well past the breaking point, Moshe Feiglin, a lawmaker from Netanyahu's Likud Party, said that the struggle there was directly related to Israeli efforts to achieve overall security throughout the country.

"Any pullback from the Temple Mount will not end just at its gates," he said. "This society has to decide whether it is willing to pay the price to maintain its control, not only at the site, but in Israel as a whole."

ICC: No action on Israeli storming of aid boat

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Israeli forces may have committed war crimes when they stormed an aid flotilla boat heading to Gaza in 2010, but the possible crimes are not grave enough to merit a prosecution at the International Criminal Court, the court's prosecutor said Thursday.

"Following a thorough legal and factual analysis of the information available, I have concluded that there is a reasonable basis to believe that war crimes under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court were committed on one of the vessels, the Mavi Marmara, when Israeli Defense Forces intercepted the 'Gaza Freedom Flotilla' on 31 May 2010," prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said in a statement.

However, Bensouda said that any cases relating to the storming "would not be of sufficient gravity to justify further action by the ICC."

Eight Turks and one Turkish-American were killed and several other pro-Palestinian activists were wounded when Israeli commandos stormed the ship Mavi Marmara on May 31, 2010.

From The Associated Press

High school shelling deaths in Ukraine hurt hopes for peace

BY NATALIYA VASILYEVA
The Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine — The shelling of a high school in Ukraine's rebel stronghold of Donetsk has chilled even the battle-hardened in this weary nation.

The killing of two teenagers as they were playing soccer after lunch Wednesday is a stark reminder that the cease-fire agreed upon in September has really existed only on paper. Four other students were wounded, according to Dr. Vladimir Voropayev, chief of the children's trauma unit at the regional hospital in Donetsk.

The warring sides — government troops on one side and pro-Russia separatists on the other — now look as far from any lasting settlement as they ever were.

On the soccer field at Donetsk's school No. 63, two bloodied coats still lay out in the open Thursday as relatives and staff gathered at the scene.

Alexander Yeliseyev, the father of one victim, Andrei, 18, walked by in shock as he gathered belongings left behind when his son's body was removed — a dark brown coat and a pair of sneakers.

"They went to play football at about 2 p.m., while I was at work. And then the shelling began. Here you see the result," Yeliseyev said, gulping back sobs.

He said Danya, 14, another student, was also killed.

Authorities in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, said the security services will investigate the shelling of a school, but officials already appear to have made their minds up. Security spokesman Andriy Lysenko said preliminary information indicated the shells flew into the school from a location controlled by separatist forces.

The rebels, however, swiftly blamed Ukrainian forces for the deadly attack, saying government troops often indiscriminately target residential areas in eastern Ukraine.

All that is certain so far is that the school where the shells landed is at least 1.2 miles from the nearest government position but close to rebel posts.

That would appear to lend weight to claims of Ukrainian culpability — government troops shelling the rebels — but Lysenko said the shelling was planned in advance by the rebels to discredit government forces.

Government officials have failed to produce cast-iron evidence of such claims in the past, and independent rights groups say there's evidence that government artillery has hit homes in eastern Ukraine.

Residents of stricken areas have frequently complained that rebels deploy artillery near homes, invariably drawing return fire.

At school No. 63, which was lavishly refurbished last year with funds provided by local billionaire Rinat Akhmetov, a dozen teachers and sobbing parents huddled by the soccer field Thursday as the roar of outgoing missile fire was heard a few miles away.

Two mortars had landed on the school premises Wednesday — one next to a concrete porch by the school, shattering a few windows. The one that killed the students landed behind a goalpost, scorching the ground and leaving a small crater.

Oksana Safonova's son Kirill, 11, was lucky to sustain only wounds to the shoulder, hip and ribs. Quick thinking may have saved his life.

"He said to me: 'Mom, we got down on the ground and then the mortar landed next to me. I passed out. It hurt so bad. Then I realized that I don't want to die and I came around,'" Safonova said.

Libya court rules elections unconstitutional

The Associated Press

CAIRO — Libya's Supreme Court has ruled that the June election that produced the internationally recognized legislature and government was unconstitutional.

The ruling on Thursday will almost certainly plunge the country deeper into crisis. The parliament elected in June has appointed a government that has been fighting Islamic militant groups and seeking to restore law and order in the vast, energy-rich North African nation.

The elected parliament sits in the city of Tobruk in the far east. Islamist-allied militias control the capital Tripoli, where a rival Islamist-dominated parliament remains in place despite an expired mandate.

Libya has been gripped by unrest since the 2011 uprising that toppled dictator Moammar Gadhafi, as the weak central authorities have struggled to reign in regional, ideological and other militias who control much of the country.

Democracy protesters clash with the police in Hong Kong

The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Pro-democracy protesters clashed with police in Hong Kong early Thursday for the first time in more than two weeks as pressure grows on demonstrators to abandon more than a month and a half of street occupations.

The skirmishes lasted about four hours in the bustling Mong Kok neighborhood, the most turbulent of three protest sites that have snarled swaths of the city.

Police said they attempted to arrest a man who was shining his cellphone light into officers' eyes, and demonstrators responded by surging at police lines. The two sides ended up in a tense standoff, with several protesters taunting police.

About 2:30 a.m., protesters charged again at police lines and flooded into a street. Officers responded with pepper spray and pushed the crowd back into their camp. Police said they arrested three people in the confrontations, which left at least one protester bleeding from the head.

Several demonstrators arrived in Mong Kok wearing masks with the grinning likeness of Guy Fawkes, a co-conspirator in a plot to blow up the English Parliament building in 1605. Young protesters worldwide have taken up wearing the mask at demonstrations since it was featured in the 2006 film "V for Vendetta."

WAR/MILITARY

Life-saving helmet given back to 'lucky' soldier

By Ashley Rowland
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The hit-and-run attack in an Afghan town left Staff Sgt. Ryan Frye with a concussion, a scratch on the left side of his head and a helmet so dented he couldn't fit his hand inside it when he finally realized he'd been hit.

Inexplicably, he was alive.

"The helmet wasn't supposed to stop the round," the combat engineer said. "I think I was just lucky."

After the attack, Frye reluctantly handed over his helmet to the military for evaluation and was told he'd get it back in six to eight months. The months stretched into years, and well into Frye's next deployment, to South Korea, where he was stationed near the Demilitarized Zone with the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division.

Last week, more than 2½ years after the attack that took a fellow soldier's life, Frye, 25, was given back his helmet, its paint still chipped from the bullet, during a ceremony at Camp Hovey, courtesy of Program Executive Officer Soldier.

The group develops military equipment and studies battle-damaged gear, collecting more than 25,000 items since 2007, with an eye toward developing better protection. When possible, PEO Soldier returns items to troops as souvenirs.

"When I came to Korea, I was like, 'Yeah, I'm not going to get it back,'" Frye said. "Getting it back was great."

Frye was taking part in a dismount operation on April 6, 2012, in Ghazni province, along with his squad leader and their gunner, Spc. Antonio Burnside. They were about halfway through the town of Mushaki when they stopped briefly behind a wall so Burnside could rest.

When they started moving again, they were assaulted by four Afghans as they crossed an open field. Their squad leader made it to safety, but Frye and Burnside were exposed.

Burnside, who was just 70 meters away from the enemy, was hit. With the squad leader providing supporting fire, Frye kept shooting.

The helmet that saved Staff Sgt. Ryan Frye's life in Afghanistan was given back to him after it was inspected by Army researchers.

Suddenly, he was dazed — a brief numbness followed by a deafening silence for about 30 seconds. When his hearing started to return, he could hear his squad leader radioing for help.

The attack was quick, maybe two minutes from start to finish, but it felt like an eternity. He thought about his wife and their unborn baby, and Burnside's family — three children and one on the way.

As it turned out, Frye had been hit on the left side of his head. There was blood, but when he tried to reach inside his helmet, he couldn't because the Kevlar had been pushed in so far.

Though the only visible wound was a scratch, Frye was dazed for hours. He believes he was hit by a 7.62 mm round from an AK-47. Kevlar helmets are designed to stop only the sort of 9 mm rounds typically fired by handguns and fragmentation from explosions.

"It looked like it went in, wrapped a little bit toward the back and popped out," he said of the helmet.

For now, the helmet, mounted on a stand, is packed for shipment to his next assignment in Vicenza, Italy. He hopes someday to display it in his office.

Frye said the best part of getting the equipment back is getting a chance to tell others about Burnside, who died from his injuries and never got to see his fourth child, who was named in his honor.

"It's not about receiving a helmet," he said. "He can't be here and I want people to remember what he did for his country. I try to have everybody I talk to remember that it's all about him."

Frye's daughter also was born after the shooting.

"Right when I got released from the hospital, they told me I was a father," he said, adding that he wants her to eventually have the helmet.

"It was just really special to me. I want to pass it down to my family, the next generation. It gives them the sense that there's a lot of fighting in the world, and you've got to keep going, and that I'm doing my part."

rowland.ashley@stripes.com

Photos courtesy of the U.S. Army

Staff Sgt. Ryan Frye shows the helmet that saved his life to fellow soldiers in the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. Frye's helmet was struck during a 2012 attack in Afghanistan.

WORLD

Carriage topples; some hurt

The Associated Press

BAD TOELZ, Germany — Several people were injured during an annual Catholic pilgrimage in Bavaria after the horses pulling their carriage bolted, toppling the wagon over and spilling passengers onto the snowy ground.

The carriage carrying 15 women in traditional costume was part of the St. Leonhard pilgrimage Thursday in which hundreds of locals ride on horse-drawn carriages from the town of Bad Toelz to nearby Kalvarienberg mountain where they and their horses receive a priest's blessing.

Bad Toelz police said they do not have a final count on how many people were injured or how severe their injuries are.

MATTHIAS SCHRADER/AP

Women fall out of an overturned carriage after the horses bolted during the traditional Leonhardi pilgrimage in Bad Toelz, southern Germany, on Thursday. Several people were injured in the annual pilgrimage honoring St. Leonhard, patron saint of the highland farmers for horses and livestock.

Dutch government says don't pee on the palace

The Associated Press

AMSTERDAM — If you're caught short on Amsterdam's historic Dam Square, the Dutch government has a message for you: Don't pee on the palace.

The Dutch royal family uses the stately Royal Palace in downtown Amsterdam as a working palace, not a residence. But the building's dark arches provide a favored spot for urination, often at night, out of sight of police who regularly patrol the palace vicinity.

After a multimillion-euro renovation ended in late 2011, people began urinating against the palace's sandstone facade. That prompted authorities to put up a fence.

But the Interior Ministry on Wednesday called the fence "unworthy" of the historic location. It is now installing lights and movement sensors to deter people from relieving themselves.

Authorities may install a urinal that rises out of the ground at night and sinks in the day.

The government also warned that peeing in public is punishable by a $175 fine.

If those measures don't work, authorities are considering installing a urinal near the palace that rises out of the ground at night and sinks back below the sidewalk during the day.

Other possible moves include a raised set of steps featuring a "pop-up" fence or fine mesh screens to block off access to the arches after dark.

MICHAEL PROBST/AP

Passengers leave a train as German train drivers went on a four-day strike in Frankfurt on Thursday.

German train drivers strike

The Associated Press

BERLIN — German train drivers have begun a four-day strike in a bitter dispute with the country's national railway operator, causing chaos for commuters and raising concerns of short-term shortages.

Railway operator Deutsche Bahn said Thursday it was seeking a court order to stop the walkout by the GDL union, which it plans to run through Monday morning.

Meantime, the dpa news agency reported that experts were warning the increased number of cars on the road, coupled with fuel delivery delays, could lead to shortages at service stations. Industrial production delays were also anticipated as companies await deliveries of components.

GDL wants a 5 percent pay increase and shorter working hours but the main sticking point is its demand to negotiate not just for train drivers but for other staff.

This Veterans Day join us for a look back

VIETNAM AT 50

Stars and Stripes plunders its archives to take you back in time to one of our nation's most divisive conflicts.

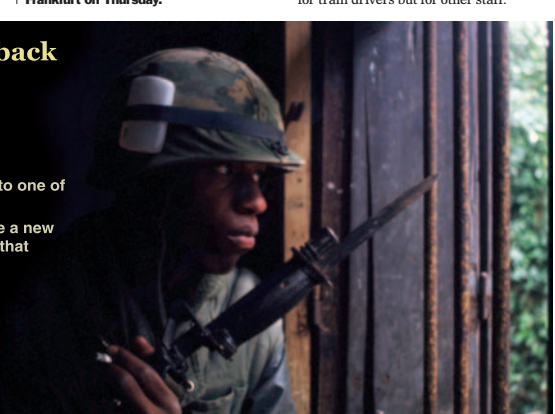
From the battles to the casualties and prisoners of war, we take a new look at Vietnam's lasting legacy and the cultural revolution that surrounded it.

In print on November 11.

Online at stripes.com/vietnam50

Visit online and share your Vietnam experience — with our #Vietnam6Words campaign or with stories and photos.

STARS AND STRIPES



WORLD

Meaningful selfie, 1 year after storm rocked Philippines

By Teresa Cerojano
The Associated Press

TANAUAN, Philippines — The Saavedras waited for death as Typhoon Haiyan tore their roof, knocked down walls and unleashed torrents of seawater below them. All they could do was pray, say "I love you" one last time and take a picture.

David Saavedra raised his cellphone in the chaos to snap a group selfie to record their final moments. He took it for his eldest sister in Manila, hoping to show that at the end, her family was together — even serene.

That explains his smile, incongruous against the wind-ripped scene and the terror-stricken faces of his younger sister, Veronica, and their mother.

The picture was intended to go on top of David's coffin, but instead it is a reminder of the family's immense luck, and of the obligation they feel to help neighbors who weren't nearly as fortunate when the massive typhoon hit on Nov. 8, 2013.

More than 7,300 people died or went missing when Haiyan slammed the central Philippines, including the Saavedras' laid-back farming town of Tanauan, as one of the most ferocious typhoons ever to hit land. The monster storm displaced about 4 million people and turned a large swath of densely populated regions into a wasteland.

"I said 'I love you' to my parents because I felt at that time that it was our last day alive," Veronica Saavedra said in an interview in the family's old house, now partially cleaned up and repaired. "I was so afraid I was trembling and I said, 'Lord, if this is my last day, forgive me for everything.'"

The 21-year-old college student said that even while praying she was terrified by the loud hissing of the wind, and memories of the rising water hounded her sleep for months.

The Saavedras — David, Veronica, their brother JR, their mother and their father — all survived. Three other siblings were in Manila and one was in Kuwait.

Many other families had much different fates. In a nearby village, all but two members of a 45-member clan are buried in a mass grave.

David Saavedra/AP

David Saavedra, left, smiles as he takes a group selfie with his younger sister, Veronica, center, and their mother at their house during the height of Typhoon Haiyan in Tanauan, central Philippines, on Nov. 8, 2013.

When the rain and wind finally subsided hours after the storm hit, David, 26, an accountant, left the cramped hallway on the second floor of the wood-and-concrete home where he and his family were huddled. He saw bodies floating on the street outside. The next-door neighbors were drenched and shuddering on the second floor of their house, its walls gone. One paraplegic neighbor was clinging to a post near the roof of his house. Others were crying, many in shock.

At the same time, David and Veronica's sister Sarah Songalia was in anguish in Manila, where she owns an accounting firm. There was no news from her hometown for three days, with telephone and power lines down and roads blocked by debris.

"I said, 'Lord, just keep them all alive. I will do everything so our town can rise again,'" said Songalia, the eldest of the family's seven children.

With no news coming their way, Songalia and her officemates put up a Facebook community page in hopes that people from her hometown could send updates. They and other volunteers gathered relief supplies, turning Songalia's office in the heart of the Makati financial district into a relief operations center.

Aaron Favila/AP

Saavedra takes a group selfie with his family during their reunion in Makati, Philippines, on Oct. 19.

Her family was able to board a bus and reach Manila five days after the typhoon. They have since relocated closer to Songalia, and have helped her with the relief effort. Only Veronica is still living in their home province of Leyte — she's staying with relatives in Tacloban, the provincial capital — but their parents plan to move back when the father retires in two years.

The nonprofit group Songalia founded, Burublig Para Ha Tanauan, has started projects to help villagers recover, powered by volunteers.

The projects include distributing boats to fishermen who lost their vessels and training women to sew hospital scrubs and school uniforms. Drivers who lost vehicles known as tricycles — actually bicycles with canopied sidecars — have been given replacements.

Residents are organized into cooperatives. They get the equipment they need on an operate-to-own basis, paying back the cost in installments.

www.ABCtravel.de/stripes ★ ☎ 0621 72 92 0

Top Military Discount Flights
Fly now Pay later
USD acc.

Atlanta ..... € 489
Chicago ..... € 494
Los Angeles. € 542
Las Vegas .. € 532
New York .... € 369
Philadelphia € 379
Miami ..... € 452

TOP CRUISES
up € 379 7 Days dep. 16 MAY 15
MSC DIVINA on the Mediterranean Sea
Rome - La Spezia / IT - Cannes / FR - Palma de Mallorca / ES - Naples / IT

Your special discount only on www.abctravel.de/stripes
Flights from 01 NOV - 16 DEC 14. From/to Germany RT. All taxes incl. Prices based on availability.

WORLD

100,000 workers protest Belgian labor reform

By Raf Casert
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — One of Belgium's biggest postwar labor demonstrations brought about 100,000 workers to the capital on Thursday to protest government free-market reforms and austerity measures that they claim undermine Belgium's vaunted welfare state.

Protesters and police clashed at the end of the march through central Brussels, leaving at least 14 people injured. A car was overturned, a police motorcycle was set on fire and officers were pelted with cobblestones and fireworks. Police used tear gas and water cannons to break up the disturbances.

The violent end overshadowed a raucous but largely peaceful march for better protection of workers during the economic crisis. The workers were protesting government policies that will raise the pension age, freeze wages and cut into public services.

"They are hitting the workers, the unemployed. They are not looking for money where it is, I mean, people with a lot of money," said Philippe Dubois, who came from the industrial rust belt of Liege.

The unexpectedly big march opens a monthlong campaign by the trade unions against the business-friendly governing coalition and is to be capped with a nationwide strike on Dec. 15.

Despite the opening of government-led talks with employers and unions later Thursday, Socialist trade union leader Rudy De Leeuw vowed to continue the protests for weeks on end.

Belgium has a long postwar tradition of collective bargaining between employers and workers, and successive coalition governments representing a full scale of public opinion often have been able to contain social disagreements. But the current coalition, made up of three pro-business parties and the centrist Christian Democrats, is the first in decades that has been able to set such a clear free-market agenda.

The government says it has been forced to push through stringent austerity measures to keep the budget deficit within European Union constraints and insists that businesses need more lenient tax policies to become more competitive in the global market.

Geert Vanden Wijngaert/AP

Workers protest during a union demonstration in Brussels on Thursday.

Takata's annual loss to widen over more recalls

TOKYO — Takata Corp., the Japanese air bag maker embroiled in a massive recall totaling some 12 million vehicles globally, is taking more special losses for new recalls and will sink deeper into the red.

Takata, which controls about 22 percent of the global air bag market, said Thursday it will record a $218 million loss for the fiscal year through March 2015. It previously forecast a $210 million loss.

Takata air bags are suspected in fatalities and injuries involving several defects.

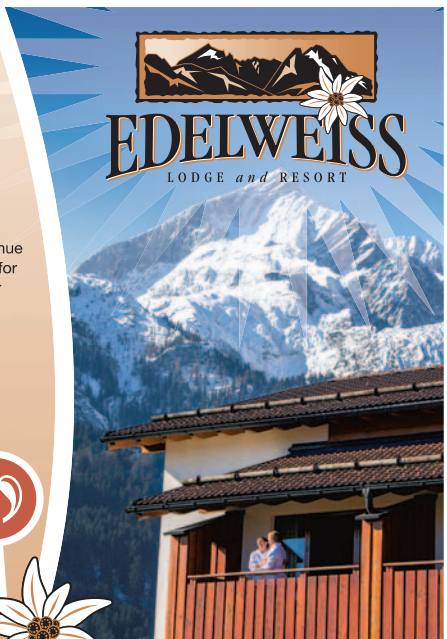
From The Associated Press

STARS AND STRIPES®

Congratulates Edelweiss Lodge and Resort on its 10 year anniversary.

Since opening in 2004, Edelweiss has provided a venue for conferences, get-togethers and family vacations for 2.5 million service members, their families, and other authorized patrons of the Total Defense Force. Surrounded by more than 400 mountain peaks and located in the heart of Europe, Edelweiss offers an array of world-class guest amenities, guided cultural excursions and recreational activities.

"We are proud of our mission here at Edelweiss Resort and we look forward to another great decade of providing valuable rest and relaxation for families stationed in Europe."
–Clesson Allman, General Manager



Improvements to the facility to ensure guests enjoy their vacation experience:

- Hot tub heated by solar energy
- Pet friendly deluxe vacation cabins
- Free WiFi provided by VFW
- Widescreen inroom LCD televisions
- Improved buffet dinner menus
- Upgraded bed linen

Edelweiss provides a sanctuary where Service Members' minds become as clear as the mountain air that surrounds them.

For more information about booking a vacation at Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, visit
www.EdelweissLodgeandResort.com

EUROPE

History: 'When 1989 came around, it was a feeling of, "Is this really over?" '

FROM FRONT PAGE

"We're going to be the first generation of soldiers that will get to 20 years without fighting a war other than the Cold War," Hertling told his buddy at the time. "The Soviets are dead. The Cold War is over. There's no one to fight. Peace is going to break out the world over."

When the Berlin Wall collapsed 25 years ago Sunday, such sentiments were held far and wide as a wave of jubilation swept Germany and the rest of Europe. There was even hope that a new, peaceful world order would emerge. But such optimism proved short-lived.

Months later, Hertling and other U.S. troops were gearing up for Operation Desert Storm, America's first war with Iraq that would become a prelude to more fighting to come. After that, Yugoslavia broke apart, unleashing a wave of bloodshed in the Balkans and an intervention in 1995 by tens of thousands of U.S. and NATO troops. Then came the war in Afghanistan and another war in Iraq.

Still, in the 25 years since the fall of the Wall, few feared a return to Cold War-style confrontation with Russia. That all changed this year when Moscow annexed Ukraine's Crimea peninsula and gave support to pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine.

If a return to Cold War-caliber tension still seems a stretch, the chill between Moscow and the West harkens to an earlier time, not unlike the years leading up to the Wall's collapse.

Peace in Europe can no longer be taken for granted, U.S. and NATO military officials now argue, as the West pushes ahead with plans to establish new "staging bases" across eastern Europe as part of a plan to counter potential Russian aggression.

"We have changed our focus and EUCOM is part of that," Dan Fitzpatrick, the U.S. European Command historian, told Stars and Stripes. "There's a reason why we are here in Europe and now you are seeing it, with Russia, with ISIL (the Islamic State group) to the south right on NATO's border. We aren't here to protect Germany any longer; we are here to protect the interests of the United States."

But in the relaxed aftermath following the collapse of the Wall, which anticipated the disintegration of the Soviet Union two years later, the military faced an identity crisis in Europe.

"We were basically looking for a mission," said Fitzpatrick.

The military's downsizing in Europe was sharp and steady — from about 310,000 personnel at the time of the Wall's collapse to roughly 80,000 today. Less than a year ago, that downward trajectory seemed likely to continue as the Pentagon struggled to explain to a skeptical American audience why U.S. troops were still stationed in a rich and secure Europe.

Demands from Congress that the U.S. cut back deeper in Europe grew louder and more frequent. Now, however, such calls out of Congress appear to have muted in the face of an increasingly unpredictable Russia led by Vladimir Putin.

Preparing for the worst

During the Cold War, many of the U.S. troops in Europe were positioned at strategic spots along the fault lines of eastern and western Germany, guarding against a massive Soviet land invasion.

They were prepared for the worst.

"If you were a fire-support officer, you had 13 seconds once you had contact. That's it. These were die-in-place positions," said Fitzpatrick, himself a former fire-support officer.

Michael Abrams/Stars and Stripes

As a saxophonist blows a tune, visitors to the Eastside Gallery along the Berlin Wall get their photos taken in front of the graffiti. The section of the Wall that makes up the gallery is the longest stretch of the Wall still standing.

If anything, such fears were understated.

Historians now say that top-secret Warsaw Pact battle plans in the 1970s and early '80s called for massive nuclear strikes against multiple cities in West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Denmark, as well as tactical nuclear attacks on concentrations of opposing forces. France and Britain, both nuclear armed nations, were to be spared, but Soviet forces — 420,000-strong in East Germany and Czechoslovakia — would still sweep everything before them and reach the Rhine within seven to eight days, according to the plans made public after the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact.

During the height of the Cold War, the U.S. military presence in Europe was not only enormous, it was a front-line deterrent in the most powerful sense. In those days, tactical nuclear weapons could be attached to field artillery.

It took time for the U.S. to build up its presence in Europe, which dwindled after World War II. In the early 1950s, with the Cold War already at a fever pitch, the force levels on the Continent were less than 100,000, on a par with the force of today.

What prompted the surge of troops into Europe was the Korean War and lessons learned from North Korea's lightning invasion into the south. Something like that could happen in Europe, too, officials feared at the time.

"That really changed American policy," said Fitzpatrick "In Europe, you had 4.5 million Russians in occupied areas, and we had nothing here to stop them."

From June 1950 to 1953, the U.S. force in Europe tripled in size, with roughly 300,000 personnel positioned across the continent, accompanied by all the machines of war — fighter planes, tanks, artillery and nuclear weapons.

"We stayed for 50 years and when 1989 come around, it was a feeling of, 'Is this really over?'" Fitzpatrick said.

Hertling, who would go on to lead combat troops in Iraq and would eventually take command of U.S. Army Europe, first arrived in Germany in 1975 as a second lieutenant fresh out of West Point. In those days, families had to keep at least a half tank of gas in their cars in case war broke out. Noncombatant Evacuation Operation packets, which included all the travel essentials you might need in an emergency, were kept in the glove compartment.

When Hertling returned as a major in 1988, there was a sense that change was coming. It was the early days of glasnost, a Soviet policy that eased censorship and restrictions on political activity.

But U.S. troops still conducted border patrols. Family evacuation plans were still part of force-protection measures in place. And Moscow remained the singular focus for war planners.

"We still had the Russian threat, and we were doing war plans against the Soviets," Hertling said.

"But by the time I left that tour, we went through the Wall coming down, the peace process, the beginning of planning drawdowns," said Hertling, who retired in 2012 as a lieutenant general and now works as an executive in the health care industry.

Force of today

Today, the military presence is just a shell of its former self, but it's still lethal.

In the 1980s the U.S. military maintained up to 350,000 troops in Europe, most in West Germany. Now, there are only two Army brigades. Today, the military's role in Europe is as much about logistics as it is firepower. There are combatant command headquarters, training grounds to partner with allies and air bases like Ramstein Air Base in Germany that have as much to do with projecting power into the Middle East and Africa as they do deterring aggression in Europe.

A year ago, the U.S. military's main argument for a forward presence in Europe was geography — the Continent was an essential platform to achieve strategic aims in the broader region. That argument often seemed to fall on deaf ears.

Hertling, during his time as USAREUR commander from 2011 to 2012, often found himself at odds with lawmakers eager that get troops to their home district.

During one meeting with a Colorado congressman, Hertling explained why his soldiers needed to be forward positioned in Europe. There, Hertling said, the troops conducted a range of missions, including gathering military intelligence, training allies in eastern Europe, sending forces into Afghanistan and supporting missions in Africa.

"He (the congressman) was saying that they can move to his district instead and he wasn't kidding around," said Hertling, who declined to publicly name the lawmaker. "I asked him: 'Mr. Congressman, why is it so important to move these people to your state and not do their mission in Europe?'

"He said: 'I'd rather have them buy pizza in Colorado than schnitzel in Germany.' He told me I live in the Cold War, thinking Russia is still coming across that border, and that I just don't understand."

It's hard to predict the future size and shape of the military presence in Europe. Will the current crisis with Russia reinforce the need for a forward presence or will a looming budget crunch force more cuts?

Hertling said he hopes the current crisis serves as a reminder that the next conflict can't be predicted. But he isn't optimistic.

"The sequestration train continues to move down the track," he said. "We have a military that is increasingly stretched, less well-resourced and a budget plan based on drawdown in Afghanistan, but not new requirements. We're headed for some really tough times."

If there is a lesson of the Cold War, it is the value of maintaining the military alliances that grew out of it, Hertling said.

"When we next go to war, no matter what kind of war it is or where it is, we are never going to do it alone. So you can't just flip the switch when war sounds. You have to have that relationship," he said. "The forward stationing of these forces, working with other countries to build alliances stronger than a single country needs to be a continuing process and can't just be when something bad happens like Russia crossing into Ukraine's border."

vandiver.john@stripes.com

The fall of the Berlin Wall on Nov. 12, 1989.

Stars and Stripes

the prayer warrior

Ebola hits home for Liberian faith healer

By Robyn Dixon
Los Angeles Times

It could be headaches, infertility, sorrow or bad luck. In New Kru Town, where the afflictions of the poor are plenty, there was always work for a prayer warrior like Dorothy Sawer.

People with nightmares would come to the faith healer, convinced that they were under attack as they slept. Once, a girl named Gladys took to running around the neighborhood naked and had to be saved. Some people were sick, and needed healing. Others had just lost their way in life.

Sawer would hold their hands, hard, to make the prayer powerful.

"Sometimes I pray loud," she said. "Sometimes I pray louder."

Sawer, an abandoned wife with six children — the child of an abandoned wife with five children — lives in a one-room tin house with holes in the walls in this crowded neighborhood of the Liberian capital.

It's a place where lines of colorful laundry flap like extravagant birds, stray dogs nose around for scraps and people dress up in lace for church on Sundays.

Sawer is a prayer warrior for a church called Conqueror's Tabernacle. Save for the miracles that she trades in, life could be disheartening for a woman with nothing but a dog-eared Bible and even less money than she used to have.

Sawer sees it as a biblical test. But a prayer warrior fears nothing — not ridicule, not spiritual darkness, not the witches waiting to steal the souls of children or weak old folk.

Then Ebola came to New Kru Town, and it attacked Conqueror's Tabernacle.

Becoming a warrior

Here in Monrovia, where charismatic Pentecostal pastors jostle for worshippers, church and prayer course through life like blood, and prayer warriors are as important as doctors. For churchgoers here, an ailment that's stubborn is often seen as the business of a prayer warrior, who claims to heal through the "laying of hands."

But Ebola can be contracted just by touching someone very ill. The virus has claimed many pastors, prayer warriors and traditional healers.

"Only God knows where we are heading to now," Sawer said.

On a rain-streaked afternoon, she sits in a red-and-white floral dress on a stool outside her house holding her old Bible. A cheap metal pendant inscribed "Love" is stuck in the damp sandnearby. Tim, 25, her oldest son, is there; he is the rock in her life since her husband deserted her eight years ago. Her other five children, ages 11 and up, sit giggling or wander around.

When Sawer was about 10, she said, she saw a flash of light — she points to the spot, just over there — and a white man with long hair appeared out of nowhere, his back turned. Then he disappeared in another flash.

"I believe that was the angel of God that I saw," she said, eyes wary, half expecting ridicule. From then on, she had "spiritual fits" and had to drop out of school. She had premonitions. She'd warn people not to take a particular road on a particular day. "People didn't listen. There would be consequences."

But other people saw her as a miracle worker. No longer just a struggling single mother, she was somebody. "They said, 'She's got the discernment.'"

Four years ago she became a prayer warrior at Conqueror's Tabernacle, the creation of her neighbor Pastor Varney Garpou.

'This Ebola thing'

Ebola first skipped across the border into Liberia in March, then died down after a few cases. Everyone relaxed. But by July it had swept back in, killing staff members at New Kru Town's Redemption Hospital before tearing through the neighborhood.

As lethal as war, it spread across Monrovia, killing nearly 2,500 people by Oct. 17. The cases in West Africa will surpass 10,000 within weeks.

Many people struggle to reconcile their religious faith with the plague. Some churchgoers say it's a sign of the Last Days. Some say it's a punishment, or something Satan brought. Sawer was sure it was a spiritual disease, not just a physical sickness.

Although she had heard the government warnings not to touch people with Ebola, "I wasn't afraid because I believed God was with me."

It was unthinkable that the illness people call "this Ebola thing" could be stronger than a prayer warrior.

Even so, Pastor Garpou was wary. He told his wife, Willet, a nurse, to slow down on her treatment of neighbors. By August, people were coming knocking three or four times a day looking for medicine.

"Pastor said, 'Be careful with this Ebola thing.' He warned her, 'Be careful.' She said, 'You people think everything now is this Ebola thing,'" Sawer said.

That month, the virus came to a run-down tenant house next door to the Garpous. First to go was a mother of three, who died in a wheelbarrow on the way to treatment. Four people in the house died, including a tailor and his child. The tailor's wife was next to sicken. Willet Garpou couldn't just sit in her house and let the woman die, so she treated her with injections for a week. Two weeks later, Willet got sick too.

Sawer didn't hesitate when Willet, her "church mother," called her to say she'd had a revelation in a dream that people wanted to kill her and the pastor. Sawer clutched her hands and prayed with Willet, morning and night. She helped her dress, and she touched her feet. But Willet died at home, and within days, Sawer was called again, this time to pray for and heal the pastor.

Despite her strongest prayers, he died at home, crying that he didn't want to go and leave his vision of Conqueror's Tabernacle.

"I believe maybe it's God's will," said Sawer, puzzling over why so many died and wondering why all that healing prayer didn't save a good man like Pastor Garpou. "Maybe some people never had the faith that they could make it and some people lose hope."

'It was the worst sickness'

A short time after, Sawer felt a searing heat in her belly. She fasted and prayed for three days, but it didn't help. Eventually, she went to an Ebola treatment unit. Soon her test confirmed a result that would terrify most people. It was Ebola.

Sawer said she felt no fear or doubt. She was determined that with plenty of prayer, she was going to survive. The first thing she asked for at the treatment center wasn't water or medicine. She wanted a Bible. She lay in her bed, temperature soaring, sweating and trembling, feeling as if her belly and her back were on fire.

"It was the worst sickness I ever had," she remembered. "One night I felt a hand patting me on my shoulder."

A nurse checking she was still alive?

"I don't know who touched me. I think it was the spirit of God." The next morning, she left her bed. She recovered, as swiftly as she had gotten ill.

A few days later, she was back outside one of the Ebola treatment units. She squinted against the sun. Nearby stood a young man looking anxious, drenched in sweat. It was her oldest son, Tim.

He had Ebola. He went for treatment, and for weeks, she heard nothing, She prayed and prayed for her son's survival. And her prayer was powerful.

Tim survived, and came home.

Dorothy Sawer is a Liberian prayer warrior, and her most treasured possess is her dog-eared Bible. The faith healer was called to help victims of Ebola and it wasn't long before she got sick too, but she survived.

Robyn Dixon/Los Angeles Times

WEEKEND

'Interstellar' a trip worth taking

Page 24

WHAT A WORLD

'Sunset Overdrive' introduces Sunset City — a place full of parkour, mutant zombies and eye-popping graphics

Page 26

Bus bliss

Sit back and relax as you absorb sights, sounds of Stuttgart

Travel, Page 28

Dumplings are dandy

Gyoza goes from sidelight to main attraction at Tokyo eatery

After Hours, Page 35

Movies – 24-25 Music – 36-37 Books – 38 Health – 40 Crossword – 42

WEEKEND: GADGETS & CHARTS

To Facebook, you are what you 'like'

By Caitlin Dewey
The Washington Post

Daily life is basically a constellation of microscopic choices. Let's say you choose to read some Ayn Rand on the bus home from work today. Then let's say you play Pandora's country hits while you make dinner. When you voted in this week's midterms, you weighed your options and chose to vote for Republican candidates.

To you, each of these choices is discrete, isolated — even random. But to Facebook, the 1.35-billion-user behemoth where we increasingly record our daily choices, no person, comment or casual thumbs-up is isolated: Everything is part of a larger pattern.

And in this particular instance, according to data Facebook released last month, your pattern played out precisely as the social network might have predicted it would: Generally, Facebook fans of Republican candidates are far more likely to also be fans of Blake Shelton and Ayn Rand.

But while these tidbits are interesting — funny, even! — they're just whispers of a much larger operation. Facebook is inferring millions of such correlations, based on billions of disparate data points, predicting any number of user behaviors. In many cases, it's also selling those data points back to advertisers, political campaigns and other people who are interested in manipulating all the tiny daily choices you make. In an update made to Facebook's ad platform in May, the site released a trove of new, anonymized data to advertisers, showing them — among other things — the demographics and "liked" pages of potential customers, the better to help companies learn their "interests and behaviors."

"Help people decide," the network crows in its materials targeting political campaigns. "Facebook is one of the most effective marketing platforms on the planet."

That's true, in large part, because of how much Facebook knows about us: age, family, location, education level, on- and off-site behavior. (Advertisers can target all these things.) But given all that objective, demographic data, it's amazing how much Facebook can still infer from our subjective likes.

The like, after all, is the single most thoughtless, fleeting gesture in all of Internetdom — it's a single click, an almost Pavlovian response to things we find vaguely interesting or noteworthy or at least worth acknowledging. It's "the wordless nod of support in a loud room," the blogger Elan Morgan wrote in August as part of her experiment not to "like" anything on Facebook for two weeks. It's just another way to signal we exist amidst the constant onslaught of Internet noise.

And yet, simply by virtue of its scale, Facebook can vacuum up all our senseless data points — all those clicks, all those tiny choices — and parlay them into something like an insight about our identity.

Tell its data team what pages you've liked, and Facebook will tell you who you are.

ON THE COVER: "Sunset Overdrive" offers a familiar but fun mix of big city, unorthodox power and weapons, and mutant enemies.

Microsoft Studios

GADGET WATCH

Bedside speaker a relaxing option

By Gregg Ellman
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

With the press of a button, the Tranquil Moments Bluetooth speaker brings the ocean, woods and other quieting environments, to your bedside.

The stress release bedside speaker creates the relaxing environment to help you relax and fall asleep.

There's a dozen different sounds including rain, thunderstorms and a summer night to create the relaxation mood to knock out your stress and help you sleep. After choosing your sound, set the timer (30, 60 or 90 minutes) to how long you want it playing; you can let it go all night.

According to the company website, "Tranquil Moments sound programs are based on the DELTA, ALPHA and THETA brainwave patterns associated with deep states of sleep, relaxation and renewal."

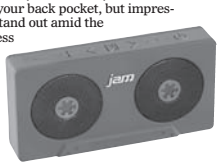
The company says the speaker changes your mind's thoughts, and the playback slows down as you fall asleep and then turns off.

During the day, the Bluetooth speaker can pair with your smartphone or tablet to play playlists. There's also a 3.5mm port for non-Bluetooth devices.

A rechargeable Li-Ion battery keeps it playing for hours, and is charged with the included USB cable.

Online: brookstone.com, $129.99

The Jam Rewind (HMDX Jam) is small enough to fit in your back pocket, but impressive enough to stand out amid the seemingly endless portable Bluetooth speaker options.



You'll be amazed by the sound from the retro-looking rechargeable speaker.

It's designed with a cassette tape/boombox exterior look, encasing an internal four-speaker system.

The Jam Rewind weighs just 5.8 ounces and measures 5.1 by 2.6 by 1 inches. You'll get about eight hours of use before a charge (microUSB) is needed, and there's a 3.5mm auxiliary input jack for using non-Bluetooth audio players.

Volume controls are built onto the top along with a power button.

Online: jamaudio.com, $79.99; available in blue, gray and red

The PK K'3, USB 3.0 key for smartphones and tablets is called the world's smallest accessory of its kind. I'm not going to say if it's true or not (the last time I did that I was hammered with emails from the competition), but I will say it's pretty small (1.06 by 0.49 by 0.18 inches, the size of a paper clip), and very useful.

MCT photos

The Tranquil Moments bedside speaker claims to help users release stress and get some shuteye.

In addition to its fast USB 3.0 speed, the 32GB storage solution is waterproof up to 3 feet.

What makes it different from similar and smaller USB drives is its double-ended ports.

On one is a standard USB connection for most desktop and laptop computers. But on the other end is a microUSB connection enabling it to connect to some Android tablets and smartphones.

The company also states it is compatible with apps such as Nexus Media player, Astro or ES.

Online: pkparis.com, $53

MacAlly's Clipmount is a universal adjustable clip-on mount, versatile enough to hold the Jam Rewind speaker, most any smartphone, some tablets, GPS units or anything up to 8 inches wide.

It's a really handy device for hands-free use for cell calls.

It's designed with a clip-on mount with an 11-inch bendable arm to pretty much reach anything, including your car, desk or wherever it's needed.

I tried it with my iPhone 6 with several cases while sitting at my desk along with the Jam Rewind, a GPS unit and a digital camera. All were successful. The swivel is built with a 360-degree design so wherever you clip it, just angle for the right view.

I did notice that while working at my desk and having my phone on the Clipmount, somehow I was now always able to find it — an added, though unexpected, bonus.

No need to worry about damaging anything it's clipped to; the grips are rubber cushioned.

Online: macally.com, $29.99

ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 songs on the iTunes Store for Nov. 5:

1. "Shake It Off," Taylor Swift
2. "All About That Bass – Single," Meghan Trainor
3. "Gonna Know We Were Here," Jason Aldean
4. "Bang Bang," Jessie J, Ariana Grande & Nicki Minaj
5. "Sun Daze," Florida Georgia Line
6. "Here We Go," Alex & Sierra
7. "Rather Be (featuring Jess Glynne)," Clean Bandit
8. "Burnin' It Down," Jason Aldean
9. "Habits (Stay High)," Tove Lo
10. "Chandelier," Sia

— Compiled by MCT

SPOTIFY MUSIC

The most streamed tracks on Spotify from Oct. 27 to Nov. 2:

1. "Shake It Off," Taylor Swift
2. "Animals," Maroon 5
3. "I'm Not The Only One," Sam Smith
4. "All About That Bass," Meghan Trainor
5. "Take Me To Church," Hozier
6. "Don't Tell 'Em," Jeremih
7. "Habits (Stay High)," Tove Lo
8. "Bang Bang," Jessie J
9. "Cool Kids," Echosmith
10. "Stay With Me," Sam Smith

— Compiled by The Associated Press

ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for Nov. 5:

1. "Transformers: Age of Extinction"
2. "Godzilla"
3. "The Fault In Our Stars"
4. "Captain America: The Winter Soldier"
5. "Live Die Repeat: Edge of Tomorrow"
6. "Fed Up"
7. "Chef"
8. "The Lunchbox"
9. "Blended"
10. "Draft Day"

— Compiled by MCT

VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer rank the top 10 games for November:

1. "Dragon Age: Inquisition," PS4, Xbox One, PS3, 360, PC
2. "Sunset Overdrive," Xbox One
3. "Bayonetta 2," Wii U
4. "Civilization: Beyond Earth," PC
5. "Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare," PS4, Xbox One, PS3, 360 PC
6. " The Evil Within," PS4, Xbox One, PS3, 360, PC
7. "Super Smash Bros.," 3DS
8. "Lords of the Fallen," PS4, Xbox One, PC
9. "Skylanders Trap Team," PS4, Xbox One, Wii U, PS3, 360, Wii
10. "Assassin's Creed Rogue," PS3, 360, PC

— Compiled by MCT

APPS

Top 5 new paid apps for Nov. 5:

ANDROID

1. djay 2
2. Hail to the King: Deathbat
3. Republique
4. Hype Machine
5. Battleheart Legacy

Top 5 paid apps for Nov. 5:

APPLE

1. Five Nights at Freddy's
2. Minecraft — Pocket Edition
3. Goblin Sword
4. Sleep Cycle alarm clock
5. Afterlight

— Compiled by MCT

WEEKEND

CHECK IT OUT

Events, entertainment and other ways to fill your free time

1

Visit the near future at a movie theater

Whether your preferred vision of coming events involves climate change-inspired dystopias or animated characters living in megalopolises and battling supervillains, you're all set this weekend. The Christopher Nolan-directed "Interstellar" and Disney's latest cartoon, "Big Hero 6," have gotten lots of great buzz, and best of all, both have robots! YESSS. "Interstellar" stars the lovable and recently Academy Award-winning Matthew McConaughey, and "Big Hero 6" boasts an inflatable personal care assistant that looks a lot like a huggable, misshapen marshmallow. Both are likely to get a lot of affection from moviegoers in the form of box-office receipts.

• **Movie profiles and reviews on Pages 24 and 25.**

Matthew McConaughey stars in "Interstellar."
PARAMOUNT PICTURES/AP

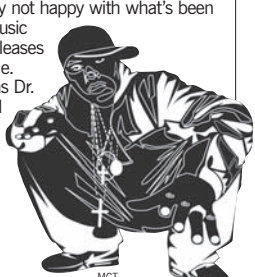
Baymax the robot is in "Big Hero 6."
DISNEY/MCT

2

2014 music scene getting a bad rap

Fans of hip-hop, you're likely not happy with what's been available this year on the music market. After some great releases last year, it's been a dry time. Some major rappers such as Dr. Dre, Lil Wayne, Big Boi and Outkast delayed or never released their much-anticipated next projects. Who's to blame? Spotify? Music trends? The artists themselves?

• **Read more on Page 36.**



MCT

VISITBRITAIN/AP

The Brits sure love their Shakespeare. This monument to the Bard stands in Poets' Corner at Westminster Abbey in London.

3

Shakespeare now on demand online

Theater fans, you can now stream some Shakespeare, if you have enough bandwidth for the Bard. Shakespeare's Globe, London's reconstructed Elizabethan playhouse, is making its productions available for download through a video-on-demand service. Globe Player will offer more than 50 filmed productions to rent or buy. If you're looking for free content, lengthy interviews with the likes of Judi Dench, Ian McKellen and Jude Law are available on the site.

• **Watch a few of William Shakespeare's works at globeplayer.tv.**

WEEKEND: MOVIES

As mankind's time on Earth comes to an end, a team of astronauts travel through a wormhole in search of a new home for humanity in "Interstellar," starring Matthew McConaughey.

JOEL RYAN, INVISION/AP

McConaughey down to earth about role in 'Interstellar'

BY RICK BENTLEY
The Fresno Bee

Matthew McConaughey wasn't lured to working on "Interstellar" by its cosmic story of space exploration to save all humankind. It wasn't even that he would work with highly touted director Christopher Nolan or Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway.

He was drawn to the mega movie by the grounded nature of the role.

"I've been playing a lot of anti-heroes lately and while they've been good to me, I was more interested in playing the everyman of this film. And if you are everyman, then you are nobody in particular," McConaughey says.

After his Oscar-winning role as the gaunt champion of the underdog in "Dallas Buyers Club" and his Emmy-nominated work as the emotionally scraggly police officer in "True Detective," the one thing that attracted McConaughey to "Interstellar" was that he would be a farmer — and single father — who must leave his normal life behind to become a reluctant hero.

That hero pilots a spaceship through an artificially created worm hole in search of a new planet humans can call home. It's a race against time as Earth is dying and because the young daughter he leaves behind will age far quicker than he will because of black hole variations on time.

McConaughey's slow Texas drawl, lanky features and dry sense of humor gave him the kind of Gary Cooper-like characteristics that Nolan wanted for the role. The director was happy McConaughey was drawn to the film's humanity and considers that the most important part of the film.

When the director read the first draft of the script, written by his brother Jonathan Nolan, what jumped out was the family relationship.

"We found that the more you explore the cosmic scale of things, the further out in the universe you went, the more the focus came down to who we are as a people," Nolan says.

McConaughey's connection to the family story comes naturally; he's the father of three. His being an actor and having to be away from home for long stretches isn't nearly as dramatic as what his "Interstellar" character faced. The actor points out that he's been lucky enough with his career that he can take his family with him when he's on the road.

But he could still understand the pain of separation. "It was apparent this was about a parent and his child. That's the aorta of the film emotionally. It's the common denominator that everyone can understand," McConaughey says.

Those connections became very important in a scene where McConaughey's character must react to a series of video messages from home. He was worried about shooting the powerful scene because of having just spent the weekend away from the set doing promotional work for "The Dallas Buyers Club."

McConaughey says the key to getting back into the role for that big moment was just to relax and not to try too hard. He was shown the pre-filmed video messages without a rehearsal and his initial reactions in the movie — what Nolan calls "manly man tears" — were from the first take of the scene.

"Interstellar" is the first film for McConaughey since he picked up the Oscar. Despite earning the highest honor the industry can give him, McConaughey is not taking any role lightly. He's more obsessed than ever with the idea that acting is such a fickle industry that any role can be the actor's last.

"The job that you are doing could be the last one. That's a way to go into it. With respect to what has happened in the last few years, I have more obsession about what I'm doing at this moment," McConaughey says. "It could be the last one. I hope it's not. But it could be."

'It was apparent this was about a parent and his child. That's the aorta of the film emotionally. It's the common denominator that everyone can understand.'

AP

'Interstellar' is a movie as ambitious as spaceflight itself

BY ROGER MOORE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Christopher Nolan's "Interstellar" is the most ambitious science fiction film, maybe ever and certainly since "2001: A Space Odyssey." Long, filled with lengthy passages of exposition and explanations of science, it takes forever to get to a killer third act.

In the not-distant future, human civilization has settled into entropy. Cities have been abandoned, billions have died, dust storms plague the survivors and humanity's ability to feed itself is collapsing thanks to blights that wipe out the monoculture agriculture has become.

Matthew McConaughey is Cooper, once a test pilot for NASA, now turning his engineering skills to running a rural farm. He is sun-beaten and weathered, raising two kids (Mackenzie Foy, wonderful, and Timothee Chalamet) with the help his late wife's father (John Lithgow).

School teachers are underselling our potential, pushing the idea that we have devolved into a "caretaker" civilization, and telling Cooper's kids Americans never landed on the Moon. So he's teaching the kids self-reliance, reasoning.

Then events conspire to put Cooper back in touch with a cadre of scientists, led by Professor Brand (Michael Caine) and his scientist daughter Amelia (Anne Hathaway). They've cooked up a last-ditch effort to save humanity — not on our dying planet, but out there, in the cosmos. Cooper will pilot a mission through a wormhole to find us a new home, and Amelia, Doyle (Wes Bentley), Romilly (David Gyasi) and a model of the cleverest, simplest, most practical robot ever depicted on the screen, TARS (voiced by comic Bill Irwin) will go with him.

McConaughey is well cast as the last of the space cowboys, a drawling philosopher who ponders why "we've forgotten who we are — explorers, pioneers."

Hathaway has the cold-hearted scientist role to fulfill. And the robot provides a smidgen of comic relief.

Nolan, co-writing the script with his brother Jonathan, references a staggering array of sci-fi film history. "Interstellar" plays like "2001" as re-imagined by M. Night Shyamalan, a bleak, harrowing tale that finds faith and hope in humanity's persistence and ability to problem solve and improvise. It's a marvelous mashup of sci-fi images, themes, tropes and science, referencing every film from the original "Planet of the Apes" to "2010," Solaris" and "Sunshine" to Disney's "The Black Hole."

Nolan withholds full views of the space ships, which look like modern, high-mile-age versions of the vehicle Charlton Heston crashed into a lake in "Planet of the Apes," or less dingy boxy affairs out of "Alien." The director toys with the silence of space, occasionally overwhelming us with the emotional or emotionally fraught music of the Hans Zimmer score.

Whatever its length and melodramatic third-act touches, "Interstellar" is a space opera truly deserving of that label, over-reaching and thought-provoking, heart-tugging and pulse-pounding. It's the sort of film that should send every other sci-fi filmmaker back to the drawing board, the way Stanley Kubrick did, a long time ago in a millennium far away.

"Interstellar"is rated PG-13 for some intense perilous action and brief strong language. Running time: 169 minutes.

New on base

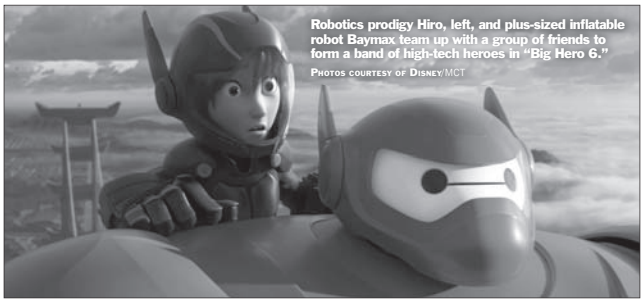
"Interstellar" is playing at the following military facilities:

Europe
Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Ansbach, Baumholder, Grafenwöhr, Hohenfels, Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Stuttgart, Vilseck, Wiesbaden, Aviano, Vicenza and Brunssum.

Pacific
Atsugi, Misawa, Showboat, Village, Benny Decker, Fleet, Negishi, Yokota, Zama, Foster, Futenma, Hansen, Kadena, Kinser, Schwab, Courtney, Yongsan South Post Nos. 1 and 2, Casey, Henry, Humphreys, Kunsan and Osan.

Online: interstellarmovie.net

WEEKEND: MOVIES



Robotics prodigy Hiro, left, and plus-sized inflatable robot Baymax team up with a group of friends to form a band of high-tech heroes in "Big Hero 6."

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DISNEY/MCT

'Big Hero 6' turns 'Godzilla' into a lovable Disney robot

BY CHRISTOPHER PALMERI
Bloomberg News

Walt Disney Co.'s new animated feature "Big Hero 6" has a hero, named Hiro, but the studio is marketing the film with posters and billboards that feature a button-eyed, blimp-like robot.

Disney animators spent more than three years transforming Baymax, a scary-looking bit player from an obscure Marvel Comics series, into a lovable sidekick who could charm fans as much as Jiminy Cricket and Tinkerbell. They visited robotics labs and spoke with counselors about how kids handle grief — a central theme of the film.

Their journey provides a window into the creative process at Disney, where Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Bob Iger has focused the film business on a handful of brands with distinct identities. While "Big Hero 6" originated with Marvel, it was made by Walt Disney Animation Studios, which requires characters with the emotional depth audiences expect from the unit that created "Dumbo" and "Bambi."

"We were on the hunt for something unique, something we hadn't seen before, but also appealing and huggable," said Don Hall, the director, who came up with the idea for the film while trolling a Marvel Comics wiki page during his lunch hour. "I just liked the title."

"Big Hero 6" is based on a 1998 comic book that produced a total of 10 issues. The characters were created by Marvel writers Steven T. Seagle and Duncan Rouleau, in their spare time while working on another project. In their version, Baymax was a dragon-like robot bodyguard.

"If you think about what kind of robot a boy would design, it would look a lot like Godzilla," said Rouleau.

After reading the original "Big Hero 6" comics, Hall saw an opportunity to "extrapolate the idea of a 14-year-old super genius who's struggling with loss," a theme that dominates many classic Disney films, he said in an interview.

Hall, who directed "Winnie the Pooh" in 2011, wrote an outline of the story and brought it to the "story trust," a group of senior directors and writers at Disney Animation. They liked the idea.

"He did a pitch that really showcased the emotional potential of the film," said Chris Williams, who later joined "Big Hero 6" as co-director. "We're always bolstered by looking back at the very first Disney movies."

John Lasseter, chief creative officer of Pixar and Disney Animation, had the "Big Hero 6" team put up images of every movie robot they could think of, from C-3PO to lesser-known Japanese designs.

Lisa Keene, an artist charged with hashing out initial sketches of characters and scenery, came up with the idea that the robot should be huggable.

Hall toured robotics labs from Tokyo to Cambridge, Mass., searching for inspiration. That's a tradition that dates back to at least 1941, when Walt Disney and a group of animators visited Latin America, a trip that inspired 1944's "The Three Caballeros." Lasseter's animators went scuba diving while working on "Finding Nemo" and toured Norway to seek design inspiration for "Frozen."

At Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Hall found engineers working on inflatable robots, in particular nurses who could comb hair or feed patients.

"If you're actually going to touch someone, you need to be safe and soft," said Chris Atkeson, a professor of robotics at Carnegie Mellon, who met with Hall during his research.

In the movie, Baymax is a "personal health-care companion," programmed to scan humans and administer aid. He becomes much more after being adopted by Hiro, a teenage robotics prodigy who sets out to battle a villain who has stolen his big invention. Baymax turns into a surrogate for Hiro's lost family member.

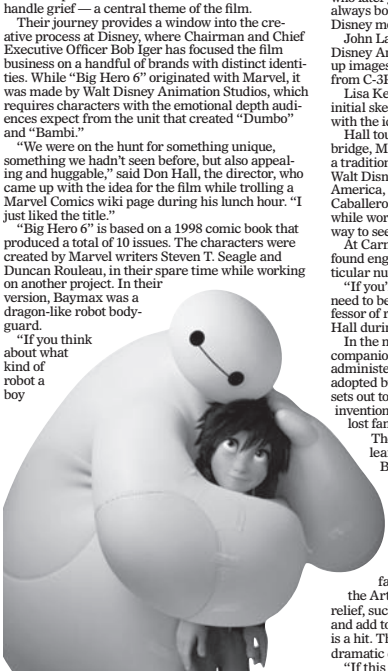
The directors brought in grief experts to learn how kids deal with loss, Hall said.

Baymax's soft, round eyes came to Hall on a trip to Japan, after seeing bells in a Tokyo temple.

"There's something so peaceful and calming about that," Hall said.

Loveable sidekicks play a big role in Disney films for a number of reasons, according to Fran Krause, an animation faculty member at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, Calif. They serve as comic relief, such as Robin Williams' genie in "Aladdin," and add to the sales of licensed merchandise if a film is a hit. They also aid in storytelling by providing a dramatic counterpoint to a lead character.

"If this kid is hard-edged, he contrasts with a softer-edged character," Krause said.



Disney has another animated hit with adorable 'Big Hero 6'

BY ROGER MOORE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

"Big Hero 6" is Walt Disney Animation's lovely and sometimes touching attempt to do anime with computer-generated animation. Based on Marvel comic book characters, it's a story-driven, kid-pleasing mashup of plots, situations and ideas from scads of earlier tales of misfits battling a supervillain.

It's lightly amusing, even though it isn't about the gags. It's a potential franchise-starter, even though it rarely feels that cynical. And when it hits its sentimental third-act sweet spot, you will be touched. That rampant display of heart makes this the best message-driven cartoon since "Wall-E."

In the not-distant future, San Francisco has morphed into San Fransokyo, a pan-Asian megalopolis where young genius Hiro Hamada (Ryan Potter) wastes his talent building robots for "Bot Fighting," which he then gambles on. He's just been convinced to go to college with his brilliant brother, Tadashi, at the "Nerd University," where all the sharpest minds, led by the legendary Professor Callaghan (James Cromwell), are inventing the future.

Hiro's foot in the door? Microrobots that clump into whatever their controller needs them to be — structures, transportation, "the only limit is your imagination."

But Tadashi and Callaghan die in a fire, and the only thing that pulls Hiro out of his grief is his brother's legacy, a prototype semi-inflatable personal health-care assistant robot named Baymax.

Baymax is a great sight gag — a bloated "walking marshmallow" with a kindly, insistent bedside manner. But he has skills that lead Hiro to conclude his brother was murdered, perhaps by a supervillain, and that Baymax can help him find the killer.

The "misfits" who help them are his brother's inventive classmates — nicknamed Go Go (Jamie Chung), Honey Lemon (Genesis Rodriguez) and Wasabi (Damon Wayans Jr.) by the goofball Freddy (T.J. Miller).

Yes, most every ingredient does seem created by a marketing committee, from the post-racial cast to the merchandise-friendly aggregation of robots and special-skills humans.

But Baymax is more than just a ginger-footed joke who masters the fist-bump in the most adorable way, more than a huggable toy showing up in time for Christmas. He responds to cries of pain. He exists to protect, comfort, diagnose and heal. And it takes all of Hiro's vengeful hatred to turn him from fluffy nurturer into an armored warrior capable of facing down this Kabuki-masked villain who might be responsible for Tadashi's death.

The messages are overwhelmingly positive, from "I'm not giving up on you" to "Seatbelts save lives." It's a Marvel movie, so look for a Stan Lee cameo as well as the obligatory "outcasts" storyline. As story and characters go, this is a PG and Earthbound "Guardians of the Galaxy."

It's manipulative and overlong, too loud and "Incredibles" action-packed for the very young. But the manipulation errs on the side of mercy, compassion, sacrifice and humanity.

And the tone for "Hero" is actually set by a jewel of a Disney short attached to it. "Feast" is an almost wordless, verge-of-tears comic look at a dog's life, from starving on the street to wallowing in his new master's junk food, to the dietary challenges of dating and marriage. It's just adorable.

"Big Hero 6" is rated PG for action and peril, some rude humor, and thematic elements. Running time: 102 minutes.

New on base

"Big Hero 6" is playing at these military facilities:

Europe
Lakenheath, Mildenhall, Ansbach, Baumholder, Grafenwöhr, Hohenfels, Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Stuttgart, Vilseck, Wiesbaden, Aviano, Vicenza and Brunssum.

Pacific
Misawa, Showboat, Village, Benny Decker, Negishi, Yokota, Zama, Foster, Kadena, Kinser, Courtney, Yongsan South Post No. 1, Casey, Henry, Humphreys, Kunsan and Osan.

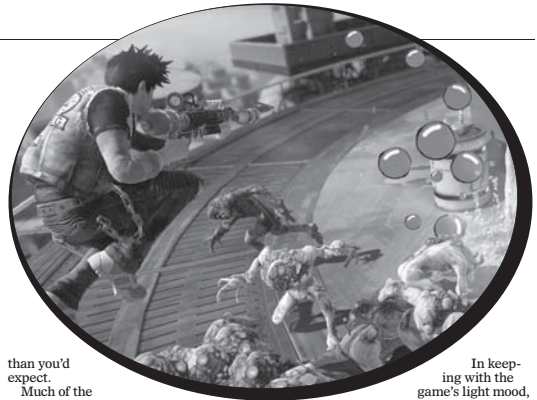
Online: movies.disney.com/big-hero-6.com

BROADWAY KINO MOVIE MAGIC
Digital 3D
Ramstein-Süd / Landstuhl
For reservations & information call 06371-937037
Next to Autobahn A6, Exit 13 (Landstuhl)
Merkurstraße 9, 66877 Ramstein - Miesenbach
6 THEATRES, THX, EX and all Digital Sound
Website submit kmc Submit
www.broadwaykino.com/kmc
THUR NOV 06 - WED NOV 12
In Digital 3D: Big Hero 6(PG)- Fri 15:45, 18:00, 20:00, 22:45, Sat 13:30, 15:45, 18:00, 20:00, 22:30, Sun 13:30, 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, Mon & Tue 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:30, Wed 16:00, 18:00, 20:30
Annabelle (R)- Thur 20:30, Fri 20:00, Sat 22:45, Sun 20:00, Mon 14:00, Tue 14:00, 20:30, Wed 20:30
Dracula Untold (R)- Thur 16:00, Fri 22:30, Mon & Tue 20:45, Wed 16:00
Gone Girl (R)- Sat & Sun 13:30, Mon & Tue 14:00
Guardians of the Galaxy (PG13)- Mon & Tue 14:00
Interstellar (PG13) Thur 16:30, 18:00, 19:45, Fri 15:45, 17:00, 19:00, 20:30, 22:00, Sat 13:30, 15:15, 17:00, 18:30, 20:30, 22:00, Sun 13:30, 15:15, 17:00, 18:30, 20:15, Mon & Tue 14:00, 16:30, 17:30, 19:45, Wed 16:30, 18:00, 19:45,
The Maze Runner (PG13)- Thur 16:00, Mon & Tue 14:00
BROADWAY „BARGAIN TUESDAY"
ALL shows 5 € per person"!
Not on holidays / Overlength & 3D price increase !
Kino = Movie - Movie = Kino

WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES

An open world with NO RULES

Parkour-inspired shooter 'Sunset Overdrive' delivers action, plenty of zombie-slaying fun



By Brian Bowers
Stars and Stripes

Overall grade: B+

I realized I might be playing a little too much "Sunset Overdrive" when I had to suppress the urge to jump onto my stairway banister and grind to the bottom.

As the hero of the open-world adventure, I could skim along electrical lines, grind atop guardrails, bounce off car roofs and — of course — blast mutants with a strange assortment of weapons. The antics just seemed natural after a few hours.

"Sunset Overdrive" delivers a lot of fun, but it also offers plenty of elements that we've seen before. It most closely resembles a combination of "Dead Rising" and "inFamous." You kill hordes of mutants/zombies while wielding bizarre weapons, just like "Dead Rising." And you have unusual powers that are similar to those used in "inFamous." And you explore a large urban world, like a half-dozen other games that have appeared in the past year or so.

It's tempting to say that "Overdrive" is simply Microsoft Games' attempt to give Xbox something comparable to "inFamous," which is available only on PlayStation. However, the game moves beyond clone status by offering its own interesting story and characters, as well as a hyperactive skater vibe and an offbeat sense of humor.

You start by creating a character. Unfortunately, the options are relatively limited. You have two male and two female body types to choose from, along with about 30 faces and 20 hairstyles, which isn't much when compared to many other games. You also start off with a limited selection of clothing and accessories, but you gain access to more as the game progresses.

One nice feature is the ability to change every aspect of your character's appearance by simply visiting the clothing vendor. So if you're tired of being a muscular dude with a shaved head and beard, you can switch to a svelte woman with a mohawk.

As the story opens, your job involves picking up trash at a special event that's launching a new energy drink called Overcharge Delirium XT. Unfortunately, the drink's maker, Fizzco, didn't do enough testing before unveiling the new product. The result is a concoction that turns people into mutants with an incredible mean streak.

At this point, your only mission is to learn the skills needed to stay alive. For some reason, you seem to be blessed with the world's most advanced parkour abilities. You can jump atop an object and bounce high into the air. You can bound onto a guardrail and grind like a skateboarder for blocks. You can sprint along vertical surfaces. And you can fall from a skyscraper and remain unscathed. As the game progresses, you can learn how to zip through the air for short distances or skate across a river as if it were covered by ice.

You will also upgrade your combat and parkour skills by creating "amps," which are concoctions made from such precious artifacts as toilet paper and smelly old sneakers.

The game's primary missions are woven into a story that's light but very engaging. The writers took the time to develop a world packed with interesting events, diverse activities and unusual people.

As a result, Sunset City is much richer than you'd expect.

Much of the game's flavor revolves around its nonplayer characters. These include several bands of survivors: a herd of rich tech nerds; a scout troop that's been taken over by a megalomaniac; a band of live-action role-players who think they're in the Middle Ages; and a group of ninja-nurses who dress like cheerleaders and wear Day of the Dead face paint. Stereotypes abound, but the game also delivers plenty of quirky jabs in unexpected places.

These factions and the game's other nonplayer characters offer quests and issue challenges that range from the typical (gathering six Fizzco mascots to make an "amp") to the unusual (smashing mutants with a wrecking ball). The variety is very refreshing after slogging through games that continually repeat the same basic activities.

The game also provides a strange selection of weapons, including contraptions that shoot vinyl records, exploding teddy bears, acid, harpoons and bolts of electricity. The variety is necessary because you'll be fighting a wide range of mutants, as well as renegade humans and Fizzco security robots.

The game also offers a multiplayer mode known as "Chaos Squad." Up to eight players can participate in a series of brief missions that earn loot and experience that transfer into the campaign mode. These activities usually involve eradicating mutants, but also add a few twists and challenges to make things interesting — and more chaotic.

In keeping with the game's light mood, the graphics are bright — almost electric. And while there's no attempt to be hyper-realistic, there's plenty of depth, detail and texture.

The controls are well designed and efficient. They're also pretty forgiving. As a result, it's easy — and fun — to jump, slide, bounce and shoot in quick succession.

The game receives a mature rating because of violence, gore and profanity. But unlike many games, you can turn off the gore and profanity.

I had a lot of fun playing "Sunset Overdrive" — almost as much as I had last year with "Dead Rising 3" and with "Saints Row IV," which offered a similar mix, with its big city, special powers and aliens. And that's the game's weakness: It's arriving late to a party that's already pretty full.

Bottom line: B+ "Sunset Overdrive" might feel familiar, but there's still plenty of action and fun to be found.

Platform: Xbox One
Online: xbox.com/sunsetoverdrive

Leap off buildings, run along walls and grind power lines and rails to destroy your zombie foes from every angle in "Sunset Overdrive." Collect and upgrade an arsenal of unconventional weapons that use items like fireworks, harpoons and acid to destroy your enemies in this third-person shooter.

Photos courtesy of Microsoft Studios

Many more staff-written game reviews at stripes.com/military-life

THE EUROPE EXPERIENCE

DO THIS:

See Paris in a retro Citroën 2CV

Venice has its gondolas, London has its double-decker buses, New York has its taxis and Paris has its — Citroën 2CVs? Yep, a company called 4 Roues Sous 1 Parapluie (4 Wheels Under 1 Umbrella) offers tours year-round through the streets of Paris in quirky retro Citroën 2CVs with nattily dressed chauffeurs who regale passengers with tour information.

The company offers 21 "escapades" in the City of Light, including: a ride to the Eiffel Tower or Champs-Elysées, Paris by night, unknown Paris, secret Paris, Paris Impressionism, Paris museums, romantic locations, Paris in Cinema, city gardens, a tour for children and Paris a la Carte.

Prices range from a 15-minute ride for 10 euros to a trip including a three-hour garden stroll for 100 euros. Drives also may be combined with lunches, such as at the 58 Restaurant at the Eiffel Tower (40 euros; other lunches cost 50 euros), dinners (50 euros), wine tastings and cabaret performances.

Care to take on the streets of the French capital by yourself? It's also possible to rent one of the historic vehicles for one or two days.

Not in Paris? The company also offers tours of the Isle de France; Picardy, France; and London.

Find more information at: 4roues-sous-1parapluie.com/EN/index.html.

Courtesy of 4 Roues Sous 1 Parapluie

According to the website for 4 Roues Sous 1 Parapluie (4 Wheels Under 1 Umbrella), the company's name comes from the term given to the Citroën 2CV by Pierre-Jules Boulanger, director of the car company in 1935. Passengers may view Paris' monuments and cobblestone streets and cobblestone streets easily, thanks to the retro car's convertible top.

TOP TRAVEL PICKS

Motorbikes in Milan

The vast motorcycle exhibition known as EICMA celebrates an impressive milestone this year. As the show's first edition was held in 1914, the event can now look back on a hundred years of history. The 2014 edition of the event will also boast of a new name: Worldwide Motorcycle Exhibition.

The world's largest annual motorcycle and power sports trade show typically attracts more than half a million visitors from around the world. Last year, more than 1,400 exhibitors from 38 countries displayed motorbikes, parts, clothing, accessories and related products. Manufacturers often use EICMA to debut new or significantly revamped models: the trade press indicates that Ducati, Husqvarna and Yamaha might well unveil something to wow the crowds.

Other components of the exhibition include a custom area where quality, handcrafted motorbikes are shown, as well as an area focusing on biker safety. The MotoLive arena offers a diverse program of competitions, acrobatics and other performances, test rides and riding lessons.

The event is open to the public through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Adults pay 18 euros (about $23) to enter, those ages 7-16 or over 65 pay 12 euros, and those 6 and under enter for free.

Karen Bradbury

See the Europe Traveler blog at **stripes.com/travel/europe-travel**

Women of all ages enjoy free admission on Friday only. The venue, the Fiera Milano Rho, is accessible by public transportation. Learn more at eicma.it/en.

Craft beer in Ferrara

Ferrara, Italy, a splendid renaissance city of art on the banks of the Po River, offers another good reason for visiting through the weekend: sampling craft beer.

About 30 producers of quality brews will introduce consumers to hundreds of beers. Live entertainment includes musicians and street acts. A wide range of snacks from sweet to savory will assuage appetites.

The fair is open 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following day on Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to midnight on Sunday.

Entry costs 3 euros for all attendees age 10 and over. A free shuttle bus runs between the city's railway station and the venue, the Ferrara Fiere fairgrounds. Learn more at mastrobirraioferrara.com.

Lord Mayor's Show

Although many of Europe's best-loved events have centuries of tradition behind them, few can trace their lineage farther back than the Lord Mayor's Show, which has survived a remarkable 799 years of London's history.

The lord mayor of London, not to be confused with the mayor himself, is the governing officer of the city of London and serves as an ambassador of sorts for the United Kingdom's financial and business services. Alderman Alan Yarrow has been elected the 687th lord mayor, a role he will take on the day before the show on Saturday.

The event harks back to 1215 and the reign of King John, who wished to win support from the citizens of London by allowing them to choose their own mayor. But there was a stipulation: Immediately following his election, the mayor had to travel upriver to Westminster and swear loyalty to the crown.

The event grew into one of the city's favorite rituals, taking place over the years by barge, horseback and, today, in a state coach. The coach, now more than 250 years old, has been used in each show since it was built.

The River Pageant begins with a flotilla setting off from near Westminster Bridge at 8:30 a.m., traveling down the Thames to arrive at Tower Bridge at 9:25 a.m.

The land-based procession departs from the lord mayor's residence, Mansion House, at 11 a.m. and makes its way first to St. Paul's Cathedral and then to the Royal Courts, returning from there along the Victoria Embankment at around 1 p.m.

Three miles' worth of floats and some 7,000 participants make up the procession; a spectator could spend more than an hour watching them all go by. Around half a million people turn out to watch, and many more tune in to watch the spectacle broadcast live.

Another of the day's highlights is the fireworks, which will go off at 5:15 p.m. between Waterloo and Blackfriar's Bridges.

Organizers strongly suggest using any form of transportation other than your own vehicle. See http://lordmayorsshow.london.

Courtesy of TC Motography

A Venetian fashion blogger and motorcycle enthusiast who goes by the single name Babila participates in the EICMA, precursor to what is now known as the Worldwide Motorcycle Exhibition, in Milan.

Looking for even more to do? For additional events, concerts and activities, go to stripes.com/military-life

Stuttgart by double-decker

Bus makes a fine way to see Germany's sixth-largest city

By John Vandiver
Stars and Stripes

I've seen the ubiquitous red double-decker bus zoom past too many times to count. Near the Mercedes-Benz Museum, around Schlossplatz and patrolling the bucolic hills surrounding Stuttgart, Germany.

I've even watched it, almost daily, pass the U.S. Army's Robinson Barracks. Recently, I decided it was time to get on board and see what it was all about.

The tour starts at the city tourism center on Königstrasse, across from Stuttgart's main train station. The tour costs 15 euros and lasts roughly 100 minutes if you stay on the bus and listen to the recorded narration of the city's history. Or you can hop on and off at various stops to explore museums and scenic walking trails.

The first bus stop is the Schlossplatz, the unofficial heart of Stuttgart, where the Old Castle and the New Castle are situated.

For anyone stationed in the area, there probably isn't much that's new to explore here. It's the main city square with all that entails — scores of shops, cafes, restaurants and museums.

After a quick tour through the city center, the bus winds through Stuttgart's mainly working-class east side. At the start of the Industrial Revolution, Stuttgart was a small city, with only about 20,000 inhabitants. That soon changed, and industry was a big part of the reason.

In the east, housing colonies for workers were set up that brought workers a relatively high quality of life. Homes at the time included running water and gardens — and the bus takes you past some of those that still stand.

The tour hits various sights, such as a kitschy museum dedicated to the pig — the Schweinemuseum purports to house the biggest collection of pig memorabilia in the world. Probably the most popular stop is the renowned Mercedes-Benz Museum in Bad Canstatt, Stuttgart's oldest residential zone.

After passing the Mercedes museum, the bus climbs the hills on the north side of town, stopping near Robinson Barracks. Here, riders can stroll through the hilly vineyards overlooking the city.

While Germany is famous for its beer, Stuttgart is arguably more of a wine town. Annual wine consumption in Stuttgart is twice the rate of the rest of Germany — a little trivia tidbit courtesy of the recorded tour bus guide.

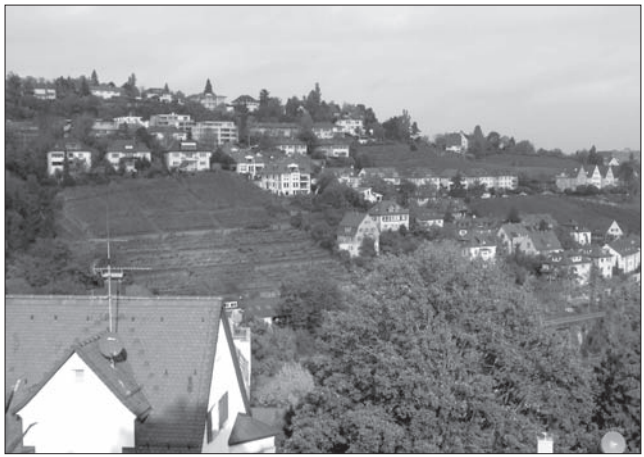
While I generally find recorded guides sleep-inducing, this tour features a nice conversation (in English) between a grandfather and grandson, who together explore the history of Stuttgart. Sure, it was kind of corny, but it kept my attention.

The bus then heads for Killesberg Park, a quiet green space with lots of walking trails. The Weissenhof estate, a collection of Bauhaus-style homes considered to be an important 20th-century architectural achievement, is also located here.

While much of Stuttgart lacks the kind of medieval toy-town charm you find in other cities in the area — a consequence of World War II bombing that leveled most of the city — there is much to appreciate here.

Stuttgart is certainly not New York or Paris, but a tour through Germany's sixth-largest city offers a good overview for both the day-tripper and newcomer. It also serves as a good reminder of just how lovely Stuttgart is for those who have been around awhile.

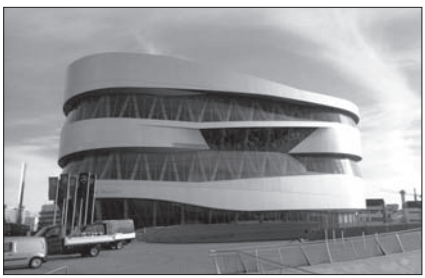
vandiver.john@stripes.com



PHOTOS BY JOHN VANDIVER/Stars and Stripes

Vineyards and residential areas are next-door neighbors in Stuttgart, Germany. A year-round bus tour takes riders through downtown areas of the city as well as up into the hills.

Stuttgart offers year-round bus tours that allow riders to hop on and off at various sites. A 24-hour bus pass costs 15 euros.



The Mercedes-Benz Museum, which includes an extensive collection of cars and details the history of the automobile, is one of the more popular stops on the tour.

Stars and Stripes

ON THE QT

TICKETS
Tickets for the Stuttgart city bus tour can be purchased on the bus or at the tourism office on Königstrasse.

TIMES
In November and December, tours run at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays; hourly from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. January through March, tours run 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily. April through October, daily tours run hourly from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

COSTS
A day pass costs 15 euros.

FOOD
None offered on the tour, but you can find places to eat while off the bus.

INFORMATION
Stuttgart tourism website: stuttgart-tourist.de/en

— John Vandiver

Photos by Nancy Montgomery/Stars and Stripes

The only guns — "schioppi" — at Antico Ristorante Agli Schioppi are these, mounted on the wall.

After Hours: Italy

By Nancy Montgomery
Stars and Stripes

I'm still not certain what Antico Ristorante Agli Schioppi means.

Antico is old. *Ristorante* speaks for itself. *Agli* seems to signify of. Or possibly at.

And *Schioppi*, if Google Translate can be believed, means guns.

But the Old Restaurant of the Guns is a bright, modern space with nary an outlaw. There's no elk on the menu or game of any kind other than duck, made into a ragout and served over *bigoli*, Vicenza's big, fat spaghetti.

There are indeed guns — two mounted rifles, flanking a wall full of liquors.

But what I think the name really signifies is the traditional Vicenza dishes served at the restaurant: *bacala*, the salted codfish Vicenzans seem so fond of; a Veneto-style pasta and bean soup; a Venetian-style calf's liver; and local cured meats and cheeses.

Popular with local businesspeople at lunch and kind of romantic at dinner, the restaurant is located on a square near an ancient city gate and a block away from the Corso Palladio, Vicenza's main shopping street.

The menu, available in a multiplicity of languages, even Russian, includes pasta, chicken, fish and beef to appeal to a wide variety of palates, divided into about seven each of appetizers, first and second courses.

Some seem exotic to Americans — the stewed snails Veneto style, for example, or the cheese pudding and lukewarm chanterelle mushroom salad, both appetizers. But give them a chance. I've eaten here several times, and everything is always good.

The grilled veal cutlet and the roast sea bream are two of my favorite entrees, and I once had a spaghetti with meat sauce as a first course that was so satisfying I did not have a second.

At a recent lunch I had the pasta with local black truffle. It's simply prepared, swimming in butter and olive oil, yet still begging for parmesan. I ate only half and could not button my coat afterward.

I also got the calf's liver with onions and polenta. Many people don't like liver. I always did, until once I ordered it on my birthday at an expensive restaurant in New York. Why would anyone get liver on her birthday? Crazy.

So it had been a while. The liver was tender and mild and I liked it, although not as much as my dog did. Usually a very picky eater who turns his head in disgust at food offerings, he gobbled up the tiny pieces I offered him.

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com

One room of two at Antico Ristorante Agli Schioppi features a "tromp l'oeil" on the wall.

ANTICO RISTORANTE AGLI SCHIOPPI

Address: Piazza Del Castello; 36100 Vicenza
Times: Lunch noon to 2 p.m.; dinner 7-10:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Closed Sunday and Monday.
Costs: Appetizers, first and second plates run about 9 euros to 14 euros. Desserts cost between 4 euros and 6 euros.
Attire: Casual.
Menu: Italian, English, French, Russian.
Information: Telephone: (39) 0444-543701; info@ristoranteaglischioppi.com.

— Nancy Montgomery

Pasta with black truffles is almost always on the menu at Antico Ristorante Agli Schioppi.

Venetian-style liver and onions at the Vicenza restaurant comes on a bed of polenta.

Don't limit pumpkin to boring pie filling

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Behold the pumpkin, plump harbinger of autumn. Unfortunately, as much as Americans love it, we tend to limit the poor pumpkin by thinking of it only as a pie filling. Here are two yummy pumpkin recipes that will have you using your gourd.

SALTED CARAMEL-SWIRLED PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE BARS

Ingredients:

1 stick unsalted butter
1 cup graham cracker crumbs
¾ cup light brown sugar, packed
1 tablespoon cornstarch
Pinch salt, optional
1 egg
6 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature and very soft
½ cup granulated sugar
⅓ heaping cup pumpkin puree
2½ teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
½ cup store-bought thick salted caramel sauce (Note: Do not use ice cream or sundae sauce made with corn syrup listed as the first ingredient; it will be too thin.)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with aluminum foil, leaving an overhang on 2 sides, and spray with cooking spray. Set aside.

For the crust: In a medium, microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter, about 1 minute on high power. Add the graham cracker crumbs, brown sugar, cornstarch and salt, if using. Mix well with a fork to combine. Pour the crumbs into the prepared pan and use a spatula to pack the mixture firmly into the pan in an even, flat layer. Set aside.

For the filling: In a medium bowl (you can use the same, unwashed bowl), combine egg, cream cheese, sugar, pumpkin, pumpkin pie spice and vanilla, and whisk (or use a mixer) until smooth and combined. The softer the cream cheese, the easier the mixture comes together. Add the flour and mix just to incorporate. Do not overmix.

Pour the filling into the crust. Top with caramel sauce, swirled in a fanciful design.

Bake 40 minutes or until center is set with very little jiggle; some looseness is OK, but there should be no sloshing in the center. A toothpick inserted in the center should come out mostly clean or with just a few moist crumbs. Cool bars in pan for 1 hour before lifting out, using the foil overhang, and slicing. They are best when served chilled: Cover the pan with foil and refrigerate 2 hours or overnight before slicing and serving. Bars will keep in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

Yield: 12 servings, 331 calories each.

PUMPKIN SOUP

Ingredients:

2 (2-pound) pie pumpkins or 3 cups canned puree
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 medium onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, sliced
1 tablespoon brown sugar
1 teaspoon paprika
⅛ teaspoon (2 pinches) cayenne pepper, optional
1 teaspoon nutmeg
3 cups vegetable stock or chicken stock
½ cup coconut milk
Salt and pepper
Creme fraiche, optional

Directions:

If using canned pumpkin, begin with step No. 2. If using fresh pumpkin, preheat oven to 350 degrees. Slice off tops of pie pumpkins and cut pumpkins into quarters; remove seeds and stringy bits. Place pumpkin quarters on an ungreased baking sheet and roast 30 to 35 minutes until soft. When cool enough to touch, remove and discard the skins (they will come off easily). Set pumpkin aside.

Put oil in a large pot over medium-high heat, add onions and saute until softened, 3 to 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 30 seconds to 1 minute. Add brown sugar, paprika, optional cayenne and nutmeg and stir 30 seconds to 1 minute until well mixed and fragrant. Stir in pumpkin and add vegetable stock.

Bring to a simmer and cook 20 minutes. Add coconut milk and mix thoroughly. Add salt and pepper to taste. Puree in a blender or use an immersion blender. Serve hot, topped with a dollop of creme fraiche or a sprinkling of nutmeg if desired.

Yield: 4 servings, 241 calories each.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Savory pumpkin soup is one way to use the mighty pumpkin other than in a pie.

Charm amid conflict

It's easy to forget the war in Ukraine on a visit to Lviv

A bride rests at a cafe in Lviv after a photo session. Brides and grooms frequently pose for photographers on the streets of this western Ukrainian city.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS
STARS AND STRIPES

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

When Katya Andrushenko fled the bloody fighting in her hometown of Donetsk, Ukraine, months ago, she sought refuge 1,000 miles away in the picturesque western Ukrainian city of Lviv, which is regarded by many as the loveliest of all in this troubled land.

Against a backdrop of stylish cafes, beautiful architecture and a buzzing street scene, it's easy to forget during a stroll through Lviv that this is a country at war. Andrushenko, a 21-year-old student who works at a downtown kiosk that raises supplies for troops in the east, is one of the reminders.

"Our soldiers don't have enough to eat. They don't have warm clothes," said Andrushenko. "Winter is coming and many don't even have socks for their feet."

When asked why she chose Lviv as her refuge from the fighting, she said: "Why not? It is a beautiful place."

And so it is, with a history to go with it that is as long as it is complex.

Established more than 750 years ago, Lviv was once a major trade route in medieval Europe and at different times fell under Hungarian, Polish, Austrian, Russian and German rule. The influences can be seen in the architecture around Lviv's old town, home to a mix of well-preserved buildings that combine Italian Renaissance styles with later baroque period structures designed by German and Dutch architects.

Walking along old cobblestone streets you'll encounter one impressive church after another. Any day of the week, worshipers can be seen inside solemnly crossing themselves. Religion is alive here.

The top attraction is Market Square, which 700 years ago served as a major hub for merchants from across Europe and even Asia, who traded in everything from silver and leather to silk and wine.

Today, Market Square is still the heart of the old town, where instead of traders you're more likely to encounter university students, tourists and coffee enthusiasts.

Coffee shops are everywhere in Lviv, which hosts an annual coffee festival celebrating the city's love affair with the drink.

For a photo gallery of scenes from Lviv, Ukraine, go to **stripes.com/go/Lviv**

Some argue that Lviv's unbridled passion for java makes Vienna — a coffee mecca — feel like a tea town.

That may or may not be true, but one thing is certain: You will pay far less for coffee (and just about everything else) in Lviv than you will in other parts of Europe. Your dollars go a long way here — coffee under a dollar and a big beer less than $2.

Another must-see is the Lviv Opera House, which was built more than 100 years ago and sits on a public square that is a popular meeting place for residents.

Other landmarks include the Bernardine Monastery, which dates to the early 1600s, and Chapel of the Boim family, a Renaissance-style monument with elaborate stone carvings on the face of the church that depict biblical scenes.

Still, for me, the nicest thing to do in Lviv is to simply find a pleasant side street cafe where you can sip on a coffee or wine and watch people going about their business.

If you do that long enough, you are likely to see something strange.

During my stay, I noticed a Lviv phenomenon that bordered on the bizarre: the overwhelming presence of young women striking earnest, model-like poses around town. After seeing one passer-by after another attempt Vogue-like moves in front of random sites — I must have witnessed at least 100 separate incidents over the course of several days — I concluded that every woman here thinks she's a model.

A winged figure representing glory and holding a golden palm leaf tops the facade of the Opera House in Lviv.

My traveling companion concurred that it was all rather odd. But the steady stream of model wannabes accompanied by friends happily snapping picture after picture also made clear that, for all its trouble, life, at least in this part of Ukraine, goes on.

Still, the reminders of the war in the east pop up here and there. Inside one church, money was being collected to buy helmets for soldiers. In another church, there was a memorial to fallen troops with pictures of the dead.

Hundreds of troops have been killed in fighting in the east since March, when Russia formally annexed the country's Crimea peninsula.

While life in Lviv still happily beats along, the war is on everyone's mind, said Andrushenko, the transplant from Donetsk who collects supplies for troops.

"We have many people come here to give something (for the soldiers)," said Andrushenko, who was wearing a donated German-made army jacket.

How German army gear ended up in Lviv isn't clear, but the soldiers in the east say they are well-made and warm.

"They like these very much," she said. "They are very good."

vandiver.john@stripes.com

A used-book market behind Lviv's Church of the Holy Eucharist features, appropriately enough, a statue of Ivan Fedorov, a 16th-century printer.

LESS IS MORE.
2015 S80 AFFORDABLE LUXURY
$38,340 - $6895 = $31,445
YOUR AFL PRICE
06134 - 284943 | autohaus-haese.de | Boelckestr. 38, Wiesbaden

WEEKEND: TRAVEL

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Across from the monument to national poet Taras Shevchenko, Katya Andrushenko, center, tries to collect money to buy socks for Ukrainian soldiers fighting in the east.

A woman poses for a photo with the statue of Leopold von Sacher-Masoch in Lviv. Sacher-Masoch, an Austrian writer born in the city, is best-known in the English-language world for his novel "Venus in Furs" and for the word masochism, which is derived from his name.

KNOW & GO: LVIV, UKRAINE

Getting there

Lviv has an international airport with carriers such as Turkish Air and Lufthansa flying into the city.

Where to stay

There are plenty of offerings around the historic old town area, with hotels ranging from three to five stars and meeting every price range.

NOGA AMI-RAV/Stars and Stripes

What to drink

In Lviv, be sure to try the coffee, which the city is best known for. Also taste one of the fantastic infused vodkas. There are too many cafes to mention in the old town, so just pick one to your liking.

What to eat

Food can be hit or miss. While there is much to love about Lviv, I found the cuisine lacking. Some people say good things about the Gaslamp, one of the more popular eateries in town. Just stay away from the fish. I wish I had.

Information

For events, tours, a city map and hotels, see the city's imaginative website: justlviv.it/en.

— John Vandiver

Restaurant Directory GERMANY

Idar-Oberstein

Das original Spießbratenhaus
Restaurant Alte-Kanzlei
Gaucho Steakhaus
The place to go for the original open fire grilled Gaucho style steaks!
Hauptstrasse 432 • 55743 Idar - Oberstein
06781-28059/367733
www.restaurant-altekanzlei.de

Mainz / Wiesbaden area

Saytoune Cuisine Oriental
Wilhelm Strasse 52
65183 Wiesbaden
0611-3086110

Mainz / Wiesbaden area

PAPPELHAUS
Steinernstrasse 2,
55252 Mainz-Kastel
06134-5649669
Get our juicy Irish Angus Burger!

Kaiserslautern area

QUACK
Gasthaus & Biergarten
Inh. Sascha Gärtner
Enterweilerstraße 74
67657 Kaiserslautern
www.Quack-kl.de
Tel. 0631/42828

ENCHILADA - PURO MÉXICO!
Enchilada - Restaurant Bay Mexicano
Schützenhofstr. 3 65183 Wiesbaden
Tel: 0611 450483-50
wiesbaden@enchilada.com
www.enchilada.de

Okinii sushi & grill
Taunus Strasse 22
65183 Wiesbaden
Tel. 0611-23835808

China Restaurant China City
Mongolian Grill-Barbecue
All you can eat
Straßburger Allee 8 * KL
0631 303 7638 • Free parking

Gabriel's Ristorantino Original Mediterrane Küche
Erich- Ollenhauer- Strasse 106
65199 Wiesbaden • Tel. 0611-85834
www.gabriels-restaurant.de

Villa im Tal
Fine Dining - Events - Catering
Adamstal 4
65195 Wiesbaden
Tel. 0611-2386228
www.villaimtal.de

Holzofen Pizzeria Am Seewog
Waldstr. 40, 66877,
Ramstein-Miesenbach
Tel: 063719522955
Fax: 063719522944
www.seewoogpizzeria.de

Brauhaus Castel
Germany's Finest Beer and Authentic German Cuisine
Unit Parties for up to 200 guests
Otto Suhr Ring 27
55252 Mainz-Kastel
Tel. 06134-24999
www.brauhaus-castel.de

Nassaustrasse 6-8
65719 Hofheim-Wallau
06122-4022
www.smoketribebbq.com

iRish house KAISERSLAUTERN
Eselsfuerth 11
(Just off the A6 down the way from Sembach)
Open Daily
Taxi Services Available
Tel. 0631-40680 • www.irishhouse.de

Café Temptation
*reservations recommended
Walter-Hallstein Strasse 5-7
65197 Wiesbaden (5 minutes from the Hainerberg\PX area)
Tel. 0611-6091230
Email: info@cafe-temptation.de
www.cafe-temptation.de

Stuttgart

Kashmir Indian Restaurant
Authentic indian Cuisine
Esslinger Str. 11
Phone 0711-99 76 38 16
Leonberger Str. 97
Phone 07152-90 32 32

Jodena's Diner
Jodena's Diner
Seerobenstrasse 29
65195 Wiesbaden
(10 minutes from Hainerberg)
Tel. 0611-181 763 13
www.jodenas-diner.de
Follow us on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/jodenas

Hotel Directory GERMANY

COURTYARD WIESBADEN NORDENSTADT
Ostring 9
65205 Wiesbaden
www.courtyardwiesbaden.com
Book now! VAT form required, show your ID card. Book directly on marriott.com via your Mil. code.
T: +49 (0) 6122 801 0
F: +49 (0) 6122 801 800
M: reservations@courtyard-wiesbaden.de

Cozy Corners East
Eichendorffstraße 3, 92655 Grafenwöhr (Germany) 0175-7235641 or 01511-65708336 (USA) 253.314.8980
Email: info@cozycornerseast.com

Hotel Forsthaus by Garmisch
Free Breakfast, Family Apartments,
Ho Tub, Sauna, Dogs Welcome,
American/German Owned,
36 EUR/Person, Double Occupancy, Per Night.
Tel: 08824-9120 • Email: hotel@forsthaus-oberau.de
VAT Forms accepted! www.forsthaus-oberau.de

Hotel Am See
Kirchenthumbacher Str. 36
92676 Eschenbach
Tel: +49 (0)9645-8444 • Mobil: +49 (0)175-4024023
www.hotelamsee.de • hotelamsee@usa.net
FREE WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS
Situated on the shore of the Rußweiher

Hotel de France
"Historical Boutique Hotel in Wiesbaden's Taunusstraße"
Tel +49 (0)611-95 97 30
welcome@hoteldefrance.de
www.hoteldefrance.com
VAT Forms accepted / Credit Cards accepted.

Pullman Stuttgart Fontana
Vollmoellerstr. 5, 70563 Stuttart-Vaihingen
Tel: 0711-7300 • Email: h5425@accor.com
www.pullmanhotels.com
Near the beautiful city park, close to Kelly & Patch Barracks. A perfect place for overnight stays as well as conferences and parties.

THE PACIFIC EXPERIENCE

Photo courtesy of Sakura City Sightseeing Association

Japan: Sakura Jidai Matsuri Festival

This event commemorates the 400th anniversary of Sakura, a castle town from Edo Period (1603-1867) in Chiba prefecture. Visitors can see townspeople dressed in period clothing.

Japan: sumo tournament

This year-end tournament Nov. 9 to 23 in Fukuoka prefecture will be at Kyushu Basho. For more: sumo.or.jp/eng.

Japan: soba festival

The Nikko Soba Festival in Tochigi prefecture is Nov. 22 and 23. Taste soba from soba-making specialists at Nikko Daiyagawa Koren.

South Korea: Seoul Photo Festival

This free event Nov. 13 to Dec. 14 is an annual exhibition by professional and amateur photographers at Seoul Museum of Art. For more: tinyurl.com/nby9lwp.

Looking for even more to do? For additional events, concerts and activities, go to stripes.com/military-life

Est.1925 MARUARA WATANABE 荒 和雑貨丸荒渡辺

Cheerful KIMONO & Good Souvenir-shop

★GETA(Wooden Footwear) ★CHIRIMEN Bags
★SAMURAI-KIMONO ★YUKATA-KIMONO
★NOREN(Tapestry) ★JIKATABI(Japanese TABI Shoes)
★TENUGUI Cloth ★FUROSHIKI Wrapping Cloth
★CHIRIMEN (Japanese Crepe Cloth)

03-3461-0064 • www.maruara.com • info@maruara.com

Mon.- Fri.
11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Sat., Sun., Holidays
1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Closed on Wednesday
16-8, Udagawa-cho, Shibuya-ku, TOKYO

Use Your GI Bill to Earn an American Degree in Tokyo

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY Japan Campus

Admissions Counseling Office
2-8-12 Minami Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047
E-mail: ac@tuj.temple.edu Tel: 03-5441-9800
www.tuj.ac.jp #TUJapan

"ESCAPE TO THE HEART OF TOKYO!"

November

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Available Not Available

RESERVATIONS FOR ROOMS: room_rsv@thenewsanno.com
or DSN 229-7121 CML 03-3440-7871 EXT.7121

We will respond with a confirmation number or contact you if your first choice of dates is not available.
For current availability, call our Reservation Desk or check our website: www.thenewsanno.com
Available dates on the above calendars are subject to change without notice.

Like us on Facebook

THE NEW SANNO

WEEKEND

South Korea: N Seoul Tower

People visiting the National Museum of Korea are silhouetted against the N Seoul Tower in Seoul in late October. The tower was built in 1969 and opened to the general public in 1980. For more on the tower: nseoultower.co.kr/eng.

LEE JIN-MAN/AP

ON BASE ACTIVITIES

Events are as accurate as possible at press time. Since times or event schedules can change, please verify events before attending.

Japan

Atsugi MWR has a Before Christmas Flea Market & Craft Fair at Taylor Field 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Nov. 20. Visit Universal Studios Japan on Nov. 28 with ITT Tours.

Shop Yokota AAFES BX on Nov. 23 with **Yokosuka** Tours. It also has a trip Nov. 29 to see Tokyo German Village winter illumination.

Go to the U.S. MLB All-Star Team vs. Japanese National Team at Tokyo Dome with **Yokota** ITT on Nov. 15.

Trips with **Zama** Outdoor Recreation Center and Leisure Travel Service include Taya Cave, Kamakura and Enoshima Aquarium Nov. 11; Miyagase Christmas tree, 3-8:30 p.m. Dec. 7; and transportation to Disneyland & DisneySea on Dec. 13.

Guam

Hotspot at **Andersen** has a "Call of Duty — Ghosts" tournament on Nov. 14.

Okinawa

Visit Shuri Castle and Naha with **Foster, Kinser and Hansen** Tours on Nov. 22.

Kadena Outdoor Recreation has a ski and snowboard trip to Naeba Dec. 24 to 28.

HIMALAYAN HIKING

PHOTOS BY WHITNEY SHEFTE/The Washington Post

Above: The walk up from High Camp to Thorung La Pass along the Himalayan trail the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal takes about two and a half hours. Inset: Climbers begin their ascent to Thorung La Pass along the Annapurna Circuit at 5:30 a.m.

Life becoming more complex along Nepal's often-traveled Annapurna Circuit

BY ANUP KAPHLE AND WHITNEY SHEFTE
The Washington Post

We finally crossed Thorung La Pass after a grueling week of trekking the rugged terrains of the Annapurna Circuit. We congratulated ourselves, started descending, then stopped for a luncheon mixture of water, Nescafé and local alcohol. We took a small plane and then a large one, and only when we returned to Washington, D.C., did we hear the news. Death had missed us by two days.

A heavy blizzard and an avalanche had torn through the pass, killing at least 40 people, in what was one of the deadliest disasters on the Himalayan trail. We'd never even considered that we could be in any real danger. But the challenges of life along the trail in a poor, developing part of the world were never hard to see.

There were three in our party, two of us Washington Post journalists. During our week of trekking, we'd came across people and places in remote villages, where despite decades of tourism, little seemed to have changed in their lives. Boys as young as 14 worked as cooks and servers in the lodges that served the trekkers, and their one hope for earning a living was learning some English so they could work as guides. If they didn't speak English, they could work as porters, making far less.

The trail, which passed through some of the highest mountains in the country, was also a reminder of how this remote part of a poverty-stricken nation was grappling with global problems in its backyard. Glaciers that could be heard roaring behind the mountains, something that scientists have warned were melting faster than ever, because of the warming of the earth's temperature. Scientists say rising sea levels can mean bigger, more frequent storms like the cyclone blamed for causing the avalanche at Thorung La Pass. Life is growing more complicated along the trail, for residents and trekkers alike.

From left, Anup Kaphle, Whitney Shefte and Hugh Blodget Jr., pose for a photo at the top of Thorung La Pass, which sits at 17,769 feet in the Himalayas. Days after this photo was taken, an avalanche killed at least 39 people in the area.

Our plan to go trekking in Nepal first began almost a year ago over a copious amount of bad wine on the Amtrak. Anup was born in Nepal. Whitney is an avid rock climber, as is the third member of our party, Hugh Blodget Jr. Several people we knew had done the Annapurna Circuit. It is considered one of the best trekking routes in the world, one that involves walking for several weeks and crossing difficult terrains, including Thorung La Pass, which sits at an altitude of almost 18,000 feet.

Most people who attempt to cross the pass do not require any training, but the potential for acute altitude sickness remains, and it has taken lives of both foreigners and Nepalis in the past. So, like most enthusiastic foreigners who come to the Himalayas, we decided to trek the circuit without any technical preparation.

It couldn't have been a better season for trekking in Nepal. The monsoons had stopped, the clouds were gone and the mountains could not have looked any clearer. We hired a jeep to drive us to Besi Sahar, a small town to the east of Pokhara. When we reached Chyamche by the end of the evening, the jeep couldn't travel further because of a landslide that had walloped part of the road during the monsoon. By the time we spent the evening crossing the landslide, we were forced to spend the evening at a nearby village.

As dawn broke, it was hard to miss the orange-lit mountains along the road, although the rising sun was still hiding somewhere. Our driver, a 23-year-old man who had left a construction job in Udaipur, India, was — unlike most young drivers on the road — carefully maneuvering the turns. The bars on the cell phone slowly started falling, and then disappeared.

The driver agreed to drop us off a few miles ahead near a bridge in Bhratang. We offloaded our belongings, checked our gear, buckled the backpacks and were ready for the circuit. As we walked across the bridge, our porter said, "Sir, the real trekking begins right here." We would cross Thorung La in a week.

As we marched forward in the next couple of days, we knew we had slowly entered deep into the Manang valley, surrounded by the Annapurna range, the mountains looming ahead like a painting.

The motorbikes on the road, the poles that carried electric wires into the villages were all signs of how the Annapurna region has changed in the past couple of decades. While the idea of trekking in the mountains demands a cutoff from the outside world, the need for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

hikers to stay close to technology cannot be ignored. For a country that relies heavily on tourism and trekking, Nepal does not have a dependable weather system in place that warns trekkers and mountaineers about the impending dangers.

The gravel roads were adorned with Tibetan prayer wheels, some of which stretched for nearly a hundred meters. We obsessively rotated the wheels along the way. We thought we needed all of the luck, as well as strength, to cross Thorung La Pass.

Until two days before we would cross the pass, our only worry was if we would be able to secure any rooms for the night at the base camp. Hundreds of trekkers were on the circuit, and the camp could accommodate only so many.

High Camp itself is like a small village, with maybe a half dozen houses made from stones and tin roofs. At the camp, most foreigners were gathered in one room, sitting around tables, looking at maps and playing cards. The porters and guides all gathered in a separate room, one that had scattered mattresses and blankets in a corner, and a small television that played Bollywood movies in the other corner.

If there was one place where you could see the disparity between porters, guides and the trekkers, it was here at High Camp. Along the way, we met hundreds of workers — a few days earlier we met someone as young as 16, who was helping a dozen Italians climb the Pisang peak — most of them in flip flops, some maybe in locally-made canvas shoes. A few had boots. Daley himself was wearing a fake Mammut jacket with holes all over, one that hardly looked like it shielded him from the cold. We asked him if he needed a different one.

"No, I'm very warm," he said. "But if you have gloves, I could use them tomorrow."

Out in the courtyard of the camp, a porter, likely in his late 50s, arrived in a red fleece and a cap, carrying at least 60 pounds on his back, still gasping for air. At the end of the 15-day trek, he would receive maybe about $120, he said.

In one of the rooms, most of

WHITNEY SHEFTE/Washington Post

Trekkers enjoy meals and hot tea during their stay at High Camp before crossing Thorung La Pass in the Himalayas in South Asia.

us ordered fried yak cheese, deep-fried Snickers rolls, lasagna and hot chocolates. In the other rooms, the porters and guides waited until all the tourists had finished eating. They would all be served a giant lump of plain rice, some of which was left over from the previous night, to go with lentils and a side of potato curry cooked with soy bean nuggets.

When we woke up in the morning, High Camp had turned white with snow. We left at 5:30 in the morning, slowly stepping uphill, striking the walking pole slightly deeper into the soil as we marched ahead. It was freezing as we tracked the narrow path with headlamps, exhaling heavily. Ten steps would take 20 seconds, and after each 10 steps we would pause, catch our breath and continue to walk.

After a cold, excruciating two and a half hours, we were at the pass. An obnoxious French trekker did a somersault, the Germans waved their flags, we started posing for selfies. Daley went and stood in a corner at the tea shop and asked us if we wanted tea.

We had made it to the top. All three of us, without any headaches, any injuries. We hugged each other, drank our tea and then realized that what came next was probably even harder. Now we had to come down. In a matter of hours, we would be descending almost 5,000 feet. Our legs would refuse to pause as we walked on a steeply inclined narrow trail. It felt as if gravity was dragging us downhill, faster.

The moment our return flight landed, we learned of the avalanche.

Our hearts stopped. We paused, thanked the gods, and then the prayer wheels.

LARIS KARKLIS AND ANUP KAPHLE/THE WASHINGTON POST

PHOTOS BY ERIC GUZMAN/Stars and Stripes

Gyoza smothered in cheese appears more like lasagna than dumplings at Tiger Gyoza Hall in Tokyo.

After Hours: Japan

BY ERIC GUZMAN
Stars and Stripes

Gyoza is a staple at many a Tokyo eatery, but rarely is it the main attraction.

That changes at Tiger Gyoza Hall, 10 minutes from Shibuya Station in the ever-busy Udagawa-cho neighborhood.

The steamed and often lightly fried dumplings are to local Chinese restaurants what french fries are to the everyday American burger joint. Tiger Gyoza Hall's menu transforms them from a side dish into the menu's main attraction, serving up 14 styles that range from traditional pork and vegetable gyoza to cheese-grilled versions that appear to be more lasagna than dumpling.

There are other items on the menu, such as ramen, if you're not in the mood for gyoza, but the dumpling menu should be enough to satisfy even the hungriest customers.

To avoid falling behind on this year's wacky food trends, Tiger Gyoza Hall offers both Thai-style dumplings infused with a sriracha-like chili sauce and a "hot and spicy black meat" gyoza.

Chain restaurants like Burger King and McDonalds are offering black burgers this fall, and Tiger Gyoza Hall's answer is arguably the most palatable. Healthier and not as salty as its squid ink-infused competitors, Tiger Gyoza Hall's black dumplings are the clear winner for health conscious-types looking for their fill of blackened eats.

There are 14 types of dumplings, a staple in many a Tokyo eatery, to choose from at Tiger Gyoza Hall, as the name would suggest.

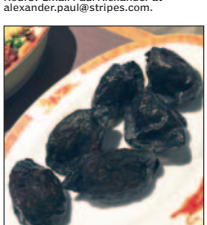
guzman.eric@stripes.com

Know a restaurant or entertainment spot you'd like to see reviewed in After Hours? Email Paul Alexander at alexander.paul@stripes.com.

TIGER GYOZA HALL

Access: Shibuya Station (Hachiko Gate)
Hours: 11 a.m to 4 a.m.
Costs: A plate of dumplings can run anywhere from 400 yen to 1,200 yen depending on style and portion size.
Food: Gyoza (dumplings) are the menu's main attraction.
Drinks: There are teas and soft drinks available, but the selection of Chinese, Korean and Japanese liquors are sure to impress those who prefer alcoholic beverages.
Menus: English menus are available, but there usually is an English-speaking staffer on hand to assist should any questions arise.
Phone: 03 (6427) 0427. Reservations are recommended if you're coming later in the evening. Seating is plentiful, but fills up fast at night.

— Eric Guzman



Tiger Gyoza Hall's black dumplings are offered for lovers of trendy blackened foods.

THE DECLINE OF THE MAJOR LABEL RAP ALBUM

Low record sales mean hip-hop artists must diversify to attract major music labels

BY JEFF WEISS / *Special to The Washington Post*

Hip-hop is a hypochondriac. Since its first records, the genre has reimagined and revised its own Edenic myth. For every Golden Age, there's a tin present, allegedly limping from commercial compromises and calorie-free lyrical content. Aside from maybe jazz, no other art form has so existentially lamented its decline from both internal and external boogeymen.

But even by normally cantankerous standards in which past glories are always greater than present achievements, 2014 has been underwhelming. The genre's most famous names (Jay Z, Eminem, Kanye West, Drake) haven't released commercial albums after each dropped new ones in 2013. But most young stars that emerged over the past several years (Kendrick Lamar, Chance the Rapper, J Cole, Odd Future, A$AP Rocky) have also been absent. Accordingly, A$AP Yams, who spearheaded A$AP Rocky's rise, proclaimed 2014 to be "the worst year in rap history."

There's some validity to the claim, especially if you use one specific set of criteria: From a strictly major-label perspective, this year's rap offerings haven't just been underwhelming, they've been almost nonexistent. Just a generation ago, major-label rap albums dominated release calendars, racked up millions in sales and were the home of many genre classics.

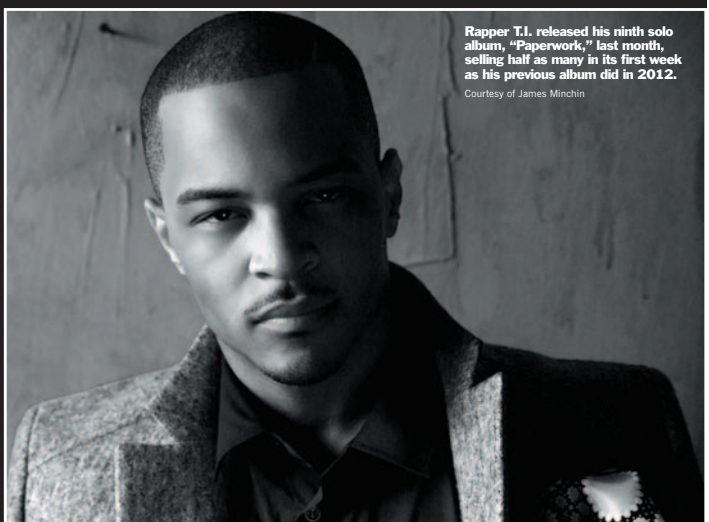
With music streaming cannibalizing record sales and leaving them at historic lows, the format and the industry itself are in a period of transition. Ten months into the year, not a single album has gone platinum (Taylor Swift's "1989" might soon change that), and the music business has gravitated toward a risk-averse Hollywood blockbuster model. Now a few tent-pole releases dominate marketing attention and resources for an entire year.

"There's less albums across all genres, less artists getting signed, and Spotify isn't having a great effect on the album format," says Joie Manda, the president of Urban Music at Interscope. "But if you hook people with a few great songs, they still want the album."

In a sign of the times, the label of Eminem, Dr. Dre and 2Pac has only mass-released physical product for one rap album this year: Schoolboy Q's "Oxymoron," which debuted at No. 1 in February. Interscope's other hip-hop offerings have been digital-only EPs, compilations or commercial mix tapes accompanied by a limited-edition batch of CDs.

"It's more about live shows and how singles react in the club — less about the album," Manda adds. "The hot artists are omnipresent and never off cycle. By releasing singles on Soundcloud, Drake has impacted this year as much as any artist. It's a gift and a curse: rap has become so broad as to be massively popular, but it's no longer dangerous."

Rap's DNA now lurks in most pop songs, from Ed Sheeran and Katy Perry. It's gone from being what Chuck D famously called "the CNN of Black America," to the entire cable package. It's no longer enough to just rap well. You're expected to sing, make pop with universal appeal and be a savvy brand ambassador with edgy credibility for corporate sponsors. But not so much edge that you scare customers away.



Rapper T.I. released his ninth solo album, "Paperwork," last month, selling half as many in its first week as his previous album did in 2012.

Courtesy of James Minchin

The audience's shifting demographics have been reflected in the artists themselves. Mainstream rap was once the exclusive province of black musicians, save for the occasional outlier (Vanilla Ice, Eminem, Cypress Hill). But over the last half-decade, white rappers of wildly varying styles and skill have built massive followings, often without inner-city support, major labels or radio.

A generation who grew up hearing Slim Shady in the stroller doesn't bat an eyelash at the rise of Macklemore, G-Eazy and Iggy Azalea.

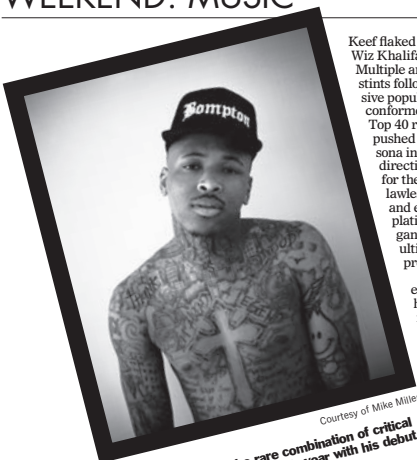
T.I. is one artist who straddles the line between two eras of hip-hop. His new album "Paperwork," is his ninth major-label effort; five have gone platinum.

Despite spawning a gold-certified lead single ("No Mediocre"), this latest salvo embodied the downward spiral of album sales — selling half as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

A$AP Yams, who spearheaded A$AP Rocky's rise, proclaimed 2014 to be 'THE WORST YEAR IN RAP HISTORY.'

WEEKEND: MUSIC



Courtesy of Mike Miller

Rapper YG achieved the rare combination of critical raves and respectable sales this year with his debut studio album, "My Krazy Life."

FROM PAGE 36

much in its first week (70,000 units) as his previous effort, 2012's "Trouble Man: Heavy Is the Head."

But his career arc reveals the multi-platform approach endemic to the contemporary rap star. He owns an Atlanta nightclub, a label (Grand Hustle), acts in films, stars in a VH1 reality show ("Family Hustle") and has endorsed Chevrolet and Remy Martin cognac — at least until multiple arrests caused the sponsors to back away.

"Talent will always sell. You can't deny it," said T.I. recently by phone. "Drake might not have the most traditional background or approach, but him being dope overshadows everything else. ... All artists still need to be authentic. No amount of capitalism or appropriation can duplicate or replace that," he adds.

The mention of cultural appropriation underscores a recurring conflict in rap. In this instance, it's a reference to Grand Hustle artist Iggy Azalea, who has been criticized by many for rapping in a bassy Atlanta drawl, a stark contrast to her native Australian lilt.

"The thing is: Iggy is true to what she represents," T.I. says. "She was a bad b---- and she proved it."

It's hard not to view some of these recent circumstances as a tectonic shift rather than a series of mild tremors.

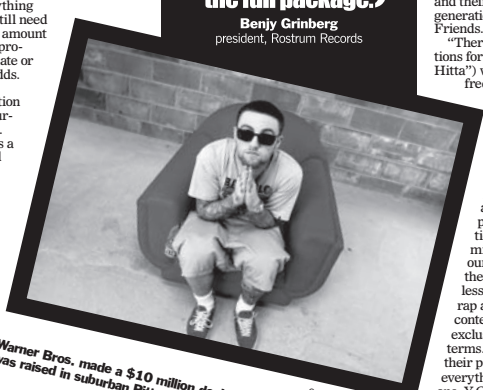
Last month, 19-year-old Chief Keef was dropped by Interscope after releasing just one album. Before major labels knew of his existence, Keef simmered from a conflagration of social media, YouTube and worship on Chicago's chronically violent West and South sides. Given a multimillion-dollar recording contract at 16, he quickly became a litmus test for the difficulties facing street rappers in the major-label system.

Refusing to play the industry game, Keef flaked on 50 Cent and Wiz Khalifa for a video shoot. Multiple arrests and rehab stints followed. Despite massive popularity, no singles conformed to conventional Top 40 radio formats. Keef pushed his music and persona in non-mainstream directions and opted for the anything-goes lawlessness of the '90s and early '00s, when platinum sales offered gangsta rappers the ultimate business protection.

Interscope reportedly washed their hands of the investment on the same day that Warner Bros. announced a $10 million pact with Mac Miller, a bar mitzvahed rapper raised in suburban Pittsburgh who entered the industry with a relatable brand and careerist savvy.

"For major labels to really invest in an artist, they have to believe that it's about more than a single or even one album; it's the full package," says Benjy Grinberg, whose Rostrum Records is one of only a handful of mid-sized independent imprints that made its name selling hip-hop.

> **"For major labels to really invest in an artist, they have to believe that it's about more than a single or even one album; it's the full package."**
>
> **Benjy Grinberg**
> president, Rostrum Records



Courtesy of Justin Boyd

Warner Bros. made a $10 million deal with rapper Mac Miller, who was raised in suburban Pittsburgh, last month.

Before their major label deals, Rostrum bolstered the early careers of Miller and Wiz Khalifa (who is signed to Atlantic in partnership with Rostrum).

"The major labels want to know: How many plays on YouTube will artists get? Can they get sync licensing deals, brand sponsorships, sell merchandise and tour nationally?" Grinberg continues. "That's how they make all their money now. Instead of one big bucket, they try to fill up 10 little buckets with the work of one artist. Typically, street rappers have a harder time getting licensed and getting sponsorships."

The endless stream of possible listening options available to fans also works against artists who hope to sell only their music.

"You're competing against every kid in a dorm room who can upload a track to Soundcloud," says Mike Caren, the president of worldwide A&R for the Warner Music Group. "That means you need to be a multidimensional artist with stylistic depth, the ability to carry melody, and a ferocious work ethic that keeps people excited over numerous releases."

If a single major-label classic emerged from the Saharan 2014, it was YG's "My Krazy Life." The Def Jam debut from the Compton, Calif., gangsta rapper realized the increasingly rare combination of critical raves and respectable sales (almost 200,000 copies and a platinum single).

In what's become a common pattern, YG was already a local street rap phenomenon upon signing in 2009. But during the half-decade between the contract ink drying and CDs being shipped, the rapper endured countless postponements, trend shifts and label tumult. (This is not an uncommon scenario.)

The A&R who signed him left. Several mixtapes and local anthems burnished his hometown legend. But no release date was remotely in sight until his longtime collaborator, DJ Mustard, become the hottest producer breathing and their "My Hitta" became the ratchet generation's "With a Little Help From My Friends."

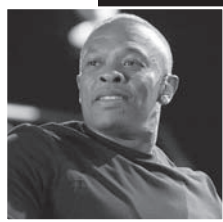
"There weren't initially huge expectations for YG's album. But when ("My Hitta") went platinum, it gave us the freedom to do what we wanted. The record changed," says Sickamore, the senior director of A&R at Def Jam. "But we had to have some [guts], too. If you make a super West Coast album and it bricks, you're out of there."

The Brooklyn-raised executive approached the project with traditional yardsticks in mind. Cognizant of our playlist culture, they crafted a timeless narrative-based rap album that met contemporary trends exclusively on their terms. While most of their peers tried to be everything to everyone, Y.G., Mustard and Sickamore concentrated on doing one thing — West Coast gangsta rap — extraordinarily well.

"Sometimes movies try to be an action-drama-thriller and you lose people. We wanted to be one pure form, where you can't skip a scene. Making a classic used to be the goal in hip-hop until it became 'we need a hit, we need to get hot,'" Sickamore continues. "We need a lot of mavericks and people fighting to do new sounds. Everyone's caught up to us, and now it's time to innovate. If you don't innovate, you die — that's the fight that hip-hop is in."

Most notably delayed major label rap albums

Dr. Dre: "Detox"
Rap's Atlantis: This has been postponed so many times that its "release" has been an April Fool's Day prank since the early days of music blogs. Most recently, news broke that it won't even be called "Detox."



Dr. Dre

Jay Electronica: "Act II: Patents of Nobility (The Turn)"
The New Orleans-raised 38-year-old has made more headlines for breaking release date promises and dating a Rothschild heiress than actually capitalizing on the goodwill built from two great singles released almost too many years ago.

Lil Wayne: "Tha Carter III"
After multiple album leaks and a year's worth of rumors, the 2008 hit was the last rap album to sell over a million copies in its first week.

Lil Wayne

Saigon: "The Greatest Story Never Told"
Despite a recurring role on "Entourage," production from Just Blaze, and collaborations with Jay Z and Kanye West, the Brooklyn rapper couldn't get a release date for his mid-00s Atlantic Records debut. After finally getting his walking papers, he finally dropped the album in 2011 to minimal noise.

Big Boi: "Sir Lucious Left Foot: The Son of Chico Dusty"
Upon extricating himself from Jive purgatory, the other half of Outkast released one of the funkiest rap albums in memory in 2010.

Outkast: "Untitled"
Probably never coming out, but at least we got this summer's tour.

Lupe Fiasco: "Lasers"
In which Lupe beefed with his label and demanded fans to petition for its release, only to awkwardly make "O.C."-soundtrack rap.

Lupe Fiasco

Lil Boosie: "Touchdown to Cause Hell"
The comeback from the once-incarcerated Baton Rouge rapper is the most anticipated and delayed street rap record of the moment.

Rakim: "Oh, My God"
Simply never released due to creative differences with Dr. Dre.

The Clipse: "Hell Hath No Fury"
Despite years of Jive Records double-talk, the Thornton brothers lived up to the hype in 2006, with frigid beats from the Neptunes and more cocaine metaphors than Eskimos have words for snow.

— Jeff Weiss
Special to The Washington Post

WEEKEND: BOOKS

MARK VON HOLDEN, INVISION/AP

In his new memoir, "Possibilities," jazz musician Herbie Hancock describes his constantly evolving career: as a child prodigy playing classical music, a sideman in Miles Davis' legendary mid-1960s quintet, a bandleader, and beyond.

Endless 'Possibilities'

Hancock shares life lessons in new memoir

BY CHARLES J. GANS
The Associated Press

Herbie Hancock doesn't begin or end his newly published memoir "Possibilities" by recalling any of the many highlights in his 50-plus-year career such as receiving the 2008 Album of the Year Grammy Award for "River: The Joni Letters."

Instead, the 74-year-old pianist bookends his life story by recalling a concert with Miles Davis' quintet nearly 50 years ago in Stockholm, Sweden, when he played what he thought was a wrong chord. The trumpeter quickly played some notes that made the chord sound right and unleashed a solo that took the song in a new direction.

That night the young pianist learned an important lesson.

"We all have a natural human tendency to take the safe route — to do the thing we know will work — rather than taking a chance," Hancock wrote. "But that's the antithesis of jazz, which is all about being in the present ... It's about trusting yourself to respond on the fly. If you can allow yourself to do that, you never stop exploring, you never stop learning, in music or life."

In "Possibilities," written with Lisa Dickey, Hancock describes his constantly evolving career: as a child prodigy playing classical musical, a sideman in Davis' legendary mid-1960s quintet, and as a bandleader who went from far-out jazz-fusion with his Mwandishi band, to funk with the Headhunters, to hip-hop on the album "Future Shock" and beyond.

Hancock reveals for the first time in the book his crack cocaine addiction in the late '90s. He credits his family and his Buddhist faith with helping him overcome "the biggest obstacle I ever faced."

Hancock spoke recently to The Associated Press by telephone from his Los Angeles home.

What message are you trying to convey in 'Possibilities'?

The outlook toward having a life that's open to possibilities has worked for me even during my darkest hours. The reason that I write about my drug addiction is because I realized that I could possibly turn those dark days into something positive for others — to show that if I was able to overcome that, you can do it too. ... You have the power to create a life that is constantly moving forward and develop the courage to fight the daily battles against the negative part of yourself.

In the book, you describe Miles Davis as your 'musical mentor.' How did he inspire you?

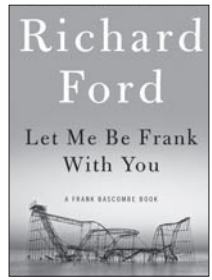
What I loved was that Miles told us that he paid us to work on things — not to just perfect something in our hotel room and play that just to get applause from the audience. He wanted us to constantly work on new things. He stimulated creativity. He could sense when we had gotten to some point where we had to break the rules in order to go outside the box.

Another major influence cited in the book is Buddhism, which you began practicing in 1972. How has Buddhism influenced your approach to music and life?

One of the most important realizations I had through practicing Buddhism is that the core of my life is not being a musician, it's being a human being. Being a musician is one of the aspects of my life. I'm also a father, husband and a citizen. ... Coming from the perspective of me being a human being first is what opened up for me an exciting perspective of using music to show the great value of the diversity of cultures that exist in the world and how to incorporate different styles of music, combining forces to create something none of us could create alone.

When you formed the Headhunters band in 1973, jazz purists accused you of selling out. What motivated you to create Headhunters?

When Sly Stone did 'Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf Agin)' that became one of my favorites. Even though I had this avant-garde band, Mwandishi, I was listening to James Brown and Sly Stone. I was brought up on the South Side of Chicago, which is a blues town. I heard Muddy Waters when I was a kid. For me to do a record like 'Headhunters' is going back to my roots. I was tired of doing music that was untethered. I had this inner need at that point to do something that was earthier. I was taking a risk because I might not get a new audience and might alienate the one I already had, but I knew I had to be true to myself.



Let Me Be Frank With You

Richard Ford

When the final novel in the Frank Bascombe trilogy was published in 2007, its author made it plain that a fourth book about the introspective sportswriter-turned-real estate broker wasn't even a remote possibility.

But now, seven years later, Richard Ford has resurrected his anti-hero in a collection of four loosely connected novellas in which Bascombe is 68-year-old retiree living in inland New Jersey with his wife, Sally.

In a stroke of luck, Frank had unloaded his multimillion-dollar oceanfront home before Hurricane Sandy devastated the Jersey shore, turning the property into rubble in as dramatic a fashion as the financial crisis had upended the economy.

Frank has entered life's final phase, "my end-of-days' time — known otherwise as retirement." He spends his remaining time ruminating about life and doing pretty much what he pleases.

Frank's relative contentment is shaken up by four encounters that shape the book: a strange meeting near the wreckage of his home with its unlucky buyer; a surprise visit to his current home by a black woman whose family lived there decades ago, prior to a horrendous tragedy that unfolded in the basement; Frank's pre-Christmas visit to deliver an orthopedic pillow to his Parkinson's-stricken ex-wife in assisted living; and a visit to a long-forgotten acquaintance who is dying of cancer.

Frank, who has been undergoing treatment for prostate cancer, shares concerns common to the elderly. Along with multiple aches and pains, he is reminded to pick up his feet when he walks so as to avoid "the gramps shuffle," that "final-journey approach signal." He deflects his orthopedist's suggestion about a test for his prospects of Alzheimer's disease because he doesn't know what he would do with the information. He also worries that getting on in age is causing his breath to reek.

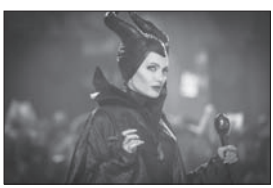
Frank still has the same wry approach to life. He is prone to making inappropriate comments, but sometimes only thinks them and is able to stop himself in time. As always, Frank tends to overthink stuff, from New Jersey real estate values to opposition to President Obama, and it's those inner thoughts and the way our hero expresses them that make him such an engaging companion.

— Jerry Harkavy/AP

WEEKEND: ENTERTAINMENT

NEW ON DVD

"Maleficent": Untold tale of the Disney villain. Angelina Jolie rules this film with a powerful acting grace accented by director Robert Stromberg's film style that shifts from film noir to children's comedy without a flinch. There's just not enough fleshing out of the story to support these elements. The villain of this film is the script by Linda Woolverton, which promises Maleficent's real story but delivers little more than a couple of variations on the original theme. Woolverton should have aggressively adapted the story to add something more original. The times when she does stretch, she falls so short it's obvious this writing task exceeded her grasp.



DISNEY/AP

Angelina Jolie stars in "Maleficent," now available on DVD.

"Planes: Fire & Rescue": When Dusty's career looks to be over, he volunteers to fight fires. The combination of Dusty's epic struggle, some dazzling visual effects and a fun bunch of characters makes this a fun family film. It might be the simple fact that the sequel was always intended for the big screen and not a last-minute bump from a direct-to-DVD release, but every element of "Planes: Fire & Rescue" is much stronger than in the first film. Considering it took off from an entertaining place, this is one sequel that flies rings around the original offering.

"The Sopranos": There once was a time on television when it was easy to tell the good guys from the bad guys. But television bad guys changed because of this series. No one personified the new television bad guy more than Tony Soprano (James Gandolfini), who headlines the critically acclaimed HBO series. You can see all of his good and evil clearly as the entire series is released in one Blu-ray set. One reason the series is so strong is because of its setting: the average-looking New Jersey suburban family clashes with the organized-crime world of murder and extortion. Take away the mob connection, and Tony Soprano would be just another TV dad unable to cope with parenting. It is still one of the best TV series ever.

Also new on DVD:

"The Newsroom: The Complete Second Season"

"Reno 911!: Complete Uncensored Series"

"Hercules": Hercules (Dwayne Johnson) has to defeat a tyrannical warlord.

"Hill Street Blues: Season Three": Features 22 episodes from the Emmy Award-winning drama.

"White Collar: Season Five"

"World War One Collection": Included are four BBC productions.

"Sherlock: The Complete Seasons 1-3 Limited Edition Gift Set"

"Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer": Young deer turns difference into a strength. Fiftieth anniversary of the TV special.

"Garfield Holiday Collection": Five TV specials starring the talking cat are on this DVD.

"A Belle for Christmas": Dean Cain stars in this tale of how a puppy helps a family.

"The Unauthorized Saved by the Bell Story": Follows six young, unknown actors thrust into the Hollywood spotlight.

"A Christmas Gift": John Denver stars in this holiday film.

— Rick Bentley/The Fresno Bee

CBS photos

Jorge Garcia, right, has been appearing on "Hawaii Five-0," which stars Daniel Dae Kim, left, and Alex O'Loughlin. Garcia is probably best known to TV viewers as Hurley on "Lost."

Not lost on 'Five-0'

Jorge Garcia makes the most of his role on TV series

BY LYNN ELBER
The Associated Press

Since playing the lucky-unlucky lottery winner Hurley on "Lost," Jorge Garcia's career has moved along nicely from "Alcatraz" to "Hawaii Five-0" and upcoming big-screen movies.

It's logical that he might indulge himself in, say, a fast car or pricey wristwatch. But to think that is to badly misjudge the man.

"Oh, man, do I admit this?" Garcia said. "I always wanted to have an Elvis jumpsuit made and always found reasons not to do it. But getting the job on 'Five-0,' I said, 'OK, I'm doing it.'"

Specifically a $3,700 "Dragon" jumpsuit — a white version with colorful dragons embroidered front and back — from a costume design company that also offers, among many others, the Burning Love and Aloha from Hawaii versions for Elvis impersonators and admirers like Garcia.

This season of "Hawaii Five-0" represents Garcia's move up from recurring guest star to series regular on the revamped version of the 1968-80 police drama. Among the show's stars is Daniel Dae Kim, who as Jin Kwon was stranded with Garcia on the Hawaii-based "Lost."

"Half the (production) crew are people I already know" from "Lost," Garcia said. "When I came back and did the show as a guest star it definitely had this feeling of coming home."

Paradise is only rented, however. He still has a house in the Los Angeles area, where he can stay on top of job opportunities.

"It's better to be in the room for certain meetings than do things remotely. You can get a better feel for the personalities," said Garcia, who comes across as drolly funny but also much more focused than his often free-spirited characters.

> **"It was seeing 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Raiders of the Lost Ark' that made me first want to be an actor. I just loved Tevye so much; I used to sing 'If I Were a Rich Man' when I was little."**

Born in Omaha, Neb., and raised in southern California's Orange County, he found youthful career inspiration in two very different films.

"It was seeing 'Fiddler on the Roof' and 'Raiders of the Lost Ark' that made me first want to be an actor. I just loved Tevye so much; I used to sing 'If I Were a Rich Man' when I was little," he recalled.

Was that accompanied by Topol's exuberant, hip-shaking dance from the 1971 movie?

Of course, Garcia said. "If you're gonna play it, play it."

As a fledgling performer, the roles he expected to get were along the lines of the funny neighbor in a three-camera sitcom.

"I knew I wasn't a usual type," said the round-faced, bushy-haired Garcia.

His first big role came in the Ted Danson sitcom "Becker" in 2003-04, followed by small roles in other shows and movies. Then came Hugo "Hurley" Reyes in 2004, a welcome chance to play a character with dimension.

He's adding more movie credits to his résumé, including two set for 2015 release: "The Wedding Ringer" starring Kevin Hart and Josh Gad, and "Cooties," a horror-comedy featuring Elijah Wood, Alison Pill and Rainn Wilson.

As for his distinctive mane, he's more than ready to part with it ("I've had long hair for so long, I need to start feeling like a grown-up") and step into what he calls "real suit-and-tie guy" roles. He plans a serious trim after "Hawaii Five-0," with his Elvis Presley suit as added inducement. He and friends are planning an indie film that would include a scene with a couple of Elvis impersonators.

But there will be other uses for his treasured outfit.

"It's not like I wouldn't walk around my house in the Elvis suit with a gorilla mask on, just for entertainment," Garcia said.

Too sick for the gym?

When it comes to exercising with a cold, experts say always listen to your body

BY GABRIELLA BOSTON
Special to The Washington Post

You finally got into a good fitness routine and then bam — a head cold hits, you're sidelined and now you feel all your good work is in vain right before the calorie-laden holiday season.

Not so fast.

Above-the-neck colds

If the cold is just a head cold, you probably can continue working out, says Theo Hodge Jr., an internist and specialist in infectious diseases with Capital Medical Associates in Washington, D.C.

"Always listen to your body, but generally speaking, if you don't have any underlying issues, it's usually safe to exercise with a cold," says Hodge, adding that a quick check with a doctor is always a good idea.

(Underlying issues such as asthma or cardiac conditions require special considerations, Hodge says. With asthma, there is already shortness of breath that will be exacerbated by congestion, and in cardiac patients, medications such as decongestants can elevate the heart rate to dangerous levels.)

But even with the above-the-neck head cold, otherwise healthy people will want to modify their exercise by lowering the intensity and duration, says Greg McMillan, online running coach and owner of McMillanRunning.com.

"There is this interesting dichotomy. On the one hand, exercise helps boost the immune system, but if you are trying to take your training to the next fitness level, that effort can actually suppress it."

In other words, when a head cold hits is not the time to do high-intensity drills (not that you would want to) but rather to keep your exercise in the light-to-moderate range, says Alyssa Morrison, a local endurance sports coach.

"The athletes I work with — especially if they are training for an Ironman competition — don't want to miss a single day of training," Morrison says. "So what I might tell them to do is to go for a recovery run or a light spin instead of intervals or surges."

Sometimes, Morrison says, the athlete will feel good during the light spin and start pushing harder.

"There is always that fine line," she says. "Exercising and getting the blood flowing in your body can feel great. You might even feel less congested. But working too hard will make it worse."

McMillan says in his experience, taking it easy on "the front end" of a cold can save you two or three weeks down the line.

"Give your body a break," he suggests.

It's unclear exactly how much fitness you lose, says Ross Miller, associate professor in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Maryland. But a long-distance runner is probably more affected than, say, a sprinter.

Aside from giving your own body a break by keeping it out of the gym, remember that you are also giving other people a break from your germs, Hodge points out.

"As long as you are sneezing and coughing, you are contagious," he says, and those symptoms can easily go on for seven to 11 days — the typical duration of a cold.

"The kind thing to do would be to stay home."

Below-the-neck colds

And then there are the big-kahuna colds, the ones that knock you out with extreme fatigue, body aches, chest congestion and/or fever. With those it's better to stay home, in bed, allowing the immune system to focus on getting well, Miller says.

"Any time you exercise with a fever you risk delaying the recovery," he says.

Or worse, you could get really, really sick.

"You've got a low-grade fever and you're short of breath, but you feel pretty good so you keep running hard," Hodge says. "Four, five days in and you are way short of breath and you're coughing up green stuff. Next thing, you have pneumonia."

And now you are looking at being sick and sidelined for several weeks.

If that happens, remember to take it easy as you get back into exercise, Hodge says. "If you're out two weeks, I think you could expect to work back up for at least two weeks."

For example, if you are a runner training for a marathon, you would not want to start with a long run as your first run.

McMillan says the time off can be good for the body and the mind — especially the mind of a runner focused on a particular race.

"They might do better than they expected because they kind of got out of their own way," he says. "They adjusted their expectations and started enjoying it again."

Keeping yourself and others fit and healthy

- Wash hands often, especially if you're the one with a cold
- Use hand sanitizers when handwashing isn't available
- Wipe down equipment at the gym before and after use
- Stay away from the gym if you're sneezing and coughing
- If you have an above-the-neck cold, work out at light-to-moderate intensity and duration
- If you have a below-the-neck cold, stay home and rest
- Hydrate more than usual, particularly if you have a fever
- Stay away from people with colds
- Eat more fruits and vegetables
- Take zinc at early signs of a cold
- If you are unsure about whether you should exercise, ask a doctor

ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING/Stars and Stripes

Holding the line

Coaching experts' advice to pushy parents: Back off

By Danielle Braff
Chicago Tribune

Youth sports long have been seen as a ticket to a college scholarship, and as college costs go ever higher, parents might be putting more pressure on their children to snag some of that cash.

"It's become a win-at-all-costs culture," said Jason Sacks, executive director of the Positive Coaching Alliance, a Chicago-based national nonprofit organization founded at Stanford University to encourage positive coaching experiences for coaches, teachers and parents.

But as the stakes grow, the children are the ones losing, according to Sacks. Seventy percent of children drop out of sports by age 13, and a big reason is that their parents are putting too much pressure on them, he explained.

> **'Being involved is great, but it is important to do so in a way that is not pressuring.'**
> **Wendy Grolnick**
> author, professor of psychology at Clark University

"Parents are putting in all this money and time," he said, "and they think that if they put it all in, they'll see a light at the end of the tunnel in the form of a college scholarship."

But there's a balance between encouraging a child's athletic abilities and stressing him or her out by becoming a second coach. Now that team sports are in full swing, some coaching associations are trying to encourage parents to take a gentler role in the hope that children will be happier and healthier team players.

In a July study published in the Journal of Physical Activity & Health, researchers interviewed children who played organized soccer and found that, for them, winning was less important than having fun.

In fact, having fun was the primary reason for the children's participation in an organized sport, according to the study.

Winning was just one of 81 determinants that makes playing sports enjoyable for children, and it was rated 48th, which means that there are 47 more important things that children, coaches, parents and league administrators should be focusing on, said Amanda Visek, lead author of the study and associate professor of sports psychology at The George Washington University in Washington.

"While surprising, this is positive," Visek said. "Sports by definition includes competition, and the outcome of a competition results in winning and losing. But the findings from our study highlight that the fun experience is not determined by the end result of a game but rather by the process of physically engaging in the game."

Philadelphia Daily News Illustration

In addition to paying attention to signs of needing space after a game, parents should be alert to when a child has had enough of a sport entirely or needs a break. Signs of emotional strain include headaches and fatigue.

Wendy Grolnick, co-author of "Pressured Parents, Stressed-out Kids: Dealing with Competition While Raising a Successful Child" and professor of psychology at Clark University in Massachusetts, said parents still can be highly involved with a child's team without pressuring or pushing. In fact, it's when they find balance that their children are most likely to enjoy sports and to persist at them.

"Being involved is great, but it is important to do so in a way that is not pressuring," Grolnick said. "I like to say that parents should be just behind the child, matching their level of interest to that of the child."

Those interests should not be marred by whether your child won or lost a game, said Alan Goldberg, a Massachusetts-based sports psychology consultant and author of "This is Your Brain on Sports."

Instead, parents should give consistent support and excitement regardless of the outcome of the game, because the actual outcome isn't important.

"Most parents lose sight of that," Goldberg said. "You want to go to your kid's games, to enjoy the experience, to cheer for them and for every one of their teammates and to be a good role model."

Many parents push their children too much, thinking they are doing the right thing when, in fact, they are causing damage, Goldberg said. They're actually creating performance problems that can be avoided if they simply stay quiet and calm and happily cheer on their little sports-player from the sidelines, he explained.

"Don't push your kids to do extra training, evaluating your kids after practice and telling them what to do differently," he said.

It's especially important to show the right level of support after the game if your child loses or doesn't do as well as he or she envisioned, said Bruce Brown, co-founder of Proactive Coaching, a company based in Washington state that coaches other coaches, parents and businesses nationally.

Brown, who previously coached football, baseball, volleyball and basketball, always asked his players what their best and worst memories were of playing so he could continue what he was doing right and fix what he was doing wrong.

Consistently, however, he found that their worst memory of playing a team sport had nothing to do with him; it happened during the car ride home after practice or a game, when their parents would grill them about their performance.

"Even college players would remember, 'I just didn't want to rehash the game,'" Brown said. "What they really need is time and space. The more competitive the kid, the more time and space they need."

SPOUSE CALLS

Military family members connected by their stories

For me, the project began around a table. I was at the Military.com Spouse Summit in Washington, D.C., last year, where I reconnected with friends and met new ones. One of the new friends was Karen Pavlicin-Fragnito. She came to the table — all the way from St. Paul, Minn. — to share an idea.

"I want to create a book that's like having lunch with friends," she said. "A collection from different writers. I want to ask military family members to write about a challenge of military life and how they met it."

Karen explained that she got a call one day at her company, Elva Resa Publishing, which specializes in books for military families. The call was from a young military spouse who felt isolated. She needed resources to help her with military life, but she could only afford one book and called Karen for her recommendation.

Terri Barnes

"I sent her a stack of books from our shelves," Karen said, "but what I really wanted to do was invite her over, along with some experienced military spouses, so we could all sit and talk around my kitchen table. That's the kind of support she needed, but she lived too far away."

Karen is also the author of "Surviving Deployment," the gold standard of deployment resources for military spouses, so her thoughts naturally turned to books. Since she couldn't have everyone around her literal kitchen table, she decided to create a literary one. A book called "Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life," was born.

Also at the event that day in 2013 were Jacey Eckhart and Amy Bushatz, from spousebuzz.com; Holly Scherer, co-author of "Military Spouse Journey"; Chris Pape of machospouse.com; Judy Davis of "The Direction Diva"; Kristin Henderson, communications director for Yellow Ribbon Fund and author of several books, and Lori Hensic of the American Military Partners Association. We didn't know it then, but soon we'd be co-authors.

Not long after the summit, Karen called to ask if I'd be interested in compiling and editing stories for the book. I gladly agreed and began seeking more contributors. Writing this column has connected me with many military family members with stories to share: Jacqueline Goodrich, who founded The General's Kids, for children of wounded warriors; Tanya Biank, author of "Army Wives"; Sarah Smiley, author of "Dinner With the Smileys"; Adrianna Domingos-Lupher of NextGen Military Spouse. I invited them, and they all said yes.

We hoped for 20 writers, but soon had more than 40 military spouses, children, parents, active-duty servicemembers and veterans. We asked each to write a first-person story giving insight to military life.

The authors agreed to forgo royalties. Instead, a portion of the book's proceeds would go to Operation Homefront, a nonprofit organization.

Stories poured into my inbox from around the world. Karen and I corresponded with each other and with authors by phone and email.

I spent many hours at my own table reading, editing, laughing and crying. Some stories are intense and painful, others breezy and hilarious. I wondered how we could create a cohesive whole out of so many strong individual voices. Artis Henderson, author of "Unremarried Widow," described the future she lost when her husband was killed in combat. Briley Rossiter, 12, a Marine daughter, wrote about her sister, who has a rare dystrophy. Mollie Gross sent a rollicking story about surviving her husband's deployment with laughter.

The book came together naturally, like military friendships. Diverse voices and experiences conveying one message: We are connected by our stories, even when our stories are different.

We launched "Stories Around the Table" with a dinner last month at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Sixteen of the 40-plus authors were there. Also at the table were representatives of Operation Homefront.

"Stories Around the Table" began with a conversation. Karen said she wants it to be the catalyst for more conversations around real tables.

"Stories have the power to bring people together and help us feel less alone," she said. "Stories connect us."

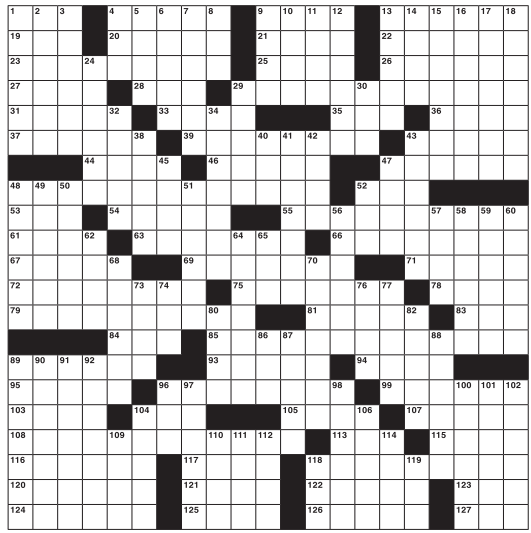
Terri Barnes is the author of Spouse Calls: Messages From a Military Life. Contact her at spousecalls@aol.com or at stripes.com/go/spousecalls.

WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

BP STATION

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ



ACROSS

1 Chase things, briefly?
4 Complainers
9 Spat
13 Landscaping task
19 Ill
20 Mark down anew
21 Baby with a bow
22 Ruthless Wall Street sort
23 Engraving on an award?
25 Kahakuloa Head locale
26 Green, say
27 Cookware item
28 Middle ground, for short
29 Food critic's love of fast food, maybe?
31 Stadium capacity
33 Winter pear
35 Embarrassing spot?
36 James Joyce's "Ulysses," per a 1921 court decision
37 Juliet's combative cousin in "Romeo and Juliet"
39 "Down in front!"
43 "___ Is the Glory" (hymn)
44 Go exploring, say
46 Former G.M. compact
47 Track star Al
48 Collector of offerings at a revival?
52 Part of an e-tailer's address
53 Mideast land, for short
54 Sticky
55 Waterway of Western Australia?
61 Melville's "Billy ___"
63 Montréal airport
66 How the Taj Mahal is decorated
67 Following behind
69 Subject of the mnemonic "My very eager mother just served us nachos"
71 Message-board thread
72 When Prospero makes his entrance
75 "All right, already!"
78 Billy of "Titanic"
79 Admonishment to someone eating off your plate at a Polynesian restaurant?
81 Actress Davis
83 Jeans name
84 Eastern path
85 What's promising about a K-K-Q-Q-J-J-7 rummy hand?
89 Quarantine
93 Blitzed, e.g.
94 Battery element
95 Skater on the Hollywood Walk of Fame
96 Brother's home
99 Jane of "Frasier"
103 Foreshadowing
104 Quisling
105 Classic glam band named for an extinct creature
107 Part of some fusion cuisine
108 Buzzer beaters and game-winning catches?
113 Dramatic ending?
115 ___ Major
116 Like some sheets
117 Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"
118 Place to reel in some freshwater game fish?
120 Low draw
121 Electric Chevy
122 Love, love, love
123 "Well, I'd love to keep talking …," probably
124 Have as a tenant
125 ___ terrier
126 Meeting point
127 Discontinue

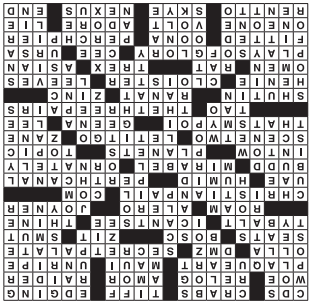
DOWN

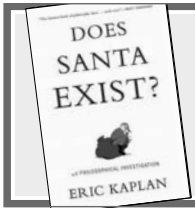
1 Breakfast cereal pioneer
2 Mrs. Madison
3 Old Navy work site
4 French vineyard
5 Sax, e.g.
6 Like ___ to the slaughter
7 Hunting dog
8 Pepper, for one
9 PG-rated
10 Apple offering
11 Teatime, maybe
12 Relief work
13 Go off
14 ___ Point, Calif.
15 Afraid to ask for a dance, maybe
16 1970s president
17 Astronomical body after which element #93 is named
18 Doorman, e.g.
24 Like Al Jazeera
29 Place for a massage
30 Come out even
32 Not get carried evenly, say
34 Politician's downfall
38 Channing of "22 Jump Street"
40 Common Core org.
41 Rare birth
42 Fish often prepared with a meunière sauce
43 Rake
45 Puccini seamstress
47 Facilities
48 Picasso, e.g.
49 Horse's hindquarter
50 Mellow, faintly sweet hot beverage
51 Cook without oil, as some corn
52 One snapping a ball to the QB: Abbr.
56 Club roll
57 Fully
58 Many a Sherpa
59 Big name in campers
60 Schools after collèges
62 Terse caution
64 Show tune with the repeated line "Come to me, come to me!"
65 Phoenix-to-Albuquerque dir.
68 Certain terrier, informally
70 More friendly
73 Laundering investigator, for short
74 Its motto is "Equal rights": Abbr.
76 "Oh … come … on!"
77 William ___ + Co. (brokerage)
80 Sancho's other
82 It's breath-taking
86 One-striper: Abbr.
87 Cheap-looking
88 Hand with two bullets and two deuces, e.g.
89 Try to buy
90 End of a shift?
91 Like food waste
92 Toddler
96 School lunchroom, informally
97 State vices?: Abbr.
98 Ebb
100 Manly
101 Enter gently
102 Roped in
104 Roping event
106 Duplicate
109 Posted
110 "Attention!"
111 Kind of child
112 Bit of info on the side of a taxi
114 Neutral color
118 Greek god of the wild
119 Billie Holiday's "___ Funny That Way"

GUNSTON STREET

"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. Email him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and visit gunstonstreet.com.

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE





In the hands of acclaimed comedy writer and scholar Eric Kaplan, a search for the truth about old St. Nick becomes a deeply insightful, laugh-out-loud discussion of things we dearly believe in — that are not universally acknowledged as real. Just like Santa and his eight (or nine) reindeer.

WIN YOUR SIGNED COPY!

Stripes Book Club and Dutton, a member of Penguin Group (USA) Inc., are proud to offer you a chance to win one of 10 signed copies of Eric Kaplan's *DOES SANTA EXIST?: A Philosophical Investigation*.

Go to stripesrewards.com/bookclub to enter and win.

DUTTON est. 1852 Stripes Book Club Penguin Group (USA)

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
Lt. Col. Michael C. Bailey, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander
Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stripes.com

Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stripes.com

Sam Amrhein, Managing Editor International
amrhein.sam@stripes.com

Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stripes.com

Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stripes.com

Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Teddie Weyr, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
weyr.teddie@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9310; cell
+49(0)173.315.1881; DSN (314)583.9310

Pacific
Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief
alexander.paul@stripes.com
+81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)5883.1673
DSN (315)225.5377

Washington
Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief
dickson.patrick@stripes.com
(+1)(202)761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com
Amanda Trypanis, Design Desk Supervisor
trypanis.amanda@stripes.com

CONTACT US

Washington
tel: (+1)202.761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
fax: (+1)202.761.0890
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20045-1301

Reader letters
letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts
stripes.com/contactus

OMBUDSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for $1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA, Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

OPINION

Steps the Republicans must take now

By George F. Will

WASHINGTON

Unlike the dog that chased the car until, to its consternation, he caught it, Republicans know what do with what they have caught. Having completed their capture of control of the legislative branch, they should start with the following six measures concerning practical governance and constitutional equilibrium:

1) Abolish the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. This creature of the labyrinthine Dodd-Frank law violates John Locke's dictum: "The legislative cannot transfer the power of making laws to any other hands. ... The power of the legislative ... [is] only to make laws, and not to make legislators." The CFPB is empowered to "declare," with no legislative guidance or institutional inhibitions, that certain business practices are "abusive." It also embodies progressivism's authoritarianism by being, unlike any entity Congress has created since 1789, untethered from all oversight mechanisms: Its funding, "determined by the director," comes from the Federal Reserve.

2) Repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board. This expression of the progressive mind is an artifact of the Affordable Care Act and may be the most anti-constitutional measure ever enacted. It certainly violates the first words of the first section of the first article of the Constitution: "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress." The IPAB's purported function is to achieve the ACA's purpose of cost containment by reducing Medicare spending. When the IPAB's 15 presidential appointees make what the ACA calls a "legislative proposal" limiting reimbursements to doctors, this proposal *automatically* becomes *law* unless Congress passes a similar measure cutting Medicare spending. Under this constitutional travesty, an executive branch agency makes laws unless the legislative branch enacts alternative means of achieving the executive agency's aim. The ACA stipulates that no measure for the abolition of the IPAB can be introduced before 2017 or after Feb. 1, 2017, and must be enacted by Aug. 15 of that year. So, one Congress presumed to bind all subsequent Congresses in order to achieve progressivism's consistent aim — abolishing limited government by emancipating presidents from restraint by the separation of powers. This impertinence by the 111th Congress requires a firm rebuke by the 114th.

3) Repeal the ACA's tax on medical devices. This $29 billion blow to an industry that provides more than 400,000 jobs is levied not on firms' profits but on gross revenues, and comes on top of the federal (the developed world's highest) corporate income tax, plus state and local taxes. Enough Democrats support repeal that a presidential veto might be overridden.

4) Improve energy, economic and environmental conditions by authorizing construction of the Keystone XL pipeline. The pipeline would reduce the risk of spills by reducing the transportation of oil in railroad tankers.

5) Mandate completion of the nuclear waste repository in Nevada's Yucca Mountain. The signature achievement of Harry Reid's waning career has been blocking this project, on which approximately $15 billion has been spent. So, rather than nuclear waste being safely stored in the mountain's 40 miles of tunnels 1,000 feet underground atop 1,000 feet of rock, more than 160 million Americans live within 75 miles of one or more of the 121 locations where 70,000 tons of waste are stored.

6) Pass the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny, or REINS, Act. It would require that any regulation with at least a $100 million annual impact on the economy — there are approximately 200 of them in the pipeline — must be approved without amendments by joint resolution of Congress and signed by the president. "In effect," writes the Hudson Institute's Christopher DeMuth, "major agency rules would become legislative proposals with fast-track privileges." By requiring legislative complicity in especially heavy federal burdens, REINS is an ingredient in the recipe for resuscitating Congress, which has been far too eager to cede legislative responsibilities to the executive branch.

Such measures may be too granular to satisfy the grandiose aspirations of those conservatives who, sharing progressives' impatience with our constitutional architecture, aspire to have their way completely while wielding just one branch of government. But if, as is likely, the result of Congress doing these and similar things is a blizzard of presidential vetoes, even that would be constructive. The 2016 presidential election would follow a two-year demonstration of how reactionary progressivism is in opposing changes to the nation's trajectory. Congressional actions provoking executive rejections would frame the argument about progressivism. And as Margaret Thatcher advised, first you win the argument, then you win the vote.

George F. Will is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

Death in a philosophically responsible way

By John Hardwig

Brittany Maynard's ordeal is now over. On Nov. 1, the 29-year old with terminal brain cancer, who became the face of a movement to allow dying patients to choose when to end their lives, used the pills provided by her Oregon physician and died. Compassion & Choices, the nonprofit Maynard worked with, reported that "she died as she intended — peacefully in her bedroom, in the arms of her loved ones." I would trade quite a few more days (especially days spent with searing pain or doped into semi-consciousness in an effort to manage symptoms) for the ability to say my goodbyes and die like that. We all know by now that the best death is not the one that can be postponed the longest.

The most striking thing about Maynard was the way she transformed herself so quickly, with an essay, from just another person into a warrior with a mission. But this is in keeping with the way many terminally ill people behave. They often spend their remaining days trying to improve the lot of those who will suffer similar illnesses in the future. Some, like Maynard, campaign for policy changes. Some offer themselves as subjects for medical experimentation, knowing full well that any findings will not help them. Some participate in support groups for those with similar medical prognoses.

"I didn't launch this campaign because I wanted attention; in fact, it's hard for me to process it all. I did this because I want to see a world where everyone has access to death with dignity, as I have had. My journey is easier because of this choice," Maynard wrote on Oct. 9. In that way, she gave meaning to her final days in a way that a series of purely self-centered decisions never could have.

Maynard

Discussions about physician-assisted suicide — and Maynard's death — almost inevitably focus on what's good for the terminally ill patient. But not every patient takes such a self-centered approach. A self-centered life, focused on personal gratification, aggrandizement and comfort, may or may not be good for the one living it. But a self-centered death is not. If all we care about is ourselves, everything we care about will perish in our death. That is unbearable.

Those who see themselves as connected to something bigger and more enduring than themselves, however, can die in a context of meaning and purpose. For some, religion provides this connection. But religion doesn't always work. Many cannot summon the necessary theological convictions, especially on demand. And some kinds of religion fail at the end of life. A Christian oncologist told me that she deals with many patients who die filled with rage against God.

For others, a sense of connection comes from family, a deeply felt affinity with the natural world, or commitment to some ongoing endeavor such as art, science or efforts on behalf of disadvantaged kids. This approach clearly spoke to Maynard, who wrote that she worried she'd soon be unable to recognize her husband; her family moved with her to Oregon so she could die there.

For those who live a life of connection, when illness threatens to sever the connections, it is time to go. But the survivors go on, burdened or blessed with the memory of the death of their loved one. For them, the death is never the end of the story. And a death in the family — especially a long, drawn-out dying process — can be much worse for the survivors than it was for the deceased. This is part of the reason Maynard gave for opting against hospice care: "I probably would have suffered in hospice care for weeks or even months. And my family would have had to watch that. I did not want this nightmare scenario for my family." She was looking outside herself.

The evaluation of Maynard's death, and of physician-assisted suicide more generally, must not be exclusively focused on the dying person. That would be to revert to the self-centered, unconnected perspective. Those of us with deep attachments to family and loved ones are all charged with carefully weighing what each of our alternatives probably would mean for our loved ones, with helping them to understand whatever choice we make, and with preparing them, as best we can, to go on to live happy, fulfilled lives without us.

John Hardwig is a retired professor of philosophy at the University of Tennessee. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other stateside syndicates.

Space travel has many costs
The (Hammond, La.) Daily Star

Americans are spoiled when it comes to space travel. We beat the Soviet Union (now Russia) to the moon. We've sent unmanned craft to Mars. We've sent craft toward Jupiter. Our satellites roam the nightly skies.

So when there's an accident involving a rocket, such as the one involving an unmanned Orbital Sciences rocket carrying supplies to the International Space Station that exploded just above the launching pad, or the "anomaly" experienced by the Virgin Galactic test vehicle SpaceShipTwo that crashed in the Mojave Desert last week, the question comes up as to how such a thing can happen.

Virgin Atlantic chief Richard Branson expressed shock at the crash but vowed to push on.

"Space is hard — but worth it. We will persevere and move forward together," Branson said.

Admirable, to be sure, but is it really achievable in the long run? When tragedy struck the American space program (NASA) with the fire aboard the Apollo spacecraft that killed three astronauts, NASA and the space program rebounded.

When the Space Shuttle Challenger exploded on liftoff or when the Shuttle Columbia blew up upon return, the space program rebounded.

But will those who can afford the $250,000 ticket for three exhilarating minutes want to take the chance? Time will tell. …

Is there truly a place for space travel for private companies taking civilians up into the outer reaches of space? Given the exploratory nature of humans, it's a question that at some point, those companies and the American people may not know how to answer.

China spending more on subs
The (Paris, Tenn.) Post-Intelligencer

While Uncle Sam's attention is being diverted by crises in the Middle East, Asian nations are ramping up their naval forces to face the growing colossus of the seas: China.

The entire region, a major portion of the Earth's surface, is involved. Vietnam has nearly doubled its naval spending, Japan is preparing for the largest defense budget in its history and the Philippines is trying to create a respectable naval force, The Associated Press reports. India has become the biggest arms importer in the world. South Korea is quickly modernizing.

China wants to become the dominant power of the Pacific, the AP said, replacing the United States. Over the past decade, it has quadrupled its annual military budget, much of which goes to its navy.

It has a long way to go. America's $665 billion a year in military spending is three times that of China and more than the next eight countries combined. But China is spending nearly as much as all 24 other nations in East and South Asia put together.

Much of China's naval spending goes for submarines, a fleet that is expected to match U.S. numbers by 2020.

"Submarines are seen as a potential for an underdog to cope with a large adversary," one military researcher explained. "They can move silently and deny aerial or maritime control."

A Chinese diplomat said the country's growing military effort is "transparent" and "serves national defense exclusively."

MARCO UGARTE/AP

A demonstrator with her mouth taped shut and the number 43 painted on her face marches in Mexico City on Wednesday in protest of the disappearance of 43 college students following attacks on Sept. 26 in the state of Guerrero.

Can all this armament lead to a stalemate, proving once again the doctrine of Mutually Assured Destruction? We can hope so, even as we recognize that guns are designed to be shot.

Much on Indonesia's plate
The New York Times

Secretary of State John Kerry's presence last month at the inauguration of President Joko Widodo of Indonesia was another sign of the Obama administration's greater involvement in Asia. It was also an investment in America's relationship with Indonesia, whose importance as an emerging democracy and the largest economy in Southeast Asia is sometimes overlooked.

Indonesia is the largest Muslim-majority country in the world, and its election, like Tunisia's last month, is evidence that Muslim nations can evolve peacefully under democratic systems. Some 135 million Indonesians cast ballots July 22 as Widodo defeated Prabowo Subianto, a former general and son-in-law of the deposed dictator Suharto. The victory was even more remarkable because Widodo … was the first president not to come from the political elite or the ranks of former generals.

The challenges facing Indonesia are considerable. Despite the country's membership in the Group of 20 major economies, more than 100 million Indonesians live on $2 a day or less. … Indonesia needs to reduce corruption, build roads and bridges, create jobs, expand education and tackle a $20 billion-plus fuel subsidy bill that benefits the wealthy above all and is depleting the budget. It needs to end the palm oil production that wiped out one-fifth of forested areas between 1990 and 2010 and turned the country into a top emitter of greenhouse gases.

Widodo has little experience with economic or foreign policy, and security issues as well, so he will have to learn quickly. The U.S. is counting on Indonesia to be a partner in its efforts to balance an increasingly aggressive China and to help manage disputes between China and other nations that lay claim to the South China Sea.

The Obama administration is also pressing Indonesia to redouble efforts to prevent the recruitment of new Muslim extremists to the Islamic State, crack down on terrorist financing and share intelligence with neighbors. Indonesia has had success over the last decade in keeping extremism in check through arrests and prosecutions, and it can be an example to others. …

With Widodo as president, the stage is now set for a long-term battle between reformers promising better governance for all people and an authoritarian, elitist old guard. The country will be best served if Widodo can stay true to his vision.

Rule of law lacking in Mexico
(San Antonio) Express-News

Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto's strides in opening up his country to foreign investment will avail Mexico not enough unless investors have confidence in the rule of law there.

Each day seems to bring news of some criminal depredation. Forty-three teaching students in Iguala are still missing and unaccounted for after a September incident. And there are strong indications that the police, in collusion with drug cartels, are responsible for that.

It appears that the narcos control so much of Iguala's government that they and the police are virtually indistinguishable.

Students from a radical teaching college in Iguala were in the habit of "borrowing" buses to help stage obstructive protests. Police and others fired on "borrowed" buses. The students fled and 43 were later rounded up by police and allegedly turned over to the local cartel, Guerreros Unidos. That happened Sept. 26. The students have not been heard of since.

Members of the real police force are among those arrested for this abduction. A mass grave was found by farmers calling themselves community police forces. The grave contained human remains, just like another found in May in Iguala, but not of the 43 students. …

The death toll of Mexico's war on cartels and the cartels' war on each other — an estimated 60,000 dead between 2006 and 2012 — demonstrates that cutting cartel heads off simply means they grow new ones. And each capture seems to spark a deadly clash for turf.

The U.S. can best help by tackling the drug addictions here that line cartel pockets. It can take note also that there are 6,700 licensed arms dealers in this country along the U.S./Mexico border, while there is only one licensed dealer in Mexico.

Ultimately, however, such corruption and the inadequacy of its civil institutions are Mexico's problems to solve.

Views of Vatican are evolving
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

When Pope Francis said last week that evolution and the Big Bang theory did not conflict with Catholic teaching, it really wasn't news. This pope just has a talent for framing long-held beliefs in a fresh way, as he has done before in taking up the cause of the poor. Instead, this news was more a timely reminder.

Despite that unfortunate business with Galileo 400 years ago over his alleged heretical beliefs on the movement of planets, anybody who has been paying attention lately understands that the church has not been at war with scientific knowledge. Other popes have expressed the same ideas, especially on evolution.

Pope Francis, though, has a way of making headlines. In his remarks before the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, he may have raised the eyebrows of everyone from cardinals on down. "When we read about creation in Genesis, we run the risk of imagining God was a magician, with a magic wand able to do everything. But that is not so," the pope said. "He created human beings and let them develop according to the internal laws that he gave to each one, so they would reach their fulfillment."

In other words, the creator God had a process — "a supreme principle" as he called it. "The Big Bang, which today we hold to be the origin of the world, does not contradict the intervention of the divine creator but, rather, requires it," Pope Francis said. "Evolution in nature is not inconsistent with the notion of creation, because evolution requires the creation of beings that evolve."

This is a thought that has also occurred to many believers in other branches of Christianity who have wrestled to reconcile their beliefs with the abundant evidence of the workings of evolution in the natural world. What if the Almighty used evolution (and the Big Bang) as his means of creation?

Once again Pope Francis' intellect has clarified an issue, which in the U.S. at least has brought shadows, not light. The pope's words are also a reminder that those who regard evolution as hostile to Christian belief are actually a minority among Christians.

Verizon made big coding error
Los Angeles Times

Verizon Wireless, the country's most popular mobile phone operator, has been quietly inserting into its customers' Web browsing sessions an identifier unique to each device they use, making it possible for websites and advertising networks to build profiles of individual customers based on their browsing habits. What's worse, even if Verizon's subscribers happen to find out about this and ask the company to stop, it won't.

Rather than inviting the rest of the Internet to violate its customers' privacy, Verizon should find a more respectful way to generate advertising dollars.

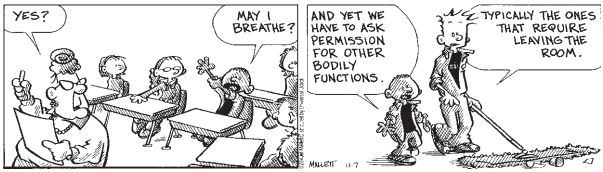
Ordinarily, Web-browsing apps reveal little about the people using them. The typical website tries to pierce the anonymity by planting a unique identifier called a cookie on each visitor's computer or smartphone, storing information about what the visitor does while on that site. So do online advertising networks, which can use the cookies to track what individuals do on all the sites that carry their ads. If that's a troubling prospect, you can set your browser to erase cookies or prevent them from being stored on your machine.

Verizon Wireless, however, has flipped the process on its head. It inserts a unique code into the information that each device transmits through Verizon's wireless network as it browses the Web. The company then uses the code to sell demographic information (but not names or personal profiles) about that customer to advertisers so they can make their pitches more relevant to that person. Meanwhile, those sites and associated ad networks can collect and use the code to build a profile of a user even if he or she is blocking cookies.

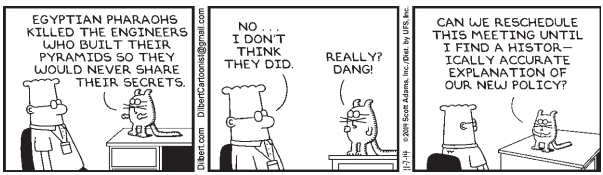
Verizon says it changes the codes regularly to guard against permanent profiles, but that's not much of a concession to its customers' privacy rights. To stop the company from selling information gleaned about them, its customers have to opt out of a program they didn't sign up for in the first place. And even opting out doesn't stop the company from inserting the identifier into their Web browsing. …

If Verizon doesn't see the problem with its actions here, the Federal Trade Commission should enlighten it.

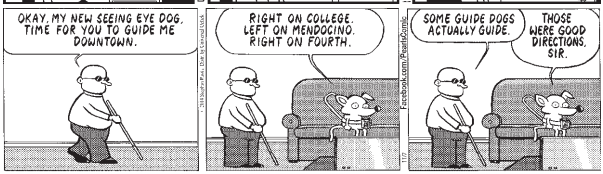
Frazz



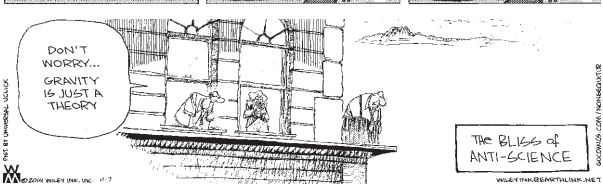
Dilbert



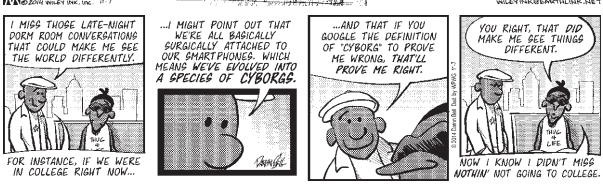
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur

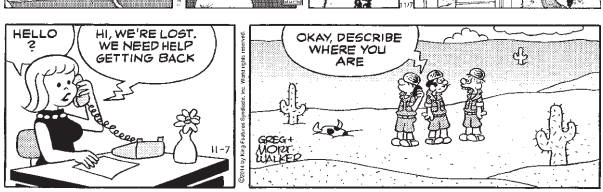


Candorville



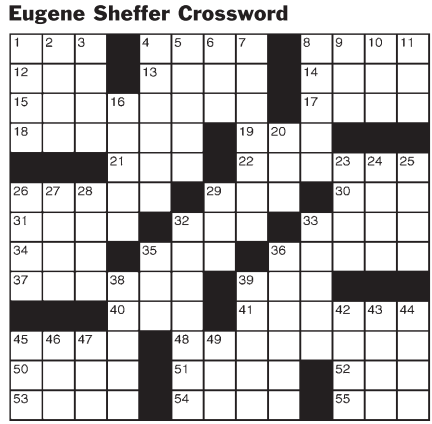
Get Fuzzy

Beetle Bailey



Bizarro

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

1 Homer's outcry
4 Pleads
8 Office part-timer
12 Anger
13 Nanking nanny
14 Session with a shrink
15 Long-popular board game
17 Loosen
18 Stephen King classic
19 Edge
21 Club —
22 Talk incoherently
26 Missile shelters
29 Jewel
30 Tin Man's need
31 Frost
32 Historic boy king
33 Inmates
34 $ dispenser
35 Saute
36 Social level
37 Partake dilettantishly
39 WWW bookmark
40 Mauna —
41 Take to the airport
45 New Zealander
48 Spat
50 Ms. Brockovich
51 Partly mine
52 Charged particle
53 Yin counterpart
54 Scruff
55 2012 movie bear

DOWN

1 Platter
2 Killer whale
3 Frau's mister
4 Bundles of joy
5 Today's war correspondent
6 29-Down's companion
7 Oft-fruity treat
8 Hitchhiker's beckoner
9 A billion years
10 Pie filling?
11 Expert
16 Mail
20 Cartesian conclusion
23 Greets the villain
24 Bits of fluff
25 Differently
26 Caviar provider
27 Greek vowel
28 Mary's follower
29 6-Down's companion
32 Only crime defined in the Constitution
33 Biblical spy
35 "Alice" waitress
36 Fold
38 Showy jewelry
39 Commandeer
42 Last writes?
43 Penguin carrier, maybe
44 Ward (off)
45 Crucial
46 Glass of NPR
47 Victory
49 Sine — non

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	A	L	C		B	A	L	M		B	A	D
A	S	I	A		A	R	I	A		A	R	E
B	A	R	R	I	S	T	E	R		R	A	M
S	P	E	E	D	S			G	A	R	B	O
			S	O		A	B	O	D	E		
B	I	B	S		O	B	I		S	T	U	D
O	R	A			R	H	O			T	R	Y
W	A	R	P		S	O	S		D	E	L	E
		R	A	Z	O	R		P	I			
A	M	A	Z	E			P	A	S	S	B	Y
L	A	C		B	A	R	R	Y	M	O	R	E
O	A	K		R	I	P	E		A	D	E	N
E	M	S		A	R	M	Y		Y	A	W	S

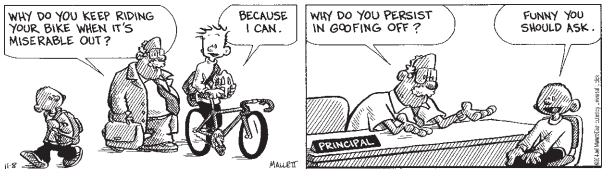
11-7 CRYPTOQUIP

JQTK UQT TKACSDQ MRWZ RASURUTZ QSD MXUUCTZ MWTJ, HTXHCT ZTICRWTZ "DQRETDHTRWT DQRETD MTTW!"

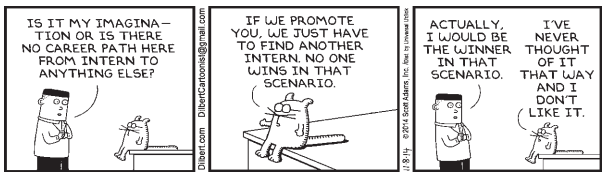
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MUSIC PLAYED WHEN A PENNILESS MAN IS ABOUT TO MARRY A RICH WOMAN: "HERE COMES THE BREAD."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals P

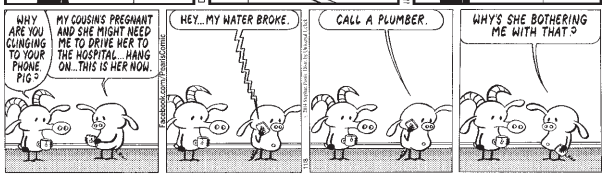
Frazz



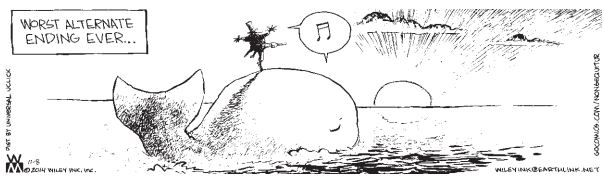
Dilbert



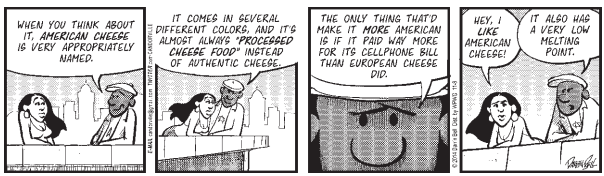
Pearls Before Swine



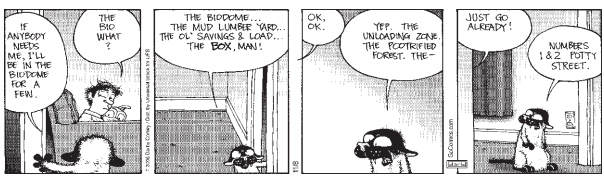
Non Sequitur



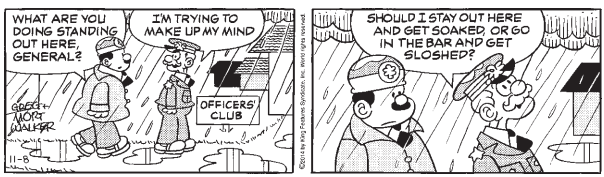
Candorville



Get Fuzzy

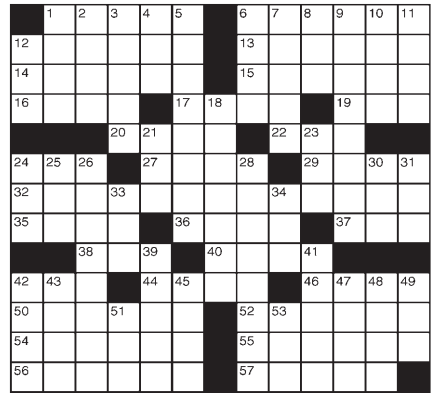


Beetle Bailey



Bizarro

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

1 Stormed
6 Sports page data
12 More gloomy
13 Frolic
14 Illinois city
15 Source of gum arabic
16 Suitor
17 Moneymaking business
19 Frat party sight
20 Rip
22 "Monty Python" opener
24 Luau bowlful
27 007's alma mater
29 Swearword
32 Lara Croft portrayer
35 Pioneer Boone, familiarly
36 Prolonged sleep
37 Animator Avery
38 Antiquated
40 San —, Italy
42 Weir
44 Money of Cambodia
46 Impetuous
50 Banishes
52 Captive
54 Harmless
55 Peaceful protests
56 Least naive
57 Coasters

DOWN

1 Libertine
2 Emanation
3 Tile filler
4 Always, in verse
5 Histrionic
6 Read bar codes
7 Desert plants
8 Eggs
9 Snow-melting stuff
10 Pennsylvania port
11 Unescorted
12 Brylcreem quantity
18 Mesabi Range product
21 Conger, for one
23 Overly
24 Cushion
25 — budget
26 Disgrace
28 Anonymous
30 Dead heat
31 Whammy
33 Right angle
34 Toast topping
39 Lees
41 Speechify
42 Society newbies
43 Skating leap
45 "— It Romantic?"
47 Surrounded by
48 Offspring in blue
49 Storefront sign abbr.
51 Golfer's concern
53 Zilch

Answer to Previous Puzzle

D	O	H		B	E	G	S		T	E	M	P
I	R	E		A	M	A	H		H	O	U	R
S	C	R	A	B	B	L	E		U	N	D	O
C	A	R	R	I	E		R	I	M			
			M	E	D		B	A	B	B	L	E
S	I	L	O	S		G	E	M		O	I	L
H	O	A	R		T	U	T		C	O	N	S
A	T	M		F	R	Y		C	A	S	T	E
D	A	B	B	L	E		U	R	L			
			L	O	A		S	E	E	O	F	F
K	I	W	I		S	Q	U	A	B	B	L	E
E	R	I	N		O	U	R	S		I	O	N
Y	A	N	G		N	A	P	E		T	E	D

11-8 CRYPTOQUIP

O FK HDSBXHESI PUFP PUS LHQU UFOB QFNHA UOBSI KS. O'DS ZSSA IEOAJ PH NFAI F LSBKFASAP XHZ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE ENGLISH BARD AGITATED HIS BOTTLED BREW, PEOPLE DECLARED "SHAKESPEARE SHAKES BEER!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals V

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Saudi oil price reduction shakes OPEC

By George Jahn
The Associated Press

VIENNA — Saudi Arabia showed little concern for fellow OPEC members by unilaterally cutting its oil prices to the U.S. this week, a move that casts doubts on the cartel's credibility and its ability to find a common plan to stabilize the slumping energy market.

While OPEC struggles to find consensus, oil prices risk remaining low — or falling further — to the benefit of consumers and businesses in the U.S. and worldwide.

OPEC is already riven by differences among its members on what the ideal price level should be. That is exemplified in the rivalry between heavyweights Saudi Arabia, which can withstand lower prices, and Iran, which relies on a stronger market to remain profitable.

The Saudis' unexpected move on Monday to cut prices to the U.S., aimed at protecting their market share there, will exacerbate those conflicts — weighing on the market and hurting most other OPEC members economically.

"At the end of the day, this is still the Saudis' cartel for better or worse, and for smaller members, this is definitely worse," said oil analyst Phil Flynn, alluding to the fact that despite OPEC's credo of consensus and unity, the organization is de facto controlled by its top producer.

The prime motivator for the Saudis is to compete against U.S. shale oil. But John Hall, chairman at Alfa Energy, sees other benefits for the desert kingdom.

Russia, which competes with OPEC, is already hurting from low oil prices and Saudis are tightening the vise — "seizing the opportunity to reduce prices, hit Russia and hit Iran in one go," he said.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Euro costs (Nov. 7)	$1.2842
Dollar buys (Nov. 7)	€0.7787
British pound (Nov. 7)	$1.63
Japanese yen (Nov. 7)	112.00
South Korean won (Nov. 7)	1,063.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	$1.5924/0.6280
Canada (Dollar)	1.1406
China (Yuan)	6.1120
Denmark (Krone)	5.9807
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	$1.2439/0.8039
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7535
Hungary (Forint)	248.81
Israel (Shekel)	3.7872
Japan (Yen)	114.56
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2909
Norway (Krone)	6.8509
Philippines (Peso)	45.02
Poland (Zloty)	3.39
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7517
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2920
South Korea (Won)	1,088.60
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9680
Thailand (Baht)	32.85
Turkey (Lira)	2.2439

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	3.06

EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	$3.296	$3.490	$3.672	$3.926
Change in price	-6.3 cents	-6.1 cents	-5.6 cents	-1.2 cents
Netherlands	--	$4.227	$4.493	$4.461
Change in price	--	-6.7 cents	-7.2 cents	-3.3 cents
U.K.	--	$3.460	$4.058	$3.896
Change in price	--	-6.1 cents	-0.2 cents	-1.2 cents
Azores	--	--	$3.707	--
Change in price	--	--	no change	--
Belgium	--	$3.372	$3.575	$3.827
Change in price	--	-38.0 cents	-37.7 cents	-15.0 cents
Turkey	--	--	$3.960	$4.445*
Change in price	--	--	-14.9 cents	-27.3 cents
Italy	$4.428	--	--	$4.466
Change in price	no change	--	--	no change

PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	--	$3.459	--	$3.709
Change in price	--	-5.0 cents	--	-1.0 cents
Okinawa	$3.199	--	--	$3.709
Change in price	-16.0 cents	--	--	-1.0 cents
South Korea	$3.119	--	$3.499	$3.749
Change in price	-6.0 cents	--	-5.0 cents	-1.0 cents
Guam	$3.109**	$3.299	$3.489	--
Change in price	-6.0 cents	-6.0 cents	-5.0 cents	--

*** Diesel EFD ** Midgrade**
For the week of Nov. 8-14

MARKET WATCH

Nov. 5, 2014

Dow Jones industrials	100.69	17,484.53
Nasdaq composite	-2.92	4,620.72
Standard & Poor's 500	11.47	2,023.57
Russell 2000	1.65	1,167.07

WEATHER OUTLOOK

FRIDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

FRIDAY IN EUROPE

SATURDAY IN THE PACIFIC

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Friday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chattanooga	54	34	PCldy	Fort Wayne	43	35	PCldy	Louisville	50	37	PCldy	Pocatello	56	27	PCldy	Sioux City	60	34	Cldy
Abilene, Tex	69	47	PCldy	Cheyenne	57	29	Clr	Fresno	76	55	Clr	Lubbock	70	41	Clr	Portland,Maine	45	30	Cldy	Sioux Falls	57	32	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	41	29	Cldy	Chicago	44	39	PCldy	Goodland	70	36	PCldy	Macon	64	35	Clr	Portland,Ore.	58	41	PCldy	South Bend	44	36	Cldy
Albany,N.Y.	46	27	Cldy	Cincinnati	45	35	PCldy	Grand Junction	61	33	Clr	Madison	43	37	Cldy	Providence	52	32	Cldy	Spokane	50	34	PCldy
Albuquerque	67	40	Clr	Cleveland	42	33	Cldy	Grand Rapids	42	35	Cldy	Medford	62	39	PCldy	Pueblo	71	33	PCldy	Springfield,Ill	50	40	Clr
Allentown, Pa.	53	27	Cldy	Colorado Springs	65	31	PCldy	Great Falls	50	33	Cldy	Memphis	56	42	Clr	Raleigh-Durham	60	33	Clr	Springfield,Mo	59	42	Clr
Amarillo	72	39	Clr	Columbia,S.C.	62	38	Clr	Green Bay	42	35	PCldy	Miami Beach	80	67	PCldy	Rapid City	61	29	Clr	Syracuse	43	29	Rain
Anchorage	35	29	Cldy	Columbus,Ga.	62	41	Clr	Greensboro,N.C.	58	32	Clr	Midland-Odessa	66	45	PCldy	Reno	69	38	Clr	Tallahassee	68	41	Clr
Asheville	50	30	Clr	Columbus,Ohio	43	33	PCldy	Harrisburg	50	31	Cldy	Milwaukee	45	39	PCldy	Richmond	60	32	Clr	Tampa	78	55	PCldy
Atlanta	57	39	Clr	Concord,N.H.	46	26	Cldy	Hartford Spgfld	50	29	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	46	33	Cldy	Roanoke	54	34	PCldy	Toledo	42	32	Cldy
Atlantic City	59	31	Cldy	Corpus Christi	65	52	Rain	Helena	53	34	PCldy	Missoula	49	27	Cldy	Rochester	40	29	Snow	Topeka	63	44	PCldy
Austin	67	50	PCldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	69	50	Clr	Honolulu	84	71	PCldy	Mobile	64	39	Clr	Rockford	44	37	PCldy	Tucson	80	52	Clr
Baltimore	54	35	PCldy	Dayton	42	35	PCldy	Houston	69	49	PCldy	Montgomery	62	37	Clr	Sacramento	77	50	Clr	Tulsa	66	45	Clr
Baton Rouge	65	40	Clr	Daytona Beach	71	53	PCldy	Huntsville	56	35	Clr	Nashville	54	35	Clr	St Louis	53	40	Clr	Tupelo	57	36	Clr
Billings	58	32	Cldy	Denver	64	33	Cldy	Indianapolis	46	36	PCldy	New Orleans	64	47	Clr	St Petersburg	76	61	PCldy	Waco	68	48	Clr
Birmingham	57	38	Clr	Des Moines	56	36	PCldy	Jackson,Miss.	62	36	Clr	New York City	51	35	Cldy	St Thomas	88	77	Rain	Washington	56	34	PCldy
Bismarck	56	28	Clr	Detroit	43	35	Cldy	Jacksonville	66	44	Clr	Newark	55	35	Clr	Salem,Ore.	58	38	PCldy	W. Palm Beach	78	65	PCldy
Boise	57	36	Clr	Duluth	38	30	Cldy	Juneau	41	37	Rain	Norfolk,Va.	60	40	Clr	Salt Lake City	63	37	Clr	Wichita	69	44	Clr
Boston	50	35	Cldy	El Paso	66	46	Clr	Kansas City	59	42	Clr	North Platte	68	34	PCldy	San Angelo	67	46	PCldy	Wichita Falls	69	48	Clr
Bridgeport	54	32	Cldy	Elkins	41	21	Snow	Key West	84	73	PCldy	Oklahoma City	67	48	Clr	San Antonio	65	52	Cldy	Wilkes-Barre	45	29	Cldy
Brownsville	69	59	Rain	Erie	42	34	Rain	Knoxville	50	33	PCldy	Omaha	62	38	Cldy	San Diego	82	65	Clr	Wilmington,Del.	57	31	Cldy
Buffalo	39	30	Snow	Eugene	58	38	PCldy	Lake Charles	66	46	Clr	Orlando	75	53	PCldy	San Francisco	71	56	PCldy	Yakima	54	33	Clr
Burlington,Vt.	38	27	Rain	Evansville	49	36	Clr	Lansing	41	33	Cldy	Paducah	51	38	Clr	San Jose	74	53	PCldy	Youngstown	41	28	Snow
Caribou,Maine	33	25	Snow	Fairbanks	13	-4	Clr	Las Vegas	79	57	Clr	Pendleton	53	35	Clr	Santa Fe	66	32	Clr				
Casper	58	28	Cldy	Fargo	50	29	Cldy	Lexington	48	35	PCldy	Peoria	50	39	PCldy	St Ste Marie	36	29	Cldy				
Charleston,S.C.	66	42	Clr	Flagstaff	64	31	Clr	Lincoln	65	39	PCldy	Philadelphia	57	35	Cldy	Savannah	66	41	Clr				
Charleston,W.Va.	48	32	Cldy	Flint	41	33	Cldy	Little Rock	59	40	Clr	Phoenix	84	60	Clr	Seattle	54	42	PCldy				
Charlotte,N.C.	59	34	Clr	Fort Smith	64	43	Clr	Los Angeles	84	60	Clr	Pittsburgh	42	29	Cldy	Shreveport	65	42	Clr				

National temperature extremes

Hi: Wed., 93, Lake Forest, Calif. and San Pasqual Valley, Calif.
Lo: Wed., 12, Alamosa, Colo.

"Your Holiday Bill Is On Us!"

SWEEPSTAKES

Each time you use your MILITARY STAR® card at any Army and Air Force Exchange facility or *shopmyexchange.com* between November 1 – December 31, 2014 you will be automatically entered to win one of these prizes!

Grand Prize (3 winners)

Your private label MILITARY STAR® bill paid in full!

Second Prize (10 winners)

$1000 credit on MILITARY STAR® private label bill.

Third Prize (25 winners)

$500 credit on MILITARY STAR® private label bill.

Use your MILITARY STAR® card at any Army and Air Force Exchange Service facility or *shop**my**exchange.com* from November 1 – December 31, 2014 and be automatically entered into the MILITARY STAR® Sweepstakes. Every purchase you make with your MILITARY STAR® card during this time frame counts as one entry. The more purchases you make with your MILITARY STAR® card increases your chances of winning.

For alternative method of entry and complete details, See Official Rules at www.MyECP.com/CustomerAds/Page/Exchange.com

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Attorneys 178

NICKEL

US & German Attorneys

US & German Divorces • Employment
Wills and Probate • Support Issues
Personal Injury • Tax

Contractor Issues

Call 069-299-2069-0
Email: maiss@nickelonline.de

EUROPE'S PREMIER MILITARY DEFENSE FIRM

COURT & CARPENTER
Over 45 years defending servicemembers

Heilbronner Strasse 150,
70191 Stuttgart, Germany
Phone in Germany: 0711 490 04320
www.militarylawfirm.eu

Law Offices Joseph K. Kelso
U.S. Attorney at Law

Specializing in:
U.S. Federal Employment Law,
Administrative Boards, Personal Injury and
Medical Malpractice, Claims, International
Contracts and Immigration Law.

Frankfurt am Main
Tel: (06108) 797579 • Fax: (06108) 799622
joseph-kelso@t-online.de

Dental 902

American Dental Care

Services Offered:
Family Dentistry
Certified Orthodontics
Crowns and Veneers
Implant Surgery
Zoom Teeth Whitening
Wisdom Teeth Surgery
Nitrous Oxide
Saturday & Evening Appointments
Caring, Friendly American Staff

LOCATIONS

Wiesbaden Dental Care
06119 887 2650
Bahnstrasse 14, 65205 Wiesbaden
Wiesbadendental.com

Ramstein Dental Care
06371 406230
Post Strasse 1, 66877 Ramstein
Ramsteindental.com

Certified American Dental Hygienists
TRICARE Preferred Provider

Transportation 944

VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

• International Shipping
• Import & Export
• Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
• Door to door pick-up/delivery service
• Customs clearance
• All Risk Marine Insurance
• Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

	GERMANY	UNITED KINGDOM	U.S.A
Phone:	+49-6134-2592730	+44-117 938 1919	+1-972-602-1670
Toll-free:	0800-CARSHIP (Germany only)	0800-7839351 (UK only)	+1-800-264-8167 (US only)
E-Mail:	info@transglobal-logistics.de	info@carshipuk.co.uk	info@tgal.us
WEB:	www.transglobal-logistics.de	www.carshipuk.co.uk	www.tgal.us

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

TransGlobal
LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH

Dental 902

American Orthodontist
Over 90% Non-Extraction
Dr. Michael Dillon, DDS, MS (Orthod)
Univ of Maryland, Former USAF
All Treatment Fees in US $

Convenient Payment Plans • No Referral Necessary
Evening & Weekends • TriCare Provider

Dillon Orthodontic Care

Member American Association of Orthodontists

06371-918911 • www.dillonortho.com

Transportation 944

transcar

Dependable POV Shipping

20 Years Experience
supporting the U.S. Military Community

Professional, Proud Provider of
Superior Customer Service

Port-to-Port or Door-to-Door Delivery Options

All-Inclusive Rates: No Hidden or Surprise Fees

Toll Free (In Germany): 0800-transcar (87267227)
Outside Germany: +49 (0) 6146 6070
Phone (In Italy): 0039 348 5505355
Email: povshipping@transcar.de
Web: http://povshipping.transcar.de

Financial Services 904

LOANS up to $10,000

For Active Duty U.S. Military

Call Toll Free

Germany: 0800 YES-LOAN
Italy/Belgium: 00800 YES-LOANS
Stateside: +1.931.802.6522

www.yesomni.com

omni MILITARY LOANS

"We love to say yes"®

© Omni Financial - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. All loans subject to approval.

Transportation 944

Interglobal Shipping GmbH
Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada
Autos, Household Goods, Personal Belongings
Contact your Pro's at the Docks today!!!
info@interglobalshipping.de,
www.interglobalshipping.de
Tel: (0421) 340 650 Fax: (0421) 340 6565
Toll free 0800-000-6311

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA

WSA WORLDWIDE SHIPPING AGENCY

OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)
For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de
Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de

Are you in the picture?

Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES
However you read us, wherever you need us.

Want a better picture?

You'll get one – just by reading Stars and Stripes military news coverage.
In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

STARS AND STRIPES

STARS AND STRIPES CLASSIFIED

FREE AD Guidelines:

- Free ads are available only DOD ID Card holders selling personal merchandise.
- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All Ads must contain price and contact information. No websites will be accepted in Free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

Go to **stripes.com** to place your free ad. *Sell fast/ Buy fast*

When you see this camera icon go to stripes.com to view the uploaded photo.

	EUROPE	MIDDLE EAST	PACIFIC
Advertising	**Kathryn Peterson** peterson.kathryn@stripes.com +49(0)631.3615.9000 DSN 314.583.9000	**Wayne Victor** victor.wayne@stripes.com +49(0)981 466 17074	**Yuko Saito** saito.yuko@stripes.com (81-3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267
Circulation	**Van Rowell** rowell.van@stripes.com +49(0)631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111	**Robert Reismann** reismann.robert@stripes.com +49(0)631.3615.9150 DSN 314.583.9150	**Mari Matsumoto** SSPcirculation@stripes.com +81(3) 6385.3171 DSN 315.229.3171
Reader Letters	letters@stripes.com	letters@stripes.com	letters@stripes.com

Classifieds EUROPE

For information on Commercial Rates: **CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSN: 583-9012**

Announcements 040

SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classifieds advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

www.oconus.com

Looking For Online Coupons? One Stop Shopping for Military Families! OCONUS.com

Local Links & Free Ads Over 600 APO/FPO Stores Catalog Video Catalog Merchant Rating System Monthly Photo Contest Online Military Loans

www.oconus.com

Automotive 140

BMW, 5 series, 2005, $800.00 4 Winter Tires and OEM BMW 5 series wheels in good condition perfect balanced. Tires are almost new, used 3 months. Michelin 225/40 R17 H PUNCTURE FLAT some of the best tires for winter, Paid $1100 just for the tires last year Reasonable offers 01515063860 015112474784 brunofly@hotmail.com

bmw e30 wheels, 3series, 1990 $200.00 For sale is a set of 4 OEM BMW e30 wheels. They come with summer tires mounted that still have lots of tread +49 151 29501486 gsracer@live.com

BMW, Z4, 2009, $450.00, RIMS- SPORT PKG (BEA), 225/40-R18 V-55/245 R18W (NEW), Never been used. P.S One Rimm for the front and the other one for the back $450.00 0491703610522 artur_pinheiro@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Patriot Military Automobiles
Pre-Owned Center

- Visit us on Live Chat 24/7! - US Specifications

www.patriot-autos.net
"We are Patriots!"

AUDI, Q5, 3.2L Premium Plus (US SPEC), 2013 $28000.00 55,000 miles, Black exterior, Black leather interior, Panoramic sunroof, Automatic Transmission with tiptronic, Cruise control, Heated seats, Roof rack, Heated side mirrors, Auto dim rearview and side mirrors, Power driver seat with driver memory, power passenger seat, Xenon headlights LED front and rear brakes and day-time running lights, Roof rack,IPod connector, Bluetooth hands free phone connection, 4 New All Weather Pirelli tires, Email: Adrian85c1406@yahoo.com 017632138857

Automotive 140

BMW & MINI parts

- We ship to APOs via U.S. mail.
- FREE catalog

BAVARIAN autosport www.BavAuto.com

SELLER BEWARE

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the financial relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Auto - Quality Pre-owned US SPEC Vehicles
www.uniacksales.com
Free Europe-wide delivery

BMW, 325i, 2004 $8000.00 5-Spd, 99K miles, winter use, sport pkg, xenon lights, sunroof, summer and winter rims tires, cold air intake, no pets, non-smokers, all maintenance up to date in great condition, private seller. Eric 01608087198 zinger65@hotmail.com

BMW, 3 series 4 door, 1995 $1100.00 Very Dependable In super condition, has been maintained 1 owner non smoke. 2. New Battery, Radiator. With summer and winter tires. Has 2 year German TUV remaining, one tire in the back $450.00 0491703610522 artur_pinheiro@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Camaro, 2 SS, 2010 $25500.00 Victory Red with Cyber gray stripes on hood and trunk. Fully loaded. Car is in immaculate condition. It has only been rained on twice. Garaged. Nano wax paint, seater applied this summer. Only driven on Sunny days. Cattback Exhaust system, Technostalgia Afterburner, sequential turn signal LED Taillights. Professionally tinted windows. Must see and hear in person 0160-7198919 rebel_rk@hotmail.com

Chrysler Town and Country Van, 2006 $1500.00 Well-maintained, clean family car in good. Heated Cooled Seats and Heated Cooled Cup Holders, Heated Rear Seats, Parking Assist, Panorama Sunroof, Fully transferable LEF 50,000 mile warranty and European TV entertainment. Asking $12,000 Or Best Reasonable Offer for this practically new Mercedes.-Call or text 0175-251-7575, 01752516957

Volkswagen, Golf GTI, 2012 $17000.00 4 d with sunroof black very nice and fast car 0 1 7 2 8 6 1 6 5 0 5 sreinhold@freenet.de

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Dodge, Dart SXT, 2013 $16000.00 White in colored Dodge dart SXT, automatic light, bought last August, PCSing can't take it with us. I own the car on lien holder, like new only 17,000 miles, non smoker car, CD MP3 player adapter, cloth seats, sports shift for more control, power windows and doors, auto start and automatic trunk open on key remote, have two keys, no major damages, never has been in a traffic accident, brakes and oil have been changed, all weather tires. 491766683233 drinkingbeerly@yahoo.com

Ford, Windstar SE, 2003 $2200.00 Ford Windstar SE 2001 Vin, $2200; seats 7 with Captain Chairs in center; 182,000 miles; Cold weeigs interior; Very good condition; PS, PB, PW, AC, AMFM CD player, Rear Back-up sensors; Sliding doors on both sides; Non-smoking vehicle; Great van; Located in Ramstein AFB area; More info or to see it, email aggie1975@hotmail.phoenix.edu with phone # to set up appointment. From 08-1430 M-F call Loyd at 06302-67-8712.

Honda, Jazz, 2009 $8100.00 1.2L Engine, 5 Speed, White, 4 Door Hatchback, Great Condition, AC, CD & AMFM Radio. Located in Brussels, Belgium. Contact Scott at +32 474 98 26 22 / 0032 474982622 Somirs36@gmail.com

Jaguar, S Type, 2005 $6500.00 Certification for an earlier add. Very good condition, very well maintained. Euro Spec. 179004 kilometers, app. 109000 miles, Leather seats, CD player, integrated telephone navi. Usual Jaguar extras. Four new winter tires on mags (aluminum) rims. Diesel, Euro 3. Very high mileage (up to 50 mpg)--especially long-distance, highway driving. City driving circa 30 mpg. If interested, call 0179-1307193 weekdays, 0951-3918361 weekends. Also email jim@schonenhaar.com. 0711-6802713

Jaguar, S-type 3.0 EXEC V6, 2001 $8700.00 V-6, Euro spec, gasoline, 238 HP, blue sedan, 98k sunroof, black leather seats and plenty of extras: ABS, air bag, parking sensors, alloy wheels 16", automatic transmission CD, central door lock, climate control, cruise control, elect. adjustable seats, ESP, fog lights, navigation system, rear smoking vehicle, passenger airbag, power steering, power windows, radio, side airbags, traction control, xenon lights. Listed on Wiesbaden and ramstein bookoo 49 16892916 debra.mcnamara@gmail.com

KIA, Soul, 2010 $11500.00 Kia Soul Demo Special Edition This car is a Special Edition model. It is based on the well-equipped Soul model 1.6L engine, AC, Blue Tooth, USB collection, cruise control, Traction-Stability Control), but has even more accessories such as 5 Speed Automatic Power Moon roof Premium Sound System Fog Lights Rear Spoiler 18" Wheels Rally High-Gloss Paintwork In addition, it comes with one set of new Goodyear snow tires used only one season. Only 48,000 miles, one owner 01765635840 gonzalcar@hotmail.com

Mercedes Benz, CLA 250, 2014 $33900.00 Feb 2014, 6,000 miles, excellent condition! Includes: Premium package, multimedia package with navigation system Pärktronic with rear view camera, AMG styling sports kit, and Bi-Xenon headlights. Call or text 0 1 7 6 5 5 3 5 9 4 0 g a i l . c o m, 0175-4931457

Mercedes Benz, ML350 Blue-Tec, 2014 $72000.00 Super opportunity to buy a hard to find 6 month old, 3,800 miles, US Spec ML350 BlueTec (diesel) loaded with just about every option available. Perfect Condition interior, exterior, mechanical. European navigation loaded. Heated Cooled Seats and Heated Cooled Cup Holders, Heated Rear Seats, Parking Assist, Panorama Sunroof, Fully transferable LEF 50,000 mile warranty and European TV entertainment. Asking $72,000 Or Best Reasonable Offer for this practically new Mercedes.-Call or text 0175-251-7575, 01752516957

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Nissan, Pathfinder, 2001 $6000.00 2001 Nissan Pathfinder Inspection 5 October 2014, Automatic Remote Car Starter, Automatic Transmission, Sun Roof, Electric Windows, Power Door Locks, Cruise Control, AC, Bluetooth Integrated Phone system, DVD Movie Player, AMFM Stereo,175,000 miles, Runs very well, good solid car for traveling or taking a vacation, all maintenance records available. Contact: Jouret online@gmail.com Cell: # 0160-962-440 01609240478

Porsche (US Spec), Boxster, 2013 $49900.00 Absolutely beautiful Porsche Boxster..18,500 miles, Fully transferable Porsche USA Warranty until June 2019 and Porsche German Warranty until June 2015. This is a Porsche Certified Pre-Owned Boxster...so you can buy with complete confidence. I have reduced the asking price by $5K to sell quickly...nited to sell by 30 October. Sold new for $69K less than a year and a half ago...so if you've always wanted a Porsche, save over $20K off new with mine for only $49,900. Call or text 0175-251-7575, 01752516957 email redleg89@mac.com

Toyota, Corolla LE Sedan, 2006 36,000 miles by original owner $8200.00, US specs, no pets & non-smoker, 4 Speed Automatic Transmission, Sun Roof, Power Windows & Door Locks, Cruise Control, AC, AM FM, CD with 6 speakers, all maintenance up to date in great condition. Asking $8200 or Best Reasonable Offer. Call or Text 0176-3867 2628

Toyota, Corolla (S), 2007 $6700.00, Automatic (US SPEC) with 111,000 miles runs perfect, minor scratches front bumper clean interior. It's a great family car. We've never had a problem with it. AC, CD, 0049-172-8-123-264 ronald.ford1@us.army.mil

Toyota, Matrix XR Sport Wagon, 4D, 2006 $5500.00, Automatic, US Specs 4 Cylinder 1.8 liter, Dark blue, gray and black interior, folding rear seats and large cargo space, aluminum roof, brand new all weather front tires, all weather rear tires with only 6,000 miles, everything is in perfect working condition, none smoker. With current and valid inspection until December 2015. Please contact Ron at 0160-9 any questions 01510696548, rd84770@gmail.com

VW, Fox, 2008 $5000.00 2 DR Black, manual transmission, 1.6 liter, never been in a accident, dual had full service done at VW Soest Germany, New Spark Plugs, engine cut, windshield wiper fluid, Great gas mile and Included winter tires. 0176 70748948 or 011-3035 ursula.d.cushall.naf@mail.mil

VW, Golf, 1999 $2999.00 104K MILES 166KM. Auto Trans, AC, sun roof, radio with cd changer, seater seat heated, 4 door, hatchback, rear seats fold down, power locks & windows, good winter tires, extra steel wheels included, one owner/maintained, very clean, previous DSAR-EUR license plates, now locally registered with German license plates, US SPECS but meets German specs, includes aftermarket Nav, next German inspection due Mar 2016. +4963103809245 willispickering@hotmail.com

VW, Westfalia Camper Van, 1994 $39998.00 great recreational vehicle, 4 new tires, sleeps 4, tune-up, oil change, German inspection SEP14 0160 162 267 4331 cbbreen58@gmail.com

Autos for Sale - Italy 144

Chevrolet, Camaro SS, 1971 $26500.00 Beautifully restored 1971 Chevrolet Camaro SS. 350 engine 335 hp, red with black vinyl top, new interior, automatic transmission with Hurst V-Matic shifter, AC, power steering, retro-sound radio, 17" 5-spoke chrome wheels, car runs and drives great. Recently rebuilt motor from engine specialty shop less than 3000 miles. (documented with warranty) Please feel free to call or email with any questions, additional photos available. 3315789506 californiawings@gmail.com

Autos for Sale - Italy 144

Ford, Explorer Eddie Bauer, 2010 $26000.00 It is in excellent condition. It has seven years warranty. It is a four wheel drive and it is loaded with all accessories needed. You may call me at rick07h@yahoo.com or DSN:637-7444, 314-637-7444 r icky.hamrick@dcma.mil

Motorcycles 164

BMW, F800GT, 2014 $13000.00 Premium package (heated grips, center stand), traction control, ABS, power outlet, electronic suspension control, tire pressure monitor) also with comfort seat, BMW hard bags, and tank bag, givi top case. Factory warranty, like new condition. scottlude71@hotmail.com

BMW, X Country - 2007 $5200.00 BMW, enduro with ABS, chain drive, electric starter, US spec, and in great condition, with maintenance records. For more information text 0160652161 or email: scottlude71@gmail.com cnamara@gmail.com. Bike also listed at Ramstein and Wiesbaden yardsales.

Yamaha, YZF-R6, 2009 $7000.00 One owner 2 a little over 8,000 miles, White with red & silver accents, 599CC, 6 speed transmission. The bike has never been dropped, after market parts: black windscreen, flush mount turn-signals, fender eliminator kit, stomp gas tank grips, frame sliders, H.D. lights. Bike runs great. I have all original parts and OEM bike cover, Pitbull front and rear stands included. Any questions please don't hesitate to ask. 3315789506 californiawings@gmail.com

Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Acura, MDX, 2007 $21000.00 Miles:73,000, Color: White Diamond Pearl, automatic, Wire Upholstery: Beige Leather V6, 3.7L, 300 hp, traction control, sunroof, etc. Great family car, tech package, ENT system - VD and back seat video intertainment system, NAV system - US and HI maps. More photos are available. cnamara@gmail.com or text 49 1606929161

Trucks 174

Camping Trailer - OEK Junior HP 500, German "merican Registered, 1989 $800.00 Small (2 x 1.85 meters), sleeps 2-4, no toilet, new brakes, includes side mirrors, tarp,fan,heater,hot plate,small refrigerator, water heater, 2 gas bottles, bags,tent,pop top. 015122626737 herta.dullin@yahoo.com

Books 250

Find the Magic Formula in Relationships and Sex in Marriage. Vilseck area? An E-book to learn about some of the cultural differences and superstitions between the USA and in the Oberpfalz, Bavaria and Germany will give you a heads up. Learn why two sometimes couples have trouble and how to about tipping. Learn why HD does not mean High Definition. Learn the about the myths of Warm Beer, and shaving. The sport event between years in the Region and integrated with life culture. zayetoreal@yahoo.com

Real Answers to Lifes Tough Questions $15.00 New Release, Real Answers to Lifes Tough Questions Order at Amazon.com (Paperback and Kindle Book) Real Answers to Life&I**s Tough Questions, answers everything about life, living and eternity that saints and sinners have stumbled over from generation to generation. We as a nation and a people stand on the precipice of change or ruin. Choose wisely what you embrace and hold up as truth. joybells49@yahoo.com

Furniture 510

5 rattan chairs (dining) $100.00 5 light colored rattan chairs, excellent condition. Ostbert@web.de

Large Sofa $400.00 Large Sofa by Craftmaster. One year old. 84" wide X 37" deep X 37" high. Like new, gold in color. kiedrich.bill@gmail.com

Rattan Furniture Set $100.00 1 round table, 1 armchair, 2 round stools. All in very good condition. Oktober1@web.de

Furniture/Appliances 511

Mid Size Fridge $100.00 German built fridge, manufactured by EG. 19" wide X 21.5" deep X 33" high. Great for Dads beer fridge. White, excellent condition. kiedrich.bill@gmail.com

Refrigerator - mid-size $135.00 Refrigerator, mid-size. German US brand. Perfect condition. kiedrich.bill@gmail.com

Small Air Conditioner $135.00 Portable small AC, good condition, is good for one large room. 220 volt, manufactured by Sunter. kiedrich.bill@gmail.com

Small Air Conditioner $150.00 Small portable AC by Galanz. Works great, excellent condition. kiedrich.bill@gmail.com

Home Electronics 570

Bose Surround Sound $350.00 BOSE Acoustimass 6 system, powered control module, 5 speakers, PLUS Kenwood Audio & Video Control Center, Dolby Prologic IIx, 6 channel input, all cables, wires, remotes, and factory manuals. Used very little, excellent shape. 0 9 6 4 4 6 8 9 5 2 0 djkay913@hotmail.com

Musical Instruments 740

Gibson Hummingbird (TV edition) $2500.00 Beautiful acoustic guitar. Sunburst color and in perfect shape. Comes with original case and Gibson owners certificate. Same guitar as played by top country artists. This guitar is generously priced and thanked much lower than purchased for. Seriously interested only please. Contact Josh at 0171-275-0226 email jadams153d@gmail.com

Person to Person 800

Stars and Stripes reserves the right to reject any free advertisement request. The use of full names is not permitted. You must be 18 years of age or older to place a free person to person advertisement.

House Unfurnished 878

House close to Ramstein & K-town, 175 sq-m, 4 bdrm, built-in kitchen, 1.5 baths, big terrace, 2 balconies, 1 garage, laundry room, well insulated 3-layer glass windows, electric roller shutter with remote control. butterflower84@web.de

Toys 945

Kids Bike $20.00 Kids Bike is in good condition 0176846589 55 spvendor@gmail.com

Kids Kick Bike $15.00 Kids Kick Bike in good condition 0 1 7 6 8 4 6 5 8 9 5 5 spvendor@gmail.com

Mega Crane $15.00 Mega Crane with remote control. spvendor@gmail.com

CSS Education Focus 1035

ADVANCE

ADVANCE THROUGH THE RANKS WITH AN ONLINE DEGREE FROM CSU

GET STARTED TODAY!

COLUMBIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Online Degrees. Affordable Tuition. Superior Service.

www.ColumbiaSouthern.edu/Stars

800.361.0857

Gainful employment information available.

Sporting Goods 980

Mauser 8 x 57 Stuzen $2150.00 In order to buy this weapon you must possess a valid German WBK a German Weapons Ownership Card and tall under US sofa agreement otherwise you will possible have to pay Zoll and taxes on this weapon. 09472-83-2294 ronald.ford1@us.army.mil

Runner Baby Stroller $70.00 Good shape pick up only Wurzburg area 01515063860, 0 1 5 1 2 4 7 4 7 8 4 brunofly@hotmail.com

Poker Chips, with Carrying Case $40.00 Poker Chips with Carrying Case spvendor@gmail.com

Reminton 700 (243 Hunting Rifle) $650.00 In order to buy this weapon you must possess a valid German WBK a German Weapons Ownership Card and tall under US sofa agreement otherwise you will possible have to pay Zoll and taxes on this weapon. 09472-83-2294 ronald.ford1@us.army.mil

Travel 1000

**** Christmas in Garmisch****
Hotel Freshaus Oberau 8 km Nth of Garmisch Hot tub/sauna 36eur PP, DBL occp, free brkfst, dogs welcome. 08824-9120 **www.forsthaus-oberau.de**

Miscellaneous 1040

1970 Furniture $100.00 Pick up only Wurzburg area 0151 506 38600 0151124747 84 brunofly@hotmail.com

Baby Stroller $30.00 Pick up only good shape 01515063860 0 1 5 1 2 4 7 4 7 8 4 brunofly@hotmail.com

Bedroom Furniture $400.00 2 Pieces of furniture in good shape Pick up only Wurzburg area 01515063860 0 1 5 1 2 4 7 4 7 8 4 brunofly@hotmail.com

Miscellaneous 1040

Person To Person Alister (Wizard) Humphrey or anyone knowing her where about Please contact her Grandfather in Germany. I love you very much! Email: RUHP4@gmx.de Phone 09543-9907 or 0152 341 99725

Classifieds Get Results!

Enter your ad for *free* at **Stripes.com!**

STARS AND STRIPES

Read STARS AND STRIPES online at www.stripes.com

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Work in progress

Indiana coach: It's time to shape up

By Michael Marot
The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Tom Crean sent a clear message to Indiana's basketball players Wednesday. It's time to shape up.

Two days after announcing three players had been suspended for four games each, Crean spent 45 minutes taking questions about the state of the program, the discipline he has imposed, the reaction of angry fans and how he hopes to avoid any more issues with the school's signature sports program.

He's going to be tougher.

"Sterner sometimes means we've got to take more away. We've got to bring more to this that gets their attention. Sterner is how do we get their attention and how do we get it again, again and again?" he said. "People can define it as you have to do this, you have to do that.

"OK, we've had a lot of people come through in 16 years as a head coach that have dealt with sterner and ended up pretty good. But I just think you have to continue to get their attention any way possible."

If Crean didn't have the players' attention before, he certainly does after last weekend.

Sophomore forward Devin Davis remains hospitalized after sustaining a serious head injury Saturday morning when freshman forward Emmitt Holt allegedly ran into him with a car. According to the police report, Davis, 19, and Holt, 18, had been drinking. School officials said Holt's blood-alcohol content was 0.025, well below the legal limit of 0.08, but Holt was cited for illegal consumption of alcohol, a misdemeanor, and operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol under age 21.

Crean said Davis can sit up in a chair, take walks and play card games.

"If I could go back and do it over, we'd have practiced till 11:30 p.m., midnight, showered up, got 'em something to eat, took 'em back to my house, figured out how we were going to do it, got up the next morning, came back in here (Assembly Hall) shortly after 5, when it's legal to practice again — if I knew that that situation was going to happen that night," said Crean, noting NCAA rules only allow teams to practice until midnight.

On Monday during his weekly radio show, Crean told listeners Holt, starting guard Stanford Robinson and starting forward Troy Williams had been suspended for Indiana's first two exhibition games and the first two regular-season games. Crean didn't say why Robinson and Williams were suspended other than acknowledging the infractions occurred during the summer.

Indiana's school rules require athletes who fail drug tests to miss 10 percent of the season in their sport. While Crean again steered clear of citing an official reason, he said he did add a fourth game to each player's punishment.

It's been a disconcerting trend for Hoosiers' fans.

In September, junior guard Kevin "Yogi" Ferrell and Robinson entered pretrial diversion programs after being charged in April with consumption of an alcoholic beverage by a minor and possession of false identification. In February, forward Hanner Mosquera-Perea, now a junior, was arrested in Bloomington on preliminary drunk driving charges.

Former players such as Cody Zeller and Jordan Hulls used their Twitter accounts to urge the new Hoosiers to abide by the higher standards they helped set during Crean's first rebuilding project in Bloomington.

Crean's usually friendly radio-show fans started asking pointed questions about why he should keep his job and whether he should take the blame for all these legal problems. Dan Dakich, a former Hoosiers player and Indiana's interim head coach in 2008, also critiqued what was taking place inside the program on his daily radio show.

As the torrent of opinions heated up, Crean kept his emotions in check.

Until Wednesday. At some points during the news conference, Crean sounded flatly disgusted and called on players to live up to the rules.

At other times, he sounded poignant, sad and once sounded as if he was choking up.

"So do I feel a responsibility?" Crean said. "More than you can possibly imagine."

Doug McSchooler/AP

Indiana head coach Tom Crean has seen three of his players suspended. A fourth is injured. And now, Creen himself is under fire.

ClassifiedsPACIFIC

PacificClassifieds@stripes.com JAPAN DSN: 229-3276 Civ: 03-6385-3276 OKINAWA DSN: 645-7418 Civ: 098-893-0292
KOREA DSN: 721-7146 Civ: 82-2-2270-7146 FROM USA Overseas: 011-81-3-6385-3276

Announcements 040

www.oconus.com
Looking For Online Coupons?
One Stop Shopping for Military Families!
OCONUS.com
Local Links & Free Ads
Over 600 APO/FPO Stores
Autos to Video Games
Merchant Rating System
Monthly Photo Contest
Online Military Loans
www.oconus.com

Furniture 510

Italian Leather Sofa Set $2000.00 -Beautiful Imported Italian Leather Sofa and Arm chair Less than one year old -Excellent condition- still like brand new. Only 2,000,000 won OBO (original price 4,000,000 won) Have to Sell -Doesn't fit into new apartment. The dimensions are 220mmx100mm & 110mmx100mm - kaitnarine@gmail.co

Autos for Sale - Korea 148

Chrysler, 300 Touring, 2006 $12000.00 3.5L V6/Heafed front seats/new tires/CD/Sunroof. Original owner. Purchased through AAFES New Car sales. Great condition inside and out with low mileage. Available immediately. +82 10 99240307

Motorcycles - Korea 168

Suzuki, DR200, 2001 $1200.00 For Sale - 2001 Suzuki DR200 U.S. Spec. Kansas Title/SOFA Registered Excellent Condition- Driven Daily. Located at Osan AFB $1200 - Call 010-8680-0431 010-8680-0431

Sell Your Stuff!
Take the fuss out of packing up for your next PCS— sell everything with Stripes
free classifieds!
STARS AND STRIPES

Want a better picture?

You'll get one – just by reading **Stars and Stripes** military news coverage.
In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES
However you read us, wherever you need us.

RelocationGUIDE

Moving? Find Your Home Online!

militarybyowner.com
Succeed with Your Military Network
Advertising Homes For Sale or Rent Near US Military Installations

YES
We've been making loans of up to $10,000 to Active Duty Military for over 63 years.
omni FINANCIAL
Click today...cash today™ www.militaryloans.com "We love to say yes"®

Free Classifieds!

Visit Stripes.com for details.
STARS AND STRIPES

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules.
myafn.net

College hockey

Wednesday's scores

EAST
UConn 1, Boston College 0

Pro basketball

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	4	1	.800	—
Brooklyn	2	2	.500	1½
New York	2	3	.400	2
Boston	1	3	.250	2½
Philadelphia	0	5	.000	4
Southeast Division				
Washington	4	1	.800	—
Miami	3	2	.600	1
Charlotte	2	3	.400	2
Atlanta	1	2	.333	2
Orlando	1	4	.200	3
Central Division				
Chicago	4	1	.800	—
Milwaukee	2	3	.400	2
Cleveland	1	3	.250	2½
Detroit	1	3	.250	2½
Indiana	1	4	.200	3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	5	0	1.000	—
Memphis	5	0	1.000	—
Dallas	3	1	.750	1½
San Antonio	2	1	.667	2
New Orleans	1	2	.500	2½
Northwest Division				
Minnesota	2	2	.500	—
Portland	2	2	.500	—
Utah	2	3	.400	½
Denver	1	3	.250	1
Oklahoma City	1	4	.200	1½
Pacific Division				
Golden State	4	0	1.000	—
Sacramento	4	1	.800	½
L.A. Clippers	3	2	.600	1½
Phoenix	3	2	.600	1½
L.A. Lakers	0	5	.000	4½

Wednesday's games
Orlando 91, Philadelphia 89
Charlotte 96, Miami 89
Detroit 98, New York 95
Toronto 110, Boston 107
Minnesota 98, Brooklyn 91
Chicago 95, Milwaukee 86
Washington 96, Indiana 94, OT
San Antonio 94, Atlanta 92
Memphis 102, Phoenix 91
Utah 102, Cleveland 100
Sacramento 131, Denver 109
Golden State 121, L.A. Clippers 104

Thursday's games
San Antonio at Houston
Dallas at Portland

Friday's games
Chicago at Philadelphia
Minnesota at Orlando
Atlanta at Charlotte
Washington at Toronto
Milwaukee at Detroit
Indiana at Boston
New York at Brooklyn
Memphis at Oklahoma City
Sacramento at Phoenix
Dallas at Utah
Cleveland at Denver

Saturday's games
Portland at L.A. Clippers
Washington at Indiana
New York at Atlanta
Minnesota at Miami
Boston at Chicago
Golden State at Houston
Memphis at Milwaukee
New Orleans at San Antonio

Sunday's games
Orlando at Brooklyn
Utah at Detroit
Sacramento at Oklahoma City
Philadelphia at Toronto
Miami at Dallas
Golden State at Phoenix
Denter at Portland
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers

Monday's games
New Orleans at Cleveland
Utah at Indiana
Atlanta at New York
Detroit at Chicago
San Antonio at L.A. Clippers

AP sportlight

Nov. 7

1976 — Minnesota's Sammy White catches seven passes for 210 yards and two touchdowns as the Vikings post a 31-23 victory over the Detroit Lions.

1991 — Magic Johnson, who helped the Los Angeles Lakers to five NBA championships, announces he has tested positive for the AIDS virus and retires.

1999 — Tiger Woods becomes the first player since Ben Hogan in 1953 to win four straight tournaments, capturing the American Express Championship.

College football

Wednesday's scores

MIDWEST
N. Illinois 35, Ball St. 21
Ohio 37, Buffalo 14

Schedule

Friday, Nov. 7
EAST
Fordham (8-1) at Bucknell (7-1)
Memphis (5-3) at Temple (5-3)
FAR WEST
Utah St. (6-3) at Wyoming (4-5)
Saturday, Nov. 8
EAST
Bryant (7-1) at Duquesne (5-4)
Wagner (4-4) at Robert Morris (1-7)
Yale (6-1) at Brown (4-3)
Dartmouth (5-2) at Cornell (0-7)
Richmond (7-2) at Maine (3-5)
New Hampshire (7-1) at Rhode Island (0-9)
Duke (7-1) at Syracuse (3-6)
Lehigh (2-6) at Holy Cross (3-6)
Sacred Heart (7-2) at CCSU (2-7)
Lafayette (3-6) at Colgate (4-5)
Columbia (0-7) at Harvard (7-0)
James Madison (6-3) at Stony Brook (4-5)
Delaware (5-4) at Albany (NY) (6-3)
UConn (2-6) vs. Army (2-6) at Bronx
Penn (1-6) at Princeton (4-3)
Towson (4-5) at Villanova (7-2)
Louisville (6-3) at Boston College (6-3)
SOUTH
Gardner-Webb (4-5) at Charleston Southern (6-3)
Coastal Carolina (9-0) at Charlotte (3-5)
Georgia (6-2) at Kentucky (5-4)
Presbyterian (5-4) at Mississippi (7-2)
Louisiana Tech (6-3) at UAB (5-4)
Georgia Tech (7-2) at NC State (5-4)
Missouri Baptist (0-2) at Campbell (4-5)
Wofford (5-3) at Chattanooga (6-3)
Jacksonville (7-2) at Davidson (1-8)
Jacksonville St. (7-1) at E. Kentucky (8-1)
Morgan St. (5-4) at NC A&T (7-2)
Alcorn St. (7-2) at Mississippi A&M (3-6)
Jackson St. (3-6) at Alabama St. (4-5)
Hampton (2-7) at NC Central (4-5)
Furman (2-7) at Wofford (5-3)
SE Missouri (4-5) at Tennessee Tech (3-6)
SC State (6-3) at Florida A&M (2-7)
Marist (3-6) at Stetson (4-5)
Georgia St. (1-8) at Troy (1-8)
Louisiana-Monroe (3-5) at Appalachian St. (3-5)
Texas A&M (6-3) at Auburn (7-1)
Monmouth (NJ) (5-3) at Liberty (6-3)
FIU (3-6) at Old Dominion (3-6)
W. Carolina (6-3) at Samford (5-3)
Elon (1-8) at William & Mary (5-4)
UT-Martin (5-5) at Mississippi St. (8-0)
Houston Baptist (2-7) at SE Louisiana (6-3)
UTEP (5-3) at W. Kentucky (3-5)
Tennessee St. (4-6) at Austin Peay (1-8)
Howard (2-7) at Savannah St. (0-9)
Virginia (4-5) at Florida St. (8-0)
Stephen F. Austin (6-3) at McNeese St. (6-2)
Marshall (8-0) at Southern Miss. (3-6)
Texas Southern (5-4) at Southern U. (6-3)
Florida (4-3) at Vanderbilt (3-6)
Alabama (7-1) at LSU (7-2)
MIDWEST
Penn St. (4-4) at Indiana (3-5)
Iowa (6-2) at Minnesota (6-2)
Wisconsin (6-2) at Purdue (3-6)
Drake (5-4) at Dayton (6-2)
Murray St. (3-6) at E. Illinois (4-5)
S. Dakota St. (5-4) at Indiana St. (6-3)
Weber St. (0-9) at North Dakota (3-6)
Youngstown St. (7-2) at Illinois St. (7-1)
Butler (4-5) at Valparaiso (2-7)
S. Illinois (5-4) at Missouri St. (4-5)
Iowa St. (2-6) at Kansas (2-6)
Michigan (4-5) at Northwestern (3-5)
N. Dakota St. (9-0) at N. Iowa (5-4)
W. Illinois (3-6) at South Dakota (2-7)
Sam Houston St. (5-4) at Incarnate Word (2-7)
Ohio St. (7-1) at Michigan St. (7-1)
SOUTHWEST
Baylor (7-1) at Oklahoma (6-2)
UTSA (2-6) at Rice (5-3)
SMU (0-7) at Tulsa (1-7)
Northwestern St. (4-5) at Abilene Christian (5-5)
South Alabama (5-3) at Arkansas St. (5-3)
Prairie View (3-5) at Ark.-Pine Bluff (3-5)
Tulane (2-6) at Houston (5-3)
West Virginia (6-3) at Texas (4-5)
Lamar (6-3) at Cent. Arkansas (5-5)
Georgia Southern (7-2) at Texas St. (5-3)
FAU (3-6) at North Texas (2-6)
Kansas St. (7-1) at TCU (7-1)
FAR WEST
Montana (6-3) at E. Washington (8-2)
Notre Dame (7-1) at Arizona St. (7-1)
UC Davis (1-7) at N. Arizona (6-3)
Washington St. (2-7) at Oregon St. (4-4)
Morehead St. (3-6) at San Diego (7-1)
Air Force (2-6) at UNLV (2-7)
Portland St. (3-6) at Montana St. (6-3)
Cal Poly (6-3) at Idaho St. (6-3)
S. Utah (2-7) at Sacramento St. (4-5)
Idaho (1-7) at San Diego St. (4-4)
Hawaii (2-7) at Colorado St. (8-1)
Boise St. (6-2) at New Mexico (3-5)
UCLA (7-2) at Washington (6-3)
Colorado (2-7) at Arizona (6-2)
Louisiana-Lafayette (5-3) at New Mexico St. (2-7)
Oregon (8-1) at Utah (6-2)
San Jose St. (3-5) at Fresno St. (3-6)

Pro football

NFL injury report

NEW YORK — The updated National Football League injury report, as provided by the league:

CLEVELAND BROWNS at CINCINNATI BENGALS — BROWNS: No Data Reported. **BENGALS:** OUT: LB Vontaze Burfict (knee), CB Leon Hall (concussion). DOUBTFUL: RB Giovani Bernard (hip, clavicle), LB Rey Maualuga (hamstring), T Andre Smith (ankle). QUESTIONABLE: DE Robert Geathers (shoulder). PROBABLE: CB Darqueze Dennard (hamstring), TE Jermaine Gresham (knee), CB Terence Newman (chest), G Kevin Zeitler (calf).

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS at BUFFALO BILLS — CHIEFS: DNP: CB Jamell Fleming (hamstring), G Jerry Franklin (hamstring), LB Josh Martin (hamstring, knee). LIMITED: WR Donnie Avery (groin), LB Tamba Hali (knee), CB Chris Owens (knee). FULL: S Eric Berry (ankle), CB Phillip Gaines (ankle, quadriceps), RB Cyrus Gray (hand), WR Junior Hemingway (hamstring), TE Travis Kelce (ribs). **BILLS:** LIMITED: CB Ron Brooks (groin), WR Marcus Easley (knee), WR Marquise Goodwin (hamstring), RB Fred Jackson (groin), LB Ty Powell (ankle), WR Sammy Watkins (groin). FULL: WR Robert Woods (back).

MIAMI DOLPHINS at DETROIT LIONS — DOLPHINS: DNP: TE Dion Sims (toe). LIMITED: TE Charles Clay (knee), RB Lamar Miller (shoulder), LB Koa Misi (ankle), C Mike Pouncey (hip), S Jimmy Wilson (hamstring). FULL: G Daryn Colledge (back), LB Chris McCain (foot). **LIONS:** DNP: TE Eric Ebron (hamstring), DT Nick Fairley (knee), TE Brandon Pettigrew (foot). LIMITED: TE Joseph Fauria (ankle). FULL: RB Reggie Bush (ankle), WR Calvin Johnson (ankle), T LaAdrian Waddle (ankle).

DALLAS COWBOYS at JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — COWBOYS: DNP: DE Jeremiah Crawford (knee), DT Nick Hayden (shoulder), LB Rolando McClain (knee, groin), QB Tony Romo (back). LIMITED: RB Doug Free (foot), LB Anthony Hitchens (chest), G Ronald Leary (groin). FULL: LB Bruce Carter (finger), S Barry Church (shoulder), DE Jason Hatcher (hand), CB Orlando Hanna (hamstring), T Jermey Parnell (chest), DE Anthony Spencer (knee, foot). **JAGUARS:** DNP: DE Andre Branch (groin), LB Jeremiah George (ankle), G Brandon Linder (shoulder). LIMITED: S Josh Evans (shoulder), WR Marqise Lee (ankle), S Sherrod Martin (shoulder), WR Cecil Shorts III (hamstring). FULL: QB Blake Bortles (left wrist), LB Dekoda Watson (hamstring).

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS at NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — 49ERS: DNP: LB Dan Skuta (ankle), TE Vernon Smith (not limited related), LB Patrick Willis (toe). LIMITED: CB Tramaine Brock (toe), RB Frank Gore (hip), WR Brandon Lloyd (hamstring), NT Ian Williams (knee). **SAINTS:** DNP: LB David Hawthorne (hand), RB Khiry Robinson (forearm), T Zach Strief (chest), RB Pierre Thomas (ankle, shoulder). LIMITED: C Jonathan Goodwin (knee, ankle), RB Mark Ingram (shoulder), WR Kenny Stills (thigh). FULL: TE Jimmy Graham (shoulder).

TENNESSEE TITANS at BALTIMORE RAVENS — TITANS: LIMITED: WR Nate Washington (shoulder). FULL: CB Coty Sensabaugh (knee). **RAVENS:** DNP: WR Michael Campanaro (thigh), CB Jimmy Smith (foot), G Marshal Yanda (knee), G Jeremy Zuttah (ankle).

PITTSBURGH STEELERS at NEW YORK JETS — STEELERS: DNP: DE Brett Keisel (not injury related), TE Heath Miller (not injury related), S Mike Mitchell (not injury related), S Troy Polamalu (knee), C Maurkice Pouncey (not injury related), LB Ryan Shazier (ankle), S Shamarko Thomas (hamstring), S Ross Ventrone (hamstring), LB Jason Worilds (abdomen). LIMITED: DE Cameron Heyward (not injury related), CB Ike Taylor (forearm). **JETS:** DNP: T Breno Giacomini (illness), DT Sheldon Richardson (illness), CB Darrin Walls (calf), DE Muhammad Wilkerson (illness). LIMITED: WR Percy Harvin (heel). FULL: G Oday Aboushi (shoulder), LB Antwan Barnes (knee), G Willie Colon (knee), LB David Harris (shoulder), RB Chris Johnson (ankle), C Nick Mangold (shoulder), LB Trevor Reilly (knee), WR Greg Salas (wrist), QB Geno Smith (right shoulder), QB Michael Vick (foot).

ATLANTA FALCONS at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — FALCONS: DNP: T Jonathan Scott (hamstring). LIMITED: DT Jonathan Babineaux (foot), WR Harry Douglas (foot), DE Jonathan Massaquoi (foot), RB Antone Smith (neck). **BUCCANEERS:** DNP: T Anthony Collins (foot), WR Vincent Jackson (knee), RB Doug Martin (ankle), TE Luke Stocker (foot), CB Alterraun Verner (hamstring). LIMITED: LB Lavonte David (knee), DE Michael Johnson (hand), LB Brandon Magee (knee), RB Charles Sims (ankle), DT Akeem Spence (hamstring).

DENVER BRONCOS at OAKLAND RAIDERS — BRONCOS: DNP: LB Nate Irving (knee). LIMITED: RB Montee Ball (groin), S Quinton Carter (hamstring), T Paul Cornick (shoulder), TE Virgil Green (calf). FULL: LB Steven Johnson (ankle), K Brandon McManus (right groin), RB Juwan Thompson (knee), WR Wes Welker (back). **RAIDERS:** No Data Reported.

ST. LOUIS RAMS at ARIZONA CARDINALS — RAMS: DNP: LB Jo-Lonn Dunbar (knee), CB E.J. Gaines (knee), TE Cory Harkey (knee), DE William Hayes (fibula), CB Janoris Jenkins (knee), S Rodney McLeod (knee), CB Marcus Roberson (ankle). LIMITED: S Cody Davis (concussion). **CARDINALS:** DNP: LB Lorenzo Alexander (knee), LB Marcus Benard (illness), T Bobby Massie (ankle, knee), RB Stepfan Taylor (calf). LIMITED: RB Andre Ellington (foot). FULL: LB Larry Foote (knee).

NEW YORK GIANTS at SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — GIANTS: DNP: RB Rashad Jennings (knee), DE Mathias Kiwanuka (knee), G Weston Richburg (ankle), P Steve Weatherford (left ankle, back). LIMITED: DT Cullen Jenkins (calf), CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (back, hamstring). **SEAHAWKS:** OUT: TE Zach Miller (ankle), T Russell Okung (calf), LB Bobby Wagner (toe). DNP: WR Doug Baldwin (groin), G James Carpenter (ankle), S Kam Chancellor (groin), DT Jordan Hill (ankle), RB Marshawn Lynch (not injury related), CB Byron Maxwell (calf), G Stephen Schilling (knee), DE O'Brien Schofield (head), LB Malcolm Smith (groin), C Max Unger (not injury related). FULL: S Jeron Johnson (concussion).

CHICAGO BEARS at GREEN BAY PACKERS — BEARS: OUT: G Matt Slauson (chest). DNP: K Eric Britton (illness), LB Darryl Sharpton (hamstring). FULL: LB Jonathan Bostic (back), LB Lance Briggs (ribs), CB Kyle Fuller (hip, hand), S Danny McCray (knee), T Jordan Mills (foot). **PACKERS:** DNP: G T.J. Lang (ankle), G Josh Sitton (toe). FULL: S Morgan Burnett (calf), DE Datone Jones (ankle), QB Aaron Rodgers (hamstring), CB Sam Shields (knee).

CAROLINA PANTHERS at PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — No Data Reported.

Pro hockey

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	14	9	4	1	19	33	41
Tampa Bay	12	8	3	1	17	42	32
Detroit	13	8	4	1	17	46	33
Boston	14	8	6	0	16	38	33
Ottawa	11	6	3	2	14	31	27
Toronto	12	6	5	1	13	34	31
Florida	10	4	2	4	12	15	20
Buffalo	14	3	9	2	8	17	45
Metropolitan Division							
Pittsburgh	11	8	2	1	17	45	23
N.Y. Islanders	12	6	5	0	14	39	41
New Jersey	12	6	4	2	14	33	27
N.Y. Rangers	12	6	4	2	14	34	38
Philadelphia	12	5	5	2	12	37	39
Washington	12	4	6	3	11	38	37
Carolina	11	3	6	2	8	25	37
Columbus	12	4	8	0	8	30	41

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	12	8	3	1	17	30	23
Nashville	12	7	3	2	16	30	25
Winnipeg	13	7	5	1	15	25	27
Chicago	13	7	5	1	15	34	23
Minnesota	11	7	4	0	14	26	22
Dallas	12	4	4	4	12	35	42
Colorado	14	3	6	5	11	33	43
Pacific Division							
Anaheim	14	10	3	1	21	38	27
Vancouver	13	9	4	0	18	43	36
Calgary	14	8	4	2	18	41	32
Los Angeles	13	7	4	2	16	31	27
San Jose	13	7	4	2	16	41	35
Arizona	12	5	6	1	11	31	44
Edmonton	12	4	7	1	9	30	43

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Wednesday's games
Montreal 3, Buffalo 1
N.Y. Rangers 4, Detroit 3, OT
N.Y. Islanders 3, Anaheim 2, OT

Thursday's games
Edmonton at Boston
Florida at Philadelphia
Minnesota at Ottawa
Calgary at Tampa Bay
New Jersey at St. Louis
Pittsburgh at Winnipeg
Nashville at Dallas
Toronto at Colorado
N.Y. Islanders at Los Angeles
Vancouver at San Jose

Friday's games
Edmonton at Buffalo
Columbus at Carolina
New Jersey at Detroit
Washington at Chicago
Arizona at Anaheim

Saturday's games
Calgary at Buffalo
Pittsburgh at Buffalo
N.Y. Rangers at Toronto
Minnesota at Montreal
Winnipeg at Ottawa
Colorado at Philadelphia
Tampa Bay at Columbus
Carolina at Washington
Nashville at St. Louis
San Jose at Dallas
N.Y. Islanders at Arizona
Vancouver at Los Angeles

Sunday's games
Toronto at Ottawa
Tampa Bay at Detroit
Edmonton at N.Y. Rangers
San Jose at Chicago
Vancouver at Anaheim

Monday's games
New Jersey at Boston
Calgary at Carolina

Deals

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball
MLB — Suspended free agent LHP Troy Patton 80 games following a positive test for an amphetamine under Major League Baseball's drug program.
American League
HOUSTON ASTROS — Acquired C Hank Conger from the Los Angeles Angels for RHP Nick Tropeano and C Carlos Perez.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Acquired LHP Cesar Ramos from Tampa Bay for RHP Mark Sappington.
TEXAS RANGERS — Named Michael Young special assistant to the general manager.
National League
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Named Brad Fischer to the coaching staff.
BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NBA — Suspended New York G J.R. Smith one game for hitting Washington's Glen Rice Jr. in the groin during a Nov. 4 game.
PHILADELPHIA 76ERS — Named Sachin Gupta vice president of basketball operations and Ben Falk vice president of basketball strategy. Promoted Vince Rozman to director of basketball operations & scouting innovation. Named Phil Jabour director of scouting development, Dennis Mills international scout, Sean Rooks player development coach and Eugene Burroughs shooting coach.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
GREEN BAY PACKERS — Signed G Jordan McCray to the practice squad. Released RB Michael Hill from the practice squad.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Signed FB Anthony Sherman to a contract extension.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Re-signed WR Jonathan Krause to the practice squad. Released DL Kona Schwenke from the practice squad.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Claimed CB Chykie Brown off waivers from Baltimore. Placed CB Prince Amukamara on injured reserve.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Announced the retirement of RB Marcus Lattimore.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Placed DE Greg Scruggs on injured reserve. Claimed DE Demarcus Dobbs off waivers from San Francisco.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Signed TE Brett Brackett from the Seattle practice squad. Placed TE Taylor Thompson on injured reserve.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
NHL — Suspended Columbus D Jack Johnson three games for an illegal check to the head of Carolina F Jiri Tlusty during a Nov. 4 game.
NEW YORK RANGERS — Assigned D Dylan McIlrath to Hartford (AHL).
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Signed G Marc-Andre Fleury to a four-year contract extension through the 2018-19 season.
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
MLS — Fined New England MF Jermaine Jones and suspended him and another for simulation in the 70th minute of the Nov. 1 game against Columbus.
SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC — Signed F Victor Mansaray.
COLLEGE
BUCKNELL — Named Ryan Ayers men's assistant basketball coach.
LSU — Suspended women's junior basketball G Danielle Ballard indefinitely from game competition for violating team rules.

College basketball

Wednesday's men's scores

SOUTH
Cumberland (Tenn.) 92, Indiana-Southeast 80
Martin Methodist 83, Lindsey Wilson 67
Milligan 81, Alice Lloyd 62
MIDWEST
William Penn 90, Dordt 69
FAR WEST
Corban 99, New Hope Christian 74
S. Oregon 90, Northwest (Ore.) 78, OT
EXHIBITION
Louisiana 87, Loyola NO 61

Wednesday's women's scores

SOUTH
St. Andrews 62, Barber-Scotia 43
MIDWEST
Spring Arbor 79, Rochester (Mich.) 65
EXHIBITION
LSU 93, Loyola NO 71
St. Catherine U. 59, Milligan 54

Pro soccer

MLS playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
Eastern Conference
New England 1, Columbus 0
Leg 1 — New England 4, Columbus 2
Leg 2 — Sunday: Columbus at New England
New York 1, D.C. United 0
Leg 1 — New York 2, D.C. United 0
Leg 2 — Saturday: New York at D.C. United
Western Conference
LA Galaxy 0, Real Salt Lake 0
Leg 1 — LA Galaxy 0, Real Salt Lake 0
Leg 2 — Sunday: Real Salt Lake at LA Galaxy
Seattle vs. FC Dallas
Leg 1 — Seattle 1, FC Dallas 1
Leg 2 — Monday: FC Dallas at Seattle

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC

FAR EAST VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kubasaki stuns defending D-I champ ASIJ

By James Kimber
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — For the first time in four years, there's a new champion in Far East Division I volleyball.

Tournament MVP Kelsey Rogers led Kubasaki to a 13-25, 29-27, 27-25, 26-24 upset Thursday over reigning three-time champion American School In Japan.

Technically, Kubasaki was the visiting team, based on seeding. The roar of the crowd when the Dragons tied ASIJ 24-24 in the second set told a different story.

"We had a rough first set because of nerves," said Rogers, who agreed her teammates were a little rattled by the home crowd-like support. "Once we lost the first one, we regrouped and told each other that we had nowhere to go but up and that they're the ones with something to lose. We have nothing to lose, so we could just leave it all out there and still feel good."

Coach Michael Hogen said Wednesday night his team needed to find a way to disrupt the Mustangs' attack. While the crowd boosted the Dragons' spirits, Wednesday's tape review of ASIJ's victory over Kubasaki in round-robin play showed the team what went right.

"Big thing was timing our blocks. We usually block to take away angles, but you simply cannot take away space from ASIJ. We just don't have the height and length to do that. I told the girls, 'we had to either stop block or go home,'" Hogen said.

On trying to minimize the potential damage that last year's MVP Mia Weinland could cause, Hogen said: "We also had to take advantage of the three rotations Mia was in the back row, and we were able to capitalize on that."

Digs were also key. Freshman libero Maiya Larry led the team by digging out seven of ASIJ's hitters' attacks, many of which turned into Kubasaki points.

Nathaniel Punla/Special to Stars and Stripes

ASIJ's Mia Weinland tries to tip the ball past Kubasaki's Lianna Bourdony and Kaelyn Francis in Thursday's final. Kubasaki won its first Far East volleyball title.

"Great defense will wear down a great offense," Hogen said. "That was something I think the team finally bought into following the first annihilation [against ASIJ]. Play for each point and don't give their offense any free points. We also recognized a couple of mismatches. That was big time for us. With Maiya digging out their hits, we were able to move the ball to Kelsey to take advantage of the mismatch."

For ASIJ, the loss becomes the only blemish on a perfect season.

"It was point-for-point," coach Gail Lanier said. "It was a really tough match. They hustled. They covered the court extremely well. Sometimes the ball fell in our favor. And sometimes it fell in favor of Kubasaki. They played a beautiful ballgame."

Weinland played hurt.

Despite making her trademark hits from the front line, she had an obvious limp that seemed to limit her effectiveness and range from the back row.

"Before the game, Mia was crying," Lanier said. "Usually, that's a good thing because she's so emotional about the game, but the other girls told me she was hurt. Her knee has been bothering her for about a month now, but she has still been able to do what she normally does on the court. Hopefully, it's just wear and tear."

Lanier was quick to note that she didn't feel Weinland's injury takes anything away from Kubasaki's title.

"They played so well today, they just may have beaten us no matter what," she said.

It's the first D-I volleyball title for Kubasaki in school history and just the seventh for a DODDS school in the sport in 38 years.

kimber.james@stripes.com

Osan edges Edgren in D-II

Stars and Stripes

CAMP ZAMA, Japan — Something just wasn't right about Osan's round-robin loss to Edgren on Tuesday. Not just the final score, not just the early start time of the match, not just the way the Cougars were outplayed by the Eagles in every aspect.

They missed their warm-up music, Osan coach Caylen Dakin said. Throughout the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference volleyball season, teams warmed up to music. That was not the case at this week's Far East Division II tournament.

So the Cougars did something about it, heading to the exchange to buy a portable sound system. That, coupled with healthy doses of defense, outside hitting and strong serving turned things around and helped fuel Osan's run to a fourth D-II title.

"The music did it for them," Dakin said after the Cougars swept the Eagles 25-19, 25-23, 26-24 in Thursday's final. "It feels amazing. I'm so happy. I love these girls."

With the win, Osan captured its first D-II crown since winning back-to-back titles in 2007 and '08. The Cougars' first title came in 2001. Edgren came up just short of the title in its first finals appearance.

With iPods and iPhones hooked up and the music blaring during their warm-up paces, the Cougars did not lose again after falling 15-9, 15-10 to Edgren in that Tuesday round-robin match.

Only once did Osan need to play more than three sets in the double-elimination playoffs, earlier Thursday when the Cougars staved off the Eagles in five sets to book a spot in the final.

Aside from finally being able to again listen to the likes of Kanye, Rhianna, and One Direction, among others, Osan got solid play from all corners on the court, Dakin said, with defense being the key component.

"Our defense was on," Dakin said, citing junior right-side hitter Sarah Colthart and senior libero Martha Smith, the latter playing her final match for the Cougars. "Beautiful passing, digging, serve receiving, everything," Dakin said.

She was particularly pleased with the serving of setter Haeley Deeney, who served nearly 200 times during the tournament "and missed only four," Dakin said. "A couple of times, she would serve and get us to 14, 15 points; she could not be stopped."

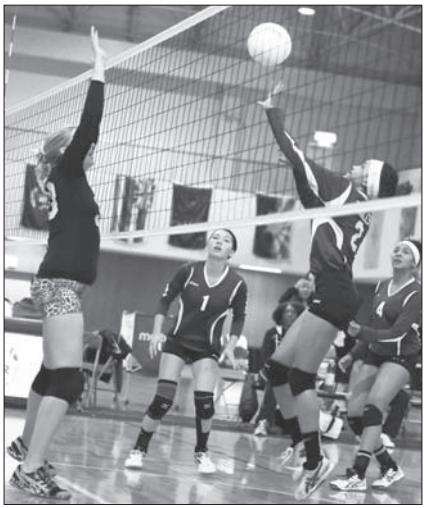
It had been thought that Osan would try to ride the tide of just its outside hitting to a deep D-II run, but that would leave the Cougars vulnerable to possible double- and triple-blocking by opponents.

But Osan got solid play from its middles, such as Kristin Rimer, which created openings for outsiders Andrea Carandang — named the tournament's offensive MVP — and Jade Carnine.

"It was a combination" of players and plays, Dakin said. "Everybody pulled their weight."

Edgren rode solid defense of its own, led by tournament defensive MVP Kalean Middleton, to its first D-II finals appearance and its fourth in any sport under coach Sarah Richardson.

The Eagles have lost a softball title-game appearance in 2010 and two D-I basketball finals appearances, in 2000 and 2002, under Richardson in addition to Thursday's defeat.



Kayla Bodwin/Special to Stars and Stripes

Edgren's Essence Prince tries to send the ball past Osan middle blocker Kristin Ramer. The Cougars swept the Eagles in straight sets for their fourth Far East Division II tournament title.

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC

FAR EAST TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kobayashi breaks through

By Dave Ornauer
Stars and Stripes

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — Always a bridesmaid. Never the bride.

Until Thursday.

That was the narrative for Lili Kobayashi, the diminutive American School In Japan junior who for the past two years has finished second in the Kanto Plain high school tennis tournament and last year lost in the singles and doubles finals of the Far East tournament.

Kobayashi shed the runner-up label in style on Thursday, beating Seoul American's Grace Cho 7-5, 6-4 to win the Far East singles title, then teamed with Nana Yoshimura to win doubles 6-2, 6-1 over Seisen International's Ana Clara Borga and Matilde Piras.

"It's so nice. It's so hard to believe," a beaming Kobayashi said following the singles victory. "It feels good to be on the opposite side. I'm used to congratulating my opponents. I was always second."

Cho played the final less than 24 hours after going 3 hours, 10 minutes in a three-set semifinal win over Piras. Cho confessed to some nerves and perhaps playing too cautiously, having lost to Kobayashi in last year's Far East.

"I didn't want to make mistakes," Cho said. "But I'm definitely happy I got this far."

Both players appeared to be jittery coming out of the gate. The two exchanged four breaks of service in the first set of a match played mainly on the baseline with many groundstrokes and cross-court shots.

Not until the middle of the first set did either dare approach the net, and when Kobayashi found some success volleying at the net, she came forward more often, while Cho rarely ventured off the baseline.

Cho broke Kobayashi, then held to go up for the only time in the set, 4-3. But Kobayashi broke back to lead for good 5-4, then closed out the set by taking all four points in Game 12.

Kobayashi "was putting more pressure on Grace coming to the net," ASIJ coach Jen Brown said. "That's what helped her, mixing it up, coming to the net, using a stronger serve to get those free points. Both girls hung in there. It was a nice final for both girls."

Kobayashi continued to gain confidence and took more chances up front, 17 times in all, eight successfully, while Cho came forward just four times, once successfully. The backbreaker in the second set came early on when Kobayashi broke Cho twice.

They played evenly from that point on, and when Cho hit a backhand into the net at 30-40 in the 10th game to end it, Kobayashi smiled and gently pumped her fists as she came to the net for the post-match handshake.

"Hat's off to Grace and to Lili," Falcons coach David Abbott said. Kobayashi "was truly the human backboard. She can hit anything back."

Cho didn't go home empty-handed, teaming with Ashley Shirriff to win the third-place girls doubles match for the second straight year. "She needed to go home with a win," Abbott said. "I'm so happy for her."

Another DODDS doubles pair, Mark Ebarle and Allie Powers of Kubasaki, captured third in the mixed doubles.

ASIJ won the Division I overall school banner for the second straight year, as did Yongsan International-Seoul in Division II.

In D-II, E.J. King won the boys title, giving coach Rick Kendall his first Far East team title since coaching Cobras basketball to the 2000 D-II crown.

St. Mary's International's Marius Ruh won the boys singles, ASIJ's Len Kamemoto and Noah Inahara the boys doubles and the Mustangs' Kaisei Sato teamed with Yoshimura for the mixed doubles title, Yoshimura's second straight.

DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

American School In Japan's Lili Kobayashi smashes a forehand return against Seoul American's Grace Cho.

Football finals: D-I matches familiar rivals D-II foes have never met

By Dave Ornauer
Stars and Stripes

KADENA AIR BASE, Okinawa — Saturday's Far East Division I and Division II championship football games offer quite the contrast in styles.

Daegu visiting M.C. Perry signals a visit into uncharted territory, the teams having never faced each other and only familiar with each other's game plans through facing other opponents who play similar styles. Kickoff of the D-II title game is at noon.

Kadena at Kubasaki, six hours later on Okinawa, features teams all too familiar with each other. The teams squared off four times last season — including the Dragons' 34-31 overtime win in the D-I title game last Nov. 9 — and two more times this season.

"Two great programs, two great traditions, two great groups of young men and two great coaching staffs," Kubasaki coach Fred Bales said. "In one sense, it's another day at the office; in another, it's a championship game. It's another game, but some are bigger than others."

Bales could easily be speaking for three of the four teams in action on Saturday. Daegu, the reigning D-II champion, will appear in its sixth title game and has three victories to its credit.

Kadena is entered in its seventh D-I title game, winning three, while Kubasaki, in its fifth final — including the last four — is trying to match Kadena's title total.

Only the Samurai, back as a varsity program after an 11-year hiatus, are new to November Madness. While the coaching staff knows what's at stake, head coach Frank Macias says "for the kids, it's all new. It's just another game."

But while the teams haven't set eyes on each other, they each know what the other team does: Daegu operates out of a spread-option and Perry a power running game.

The Samurai (5-1 overall, 4-0 D-II) have faced three spread teams this season in Edgren, Zama and American School In Japan. And the Warriors (6-1, 5-1) have played two teams, Osan and Seoul American, that incorporate power concepts into their offenses.

"We've been working … to ensure that our offense is sharp and crisp at what we do," Daegu coach Ken Walter said. "I'm sure they're doing the same thing."

Having seen film of Warriors games, Macias referred to Walter as a good coach and Daegu as a fast team. "We're going to have our hands full with them," Macias said.

Primary on the Samurai's watch list are Daegu's running back tandem of DeAndre Rosalie (627 yards, eight touchdowns, 66 carries) and DeMarco Andrews (1,125, 16, 63). The Warriors, meanwhile, must buckle down on burly Perry backs Caeleb Ricafrente and Mick Carreiro (combined 719 yards, nine touchdowns).

"Three yards and a cloud of dust versus getting the big play at any time," Macias said. "How they will compare to Edgren and Zama? We'll see."

Speed and quickness are the hallmarks of Kubasaki (5-2, 4-1 D-I), which gets much of its production from the passing game, and Kadena (5-2, 3-2), which relies on its own hybrid spread-power attack.

Dragons quarterback DeCurtis Davis, a junior, leads the Pacific in offensive touchdowns, with 25, and is 78-for-137 for 1,116 yards and has 317 yards on 90 carries. Senior back Winston Maxwell complements Davis with 738 yards on 118 carries.

While Barry Mitchell and Kortez Hixon can be dangerous running options, most of the Panthers' production comes from senior Justin Sego (1,260 yards, 13 touchdowns, 132 carries).

Kubasaki has won twice this season against Kadena. Panthers coach Sergio Mendoza said he doesn't feel either side will depart much from what they've done to be successful.

"We just need to try to execute better," Mendoza said, adding that Kubasaki "did the basics better" in their first two meetings. "We're going to try to fix that."

ornauer.dave@stripes.com

YOUR low price JOURNEY STARTS HERE
FREE SAME-DAY SHIPPING!
For most orders. Some restrictions apply.
$70 GET A MICHELIN VISA® PREPAID CARD
WHEN YOU BUY ANY SET OF 4 MICHELIN TIRES.
ONLINE OR MAIL-IN REBATE. VALID 11/9/14 THROUGH 11/22/14.
DISCOUNT TIRE DIRECT
discounttiredirect.com
888-459-4058
602-735-1800
M–F: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. SAT: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. EST
MICHELIN GOODYEAR BFGoodrich PIRELLI FALKEN YOKOHAMA NITTO Continental COOPER TIRES

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR: TENNIS

Fabian Selvik, ISB

BY GREGORY BROOME
Stars and Stripes

The departure of last year's DODDS Europe boys tennis champion, Lakenheath's Peter Kovats, made runner-up Fabian Sandrup Selvik of International School of Brussels the obvious favorite to replace him as champion.

That wasn't good enough for Selvik.

"I knew I had to take the next step in my tennis," Selvik said.

And so last fall, soon after falling to Kovats in the European championship match, Selvik began his renaissance. Despite how good he already was, Selvik identified a lot of areas for improvement.

First up was his physical fitness.

Selvik said he was "quite exhausted" entering last year's final match. To prevent that from happening again, he stepped up his workout routine, packing additional sessions of cardiovascular work and strength training into his regimen and logging even more court time at his local Belgian tennis club.

"To go the next step, you've got to get stronger physically," Selvik said. "That was something I took to mind."

Selvik also found that his game required some psychological adjustments. Too often, he said, he'd found himself distracted on the court or disturbed by an opponent's tendencies and mannerisms. That needed to stop.

"I knew I had to improve my mental game," Selvik said. "I sometimes have a tendency to lose concentration and get nervous and start thinking about other things."

Finally, he examined his mechanics. Over countless hours of practice, Selvik corrected a glitch in his backhand, smoothed out his stroke and generally "cleaned up" the unnecessary quirks affecting his technical game.

The Selvik that lost to Kovats last fall might have been good enough to win this year's title in his absence. But the Selvik that finally won that European title last month — the Selvik that is the 2014 Stars and Stripes boys tennis Athlete of the Year — is a vastly improved player.

And his program is the better for it.

The upgrades Selvik made to his game have benefitted other ISB players, particularly Bram den Dekker and Maxime Dumortier, and the three Raider standouts have all pushed each other to championship heights. On the same day Selvik claimed the singles crown, den Dekker and Dumortier were teaming up for the European doubles title.

"Playing against [Selvik], you learn a lot about how to play mental tennis, about how to improve your technique," den Dekker said.

"We've learned a lot from him about how to cope with competition," Dumortier said. "Where you want to relax and calm down because you're stressed, but you actually have to be much more concentrated."

It seems the lessons Selvik has applied to his own game have taken root at ISB. Coach Kevin Horst isn't surprised that Selvik has had such an influence.

"He's the first one to help any other player, the first one to come to practices," Horst said. "He really does everything for the team. That's incredibly amazing, in my opinion, to have our best player that committed to the team."

After winning the title as a junior, Selvik already has some further upgrades in mind before his senior season.

"Of course I would want to improve my game," Selvik said. "It would be nice to add another DODDS victory to show my improvement."

broome.gregory@stripes.com
Twitter: @broomestripes

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

ISB's Fabian Sandrup Selvik slams the ball across the net in his 6-1, 6-3 win over George Shaffer of Naples in the singles final at the DODDS Europe tennis championships Oct. 25.

Marissa Encarnacion, Patch

BY GREGORY BROOME
Stars And Stripes

Meet Marissa Encarnacion, the DODDS Europe girls tennis wild card who was dealt a bad hand but came up all aces.

The Patch Panthers sophomore started off her season with her ankle wrapped in a "gigantic green cast," as coach Walter Fritz described it. But she ended it as the 2014 DODDS Europe girls tennis champion.

And as the Stars and Stripes girls tennis Athlete of the Year.

True to the efficient nature of DODDS Europe athletic seasons, Encarnacion's tale is one of struggle and redemption spanning from the sideline to center stage, all played out over just a few eventful months.

In the summer, Encarnacion was playing in a tournament in Stuttgart, tuning up for a second season at Patch in which she hoped to step into a lead singles spot.

"I ran for a ball and twisted my ankle," Encarnacion said. "It turned out it was broken."

As broken bones go, the injury was mild, but it still required Encarnacion to spend two weeks in a cast. Once the cast came off, it took another two weeks to resume "walking and running and side-to-side movements," she said.

Encarnacion wouldn't allow that valuable time to simply be wasted. She attended each practice and meet on crutches and occupied her time videotaping her teammates' matches, compiling statistics and advising less-experienced Panthers. All the while she was pining for a return to action, to the point that she eventually couldn't resist.

"Hopping around on one foot playing tennis, or trying to," Encarnacion recalled. "Even though everyone had told me not to."

Medical clearance arrived soon after, and Encarnacion made her long-awaited season debut. She eased back into competitive tennis playing doubles before resuming her singles career.

Though limited, Encarnacion was still effective, and she began racking up wins. While teammate Marina Fortun took Patch's top entry into the European championship bracket, DODDS-Europe coaches made Encarnacion a wild-card selection.

And the 15-year-old made the most of the chance. On the first day of the tournament, Encarnacion took down reigning champion Jade Sullivan of Wiesbaden in a stunning 6-0, 6-0 pool-play victory. The next day she cruised into and advanced through the semifinal round.

In the championship match, Encarnacion was matched up with Fortun, her teammate and close friend. Luckily, the two had discussed the possibility before the tournament, and Encarnacion said her 6-1, 6-1 defeat of Fortun didn't cause any friction between the two. The two had hoped to finish first and second, she said, so in a way their goal was already achieved.

"We said, 'If we both make it to the finals, we're going to have fun with it,'" Encarnacion said.

Clearly, only Encarnacion's ankle was broken this fall. Everything else, from her serve to her spirit, survived intact.

broome.gregory@stripes.com

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Eve Edelheit, Tampa Bay Times/MCT

Running back Leonard Fournette, right, is LSU's leading rusher with 657 yards on 131 carries.

LSU eager to test running game against 'Bama front

By Brett Martel
The Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — LSU fullback Connor Neighbors figures there may be no greater challenge for the Tigers' power running game than the big, fast defensive front fielded by fourth-ranked Alabama.

Neighbors also confidently predicts that LSU's bludgeoning offensive line and fearsome foursome of running backs can handle it.

"When you're playing Alabama, they're one of the top defenses in the nation, year after year, so they're going to hit hard, but you've just got to hit harder," said Neighbors, an Alabama native whose father, grandfather and brother played for the Crimson Tide.

"It's going to be hard, but it's not something we haven't seen before. They're a great team. They've got big guys. We have big guys," Neighbors continued. "We can talk about big-on-big all day. It just comes down to heart and determination."

When one of the oldest Southeastern Conference rivalries renews in LSU's Death Valley on Saturday night, it'll feature a clash of team strengths whenever LSU has the ball.

The Tigers prefer to keep the ball on the ground as much as possible — rushing 50 or more times in six games this season — and their effectiveness doing so has been building steadily throughout the season. LSU is averaging about 226 yards rushing this season, but has been at its best recently, rushing for 567 yards in its past two games, including 264 yards against Mississippi's highly regarded run-stoppers.

Alabama at LSU
AFN-Xtra
2 a.m. Sunday CET
10 a.m. Sunday JKT

Alabama's ability to stop the run is arguably second to none, considering the exceptional running backs playing in the SEC. Alabama is giving up only 78 yards per game on the ground and has not allowed a running back to gain 100 yards in a game this season.

> **'If we aren't running the ball, that's not us.'**
> **Elliott Porter**
> LSU center

Something will have to give, and players on each side sound rather eager to see how this clash of muscle and grit pans out.

"They're definitely a physical group," Alabama defensive end Jonathan Allen said. "We're really going to have to go out there and try to dominate up front, get knock back on the line of scrimmage, and really just clear things up for the linebackers."

After a slow start to his freshman season, 6-foot-1, 230-pound running back Leonard Fournette has emerged as the Tigers' leading rusher, with 657 yards and seven touchdowns on 131 carries, including 293 yards and three TDs during LSU's current three-game winning streak.

"He's got great size. He's a very instinctive runner. He's got really good speed, and he can run with power," Alabama coach Nick Saban said. "He's difficult to tackle. A very physical player.

"They have a very physical team, and they're playing physical football right now," Saban added. "There's not a lot of trick 'em to it. You've just got to match and be the same kind of physical team to be able to have a chance."

In addition to Fournette, LSU routinely hands off to Kenny Hilliard (6-0, 232), Darrell Williams (6-0, 230) and Terrence Magee (5-9, 217).

"We have the same identity as an offense no matter which back is in the game," Magee said. "The ability of a fresh running back to wear a defense out at the end helps out a lot."

LSU's starting offensive linemen range in height from 6-4 to 6-7 and in weight from 295 to 321.

Center Elliott Porter said the Tigers take pride in "the old-school, LSU, ground-and-pound offense."

"If we aren't running the ball, that's not us," he added.

AP Sports Writer John Zenor in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, contributed to this report.

Patterson says TCU just getting started

By Stephen Hawkins
The Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — TCU coach Gary Patterson remembers the strange looks he got 10 years ago during a losing season when he talked about his team becoming a BCS buster.

The Horned Frogs ended up doing just that — not once, but twice — under the old system before moving to the Big 12 Conference. Still, the coach isn't surprised he's getting the same reaction now when he says that TCU is "just touching the iceberg" in its third season in a power-five league.

"There's still a lot of work to do. We're not where we want to be depth [wise], we're not where we want to be as a team," Patterson said Tuesday. "I think we have an unbelievable level to grow as a program here at TCU and in the Metroplex. I think we're just touching the iceberg, to be honest with you."

On Saturday night, the No. 6 Horned Frogs (7-1, 4-1 Big 12) play league-leading No. 9 Kansas State (7-1, 5-0). It will be TCU's first home matchup of Top 10 teams, and comes against Patterson's alma mater.

TCU's only loss this season was that wild 61-58 game four weeks ago at Baylor, when the Frogs led by 21 points in the fourth quarter. They rebounded with lopsided victories over Oklahoma State and Texas Tech, scoring 82 points against the Red Raiders, before overcoming a 13-point deficit in the second half Saturday to win 31-30 at West Virginia on Jaden Oberkrom's game-ending 37-yard field goal.

TCU is in contention for the Big 12 title in only its third season after its third consecutive Mountain West Conference championship, and also in the mix for the first four-team College Football Playoff. Patterson was asked if there was any personal satisfaction in returning to the Top 10.

Kansas State at TCU
AFN-Sports
1:30 a.m. Sunday CET
9:30 a.m. Sunday JKT

"Oh, I don't know, I haven't thought about that. I usually don't assess those kinds of things until I get done with the season," he said. "But obviously being able to prove [to] all those people that said that TCU couldn't win in the Big 12."

Based on his postgame meeting with Mountaineers coach Dana Holgorsen, Patterson thinks West Virginia thinks the same way.

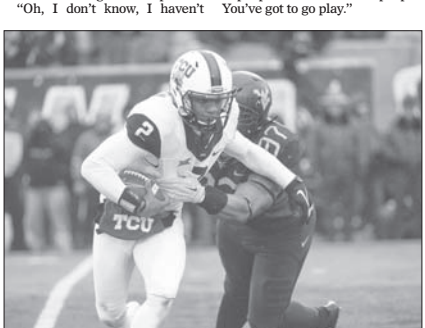
West Virginia was part of six Big East championships in nine seasons, including 2010 and 2011, before moving with TCU into the Big 12.

Before their Mountain West dominance, which included an undefeated 2010 season capped by a Rose Bowl victory over Wisconsin, the Frogs had shared titles in Conference USA and the WAC.

TCU and West Virginia had identical records in their first two Big 12 seasons, going 11-14 overall with a 6-12 mark in conference games. They were both 4-8 last year, when Patterson had only his second losing season — the other was 2004, the same time he was talking about BCS games, and five years before the Frogs made it to the Fiesta Bowl.

The Frogs are still trying to do the same thing they did when playing in other leagues.

"Climb that pyramid," said Patterson, referring to the chart of goals in the team meeting room where "national championship" is at the top. "They don't give you any style points. You either color in purple or don't color in purple. You've got to go play."



Tyler Evert/AP

TCU's Trevone Boykin, left, runs by West Virginia defender Noble Nwachukwu during the second quarter of last weekend's game in Morgantown, WVa. TCU won on a last-second field goal.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ducks' O-line dealing with more injuries

QB Mariota could have long day facing No. 20 Utes' defense

By Ralph D. Russo
The Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. — The way Oregon's offensive line was playing a few weeks ago, it looked as if Marcus Mariota might not make it through the season.

In a too-close-for-comfort victory against Washington State and a loss to Arizona, the Ducks allowed 12 sacks. That's no way to treat the Heisman Trophy front-runner.

The return of tackle Jake Fisher from injury the week after the Arizona loss marked a turning point. Since then, the fifth-ranked Ducks (8-1, 5-1 Pac-12) have allowed four sacks total while winning four straight games — all by at least 12 points.

The Ducks head into their game at No. 20 Utah, which leads the nation in sacks, dealing with another offensive line injury, but thinking they are better prepared to deal with it.

"We got our mojo back because we got the whole group together playing again," center Hroniss Grasu said Monday. "It just brings a certain type of confidence as a unit that we needed to have."

Fisher's been good, but it's not quite so simple. Offensive line coach Steve Greatwood said he went back to stressing fundamentals and technique with his linemen in practice. The result was renewed trust in each other and less of the tentative play that had them thinking rather than attacking.

The Ducks passed a major test against Stanford. The Cardinal were averaging more than three sacks per game coming into Saturday and their aggressive and quick front had given the Ducks all kinds of issues the past two seasons, leading to two straight Stanford wins in the series.

But the Cardinal had just one sack of Mariota during Oregon's 45-16 victory, and tailbacks Royce Freeman and Thomas Tyner averaged 5.9 yards per carry.

The next test could be even more difficult. The Utes lead the nation in sacks at 4.88 per game, led by wide receiver-turned-speed rusher Nate Orchard (12 sacks) and fellow defensive end Hunter Dimick (nine).

The Ducks again could be short-handed up front.

Right tackle Matt Pierson went down with a left knee injury late in the Stanford game. Oregon doesn't comment publicly about injuries, but it didn't look good for Pierson, the former walk-on tight end.

"When I saw him go down and grab his knee ... I felt so bad for him," Grasu said.

Freshman Tyrell Crosby would go to right tackle if Pierson can't play.

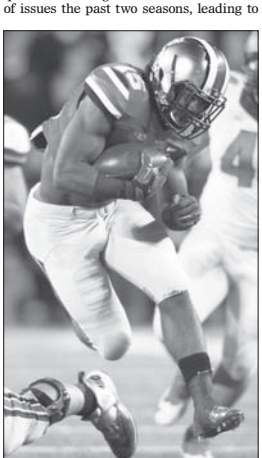
At this point, Oregon might be better prepared to deal with the adversity.

"Early when we had Jake out, there was just a lack of trust and guys were trying to do more than they should instead of just trying to do their job," Greatwood said.

STEVE DYKES/AP

Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota will face an aggressive defense when the Ducks travel to face No. 20 Utah on Saturday. The Utes lead the nation in sacks, and Oregon is dealing with another injury to its offensive line, this time to right tackle Matt Pierson.

Oregon (8-1) at Utah (6-2)
AFN-Sports (joined in progress)
5 a.m. Sunday CET
1 p.m. Sunday JKT



PAUL VERNON/AP

Ohio State running back Ezekiel Elliott runs up field against Illinois last week. The Buckeyes have rushed for at least 200 yards in six straight games.

Point: Big Ten's top two offenses ready for showdown

FROM BACK PAGE

"I've said since I've been here the coaching that goes on in this league is outstanding. You see different ways people are running the football, different ways they're passing the football," Michigan State coach Mark Dantonio said. "Very innovative, cutting-edge offensive football being played in this conference on a week-to-week basis. I think you see the same thing defensively."

Big Ten teams are averaging 30.2 points per game this season. That still lags behind the Pac-12 and Big 12, but it's an improvement. In 2012, Big Ten teams averaged 27.6 points, the second-worst mark among FBS conferences.

That was Urban Meyer's first season as Ohio State's coach. He's lost only once to a Big Ten opponent since taking over the Buckeyes — in last year's league championship game against Michigan State.

The Spartans (7-1, 4-0) have not lost to a conference opponent since November 2012.

Michigan State entered last year's Big Ten title game with one of the nation's stingiest defenses, only to allow a season-high 273 yards rushing in that game. The Spartans won 34-24 when Connor Cook surpassed 300 yards passing for the first time in his career.

"Going into the game last year, Connor Cook didn't really put anything exceptional on film," Buckeyes defensive tackle Michael Bennett said. "Then when he played us, he had a really good game, and I think he's kept improving since then."

Ohio State (7-1)
at Michigan State (7-1)
AFN-Atlantic
2 a.m. Sunday CET; 10 a.m. Sunday JKT

Over his last 22 games, Cook has thrown for 39 touchdowns with 11 interceptions. The Spartans have reached the 45-point mark five times this season after doing so only once over the previous two years.

Ohio State (7-1, 4-0) has reached the 50-point mark in five of its last six games — not bad for a team that lost star quarterback Braxton Miller to shoulder surgery before the season even started. J.T. Barrett has completed 65 percent of his passes with 23 touchdowns and seven interceptions.

"I feel like with this offense that Barrett works better in this offense. I feel like he has a better arm," Michigan State linebacker Taiwan Jones said.

Michigan State and Ohio State will be playing the first November night game in the history of Spartan Stadium, so the weather alone might be enough to slow down the two quarterbacks. That doesn't mean the Spartans and Buckeyes won't be able to move the ball.

Michigan State's Jeremy Langford has surpassed 100 yards rushing in five straight games. Ohio State has rushed for at least 200 yards as a team in six straight.

No matter who wins Saturday's game, the Big Ten isn't guaranteed a spot in the national playoff. A rough nonconference stretch in September — which included Ohio State's home loss to Virginia Tech — knocked the league down a notch in the eyes of many observers.

But when Michigan State and Ohio State take center stage this weekend, it will be a chance for the conference to showcase its best teams of the last couple years — and they look eminently capable of providing an entertaining, well-played matchup.

"Any time you have offenses that are averaging those kind of points and are capable of doing what they have shown in the past, it's going to call for a good game," Cook said. "I think we're looking forward to it. Ohio State's looking forward to it. It's going to be a great atmosphere."

College GameDay

JONATHAN BACHMAN/AP

Player to watch

Leonard Fournette
RB|LSU

After a slow start to his freshman season, 6-foot-1, 230-pound running back Fournette has emerged as the Tigers' leading rusher, with 657 yards and seven touchdowns on 131 carries, including 293 yards and three TDs during LSU's current three-game winning streak.

Fournette faces a difficult challenge this week against the Crimson Tide's defense, which is giving up only 78 yards on the ground per game.

No. 4 Alabama at No. 14 LSU
2 a.m. Sunday, CET; 10 a.m. Sunday Japan/Korea, AFN-Xtra

BO RADER, WICHITA EAGLE/MCT

Kansas State receiver Tyler Lockett, left, snags a pass in front of Oklahoma State's Kevin Peterson last week. Lockett and the No. 9 Wildcats travel to No. 6 TCU for a conference showdown Saturday. The game also has College Football Playoff ramifications, with the Horned Frogs sixth and the Wildcats 7th.

SERVICE ACADEMIES

Air Force at UNLV
Last week: Beat Army, 23-6
Next game: vs. Nevada, Nov. 15

Army vs. Connecticut at Bronx, N.Y.
Last week: Lost to Air Force, 23-6
Next game: vs. Western Kentucky, Nov. 15

Navy does not play
Last week: Lost to Notre Dame, 49-39
Next game: vs. Georgia Southern, Nov. 15

AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE

Thursday

No. 19 Clemson at Wake Forest

Saturday

No. 1 Mississippi State vs. UT-Martin
No. 2 Florida State vs. Virginia
No. 3 Auburn vs. Texas A&M
No. 4 Alabama at No. 14 LSU
No. 5 Oregon at No. 20 Utah
No. 6 TCU vs. No. 9 Kansas State
No. 7 Michigan State vs. No. 13 Ohio State
No. 8 Notre Dame at No. 11 Arizona State
No. 10 Baylor at No. 16 Oklahoma
No. 12 Mississippi vs. Presbyterian
No. 17 Georgia at Kentucky
No. 18 UCLA at Washington
No. 21 Arizona vs. Colorado
No. 22 Duke at Syracuse
No. 23 Marshall at Southern Miss.
No. 24 West Virginia at Texas
No. 25 Wisconsin at Purdue

THE POWER CONFERENCES

ACC

Atlantic Division

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Florida St.	5	0	8	0
Clemson	5	1	6	2
Boston College	3	2	6	3
NC State	0	4	4	4
Louisville	4	3	6	3
Syracuse	1	4	3	5
Wake Forest	0	4	2	6

Coastal Division

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Duke	3	1	7	1
Georgia Tech	4	2	7	2
Miami	3	2	6	3
North Carolina	2	3	4	5
Pittsburgh	2	3	4	5
Virginia	2	3	4	5
Virginia Tech	1	4	4	5

Game of the week: Louisville at Boston College. The matchup should help determine the Atlantic Division's third-best team. The Eagles' Tyler Murphy is the nation's top rusher among quarterbacks and should provide a test for a Cardinals defense that is the league's toughest against the rush.

Inside the numbers: North Carolina is home to the four worst rushing defenses in the conference. N.C. State has the best of the bunch, ranking 11th in the league and giving up an average of 171.1 yards. Rival North Carolina ranks last in the league, allowing nearly 220 yards rushing per game. Wake Forest (178.5) and Duke (214) are sandwiched between them.

Player to watch: Georgia Tech QB Justin Thomas. Thomas could put up some big numbers on N.C. State's leaky run defense. Thomas enters the season's final month 279 yards shy of becoming the school's second QB to rush for 1,000 yards in a season.

Big Ten

East

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Michigan St.	4	0	7	1
Ohio St.	4	0	7	1
Maryland	3	2	6	3
Michigan	2	3	4	5
Penn St.	1	4	4	4
Rutgers	1	4	5	4
Indiana	0	4	3	5

West

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Nebraska	4	1	8	1
Minnesota	3	1	6	2
Iowa	3	1	6	2
Wisconsin	3	1	6	2
Northwestern	2	3	3	5
Illinois	1	4	4	5
Purdue	1	4	3	6

Game of the week: No. 7 Michigan State vs. No. 13 Ohio State. Over Urban Meyer's more than 2½ years and 34 games as head coach, the Buckeyes have played only seven times against teams ranked in The Associated Press Top 25 — only one rated as high as No. 10. They're 5-2 heading into their only meeting against a ranked team so far this season. The winner has the inside track to a return to the Big Ten title game. The loser is eliminated from the national championship conversation.

Inside the numbers: With its victory last week Ohio State won its 20th consecutive conference game to tie the Big Ten record for longest conference winning streak set by the Buckeyes from 2005-07.

Player to watch: Penn State kicker Sam Ficken. He is the model of consistency two years after missing four field goals in one game. He's converted 17 of 19 field goals this season.

Big 12

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Kansas St.	5	0	7	1
TCU	4	1	7	1
Baylor	4	1	7	1
West Virginia	4	2	6	3
Oklahoma	3	2	6	2
Oklahoma St.	3	3	5	4
Texas	3	3	4	5
Texas Tech	1	5	3	6
Iowa St.	0	5	2	6
Kansas	0	5	2	6

Game of the week: No. 9 Kansas State at No. 6 TCU. The game matching Horned Frogs coach Gary Patterson against his alma mater will have huge implications in the Big 12 race — and the College Football Playoff rankings. While K-State (7-1, 5-0) tops the league standings ahead of TCU (7-1, 4-1), the Frogs are sixth in the latest playoff rankings, a slot above the Wildcats.

Inside the numbers: Since opening the season with seven consecutive 100-yard games and being the first receiver in the nation over 1,000 yards, West Virginia senior Kevin White has only six catches for 55 yards the past two games.

Player to watch: Oklahoma WR Sterling Shepard. The junior leads the Big 12 with 119.6 yards receiving a game, and is only 43 yards shy of a 1,000-yard season. Shepard has accounted for 46 percent of the Sooners' receiving yards.

Pac-12

North

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Oregon	5	1	8	1
Stanford	3	3	5	4
California	3	4	5	4
Washington	2	3	6	3
Oregon St.	1	4	4	4
Washington St.	1	4	2	7

South

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Arizona St.	5	1	7	1
Southern Cal	5	2	6	3
UCLA	4	2	7	2
Arizona	3	2	6	2
Utah	3	2	6	2
Colorado	0	6	2	7

Game of the week: No. 8 Notre Dame at No. 11 Arizona State. With both teams entering the game with one loss, it essentially will be a playoff elimination game Saturday night. The Irish (7-1) have given up 30 or more points for three straight games, something they've done only a handful of times in 126 seasons, and are facing Arizona State (7-1), which is averaging 483.6 yards a game in total offense. That's 22nd in the nation, the highest ranked offense the Irish will face this season.

Inside the numbers: Utah falls last in the Pac-12 with an average of 175.2 yards passing per game, ranking the Utes 109th among FBS programs nationally. The team has 11 passing touchdowns this season, second to last in the conference.

Player to watch: Washington LB Shaq Thompson. The junior has scored four defensive touchdowns this season and rushing for 174 yards and one TD in a win at Colorado last week.

SEC

East

	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Missouri	4	1	7	2
Georgia	4	2	6	2
Florida	3	3	4	3
Kentucky	2	4	5	4
South Carolina	2	5	4	5
Tennessee	1	4	4	5
Vanderbilt	0	5	3	6

West

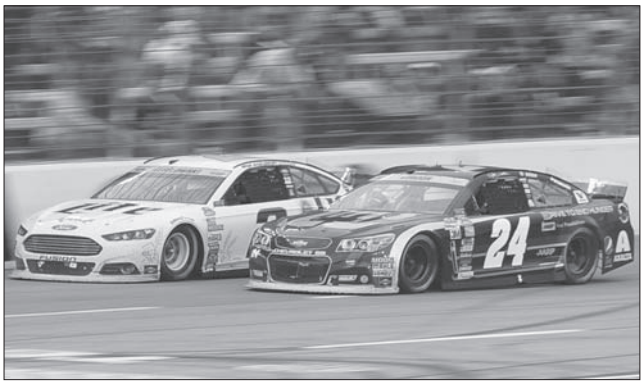
	Conf. W	Conf. L	All W	All L
Mississippi St	5	0	8	0
Alabama	4	1	7	1
Auburn	4	1	7	1
Mississippi	4	2	7	2
LSU	3	2	7	2
Texas A&M	2	3	6	3
Arkansas	0	5	4	5

Game of the week: No. 4 Alabama at No. 14 LSU. Alabama will try to keep its playoff hopes alive against an LSU team that has won three straight games. Don't expect a lot of points in this game — Alabama ranks second and LSU is fourth among all Football Bowl Subdivision teams in scoring defense. Alabama has allowed 14 points per game, while LSU has yielded only 15.9 points per game.

Inside the numbers: LSU is 45-4 during Miles' tenure when one of its running backs rushes for at least 100 yards.

Player to watch: Ole Miss WR Vince Sanders. He takes over as the Rebels' lead receiver after Laquon Treadwell broke his left leg and dislocated his ankle last weekend. The 6-foot-1, 185-pound Sanders has been productive this season, with 33 catches for 536 yards and four touchdowns.

AUTO RACING



RALPH LAUER/AP

Jeff Gordon, right, and Brad Keselowski drive side by side during Sunday's Sprint Cup Series race at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas. Keselowski later spun Gordon and cut Gordon's tire.

France says Keselowski's contact at Texas was fine

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

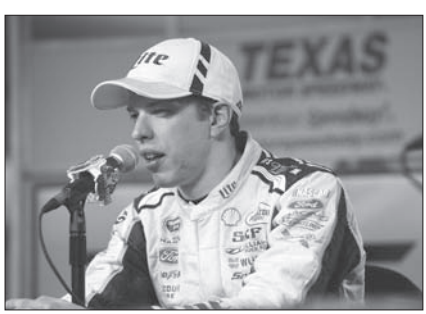
CHARLOTTE, N.C. NASCAR chairman Brian France, who for at least two years has pushed for racing to become more of a "contact sport," believes Brad Keselowski did nothing wrong in the way he raced Jeff Gordon in the closing laps at Texas Motor Speedway.

Keselowski tried to wedge his car into a gap between Gordon and Jimmie Johnson on a late restart in an attempt by Keselowski to win the race. It caused contact between Keselowski and Gordon, who got a flat tire and spun after the incident. Gordon went from racing for the win to a 29th-place finish and confronted Keselowski after the race in a scene that quickly escalated into a brawl between teams.

France felt Keselowski did exactly what NASCAR expects from drivers racing for a win.

"He did exactly what I would expect any driver that has that much on the line to look at an opportunity, shoot a gap is what he did," France said on SiriusXM Radio. "It was unfortunate that they touched and that Gordon's tire got cut and all the things that happened for him. Very unfortunate. [But] late in the race, things are going to happen when guys are legitimately trying to win races or compete at a high level."

Both drivers are trying for one of four berths in the Nov. 16 championship finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway. A win in any of the three races of the third round of the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship earns a driver an automatic berth into the finale, and both Gordon and Keselowski were racing for that spot.



RALPH LAUER/AP

Sporting a fat lip, Brad Keselowski speaks to reporters after Sunday's race at Texas. A brawl broke out between Keseloswki's crew and Jeff Gordon's crew immediately after the race ended.

The win instead went to Jimmie Johnson, and the eight-driver Chase field heads into Sunday's race at Phoenix with all four spots at Homestead still up for grabs.

As far back as 2012, when NASCAR was beginning a series of rule changes to improve the on-track product, France has pushed for drivers to let it all hang out when a win is on the line.

"There aren't a whole lot of people who don't want to see more lead changes, or a photo finish, or slamming and banging coming out of the fourth turn," France said prior to speaking at the 2012 Beyond Sport's annual summit in London. "We are unabashed about wanting that. It's a contact sport and if you have a chance to win and are in second place on the last lap, would I expect there to be some contact if you have a faster car? Absolutely."

But there are consequences that come with delivering that action, which Keselowski learned following Sunday's race when he was left spitting blood following the pit road brawl. The situation was escalated when Kevin Harvick shoved Keselowski into a scrum of crew members, a push Harvick defended as his way of making Keselowski answer for his aggressive racing.

Denny Hamlin has argued the gap Keselowski tried to squeeze through was not large enough for him to expect to clear Gordon without contact, and all drivers need to understand that will lead to confrontation.

"If I was in that car and his shoes, I would have to know that I'm not going to make it through that hole without having contact of some sort," Hamlin said. "That's fine. But if it costs somebody a bad day, you're going to have to expect retaliation."

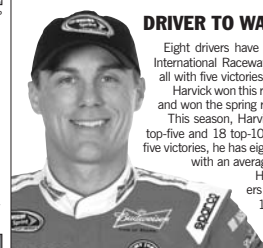
Around the tracks

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

This week: Quicken Loans Race for Heroes 500 at Avondale, Ariz.
Track: Phoenix International Raceway (oval, 1.0 miles).
Race distance: 312 miles, 312 laps.
TV: AFN-Xtra, 9 p.m. Sunday, Central European Time; 5 a.m. Monday, Japan/Korea Time.
Last year: Kevin Harvick won the race for the second straight year for the last of his four 2013 victories.
Last week: Jimmie Johnson won the Texas fall race for the third year in a row, winning a two-lap overtime sprint after Jeff Gordon spun.
Next race: Ford EcoBoost 400, Nov. 16, Homestead-Miami Speedway, Homestead, Fla.
Online: nascar.com

POINTS STANDINGS

1. Joey Logano 4,072
2. Denny Hamlin 4,072
3. Ryan Newman 4,070
4. Jeff Gordon 4,060
5. Matt Kenseth 4,059
6. Carl Edwards 4,059
7. Brad Keselowski 4,055
8. Kevin Harvick 4,054
9. Kyle Busch 2,270
10. Dale Earnhardt Jr. 2,234
11. Jimmie Johnson 2,234
12. AJ Allmendinger 2,228
13. Greg Biffle 2,209
14. Kurt Busch 2,192
15. Kasey Kahne 2,179
16. Aric Almirola 2,144
17. Kyle Larson 1,018
18. Jamie McMurray 945
19. Clint Bowyer 939
20. Austin Dillon 933



DRIVER TO WATCH

Eight drivers have won more than once at Phoenix International Raceway, and **Kevin Harvick** leads them all with five victories.

Harvick won this race a year ago, then turned around and won the spring race at the track this year.

This season, Harvick has won three times, with 12 top-five and 18 top-10 finishes. At Phoenix, besides the five victories, he has eight top-five and 12 top-10 finishes, with an average finish of 11.8 in 23 races.

He is also one of only two drivers who recorded a perfect rating of 150.0 (2006). Kurt Busch is the other (2005).

NATIONWIDE SERIES

This week: DAV 200 at Avondale, Ariz.
Track: Phoenix International Raceway (oval, 1.0 miles).
Race distance: 200 miles, 200 laps.
TV: Delayed, AFN-Xtra, 7 a.m. Sunday, Central European Time; 3 p.m. Sunday, Japan/Korea Time.
Last year: Kyle Busch raced to the last of his 12 2013 series victories.
Last week: Busch won at Texas for his seventh victory of the year and record-extending 70th career win.
Next race: Ford EcoBoost 300, Nov. 15, Homestead-Miami Speedway, Homestead, Fla.
Online: nascar.com

CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES

This week: Lucas Oil 150 at Avondale, Ariz.
Track: Phoenix International Raceway (oval, 1.0 miles).
Race distance: 150 miles, 150 laps.
Last year: Erik Jones became the series' youngest winner at 17 years, 4 months. Cole Custer broke the record in September at New Hampshire, winning at 16 years, 7 months, 28 days.
Last week: Kyle Busch won at Texas for his seventh victory in nine series starts this year. He has 42 victories in 124 career series starts.
Next race: Ford EcoBoost 200, Nov. 14, Homestead-Miami Speedway, Homestead, Fla.
Online: nascar.com

FORMULA ONE

This week: Brazilian Grand Prix at Sao Paulo.
Track: Autodromo Jose Carlos Pace (road course, 2.677 miles).
Race distance: 190.08 miles, 71 laps.
Last year: Red Bull's Sebastian Vettel won the season-ending race to tie Michael Schumacher's season victory record with 13 and Alberto Ascari's mark for consecutive wins of nine.
Last week: Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won the U.S. Grand Prix for his fifth straight victory and 10th of the year. Teammate Nico Rosberg was second.
Next race: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Nov. 23, Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
Online: formula1.com

NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

Next event: Auto Club Finals, Nov. 13-16, Auto Club Raceway at Pomona, Pomona, Calif.
Last week: Erica Enders-Stevens won in Las Vegas to reclaim the Pro Stock points lead with one event remaining. Enders-Stevens has five victories this year. Del Worsham topped the Funny Car field, Spencer Massey won in Top Fuel, and Andrew Hines in Pro Stock Motorcycle.
Online: nhra.com

OTHER RACES

WORLD OF OUTLAWS: World of Outlaws World Finals, Thursday-Saturday, The Dirt Track at Charlotte, Concord, N.C.
Online: worldofoutlaws.com
U.S. AUTO RACING CLUB: Sprint Car: Budweiser Oval Nationals, Thursday-Saturday, Perris Auto Speedway, Perris, Calif.
Online: usacracing.com

— The Associated Press

Double-digit comebacks this season

Week 1

Atlanta down 20-7, beats New Orleans 37-34

Miami down 20-10, beats New England 33-20

Philadelphia down 17-0, beats Jacksonville 34-17

Arizona down 17-6, beats San Diego 18-17

Week 2

Green Bay down 21-3, beats New York Jets 31-24

Chicago down 17-0, beats San Francisco 28-20

Philadelphia down 17-6, beats Indianapolis 30-27 in overtime

Week 3

Philadelphia down 17-7, beats Washington 37-34

Dallas down 21-0, beats St. Louis 34-31

Week 4

Houston down 10-0, beats Buffalo 23-17

San Francisco down 21-10, beats Philadelphia 26-21

Week 5

Cleveland down 28-3, beats Tennessee 29-28

Carolina down 21-7, beats Chicago 31-24

New York Giants down 20-10, beat Atlanta 30-20

Buffalo down 14-0, beats Detroit 17-14

New Orleans down 31-20, beats Tampa Bay 37-31

Week 6

San Francisco down 14-0, beats St. Louis 31-17

Dallas down 10-0, beats Seattle 30-23

Week 7

Pittsburgh down 13-0, beats Houston 30-16

Detroit down 23-10, beats New Orleans 24-23

Week 8

Detroit down 21-0, beats Atlanta 22-21

Week 9

Arizona down 10-0, beats Dallas 28-17

Minnesota down 10-0, beats Washington 29-26

— The Associated Press

Comebacks coming back

Double-digit deficits haven't been a problem this season

BY ARNIE STAPLETON
The Associated Press

DENVER

A double-digit deficit in the NFL is no longer the death knell it once was. Viewers don't change the channel and coaches don't change what they're doing, either.

With 23 comebacks from double digits through 134 games so far, the league is on pace this season for 44 come-from-behind wins by teams that trailed by 10 or more points. That would break by one the record set last year, according to STATS.

This never-say-die ability to pile up points in a hurry has led to profound changes in everything from viewing habits to the blueprints coaches draw up every week and the calls they make during the game.

Offensive coordinators don't ditch the game plan when they fall behind — they're throwing, throwing, throwing from the start as it is — and defensive coordinators have all but dumped the time-honored prevent defense lest they make it any easier for today's quick-strike offenses to catch up.

So far, every week of the season has featured at least one comeback from double digits, including four on opening weekend and five in Week 5, when Cleveland fell behind Tennessee 28-3 before staging the biggest road comeback in league history to win 29-28.

"No lead is safe this year," Broncos cornerback Chris Harris Jr. said.

The Eagles fell behind by multiple scores in each of their first three games before rallying to win each time.

Last season, a record 18 games featured comebacks of 14 points or more, and, fittingly, Andrew Luck brought Indianapolis back from a 28-point deficit to beat Kansas City 45-44 in the AFC playoffs.

This year, there have been nine such comebacks from 14 or more, including Dallas rallying from 21-zip to top St. Louis and Detroit doing the same to beat Atlanta in London.

Passers are also on pace to set NFL marks in combined passer rating (91.2), completion percentage (63.1) and net passing yards per game (487.8).

It's not just the pro game. Players coming out of college nowadays are accustomed to the sizzling scoreboards that used to be the exception.

It goes even farther back, too.

"Even high schools, spread offenses, kids are throwing the ball, more so than ever in the history of the game," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "And so they get to this level and it gives you an opportunity if you're behind to score points relatively quick. It's exciting. If you're a defensive coordinator, probably not so good. But from an offensive standpoint, yeah, pretty good."

AP Pro Football Writers Dave Campbell and Rob Maaddi contributed along with AP Sports Writers Dave Skretta and Steve Wine and AP freelancer Mark Ludwiczak.

Buffalo tackle Seantrel Henderson celebrates as he watches a 58-yard, game-winning field goal on Oct. 5 against Detroit.

DUANE BURLESON/AP

NFL GAMEDAY WEEK 10

TELEVISED GAMES

San Franciso 49ers (4-4)
at New Orleans Saints (4-4)
AFN-Atlantic
7 p.m. Sunday CET
3 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: 49ers lead 46-25-2 but Saints have won seven of past eight.

Last meeting: Saints beat 49ers 23-20 on Nov. 17, 2013.

Notes: 49ers QB Colin Kaepernick has three passing TDs and a rushing TD in two starts against Saints. ... 49ers LB Chris Borland had career-high 18 tackles last week. ... Saints QB Drew Brees has won six of seven starts against 49ers, with 16 TDs and a 101 rating.

New York Giants (3-5)
at Seattle Seahawks (5-3)
AFN-Sports
10 p.m. Sunday CET
6 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Giants lead 9-7, but Seahawks have won past two.

Last meeting: Seahawks won 23-0 on Dec. 15, 2013.

Notes: In his last game at Seattle, Giants QB Eli Manning completed 21 of 32 passes for 290 yards and three TDs for a 125.8 rating. ... Seahawks have won 20 of their past 22 games at home. Seattle QB Russell Wilson won his only start against the Giants.

Marquee matchup

Miami Dolphins (5-3) at Detroit Lions (6-2)

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m. Sunday CET; 3 a.m. Monday JKT

SERIES RECORD: Dolphins lead 7-3 and have won five of the past six.

LAST MEETING: Lions beat Dolphins 34-27, Dec. 26, 2010.

DOLPHINS OFFENSE: OVERALL (11), RUSH (4), PASS (19).

DOLPHINS DEFENSE: OVERALL (3), RUSH (12), PASS (2).

LIONS OFFENSE: OVERALL (20), RUSH (31), PASS (9).

LIONS DEFENSE: OVERALL (1), RUSH (2) PASS (5).

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES: In his past five games, Dolphins QB Ryan Tannehill has passed for 1,283 yards and 10 TDs with only four interceptions. The Dolphins are 15-1 when Tannehill has over a 90 QB rating. ... In his past six games, Dolphins RB Lamar Miller 413 rushing yards and 5 TDs. ... Dolphins WR Mike Wallace had a touchdown catch in his only career meeting with the Lions, back in 2009 while he was still with the Steelers. ... Dolphins WR Mike Hartline had 50 receiving yards last week and became the seventh player in franchise history to reach 4,000 yards in his career (4,034). ... Dolphins DE Cameron Wake has 4½ sacks, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery. With 58 career sacks, he needs only two more to surpass Jeff Cross for second-most in franchise history. ... Dolphins CB Brent Grimes has three INTs in his past two games, including two last week against San Diego. ... Lions QB Matthew Stafford led his team in a 21-point comeback victory two weeks ago against Atlanta in London. His 120 passing TDs are the most in franchise history. ... Lions WR Calvin Johnson has 13 receiving TDs in his past 14 games against AFC teams. He also has 84 catches for 1,521 yards and 11 TDs in his past 13 games against AFC teams. Since 2011, he leads the league with 5,485 receiving yards and 107.5 per game. ... In his past five games, Lions WR Golden Tate has 39 catches for 599 yards and three TDs, including four 100-yard games. ... Lions LB Andre Levy had a 30-yard interception return for a TD in the teams' last meeting. He leads the Lions with 75 tackles and has seven interceptions since 2013, the most by a linebacker. ... Lions DT Ndamukong Suh had a sack and forced fumble in the teams' last meeting. ... In his past three games, Lions DE Ezekiel Ansah has 3½ sacks and two forced fumbles.

Detroit QB Matthew Stafford
CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Game capsules compiled from nflmedia.com

St. Louis Rams (3-5)
at Arizona Cardinals (7-1)
AFN-Atlantic
10:25 p.m. Sunday CET
6:25 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Tied 34-34-2, but Rams have won three of past four.

Last meeting: Cardinals beat Rams 30-10 on Dec. 8, 2013.

Notes: Rams QB Austin Davis is seeking his third straight division win. ... Rams WR Tavon Austin had a 56-yard run in the teams' last meeting. ... Arizona's 7-1 start is its best since 1974. The Cardinals have won eight of their past nine at home.

Chicago Bears (3-5)
at Green Bay Packers (5-3)
AFN-Sports
2:20 a.m. Monday CET
10:20 a.m. Monday JKT

Series: Bears lead 92-89-6, but Packers have won seven of past eight.

Last meeting: Packers beat Bears 38-17 on Sept. 28.

Notes: Bears QB Jay Cutler is on pace for the first 4,000-yard and first 30-TD season of his career. ... Bears TE Martellus Bennett had nine catches for 134 yards in last meeting. ... In 13 starts against Chicago, Packers QB Aaron Rodgers is 11-2.

Also on AFN:
Kansas City Chiefs (5-3) at Buffalo Bills (5-3), delayed, AFN-Sports, 8 a.m. Monday CET; 4 p.m. Monday JKT
Pittsburgh Steelers (6-3) at New York Jets (1-8), delayed, AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m. Monday, CET; midnight Monday JKT

EXPANDED STANDINGS

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
East											
New England	7	2	0	.778	281	198	5-0-0	2-2-0	5-2-0	2-0-0	2-1-0
Buffalo	5	3	0	.625	178	165	2-2-0	3-1-0	2-3-0	3-0-0	2-1-0
Miami	5	3	0	.625	211	151	2-2-0	3-1-0	4-2-0	1-1-0	1-1-0
N.Y. Jets	1	8	0	.111	154	252	1-4-0	0-4-0	1-5-0	0-3-0	0-2-0
South											
Indianapolis	6	3	0	.667	290	211	3-1-0	3-2-0	5-2-0	1-1-0	3-0-0
Houston	4	5	0	.444	206	197	2-2-0	2-3-0	3-2-0	1-3-0	1-1-0
Tennessee	2	6	0	.250	137	202	1-3-0	1-3-0	2-4-0	0-2-0	1-2-0
Jacksonville	1	8	0	.111	141	251	1-3-0	0-5-0	1-6-0	0-2-0	0-2-0
North											
Cincinnati	5	2	1	.688	194	187	4-0-1	1-2-0	4-2-0	1-0-1	2-0-0
Pittsburgh	6	3	0	.667	248	219	4-1-0	2-2-0	5-2-0	1-1-0	2-2-0
Cleveland	5	3	0	.625	185	169	4-1-0	1-2-0	3-3-0	2-0-0	1-2-0
Baltimore	5	4	0	.556	240	174	3-1-0	2-3-0	2-4-0	3-0-0	2-3-0
West											
Denver	6	2	0	.750	245	185	5-0-0	1-2-0	4-1-0	2-1-0	2-0-0
Kansas City	5	3	0	.625	200	138	3-1-0	2-2-0	4-2-0	1-1-0	1-1-0
San Diego	5	4	0	.556	205	186	3-1-0	2-3-0	4-3-0	1-1-0	1-2-0
Oakland	0	8	0	.000	129	211	0-4-0	0-4-0	0-6-0	0-2-0	0-1-0

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	NFC	AFC	Div
East											
Philadelphia	6	2	0	.750	234	177	4-0-0	2-2-0	3-2-0	3-0-0	2-0-0
Dallas	6	3	0	.667	230	195	3-3-0	3-0-0	4-3-0	2-0-0	1-1-0
N.Y. Giants	3	5	0	.375	178	209	2-2-0	1-3-0	2-4-0	1-1-0	1-2-0
Washington	3	6	0	.333	197	229	2-2-0	1-4-0	1-5-0	2-1-0	1-2-0
South											
New Orleans	4	4	0	.500	227	198	3-0-0	1-4-0	4-3-0	0-1-0	2-1-0
Carolina	3	5	1	.389	177	236	2-3-0	1-2-1	3-3-0	0-2-1	1-1-0
Atlanta	2	6	0	.250	192	221	2-2-0	0-4-0	2-4-0	0-2-0	2-0-0
Tampa Bay	1	7	0	.125	150	245	0-4-0	1-3-0	0-5-0	1-2-0	0-3-0
North											
Detroit	6	2	0	.750	162	126	3-1-0	3-1-0	5-1-0	1-1-0	2-0-0
Green Bay	5	3	0	.625	222	191	3-0-0	2-3-0	3-3-0	2-0-0	2-1-0
Minnesota	4	5	0	.444	168	199	2-2-0	2-3-0	4-3-0	0-2-0	0-2-0
Chicago	3	5	0	.375	180	222	0-3-0	3-2-0	2-2-0	1-3-0	0-1-0
West											
Arizona	7	1	0	.875	192	156	4-0-0	3-1-0	5-0-0	2-1-0	1-0-0
Seattle	5	3	0	.625	202	174	3-1-0	2-2-0	3-2-0	2-1-0	0-1-0
San Francisco	4	4	0	.500	168	178	2-2-0	2-2-0	3-3-0	1-1-0	1-2-0
St. Louis	3	5	0	.375	149	220	1-3-0	2-2-0	3-4-0	0-1-0	2-1-0

REST OF THE SCHEDULE

Tennessee at Baltimore
Atlanta at Tampa Bay
Dallas vs. Jacksonville at London
Denver at Oakland
Open: Houston, Indianapolis, Minnesota, New England, San Diego, Washington

Monday
Carolina at Philadelphia

NEXT WEEK

Thursday, Nov. 13
Buffalo at Miami

Sunday, Nov. 16
Minnesota at Chicago
Seattle at Kansas City
Cincinnati at New Orleans
Denver at St. Louis
Houston at Cleveland
Atlanta at Carolina
Tampa Bay at Washington
San Francisco at N.Y. Giants
Oakland at San Diego
Detroit at Arizona
Philadelphia at Green Bay
New England at Indianapolis
Open: Baltimore, Dallas, Jacksonville, N.Y. Jets

Monday, Nov. 17
Pittsburgh at Tennessee

NFL

In Pittsburgh, everyone a target

Roethlisberger sharing offensive load among multitude of Steelers weapons

By Will Graves
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — A quarterback at the top of his game. A wide receiver that's the most consistent in the NFL. A competitive group of veterans and youngsters behind him fighting for a piece of the action, however small.

Mix those ingredients together — particularly that last part — and the seeds of discord are there.

Stunningly, they're not. Not even close. Maybe it's because Ben Roethlisberger has turned the Pittsburgh Steelers into the league's happiest democracy.

Big or small. Young or old. Fast or slow. Roethlisberger doesn't care. Get open and he'll find you.

And while Antonio Brown — who leads the NFL in catches and yards receiving and is fourth in touchdowns — is on a record-breaking roll, Roethlisberger is doing an admirable job of keeping everyone else involved.

The Steelers (6-3) are one of three teams who have four players with at least 30 receptions and one of two that have six players with two or more receiving touchdowns heading into Sunday's game against the New York Jets.

"I'm never one who's going to throw it to somebody intentionally, just to get him a ball," Roethlisberger said. "But when you've got so many weapons, it's fun to see everyone kind of have their hands in the pile."

Roethlisberger isn't just being politically correct. From Brown to little-used tight ends Matt Spaeth and Michael Palmer, the Steelers offense is functioning like a high-tempo democracy.

"Nobody is getting jealous, nobody is getting upset about not getting reps," reserve wide receiver Darrius Heyward-Bey said. "Everybody understands your number could be called at any time, so just stay on top of your game."

While Brown has run off 25 straight games of at least five receptions for 50 yards, a mark that is the best in league history, the playing time for the guys behind him changes on a regular basis.

One week tight end Heath Miller is an afterthought, the next he's going over 100 yards receiving for just the third time in his decade-long career. Rookie wide receiver Martavis Bryant spent the first six games on the inactive list. Now he has five touchdowns during Pittsburgh's three-game winning streak.

Palmer is the third-string tight end who is typically brought in around the goal line or short-yardage situations. He's only caught one pass all year, but it provided the winning points in a 17-9 victory over Jacksonville last month.

> **'It's fun to go out there and know whenever you have a route, you have a chance.'**
>
> **Michael Palmer**
> Steelers tight end

"It's fun to go out there and know whenever you have a route, you have a chance," Palmer said. "You're not just running a backside route or a clear route to open up other people."

Even if that's sometimes the idea. Roethlisberger has thrown 12 touchdowns to six different players over the past two weeks. Some of them have been dazzling catch-and-runs.

Some of them have been deft lobs. Some of them have come with Roethlisberger searching for a second or third or fourth option behind an offensive line that has turned the pocket into a tranquil oasis in a sea of chaos.

For years one of the NFL's most-hit quarterbacks, Roethlisberger has been sacked just three times in 86 drop-backs while dominating the Colts and Ravens. He's on pace to be dropped for the fewest times in his career when he's played a full season despite being on pace for 600 attempts.

"We know that he's capable of doing that every week, we've just got to give him time," Miller said. "The receivers are getting open and making plays for him."

No matter how much or how frequently they're used. The Steelers signed Heyward-Bey in the offseason hoping the former first-round pick could use his still-scorching speed to become the deep threat they've been looking for since Mike Wallace bolted for Miami more than a year ago.

It hasn't quite worked out that way. Heyward-Bey made the roster based mostly on his ability to block on special teams, but he's proven reliable when needed.

Facing third-and-9 from the Pittsburgh 2 nursing an 11-point lead against Houston two weeks ago, Heyward-Bey lined up in the slot then hauled in a dart from Roethlisberger for a 17-yard gain. His third catch of the season helped the Steelers flip the field on their way to a 30-23 victory.

Heyward-Bey is just one of five skill players who have not been on the other end of one of Roethlisberger's 22 scoring passes. Asked jokingly if he's ready for his turn to come up and Heyward-Bey's smile disappeared.

"I don't care," he said. "I think we're very deep. We're a special group. We've got six guys that can dress every week, I've been on teams that dress three receivers. We understand that we're unique. We've got to show it on every Sunday."

Gene J. Puskar/AP

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger has thrown 12 touchdowns to six different players over the past two weeks, turning the Pittsburgh offense into a high-functioning democracy.

SERVICE CREDIT UNION

Special Offer : BMW 3 Series
GET A RATE AS LOW AS 0.89% APR
Contact your local dealer now
YOUR MILITARY SALES PARTNERS
www.military-sales-bmw.com

CARS *International*
Areas
· Patch Barracks
· Kelley Barracks
· Panzer Kaserne Sindelfingen
Hauptstr. 189 A
70563 Stuttgart
Dennis Huntsman
+49 (0) 711 68730-80
dennis.huntsman@cars-intl.com
Pam Ewell
+49 (0) 711 68730-80
pam.ewell@cars-intl.com

EULER GROUP
Areas
· Ramstein
· Landstuhl
· Kaiserslautern
· Baumholder
Merkurstr. 5
67663 Kaiserslautern
Mathias Hemmer
+49 (0) 631 3511356
mathias.hemmer@euler-group.de
Peter Brizan
+49 (0) 631 3511357
peter.brizan@euler-group.de
William James
+49 (0) 631 3511358
william.james@euler-group.de

AUTOHAUS GRASER
Areas
· Grafenwöhr
· Vilseck
· Hohenfels
Eschenbacher Str. 1
92690 Pressath
Chad Sims
+49 (0) 9644 9229-31
chad.sims@graser-bmw-us-carsales.com
Brett Waldrop
+49 (0) 9644 9229-31
brett.waldrop@graser-bmw-us-carsales.com

KARL+CO
Autohaus Karl + Co. GmbH & Co. KG
Areas
· Mainz
· Wiesbaden
Wiesbadener Str. 76
55252 Mainz-Kastel
Gregory Franklin
+49 (0) 6134 2002-37
gregory.franklin@bmw-karl-co.de
Trevor Henry
+49 (0) 611 27809-19
trevor.henry@bmw-karl-co.de

*Rate shown is Annual Percentage Rate (APR) and is accurate as of 11/01/2014. Offer begins 11/01/14 and ends 12/31/14 and is subject to change or be discontinued without notice. Rate shown includes a .35% reduction for military direct deposit and automatic payment (example: 1.24% APR less .35% = .89%). Example: A $30,000 auto loan with a rate of .89% APR for 80 months. Monthly payment is approximately $386.39. Total finance charge is approximately $342.16. Loan approval and APR subject to credit worthiness. Floor rate is .89%. No down payment required. Other vehicles may apply. May be limited to available inventory. No other discounts apply. Direct deposit of entire net pay and automatic payment must be maintained. Individual must be a member of Service Credit Union or eligible for membership to apply. Offer subject to change without notice.

SPORTS

Cleaning up their act
Creen sends clear message after suspensions | **Page 52**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

AJ MAST/AP

Michigan State's Mark Dantonio, right, and Ohio State's Urban Meyer are heading for a showdown when the No. 7 Spartans host the No. 13 Buckeyes on Saturday.

Meyer, Dantonio are leading way in evolution of Big Ten

BY NOAH TRISTER
The Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich.

Solid defense, conservative offense — and punts aplenty.

Fair or not, that's still the stereotype of Big Ten football — but Michigan State and Ohio State aren't playing along.

The seventh-ranked Spartans host the 13th-ranked Buckeyes this weekend in what may be the conference's most anticipated game all year.

The winner has the inside track to the East Division title, would be the lone Big Ten team without a league loss and will remain very much in the mix for college football's four-team playoff.

And, stylistically, the way these teams reached this point is noteworthy. Ohio State is fourth in the nation in scoring average at 45.6 points. Michigan State is fifth at 45.5.

SEE POINT ON PAGE 58

Big Ten offenses: By the numbers

45.6
Ohio St.'s average points per game this season, fourth-best in the nation. Michigan St. is right behind them in fifth at 45.5.

30.2
Average points scored per game by Big Ten teams this season, which still lags behind the Pac-12 (33.7) & Big 12 (33.5).

27.7
Average points per game by Big Ten schools in 2012, the second-worst mark among FBS conferences.

5
Number of times Ohio St. has scored 50 points or more this season. Michigan St. has scored at least 45 points five times.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

Don't call it a comeback: Double-digit rallies common | NFL, Page 61