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Obama to broaden US effort to combat militants

By Lara Jakes and Julie Pace
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama will go on the offensive against the Islamic State group with a broader counterterrorism mission than he previously has been willing to embrace, U.S. officials said Monday. The new plan, however, still won't commit U.S. troops to a ground war against the brutal insurgency and will rely heavily for now on allies to pitch in for what could be an extended campaign.

Obama's more aggressive posture — which officials say will target Islamic State militants comprehensively and not just protect U.S. interests or help resolve humanitarian disasters — reflects a new direction for a president who campaigned to end the war in Iraq and has generally been deeply reluctant to use U.S. military might since he took office in 2009.

"Almost every single country on Earth has a role to play in eliminating the ISIL threat and the evil that it represents," Secretary of State John Kerry told reporters Monday night, using an acronym for the Islamic State group.

SEE OBAMA ON PAGE 6

> **'Almost every single country on Earth has a role to play in eliminating the [Islamic State] threat and the evil that it represents.'**
>
> **John Kerry**
> secretary of state

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FLIGHT 17:

Downed by outside impact

Preliminary investigation points to missile damage as cause of Malaysia Airlines crash

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Sergei Grits/AP

A pro-Russia rebel looks at pieces of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 near the village of Rozsypne in eastern Ukraine on Tuesday. A preliminary report published Tuesday stopped short of saying the Boeing 777 was shot down by a surface-to-air missile on July 17, but its findings appear to point to that conclusion.

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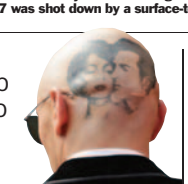

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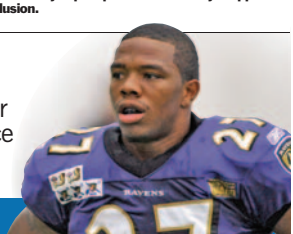

NFL, Ravens, players react to graphic Rice video » Back page

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"These countries can offer a lot, but I think any cooperation here is going to be conditional. They are not going to jump in the pool for nothing."

— Mustafa Alani, director of the security and defense department at the Gulf Research Center, commenting on the Middle East's reluctance to join a U.S. coalition to combat the Islamic State

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WAR/MILITARY

Karzai urges candidates to reach deal

By Jason Straziuso
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A remembrance ceremony devolved into raucous shouting by agitated supporters of Afghan presidential candidate Abdullah Abdullah on Tuesday, only minutes after President Hamid Karzai urged the country's two presidential candidates to reach an agreement on a new national unity government.

Karzai, who has been in power in Afghanistan since shortly after the 2001 U.S.-led invasion, said that his time as president is over and that the country wants a new government. He told the crowd of hundreds of powerbrokers to urge Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani to reach a deal to end the country's now five-month-long election process.

Karzai said the two could reach a deal within days and that Afghanistan could have a new government within a week.

Abdullah on Monday announced that he would not accept the expected outcome of the election committee's recount of some 8 million ballots cast in a June runoff, an indication that the official ballot numbers favor Ghani. The official announcement has been expected this week.

At Tuesday's ceremony honoring a beloved anti-Taliban fighter who was assassinated, a rowdy crowd of men who mostly back Abdullah's campaign gave the candidate an opportunity to play the role of statesman during the nationally televised ceremony. The effort failed.

When Sibghatullah Mojaddedi — a former Afghan president and current Ghani supporter — rose to speak, many at the ceremony shouted him down. Abdullah bounded up to the podium and reminded his supporters that on Monday he had requested the country remain peaceful Tuesday, a national holiday honoring Ahmad Shah Massoud, who was killed two days before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the U.S.

Despite Abdullah's plea, the shouts kept raining down, and an agitated Mojaddedi left the podium without speaking. The proceedings closed down unceremoniously shortly afterward.

Abdullah and Ghani walked into the tent — in reality a large conference room — alongside Karzai, but the two did not acknowledge each other. At one point they stood face-to-face only 3 feet apart but did not make eye contact.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday urged the two to conclude an agreement on a national unity accord in line with a commitment the two signed in July.

Ban said both sides share a responsibility "to guide Afghanistan to a peaceful and more prosperous future. Given the scale of the challenges, this can only be done jointly."

Ban noted that both candidates have agreed to accept the outcome of the election count.

U.S. pressure on the candidates has yielded no breakthrough. President Barack Obama spoke with both over the weekend and urged them to quickly form a national unity government.

Secretary of State John Kerry has made two trips to Afghanistan the last two months.

Above: Afghan President Hamid Karzai speaks during a ceremony honoring the late Ahmad Shah Massoud, background, a beloved anti-Taliban fighter who was assassinated 13 years ago, in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Tuesday. Right: An Afghan holds a poster of Massoud during the ceremony. The state function turned into a political shouting match after Karzai told the crowd to urge presidential contenders Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani to reach a deal to end the country's election stalemate.

PHOTOS BY RAHMAT GUL/AP

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MILITARY

US concerns over fighter intercepts raised in Beijing

By Christopher Bodeen
The Associated Press

BEIJING — U.S. National Security Adviser Susan Rice repeatedly raised concerns about risky Chinese fighter intercepts of U.S. surveillance flights in meetings this week with Chinese leaders in Beijing, senior administration officials said Tuesday.

The matter appeared to be one of a relatively few contentious issues raised during a visit intended to lay the groundwork for President Barack Obama's trip to Beijing in November.

Overall, the talks "helped lay a really great foundation" for Obama's trip, said a senior administration official who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity. Obama is to attend the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation forum leaders' summit and meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Rice's comments on fighter intercepts mark the second time the U.S. has raised the issue with China in the past two weeks, underscoring U.S. concerns about the danger of a collision and the effect such an incident could have on bilateral relations.

Washington has said a Chinese pilot acted recklessly on Aug. 19 during close passes of a U.S. plane about 135 miles south of Hainan island, which is home to Chinese naval airfields and a submarine base. China denied any reckless flying and said it would continue responding to U.S. surveillance flights off its coast, which Beijing believes are a threat to its security.

In a meeting Tuesday with China's top general, Fan Changlong, Rice said their two countries "face challenges, and we certainly need to avoid any incidents that could complicate the relationship."

"Military-to-military ties between the United States and China have grown and strengthened, and it is an area of cooperation that the United States values," Rice said in her opening remarks.

Wang Zhao/AP

U.S. National Security Adviser Susan Rice, center, talks with Fang Changlong, right, vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, in Beijing on Tuesday.

Administration officials declined to characterize the Chinese officials' response, but said they appeared to understand U.S. concerns. The officials said the two sides agreed to work on confidence-building measures to reduce suspicions, but offered no details.

"I'd say we had a constructive conversation with the Chinese" on the issue, said a U.S. official, who added that Rice raised the issue both with Fan and in a meeting Monday with Xi's senior foreign policy adviser, Yang Jiechi. "The general perception is that they took our concerns very seriously," the official said.

U.S. officials are most concerned about the possibility of a collision such as that in 2001 between a Chinese fighter and a U.S. Navy EP-3 on a surveillance flight about 60 miles from Hainan. The Chinese jet crashed, killing the pilot, and the U.S. plane was forced to make an emergency landing on Hainan, where the 24 crewmembers were detained and interrogated by Chinese authorities. Relations between the sides remained frosty for months afterward.

Despite occasional tensions, China and the U.S. have increased friendly engagement between their militaries in recent years. China's navy took part this year for the first time in multinational naval drills hosted by the U.S. off the coast of Hawaii.

Transfer of Gitmo prisoner on hold

By Ben Fox
The Associated Press

MIAMI — At about 155 pounds, the Syrian prisoner is gaunt for a man over 6 feet tall. He is pale and weak, so lethargic at times that one of his lawyers said he had to lie on the floor when he met with her one day this summer at the prison on the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The hunger strike that Abu Wa'el Dhiab, 43, started 18 months ago to protest his indefinite confinement without charge was supposed to be over by now. He was told in the spring he would be resettled in Uruguay, along with five other Guantanamo prisoners. But as the months have dragged on and the transfer put on hold, his standoff with military officials has only deteriorated, at times turning violent.

"Everyone who has seen him recently is alarmed," said Alka Pradhan, one of his attorneys.

The prisoner has been engaged in a tense struggle with guards in recent months, according to documents filed in federal court in Washington, where Dhiab, who has been fed through a nasal tube to prevent starvation, is challenging some of the tactics used by the military to deal with prisoners on hunger strike.

Charles Dharapak/AP

An enteral feeding tube, used for force-feeding detainees, is displayed during a tour of the detainee hospital at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba, last November.

In July, the Pentagon gave Congress a legally required 30-day notice that it intended to transfer Dhiab and five other Guantanamo prisoners — three other Syrians, a Tunisian and a Palestinian — to Uruguay, where President Jose Mujica, a leftist former political prisoner, offered to accept them as a humanitarian gesture. The other prisoners have kept a much lower profile at Guantanamo than Dhiab, so little is known about them. But they are among the several dozen prisoners who cannot return to their homelands because they would face persecution or because their own countries are considered unstable.

The transfer to Uruguay, where one poll shows it is opposed by a majority, however, is not imminent. Presidential spokesman Diego Canepa announced last week that aspects of the transfer were still being finalized and that it would be unlikely within the next two to three months. That would put it past Uruguay's Oct. 26 presidential and legislative elections, and perhaps even a possible Nov. 30 runoff.

Dhiab's circumstances are shared by other men at Guantanamo. Out of the remaining 149 prisoners, more than 70 have been cleared for release.

In 2013, Dhiab joined a mass hunger strike to protest the stalled transfers and conditions inside the prison. Pradhan, an attorney with human rights group Reprieve, said he has eaten only parts of a meal or a nutritional supplement to avoid the "forcible cell extraction," to which he has been subjected 48 times so far this year.

Attorney: Bergdahl receiving no Army inquiry information

By Sig Christenson
San Antonio (Texas) Express-News

SAN ANTONIO — The attorney for Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl said Monday he hasn't been updated on an investigation that could lead to a court-martial for his client, the longest-held American POW in the Afghanistan War.

"We are completely in a holding pattern," Yale Law School lecturer Eugene Fidell said. "I feel like the Maytag repairman. I'm just waiting for the phone to ring."

The Army said it had nothing new to report on the inquiry led by Brig. Gen. Kenneth Dahl. Fidell said his client's enlistment term had ended, and he wanted to leave the Army.

Dahl's report will be key to Bergdahl's future. Dahl questioned Bergdahl last month in San Antonio about his decision in June 2009 to leave his combat post in Afghanistan. He was captured and held for five years by the Taliban until he was released in May in a controversial prisoner swap. He has been at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston since June 13.

Some fellow soldiers recalled his talking about walking off the base, and others said GIs died in a futile search for Bergdahl, but the Army said it could not substantiate those claims.

A House panel in late July voted mostly along party lines to condemn the prisoner swap. The full House will take up the resolution as early as this week.

The nonpartisan Government Accountability Office last month said the Defense Department failed to notify the relevant congressional committees at least 30 days in advance of the exchange, a clear violation of law. It said the department's use of $988,400 that hadn't been expressly appropriated violated the Antideficiency Act.

> **'We are completely in a holding pattern.'**
> **Eugene Fidell**
> attorney for Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdah

The Army won't say when Dahl will finish his investigation. His report will go to Lt. Gen. William Grisoli, director of the Army's staff, but a spokesman, Wayne Hall, wasn't clear about what happens next, saying, "It is too premature to determine what actions will occur beyond that point."

Typically, the senior leader in a soldier's chain of command decides how to proceed in a serious disciplinary matter. That means Lt. Gen. Perry Wiggins, commander of U.S. Army North, would decide if a court-martial is required or a lesser form of punishment.

MILITARY

IG sees harm but no deaths in VA delays

By Travis J. Tritten
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A top auditor in the Department of Veterans Affairs told Senate lawmakers Tuesday that he had expected to find delays in care at a Phoenix hospital had caused patient deaths.

But in the end there just was not enough evidence to prove it, and auditors can only "report the news that we find," John Daigh, assistant inspector general for VA health care inspections, testified before the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

The Inspector General, an independent agency watchdog, released a comprehensive audit last month on the VA Phoenix hospital system that found 20 patient deaths linked to poor care or delays in treatment, but it stopped short of saying the department was responsible. The audit finding has been underscored by new VA Secretary Bob McDonald, who mentioned it in his own opening remarks to the committee.

Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev., asked Daigh whether a reasonable person could conclude that the VA patients died due to the poor care or delays reported in the IG audit.

"We saw harm … but I couldn't say delay caused a patient to die," said Daigh, who is a physician.

He said the IG reported its conclusions but told senators they could judge the effects of health care shortcomings in Phoenix for themselves.

"I have a conclusion and people can come to their own conclusion," Daigh said.

Lauren Victoria Burke/AP

Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert McDonald, center, listens as acting Inspector General Richard Griffin, left, testifies Tuesday before the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

VA Acting Inspector General Richard Griffin testified that auditors discovered 45 patients' cases — including the 20 deaths — that could open the VA to civil lawsuits.

The Phoenix hospital system became the epicenter of a national scandal in April when a whistleblowing doctor publicly claimed that 40 patients may have died while the VA staff kept secret wait lists to obscure long treatment delays. The IG said it interviewed the whistleblower, Sam Foote, and investigated his claims.

McDonald, who was confirmed by the Senate in July, told senators that the agency has made big strides in fixing the problems in Phoenix and is following up on the IG findings last month.

"We've concurred with all 24 of the report's recommendations," McDonald said.

So far, the VA has:

- Hired 53 new full-time employees.
- Completed 146,596 appointments in three months, and noted that all patients on off-the-books wait lists and long-term official lists were reached.
- Reduced the electronic wait list to 56 vets in Phoenix by Aug. 15, while many facilities have hundreds waiting.
- Referred 14,622 patients to private care between May and August.

On Monday, the new secretary unveiled an ambitious 90-day plan to turn the VA around after months of revelations on staff wrongdoing and long delays at hundreds of medical facilities across the country.

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NEO drill near for families, civilians on S. Korea bases

By Ashley Rowland
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Military family members and a number of civilian employees in South Korea soon will take part in the annual Courageous Channel evacuation drill, essentially a dress rehearsal in case of war or natural disaster on the Korean Peninsula.

The noncombatant evacuation exercise, frequently called NEO, will be held Sept. 15-Oct. 5 at various installations on the peninsula, U.S. Forces Korea announced Tuesday. Participants will undergo a walkthrough of a potential evacuation including NEO binder checks, briefings and practice of assembly and registration procedures at on-post NEO centers. All Department of Defense-affiliated noncombatants with a date eligible for return from overseas of Nov. 1, 2014, or later, including nonemergency essential U.S. government employees, are required to participate.

USFK said the NEO exercise is not related to a specific real-world event or current situations.

The assembly and registration portion of the exercise will be held Oct. 1-5. Local installations will provide more information about the locations of their NEO sites and hours of operation.

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AFN's high-definition transition delayed; live streaming eyed

By Matt Millham
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The American Forces Network has finished installing high-definition television equipment, but it could still be years before the network goes full-HD.

Meanwhile, AFN's parent organization, Armed Forces Radio and Television Service, is looking at how it might deliver live streams of the military broadcaster's content on the Internet.

AFN had planned to upgrade its satellite television signal by the end of this month, which would have improved picture quality for the nearly two-thirds of AFN's viewers who have HD decoders. But the network is still in the process of contracting for upgraded satellite delivery service, and it's not known when that service will be in place, George Smith, an AFN spokesman, wrote in an email in response to a Stars and Stripes query.

While the delay is likely to disappoint overseas viewers who long ago bought pricey HD decoders, it's a reprieve for those with standard-definition models, which AFN has said it won't support after it completes the move to HD.

Older SD decoders still account for more than a third of the roughly 80,000 AFN set-top boxes in service worldwide, according to AFN. Citing cost constraints, the network says it has no plans to continue broadcasting in standard definition after the HD transition.

Smith said AFN will announce when the satellite upgrade is completed so that owners of the roughly 29,000 active older decoders have time to get new equipment.

In the meantime, "AFN recommends decoder owners hold on to whatever model they have until a firm transition timeline is established," Smith said.

AFN had planned to begin broadcasting an upgraded HD signal as early as September 2013, but the network delayed the move in order to give those with older decoders time to get newer models.

After the upgrade, those with HD decoders "will immediately see enhanced video, but won't see true high definition television until the network completes other changes like converting standard definition movies to HD," Smith said. "The upgraded satellite delivery service will be like looking into that device at the eye doctor's and seeing letters come in clearer, but it's still a few lens clicks away from perfect 20/20 'HD' vision."

Despite the additional delay, Smith said the HD transition is still on track to be completed sometime between 2015 and 2017.

AFRTS, meanwhile, is exploring ways of bringing AFN to online viewers.

The network's goal, Smith said, is to provide its overseas audience with listening and viewing experiences similar to those they get in the U.S.

"Americans use DVRs (digital video recorders) and video-on-demand to access TV shows whenever they want to watch," Smith said, which is why AFRTS has reached out to commercial vendors for information on providing AFN television on the Internet.

AFN already offers numerous web streams of its radio content.

"We are very, very early in the process," Smith wrote. "No decisions have been made, no funds requested and no programming identified. We're researching what U.S. broadcast industry ideas might work with AFN's non-profit, non-commercial military television network."

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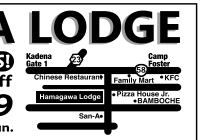

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MILITARY

GAO audit shows 18,500 clearances revoked in 5 years

By Wyatt Olson
Stars and Stripes

Eligibility for accessing classified information was revoked in 2009-13 for more than 18,500 military and civilian employees and contractors working for the Department of Defense, according to an audit released Monday.

The DOD's data, however, was too unreliable to assess the department's overall handling of revocations during that five-year period, according to the Government Accountability Office, the congressional auditing agency that published the report.

While the DOD was able to provide the number of and reasons for revocations, other important data were missing or incomplete in the department's database system.

The report was one of a series being conducted by the federal government as the result of recent high-profile "insider threats," particularly the September 2013 Washington Navy Yard shooting rampage by a civilian contractor with security clearance to the restricted area. Previous reports have examined the processes used in granting security clearances, while this study examined circumstances under which eligibility was revoked.

During the five-year period the GAO analyzed, the DOD revoked eligibility for more than 16,000 military and civilian employees and for 2,500 contractors.

Comprising some 9,300 revocations, Army military personnel far exceeded the 1,807 revocations by the Navy, the service with the second-highest number.

The report examined the most common reasons for revoking clearances by the DOD for fiscal 2013. The top causes for civilian and military personnel were criminal conduct, involvement with drugs and personal conduct. Top reasons for contractors were financial considerations and personal and criminal conduct.

The report also examined revocations by the Department of Homeland Security, although only for fiscal 2013. About 125,000 DHS civilian and military employees were eligible to access classified information as of March. The agency revoked eligibility for 113 personnel, or less than 1 percent, the report said.

The total number of DOD and DHS employees affected by the revocation process is unknown, however, because the two departments "could not provide some data, such as the number of individuals who received a proposal to revoke their eligibility for access to classified information," the report found.

A DHS official told the GAO that "many" employees resign before the final determination is made to revoke clearance. The GAO found that data maintained by the DOD's Joint Personnel Adjudication System, which is intended to track its recordsfor personnel security management and actions, was unreliable.

9,300

The number of Army military personnel whose security clearances were revoked between 2009 and 2013. That compares with 1,807 revocations by the Navy, the service with the second-highest number.

In some cases, data fields concerning revocations on the system were partially completed or incomplete.

"For example, although more than 16,000 military and federal civilian employees had their personnel security clearances revoked from fiscal years 2009 through 2013, JPAS data reflected that fewer than 3,000 individuals had received a statement of reasons, which is [the Defense Department's] initial proposal to revoke a personnel security clearance, because the JPAS field to record this information had not been filled," the report stated.

"Until DOD takes steps to ensure that information is recorded and updated in its systems, the department will continue to lack visibility over the security clearance revocation and appeal process, which may hinder its ability to effectively oversee these processes."

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Photos by Michael Darnell/Stars and Stripes

U.S. Army medics take part in a tryout for the Expert Field Medical Badge in Grafenwöehr, Germany.

137 earn Army medical badge

By Michael Darnell
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWÖEHR, Germany — Medical personnel from across U.S. Army Europe and from the militaries of allied countries left here Tuesday as the newest recipients of the Expert Field Medical Badge.

Of the 281 candidates who arrived here more than two weeks ago, 137 successfully completed the rigorous and exacting evaluation process that grants them authorization to wear one of the U.S. Army's highest badges for technical expertise.

That 49 percent success rate is unprecedented, said Capt. Matthew de la Guardia, a spokesman for the evaluation team from the 212th Combat Support Hospital.

"Normally, the EFMB has a pass rate of around 18 percent," he said. "We usually lose 50 percent on the first day alone."

During the weeklong testing phase, candidates are thoroughly tested on their medical knowledge. Evaluators look at their performance on everything from impromptu battlefield surgery to stripping weapons; they grade every aspect with either a "go" or a "no go."

Small mistakes — such as an improperly tied knot or a strap brushing the ground — can result in a "no go" in one section. Three mistakes in any one results in failure and an empty-handed trip home.

"It's considered a mark of excellence, and I think every medical soldier strives for it," said Sgt. Maj. Lee Ridling, a test board member for the EFMB. "It's not easily achievable."

A U.S. soldier on Tuesday crosses the finish line of the culminating event — a 12-mile, full-gear hike — with just over four minutes to spare.

This year, USAREUR focused more on the training weeks leading up to the testing days. One returning candidate from the 173rd Airborne Brigade attributed the unusually high pass rate to that emphasis.

"Last year, it was very quick. This year, we had an extra week of train-up, which I was not expecting," said Cpl. Hayden Miller. "We got to run through the lane and actually do the lane once before we tested. So we had another week to study all that.

"I think there is going to be a huge success rate this year because of that."

Miller was among the 137 candidates who were handed their awards by USAREUR's commander, Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell, during a Tuesday morning ceremony. Among them were an airman, a Navy corpsman and international students from the United Kingdom, Romania, Slovenia, Germany and Italy.

Even though the EFMB is an American award, allied troops who pass the evaluation process can also wear the badge.

Romanian Lt. Col. Daniel Ioan said he and Cpl. Gaibar Cristian were the first soldiers from his country to receive the badge. He said the differences in how his military and the U.S. military operate created an extra barrier to success.

"It was very hard, but I finished alive," he said.

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MIDEAST

Poll: US support grows for strikes on Islamic State

By Dan Balz and Peyton M. Craighill
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Americans overwhelmingly view Islamic State terrorists as a serious threat to vital U.S. interests and, in a significant shift, widely support airstrikes in Iraq and Syria, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News poll.

The nation's increasingly hawkish mood will form part of the backdrop for a speech by President Barack Obama on Wednesday, when he will outline his thinking on how to confront the threat from the Islamic State. Obama's remarks will come a day after he confers with congressional leaders at the White House about the administration's planning.

Obama's speech also comes at a critical moment in his presidency. He will address the nation at a time of record or near-record lows in public assessments of his performance. Only 43 percent of Americans say he is a strong leader, the lowest reading since he entered the White House. Just over half the country says his presidency has been a failure, although partisanship colors that judgment.

His overall foreign policy ratings are his lowest yet in a Post-ABC News poll. A majority says the president is too cautious when it comes to international problems and specifically in dealing with Islamic State militants. His handling of Russian aggression in Ukraine receives somewhat better marks, but more than 4 in 10 still say he is too cautious.

Over the past month, Obama has authorized limited military airstrikes in Iraq against the Islamic State and sent several hundred U.S. troops to the region to protect American personnel.

But he has faced increasing calls from lawmakers in both parties to expand the U.S. military role, not only in Iraq but also in Syria, where the administration has been reluctant to intervene directly in that country's civil war.

The speech and session with congressional leaders are aimed at generating strong public backing and support from Congress for whatever mission Obama decides to launch. Congressional leaders said late Monday that they do not expect the White House to ask for authorization for his new strategy, according to senior House and Senate aides.

Support for military action has risen dramatically in just the past few weeks, coinciding with the beheadings of two American journalists, James Foley and Steven Sotloff, which were recorded on video and released to the world by Islamic State terrorists.

Today, 71 percent of all Americans say they support airstrikes in Iraq — up from 54 percent three weeks ago and from 45 percent in June. Among those who say Obama has been too cautious, 82 percent support the strikes; among those who think his handling of international affairs has been about right, 66 percent support them.

Nearly as many Americans — 65 percent — say they support the potentially more controversial action of launching airstrikes in Syria, which Obama has not done. That is more than double the level of support a year ago for launching airstrikes to punish the Syrian regime for using chemical weapons.

Public support for action in Iraq and Syria stands in sharp contrast to overall war-weariness seen in earlier surveys after a decade of conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan. The support appears to reflect perceptions of the threat posed by the Islamic State insurgency. Nine in 10 Americans now see the militants as a serious threat to vital U.S. interests, and roughly 6 in 10 say they are a very serious threat.

As support for military action in Iraq and Syria has risen, public assessments of Obama on foreign policy have declined. Just 38 percent approve of his handling of international affairs, and 56 percent disapprove, with 43 percent strongly disapproving. Through most of the spring and summer, his foreign policy approval rating has hovered in the mid-40s.

Obama has been criticized over the past month as appearing disengaged or reticent in the face of a series of international crises. Two moments in particular provoked negative comment. One came when he said that "we don't have a strategy yet" for dealing with Islamic State militants. The other came when he denounced the beheading of James Foley and promptly went out for a round of golf on Martha's Vineyard, Mass., during his vacation.

Hasan Jamali/AP

A U.S. military plane lands on the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush, in the Persian Gulf in August. As the U.S. works to piece together a coalition to fight the Islamic State extremists, a poll shows widespread public support for military action against the group.

Obama: President testing waters with experts, allies as he formulates strategy

FROM FRONT PAGE

Kerry said nations around the world are seeking to defeat the militancy with a coalition "built to endure for the months, and perhaps years, to come."

The U.S. has already launched more than 100 airstrikes against militant targets in Iraq, including a new series that the military said killed an unusually large number of Islamic State fighters. A Central Command statement Monday said the strikes hit targets near the Haditha Dam, and a spokesman, Maj. Curtis Kellogg, said 50 to 70 fighters were targeted and most were believed to have been killed.

Now, after the beheadings of two American freelance journalists, Obama is considering expanding the airstrikes campaign into Syria, where the Islamic State has a safe haven. Obama has long avoided taking military action in Syria, concerned about indirectly assisting President Bashar Assad and his government in Damascus. But White House spokesman Josh Earnest suggested Monday that the U.S. could be moving in that direction, saying Obama was willing "to go wherever is necessary to strike those who are threatening Americans."

Western leaders still appear divided on whether to launch airstrikes in Syria. U.S. officials said Obama is leaning toward doing so as part of an international effort.

Obama was to describe his plans in a speech on Wednesday. By that time, Kerry will be headed to Saudi Arabia and Jordan to meet with Mideast leaders and gauge their level of commitment to a growing worldwide coalition that is uniting against the Islamic State. Kerry said nations from Canada to Estonia to Kuwait to Australia have already contributed a mix of assistance.

As he weighs his next move, Obama was soliciting advice Monday from prominent foreign policy experts from across the political spectrum over dinner at the White House. Among the guests invited to join Obama and Vice President Joe Biden were former national security advisers from the Obama, George W. Bush, Clinton and Carter administrations, as well as Council on Foreign Relations President Richard Haass and former Acting CIA Director Michael Morrell.

In a call Monday evening, Obama congratulated new Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi for the approval of a new government. The White House said al-Abadi "expressed his commitment to work with all communities in Iraq as well as regional and international partners to strengthen Iraq's capabilities" to fight the Islamic State militants.

Obama also spoke with Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott on the need to keep addressing the ongoing threat from the Islamic State group and to thank Australia for its contributions to humanitarian air drops in northern Iraq, the White House said.

Yet beyond airstrikes, much of the international strategy against the Islamic State militants covers the same ground as it has for the past several months.

Two senior U.S. officials said it will continue to curb foreign fighters and funding flowing to militants, aim to persuade the new government in Baghdad that was seated Monday to give more power to its Sunni citizens in hopes of discouraging them from joining the insurgency, and strengthen Iraqi government forces and moderate Syrian rebels in their respective battles against the Islamic State fighters.

Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates have for months worked to combat the Islamic State group either by sharing intelligence, sending humanitarian aid, providing military assistance to rebels, or punishing suspected foreign fighters. Broadened U.S. airstrikes would help cover Iraqi military forces, particularly the peshmerga forces in the country's Kurdish north, and Western-backed elements of the Syrian opposition, aiming to help them make gains against the militants.

But Western leaders still appear divided on whether to launch airstrikes in Syria. U.S. officials said Obama is leaning toward doing so as part of an international effort, and British Prime Minister David Cameron last week said he has not ruled them out. It's likely that the airstrikes, if they occur, would aim to avoid any of Assad's aircraft, landing strips or other assets that are part of Damascus' campaign to attack Sunni rebel groups that include the Islamic State group.

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MIDEAST

HAKAN GOKTEPE, TURKISH PRIME MINISTRY/AP

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, right, and U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, left, speak during a meeting in Ankara, Turkey, on Monday. Hagel is in Turkey to lobby the NATO ally to heed President Barack Obama's call for a regional front against Islamic State militants.

US faces Arab reluctance to confront Islamic State

BY RYAN LUCAS
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Stitching together a broad coalition to tackle the extremist Islamic State group hinges on overcoming the reluctance of U.S. allies in the Middle East who are deeply frustrated with a White House they believe has been naive and weak on Syria's civil war.

Key Sunni Arab states, Saudi Arabia chief among them, have wanted the U.S. to do more to provide robust support to mainstream Syrian rebels in their war against President Bashar Assad. The result is hesitation to answer President Barack Obama's call for a regional front against the Islamic State group, even though it is widely reviled.

The United States is mounting a major campaign to get allies on board. Secretary of State John Kerry will visit the region, and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel was in Turkey on Monday to lobby the NATO ally.

It is not always an easy sell.

"Trust is so low, especially in the Gulf region, for Obama's leadership quality and the way he manages foreign policy," said Mustafa Alani, the director of the security and defense department at the Gulf Research Center in Geneva. "I don't think any country is going to put its hand up or neck out by accepting an alliance with the U.S. that easily."

That is not to say that Sunni states in the region won't ultimately join the U.S. in the campaign against the extremists who have seized large swaths of Iraq and Syria, or that they don't view the militants as a threat. But it suggests, analysts say, that the U.S. will have to do some convincing — and likely enticing — to get them into the fight.

"These countries can offer a lot, but I think any cooperation here is going to be conditional," Alani said. "They are not going to jump in the pool for nothing."

U.S. allies in the Middle East are among the most threatened by the Islamic State group, whose rampage across northern and western Iraq in June rattled officials in capitals across the region. Jordan and Saudi Arabia, both of whom suddenly found Islamic State fighters on their doorstep, have dispatched military reinforcements to their borders to boost security.

On Monday, the Arab League agreed to take immediate measures, either individually or collectively, to combat the Islamic State and other extremists on the political, defense, security and legal levels. The member states did not explicitly back American military action.

The U.S. began conducting airstrikes last month against Islamic State fighters in Iraq in what amounts to the first American militarily action in the country since American troops left in 2011.

Obama also is weighing the prospect of military action in Syria. While the U.S. is already carrying out surveillance flights over northern Syria, the president has stressed that airstrikes there are not imminent, and that if he ultimately authorizes them they would have to come in conjunction with a broader regional strategy that would tackle the political turmoil in both Syria and Iraq.

It may well be Washington's willingness to take on the long-term project of resolving Syria's intractable civil war that will prove decisive in enlisting regional allies against the Islamic State.

Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey have been among the most vociferous opponents of Assad and most active supporters of the armed opposition seeking to overthrow him.

Over the past three years, the three countries have been frustrated, sometimes furious, with Obama and his Syria policy. They point to the president's failure to enforce his own "red line" last year and bomb Syria after blaming Assad for a deadly chemical weapons attack on rebel-held areas outside Damascus.

Washington's refusal to supply the rebels with sophisticated weapons — or allow others to do so — has been another source of anger.

"There is serious room for consolidated cooperation because for a long time it was U.S. reluctance to do anything that kind of ruined these relationships," said Paul Salem, vice president of the Middle East Institute in Washington. "Turkey and the Gulf countries were saying, 'Come on, let's do something bigger and more substantial,' while the U.S. was always dragging its feet or obstructing or saying 'yes' and then saying 'no.'"

With the U.S. previously unwilling to take the lead, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Qatar often worked at cross purposes in supporting the fractured anti-Assad camp. For those countries, the question now is whether the U.S. is serious this time.

Turkey, Jordan and the Gulf have a lot to offer — money, logistics, territory, intelligence, training and potentially helping arm Syrian rebels through third parties. Saudi Arabia and the UAE have advanced air forces that could take part in airstrikes, and could lend regional legitimacy to a U.S.-led aerial campaign.

Iraq lawmakers urge quick picks for key ministries

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraqi lawmakers urged the country's new prime minister on Tuesday to quickly assign the critical posts of defense and interior minister that will spearhead domestic efforts to combat the advance of extremist Sunni militants.

Addressing lawmakers late the night earlier, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi requested an additional week for the selection of the positions, saying that names have been proposed but the various political blocs have yet to reach a consensus. Lawmakers approved all of the candidates proposed for the new government, with the exception of a few posts, including the tourism and the water resources ministers.

Like many government positions , the job of defense minister has in recent years been assigned to a Sunni, while the interior minister has been a Shiite. Lawmakers say the country is at too critical a juncture to focus on such practices.

Salim al-Muslimawi, a Shiite lawmaker from Babil province, said any further delay in naming a defense and interior minister risks making the government appear weak and divided.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani called the government formation a "new era" and expressed hope for closer relations between the two countries, Iran's official news agency reported Tuesday.

HADI MIZBAN/AP

Ammar al-Hakim, leader of the Supreme Islamic Council of Iraq, and Iraq's new prime minister, Haider al-Abadi, right, shake hands Monday in Baghdad.

Senators' bill offers a reward for info on journalists' killers

Stars and Stripes

A bill introduced Monday in the Senate seeks to pay rewards of up to $10 million for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those involved in the kidnapping and murders of journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff.

Foley and Sotloff were taken hostage while covering the war in Syria. Videos of their beheadings were uploaded to the Internet by a group of Islamic fundamentalists calling themselves the Islamic State. The group is spread throughout several Middle Eastern countries including Syria and Iraq, where it hopes to secure a caliphate under the leadership of the shadowy preacher Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

The bipartisan bill was introduced by Sens. Marco Rubio, R-Fla.; Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H.; Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H.; Ted Cruz, R-Texas; and Bill Nelson, D-Fla., according to a statement from Rubio's office. It seeks to update the State Department Rewards for Justice Program, which has paid out more than $125 million to more than 80 people who have provided information since 1984.

"James Foley and Steven Sotloff nobly risked their lives in the pursuit of truth, and the United States will not stand idly by after two of its own were brutally murdered at the hands of fundamentally evil and freedom-hating extremists," Rubio said in the statement. "This bill is a symbol of our commitment to their parents that America will not rest until justice is served, and let it serve as a clear message to [the Islamic State] that we will stop at nothing to ensure the deaths of these beloved journalists do not go unpunished."

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NATION

Ariz. churches offer immigrants sanctuary

Advocates push for revival of '80s movement that let migrants living in places of worship avoid deportation

By Astrid Galvan
The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — On her 27th day of living in a tiny room at a Tucson church known for pioneering the popular immigrant sanctuary movement in the 1980s, Rosa Robles Loreto swept a courtyard, prayed with a group of parishioners and greeted her uniformed son fresh off his baseball practice.

Robles Loreto, 41, is a Mexican immigrant who lacks legal status and is facing deportation after getting pulled over for a traffic infraction four years ago. She has vowed to remain in Southside Presbyterian Church until federal immigration authorities grant her leniency.

Robles Loreto is the third immigrant to take sanctuary in a church this year in Arizona, reviving a popular movement from the 1980s that sought to help Central American migrants fleeing civil wars stay in the U.S. by letting them live inside churches, where immigration officials generally do not arrest people.

Robles Loreta

Although the latest version of the movement so far appears to have taken place only in Arizona, national immigration advocates say it's about to grow, propelled by activists hoping the sanctuary movement will draw attention to the lack of immigration reform.

The Rev. Noel Andersen, a national grassroots coordinator for Church World Service, said cities such as Denver, Portland, New York and Washington are organizing and preparing for the potential of more migrants taking sanctuary in churches.

"I would say there's close to 300 congregations out there throughout the country that are willing and ready to give sanctuary when needed," Andersen said.

Daniel Neyoy Ruiz spent 21 days at the same church where Robles Loreto is living before authorities relented and granted him a one-year reprieve from deportation. Luis Lopez-Acabal on Thursday moved into a church in Tempe, Ariz., also hoping to avoid deportation.

The immigrants spend every hour of every day confined to the church for fear of deportation. Congregation members make it a point to visit throughout the day, delivering food and flowers and hosting prayer vigils.

Robles Loreto's two young sons stay with her on weekends. During the week, she wakes up around 5 a.m. to prepare her husband's lunch, goes back to sleep, and awakes again by 7:30 a.m. She helps clean the church. Southside officials make sure there is someone at the church at all hours to ensure Robles Loreto is safe.

Southside Presbyterian's leader said she sees providing sanctuary to Robles Loreto as a moral imperative.

"They're perfect examples of the families that are being needlessly torn apart every single day ...," said the Rev. Alison J. Harrington, who heads Southside Presbyterian. "We felt compelled by our faith to welcome them into our church and shelter them and to begin a campaign to get their orders of deportation removed."

In the 1980s, the church was the first in the country to offer sanctuary to immigrants, Harrington said. During the decade the church provided sanctuary, it helped more than 14,000 immigrants, she said.

There is no rule under federal law that prohibits agents from arresting immigrants in church, but it's a practice the government generally avoids.

Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, which advocates for more immigration restrictions, said being in a church shouldn't protect someone from deportation. "If you're an illegal alien, just because you hide in a church doesn't mean you're exempt from immigration enforcement," Krikorian said.

Court hears arguments on the impact of gay marriage

By Paul Elias
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A debate over whether children would be harmed or helped by legalizing gay marriage was the main focus when a federal appeals court in San Francisco waded again into the issue of the constitutionality of gay marriage.

The three judges on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals — two of whom have ruled in previous cases in favor of gay rights — reserved many of their most pointed questions Monday for the defenders of state bans in Idaho, Nevada and Hawaii.

Regardless of how the court ultimately rules, many legal observers — including one of the judges on the panel — believe the issue of gay marriage is heading for the U.S. Supreme Court to decide. Many are speculating that Justice Anthony Kennedy may cast the deciding vote for a Supreme Court often split 5-4.

"We all know this is going to be decided one step up," attorney Monte Stewart told the panel after arguing in favor of gay marriage bans in Idaho and Nevada.

"And we all know by whom," Judge Stephen Reinhardt said to laughter in the court, referring to Kennedy.

Judge Marsha Berzon appeared critical of Stewart, saying he was sending a message that families headed by same-sex couples were "second-rate."

"You're sending a message that these are less desirable families" she said. "That is what you're doing. That is what you say you're doing."

Stewart said he strongly disagreed.

The hearing is the first time since it declared California's gay marriage ban unconstitutional that the 9th Circuit is listening to arguments over same-sex weddings in a political and legal climate that's vastly different than when it overturned Proposition 8 in 2012. State and federal court judges have been striking down bans in more than a dozen states at a rapid rate since a landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling last year.

In defending Idaho's ban, Stewart told the panel that same-sex marriage would undermine children's right to be raised by a father and mother. Same-sex marriage would undercut the message that a man who fathers a child should get in a relationship with the female mother, he said.

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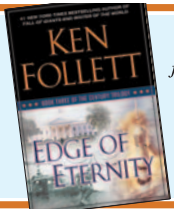

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NATION

RALPH FRESO/AP

Steven Martinez, of Western Towing, prepares to lift a vehicle stranded in about 2 feet of water in Phoenix on Monday as record-breaking rainfall flooded several Phoenix-area freeways and local streets.

Storm floods Phoenix

2 die in vehicles during a record-breaking rainfall

BY PAUL DAVENPORT AND BOB CHRISTIE
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Joseph Friend was driving his blue Chevrolet S-10 pickup onto Interstate 10 early Monday when a huge wave of floodwater kicked up by a big rig truck pushed his truck off the highway.

The 47-year-old Phoenix man was among more than two dozen motorists whose vehicles were swamped and left submerged in up to 4 feet of water following record-breaking rainfall that hit Phoenix on Monday.

They were the lucky ones. At least two people died when floodwaters swept away their vehicles in southern Arizona.

A woman died after her car was swept away and became trapped against a bridge in Tucson, and a 76-year-old woman drowned when her husband tried to drive across a flooded wash in Pinal County south of Phoenix.

The rain was caused by the remnants of Hurricane Norbert pushing into the desert Southwest. Phoenix recorded record rainfall for a single day, turning freeways into small lakes and sending rescuers scrambling to get drivers out of inundated cars.

Parts of Nevada also saw downpours, and 190 people from an Indian reservation about 50 miles northeast of Last Vegas was evacuated after more than 4 inches of rain fell on the rural, sparsely populated community of Moapa, pushing the Virgin River to near-flood stage.

Some homes have been damaged in flooding, which was expected to continue posing a threat overnight. It's unclear how many homes were damaged or remained at risk.

Closures on Interstate 15, the main route from Las Vegas to Salt Lake City, backed up drivers, damaged the roadway and washed away some vehicles, though no serious injuries have been reported.

Strong thunderstorms also wreaked havoc in Southern California's deserts. Rescue crews answered more than 40 flood-related calls about stranded cars during the Monday morning commute in the La Quinta and Indian Wells areas near Palm Springs, Riverside County fire spokeswoman Jody Hagemann said. Numerous cars got stuck in high water on roads north and south of Interstate 10 in Coachella Valley, said Mike Radford, public information officer for the Indio CHP office.

College savings increasing

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The good news is that Americans are saving more than ever for college. The bad news is that the average amount still isn't enough to cover one year at a four-year public university.

In a report released Tuesday, the College Savings Plans Network found that the average college savings or prepaid tuition account is now worth about $20,671 — almost double what these "529" accounts were worth during the dog-days of the recession.

Called a 529 after a section in the federal tax code, the investment accounts are popular because the money grows tax-free and withdrawals aren't taxed so long as the money is used for college expenses.

The group, which tracks the state-sponsored savings plans, attributes the increase to several factors including a healthier stock market and improved economy, as well as greater consumer awareness of 529 plans and a growing concern among parents of the cost of higher education. According to the report, contributions to 529 plans jumped from $16.5 billion in 2009 to $22.5 billion.

At the same time, the $20,671 figure still wouldn't cover a single year at most schools. The average cost for a four-year public school, including room and board, is about $18,391 a year for in-state students and $31,701 for those from out of state.

4th American with Ebola is due in US to get treatment

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — A fourth American who contracted Ebola in West Africa was expected to arrive in the U.S. for care Tuesday and will be treated at an Atlanta hospital where two other aid workers successfully recovered from the disease, the hospital said Monday.

Air Force spokesman Lt. Col. James Wilson said the patient, as in past cases, would be flown into Dobbins Air Reserve Base outside Atlanta. Emory University Hospital said in a news release that the patient would be treated there but cited confidentiality in not releasing more information about the person.

The World Health Organization said one of its doctors who has been working in an Ebola treatment center in Sierra Leone has tested positive for the disease. It said the doctor was in stable condition Monday in Freetown and will be evacuated. The State Department said the doctor was from the U.S.

Last month, two aid workers who contracted Ebola while working in Liberia were treated successfully at Emory. A third patient, an American doctor, who is being treated in Nebraska, appeared to be better tolerating his experimental treatments Monday, but his recovery remains uncertain.

Authorities say roughly 2,100 people have died during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, but Ebola hasn't been confirmed as the cause of all those deaths.

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CRISIS IN UKRAINE

Photos by Sergei Grits/AP

A pro-Russia rebel stands next to pieces of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 near the village of Rozsypne, eastern Ukraine, on Tuesday.

Dutch report: MH17 hit by 'high-energy objects'

By Mike Corder
The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was likely struck by multiple "high-energy objects from outside the aircraft," causing it to break up over eastern Ukraine, a preliminary report into the deadly aviation disaster concluded Tuesday.

The report by the Dutch Safety Board stopped short of saying the Boeing 777 was shot down by a missile, but its findings appear to point to that conclusion. It also did not say who might have been responsible.

The Boeing 777 suddenly plunged out of the sky July 17 over territory held by pro-Russia rebels in Ukraine, killing all 298 passengers and crew on board.

"The damage observed in the forward section of the aircraft appears to indicate that the aircraft was penetrated by a large number of high-energy objects from outside the aircraft," the report said. "It is likely that this damage resulted in a loss of structural integrity of the aircraft, leading to an in-flight break up."

The board is leading the international investigation into the cause of the disaster. Its full report is expected within a year of the crash.

"The initial results of the investigation point toward an external cause of the MH17 crash," the board's chairman, Tjibbe Joustra, said in a statement. "More research will be necessary to determine the cause with greater precision. The Safety Board believes that additional evidence will become available for investigation in the period ahead."

A commemorative wreath lies at the foot of a cross near the wreckage of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 on Tuesday.

Christopher Yates, an aviation safety specialist at Yates Consulting, told The Associated Press the report "is extremely consistent with damage from a missile for the simple reason there are penetration marks.

"It must have been moving at very high velocity to create the damage," he said. "It could only be a missile of the type that would reach the altitude that would have struck the aircraft, potentially a Buk missile.

He said the report gave no indication whether the missile had been fired from the ground or from another aircraft, but it likely came from the ground as there were no military aircraft known to have been flying at the time. The missile could not have been shoulder-fired because it would not have reached the necessary altitude, he added.

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak welcomed the report, saying in a written statement that its key conclusion "leads to the strong suspicion that a surface-to-air missile brought MH17 down, but further investigative work is needed before we can be certain."

Because of the ongoing conflict between pro-Russia rebels and Ukrainian forces, investigators from the board have not visited the fields where the wreckage of Flight 17 plunged to the ground. That likely contributed to the board's cautious assessment of what happened.

The cockpit voice recorder "revealed no signs of any technical faults or an emergency situation," the Safety Board said. "Neither were any warning tones heard in the cockpit that might have pointed to technical problems."

Pro-Russia rebels officially deny having shot down the plane.

They maintained that line Tuesday, with Alexander Zakharchenko, a top rebel commander in Donetsk, quoted by Russian newspaper Kommersant as saying that "we simply don't have the technology that would have allowed us to shoot down the Malaysian plane."

Putin pins his hopes on Ukraine cease-fire

By Vladimir Isachenkov
The Associated Press

ANALYSIS

MOSCOW — Ukraine's last cease-fire collapsed quickly. This one may last — because it's in Russian President Vladimir Putin's interests.

Putin's goal of keeping Ukraine in Russia's orbit remains the same. But recent battlefield gains by pro-Russia rebels mean that Moscow has the upper hand in peace talks that will help determine Ukraine's future.

From the onset of the Ukrainian crisis, Putin's objective has been to secure enough autonomy for Ukraine's Russian-speaking east that the region can keep its close ties to Russia — and to prevent Ukraine from ever joining NATO.

In March, after Ukraine ousted its pro-Russia president, Moscow annexed the Ukrainian peninsula of Crimea. But while many in Ukraine and the West fear Putin wants to seize more land, that doesn't seem to be his preferred option. If he wanted to grab more land in Ukraine, he could have easily done so.

Putin apparently has calculated that the price would be too high, both because of the devastating economic punishment the West would impose and because of the need to spend tens of billions of dollars to support eastern Ukraine. With the Russian economy in recession, that's a liability the Kremlin can't afford.

Putin has opted for a more devious course.

He may have hoped that the pro-Russia mutiny that broke out in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions in April would force Kiev to make compromises and offer the rebel regions broader powers. If so, that was a miscalculation.

Kiev didn't compromise, and the West slapped several waves of sanctions on Moscow, brushing aside the Kremlin's denials that it was fomenting the rebellion with soldiers and weapons. Meanwhile, Ukraine's military operation against the rebels, hesitant at first, steadily gained momentum and by late August had driven the rebels into a corner.

Putin couldn't afford to see the insurgents defeated, and the rebel counteroffensive sharply turned the tide, raising the prospect of Ukraine losing more territory and making Kiev more interested in negotiations.

Ukraine and the West accused Russia of sending thousands of regular troops into Ukraine to spearhead the rebel onslaught. Putin reportedly countered in a phone conversation with European Commission chief Jose Manuel Barroso, saying if he had wanted an invasion, he could have taken the Ukrainian capital in two weeks.

He probably could have.

Ukrainian troops — weakened by two decades of insufficient funding and rampant graft and demoralized by the string of rebel gains — would be unlikely to mount a serious resistance in the face of a full-fledged invasion by the Russian army, which has undergone an extensive weapons modernization program and conducted large-scale maneuvers to enhance troops' coordination.

The United States and other NATO members have made it clear they wouldn't engage Russia militarily, and any weapons they might offer would take months of training for Ukrainian troops, rendering them irrelevant. That leaves sanctions as the only tool available to stem a Russian onslaught.

But by brokering a cease-fire, Putin has made it clear that he doesn't want to go down that road — for now.

The one-page, 12-point cease-fire deal looks vague and fragile. It doesn't specify the current front lines, and doesn't say what status the rebel provinces may get.

While Putin and Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko may have reached a preliminary understanding on what a political compromise could look like, putting it on paper will be extremely challenging, particularly in the run-up to Ukraine's parliamentary elections in October.

The Kremlin can count on two things — the insurgency, and Ukraine's hobbled economy — to make Kiev reckon with Moscow's demands. Putin appears to be betting that it will

If it doesn't, he has made clear that the military option will remain on the table.

Donetsk hit by shells during cease-fire

KIEV, Ukraine — Shelling continued overnight in eastern Ukraine despite a cease-fire, injuring one woman, the Donetsk city council said Tuesday.

The council for the rebel-held stronghold said a school and several residential buildings were hit by shelling, imperiling the already shaky cease-fire between pro-Russia rebels and Ukrainian forces.

Meanwhile, Col. Andriy Lysenko, spokesman for the Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council, said Tuesday that five servicemen had been injured and 33 wounded since the cease-fire was declared Friday.

Despite the reported violations, Russian officials on Tuesday sounded hopeful and said that the cease-fire presents an opportunity for a political settlement.

At a news conference in Moscow, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Russia is aware of the reports of infringements but referred to his conversations with both the pro-Russia separatists and the Ukrainian government, saying that they are committed to adhering to the cease-fire.

From The Associated Press

WORLD

In Liberia, Ebola cases growing 'exponentially'

By Brady Dennis
The Washington Post

In Liberia's capital of Monrovia, taxis filled with families crisscross the city, searching in vain for a facility with space to treat loved ones infected with the Ebola virus. Children orphaned by the disease and shunned by other relatives have nowhere to go. The government's main hospital is plagued by floods and electrical fires, and several employees have succumbed to Ebola.

That grim picture, detailed Monday by the World Health Organization, is poised to become even bleaker. The number of Ebola cases in Liberia, the country hit hardest by the outbreak, is "increasing exponentially," the agency said, adding that the country's needs "have completely outstripped the government's and partners' capacity to respond."

The WHO's description of the situation in Liberia echoed the warnings of aid groups such as Doctors Without Borders: that the outbreak is accelerating rapidly and slipping further out of control by the day. In Liberia, thousands of new cases are expected in coming weeks, the agency said.

A team of emergency experts dispatched by the WHO to assess the situation in Liberia recently found a country overwhelmed by the crisis.

"As soon as a new Ebola treatment facility is opened, it immediately fills to overflowing with patients, pointing to a large but previously invisible caseload," the WHO wrote in its assessment Monday. "When patients are turned away at Ebola treatment centers, they have no choice but to return to their communities and homes, where they inevitably infect others."

When a treatment center was hastily set up by the WHO for Liberia's health ministry, for example, it had room for 30 patients but received more than 70 as soon as the doors opened. In Montserrado County, where Monrovia is located, the WHO estimated the need for treatment beds at 1,000; only 240 exist.

It remained unclear when and how more Ebola treatment facilities would be established and who might be willing to staff them.

The Pentagon announced on Monday that it would set up a 25-bed field hospital in Liberia to help provide medical care for health workers responding to the epidemic. A Defense Department representative said the $22 million hospital is being provided at the request of the U.S. Agency for International Development, which is coordinating the U.S. response.

Defense Department personnel will not be permanently stationed at the facility, and after the hospital is established it will be transferred to the government of Liberia, the representative said. The news marked a first step in President Barack Obama's pledge over the weekend to use U.S. military assets to fight the outbreak in West Africa.

AP

Tourists and Parisians take advantage of Paris Plages, an artificial beach set up on the right bank of the Seine river in Paris with palm trees, outdoor showers and hammocks, on Aug. 5.

French bid 'adieu' to topless sunbathing

The Associated Press

PARIS — France's summer is fast becoming a memory, and so is one of its iconic beach sights: the topless woman.

As few as 2 percent of French women 35 and younger now say they want to bare their breasts, according to an Elle magazine poll this summer. It's a far cry from the once-ubiquitous scenes of semi-nudity on the French Riviera, epitomized by 1960s blond bombshell Brigitte Bardot.

"It's seen as vulgar. People are more prudish these days," said Muriel Trazie, 60, keeping her breasts out of the public eye while sunning herself on Paris Plages, the French capital's summer beach.

Sandra Riahi, 22, in a bikini, chimed in: "I've never done it. I'd be too embarrassed."

In the 1960s, it took a country like France to make feminism sexy — and women did it by going topless on the beach. Men don't have to wear bikini tops, so why should we? the feminists cried. The boundary-breaking became risque trend-setting — when photos of La Bardot posing topless in the Cote d'Azur were beamed around the world.

Some link the demise of "le topless" to a simple change in French fashion styles — with a recent trend for full swimsuits, and ones that accentuate the bottom. But sociologists claim that the trend should be taken more seriously, with some suggesting that French women have forgotten the achievements of feminism.

UN: CO2 pollution levels hit record high in '13

The Associated Press

GENEVA — Carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere reached a record high in 2013 as increasing levels of man-made pollution transform the planet, the U.N. weather agency said Tuesday.

In an annual report, the World Meteorological Organization said carbon dioxide, the heat-trapping gas blamed for the largest share of global warming, rose to global concentrations of 396 parts per million last year, the biggest year-to-year change in three decades.

That's an increase of 2.9 ppm from the previous year — and is 42 percent higher than before the Industrial Age, when levels were about 280 parts per million. The 2012 level was up 2.2 ppm from a year earlier.

"We know without any doubt that our climate is changing and our weather is becoming more extreme due to human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels," said WMO Secretary-General Michel Jarraud. "Time is not on our side, for sure."

The report also said the rate of ocean acidification, which comes from added carbon absorbed by oceans, "appears unprecedented at least over the last 300 million years."

What happens if Scots vote for independence?

By Martin Benedyk and Danica Kirka
The Associated Press

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED, England — All Gavin Jones has to do is scan the shelves of his impossibly quaint shop on England's border with Scotland to know he'll have a big problem if the Scots declare independence next week.

There are teddy bears in Campbell clan tartans and shelves of shortbread from Scotland — just above the red jams made in England. After independence, the Scottish goods would be subject to import duties, and customers would likely pay in two different currencies. Business in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England's northernmost town, could soon be crushed by bank transaction costs.

"If Scotland chooses independence, it changes our concept of local," he said. "There are then barriers put in place."

While the Sept. 18 referendum may alter the balance of power in British politics, increase the likelihood that the U.K. will leave the European Union and weaken the nation's economy and currency, the people of England, Wales and Northern Ireland will have no say in the outcome. Only residents of Scotland are eligible to cast ballots.

Constitutional chaos. Britain's left-leaning Labour Party would be the biggest political victim of independence — it is often joked there are more pandas in Edinburgh's zoo than there are Conservative Party lawmakers in Scotland. Scottish voters elected 41 Labour members of Parliament in the 2010 election and only one Conservative.

If the next general election due in May were held today, eliminating Scottish votes would give Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservatives a 37-seat majority win.

That could drag Britain toward yet another high-stakes vote — on whether the country as a whole should leave the EU. Cameron has promised a referendum to appease voters concerned about immigration and meddling by bureaucrats in Brussels. Scotland has been very pro-EU, so losing its votes would weaken the camp that wants Britain to stay.

Leaving the EU could have huge consequences for Britain. The EU guarantees freedom of movement for people, goods and money, a big advantage for companies that want to do business across the bloc, which with its 500 million people is the world's largest combined economy.

Financial unknowns. More immediately, the loss of Scotland could hurt Britain through the amount of financial uncertainty it would generate over the next 18 months — the time it would take Scotland to sever its ties with Britain. During that period, policymakers would have to agree on whether Scotland would continue to use the pound as its currency as well as how to split British public debt and North Sea oil revenue.

The currency question is the murkiest. While independence leaders say they will continue to use the pound, politicians in London have ruled out a currency union.

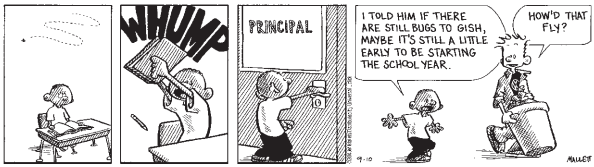
"It would be a fairly long 18 months," said Monique Ebell, an economist at the National Institute of Economic and Social Research.

Because the result of the talks would affect the value of the pound, foreign investors in Britain could delay big decisions — opening a factory, for example, or hiring new staff — until a time when they can better gauge the risks and costs.

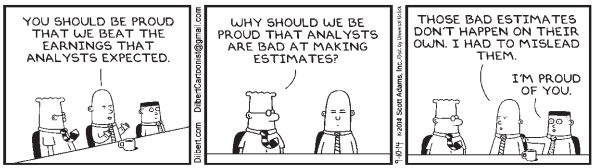
Kevin Daly, Goldman Sachs' chief U.K. economist, said that uncertainty about the pound's future value could trigger a run on the currency. The Bank of England is working on contingency plans to manage the pound in the event of a Yes vote.

The potential for trouble was made clear Monday, when the pound nosedived after a poll showed the No campaign had lost its lead. The pound shed 2 cents to trade at $1.6130, the lowest since November.

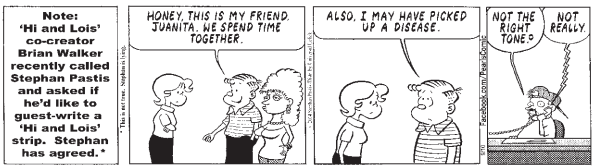
Frazz



Dilbert

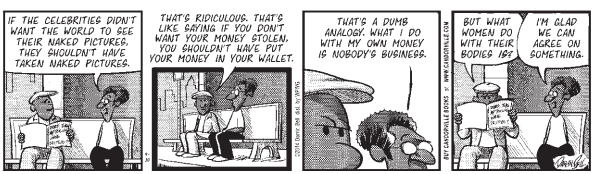


Pearls Before Swine

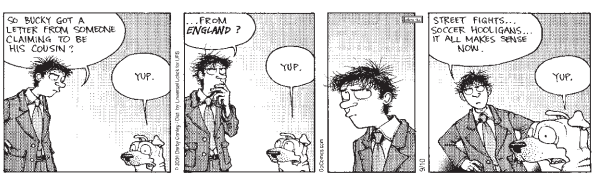


Non Sequitur

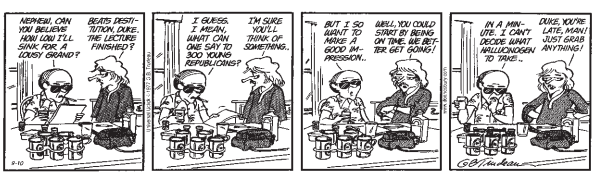
Candorville



Get Fuzzy

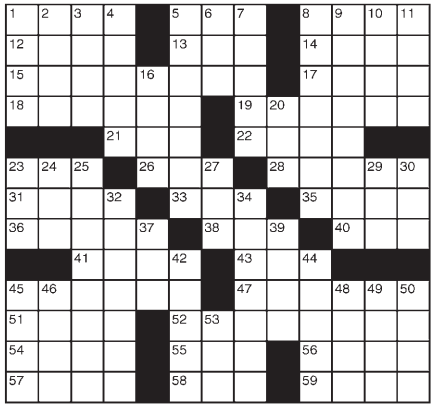


Doonesbury



Fort Knox

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

1 Walesa of Poland
5 Young man
8 Request earnestly
12 Sore
13 Flightless bird
14 Crazy
15 St. Patrick's Day symbol
17 Beige
18 Opine rudely
19 Hears reveille
21 Hot tub
22 Obi
23 Scrooge's interjection
26 Curved path
28 Long
31 Caspian feeder
33 Wall Street stat, with "The"
35 Colorless
36 Barber's tool
38 Apprehend
40 Last mo.
41 Entrance
43 Ailing
45 Yell "You're not funny!"
47 One whose job suits you?
51 Historic periods
52 Fine wool
54 American Beauty, e.g.
55 Past
56 Rosary component
57 Arthur of tennis
58 Corral
59 Scandinavian city

DOWN

1 Whip
2 Reverberate
3 Burn somewhat
4 Choir's repertoire
5 "Get Shorty" author
6 "Breaking Bad" network
7 "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" composer
8 Happy
9 Solid, as abs
10 Farm fraction
11 Annie Lennox's "No More I Love —"
16 Strahan co-host
20 Method
23 Clear the tables
24 Illustrations
25 Ready money
27 Swindle
29 "Norma —"
30 Peacock's home?
32 Quick glance
34 Serves
37 D.C. figure
39 Mediocre
42 Summary
44 Pole dance?
45 Mrs. Zeus
46 Cupid's alias
48 Dregs
49 Exam format
50 Make over
53 Time of your life?

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	A	N	G		A	B	C		P	I	C	A
I	R	O	N		P	R	O		E	D	E	N
P	E	T	U	N	I	A	S		T	E	N	T
S	S	E		A	N	D		O	R	A	T	E
			P	I	G		T	W	O			
R	E	B	E	L		M	I	L	L	I	O	N
E	M	I	T		T	O	P		E	R	N	E
D	U	B	U	Q	U	E		N	U	K	E	D
			L	E	X		D	I	M			
S	T	E	A	D		H	I	S		M	P	G
H	Y	M	N		P	E	T	I	T	I	O	N
E	P	I	C		A	R	C		O	K	R	A
D	E	L	E		D	O	H		M	E	E	T

9-10 CRYPTOQUIP

Q B N R S E B L K B N T S H J B H M H J U B E R E Z R C C U T C Y E V R X B P V K J C B V T H Y J P X, K B ' C C E B P M R Z B E E R X B J P R Q B B L C B.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'D LIKE TO POUND SOME GRASSLIKE MARSH PLANTS INTO THE GROUND, SO I'LL USE A SEDGE-HAMMER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals L

Museum in Mississippi offers laughter, surprises

BY ROGELIO V. SOLIS
The Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss.

Within a few steps of the Mississippi Children's Museum, there are squeals of laughter and excitement.

Inside the interactive, 40,000-square-foot facility, children are encouraged to read and learn about health and nutrition and the state's key industries.

One exhibit at the Jackson museum includes a Nissan Altima chassis that lets children closely explore the inner workings of the car, which is built in Mississippi. There are also hands-on exhibits for construction, timber management and oil exploration.

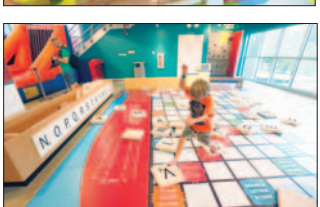
Children have a farmers market full of fruits and vegetables to teach them about healthy eating, and they can play in the "gastro climber," exploring the digestive system from start to finish. The more adventurous can make a skeleton dance by moving joints as they learn about a healthy body.

The newest exhibit, the Literacy Garden, lets children try drawing or writing a story on a creativity wall. They can climb into a tree house, take shelter in a fairytale mushroom forest or play in dancing water stations.

Blair Whittle, 9, of Philadelphia, tries her hand at "milking" a cow at the Mississippi Children's Museum in Jackson, Miss.

PHOTOS BY ROGELIO V. SOLIS/AP

Loving & learning



Clockwise from left: A young visitor listens to the tale being played by the giant mushroom in the Literacy Garden; Julius Sessoms, 5, of Jacksonville, N.C., adjusts a truck and trailer; children "fish" along a Mississippi waterway; and Maston Johnson, 5, of Tampa, Fla., leaps across the oversized Scrabble board after spelling out his name.

WIRED WORLD

Keeping tabs on the family

Apps for iPhone let parents track teens without calls home

By Olga Kharif
Bloomberg News

Becca Ludlum knows better than to expect her teen son to call home as he skateboards from the mall to the park to friends' homes on long summer days.

Ludlum instead relies on a downloadable smartphone application called Life360 that uses satellite signals to follow Michael's comings and goings.

"If he's late to dinner, I can check where he is," said Ludlum, 36, a blogger from Tucson, Ariz. "He is not going to call me every time he gets somewhere — he gets embarrassed."

As teens in growing numbers adopt smartphones with global positioning system technology, they're easier to keep tabs on using mobile apps like Life360. The rising tide of tracker apps creates a host of new ways for families to stay connected and to coordinate schedules even as it heightens concerns about young people's privacy.

The percentage of 13- to 17-year-olds using mobile phones rose to 70 percent last year from 58 percent in 2012, according to Nielsen. A reflection of the rising number of kids on phones, Life360, Glympse, TWT Digital's ZoeMob and other developers of location-monitoring software have seen downloads jump at least 50 percent this year. Apple's iPhone also comes with a widely used location feature called Find My Friends.

"Even small children are getting smartphones, and that, of course, expands the addressable market significantly," Andre Malm, an analyst at Berg Insight, said of the market for location-based apps.

About 25 million people in North America used location services daily at the end of last year, according to Berg Insight. That number could double to 50 million by 2018 as more free apps come out and smartphone use grows, the Gothenburg, Sweden-based researcher said.

"The big prize is to own the family network," Alex Haro, president of San Francisco-based Life360, said in an interview. "Families are the last real-world network that haven't gone online yet."

Introduced four years ago, Life360 is adding 2 million new users per month, and just passed 100 million members, up from 63 million at the end of 2013. ZoeMob has notched up 2.3 million downloads this year, for a total of 7.3 million. Glympse, based in Seattle, has experienced its fastest growth in the past four months since the app debuted in 2009, according to Chief Executive Officer Bryan Trussel.

Part of the growth is being fueled by parents handing down their old phones and cheaper prices for smartphones, making them more available for children. The average selling price for smartphones is projected to decline to $260 in 2018 from $308 this year, according to researcher IDC.

Smartwatches and other wearable devices also could spur wider use of tracking apps, with companies including LG Electronics and VTech Holdings already rolling out products designed for children. Apple is said to be working on a smartwatch as well.

Sensing an opportunity, venture capital is moving in. Glympse raised $12 million in June from Ignition Partners, Verizon Ventures and other investors. Security company ADT led a $50 million financing round in Life360 in May. AutoNavi Holdings, a Chinese map software company being acquired by Alibaba Group Holding, bought Alohar Mobile, a startup that introduced a new family-tracking app called PlaceUs on July 23. Sao Paulo-based TWT Digital just raised an undisclosed amount of funding in a recent round.

"When you think about families, we haven't scratched the surface," Daniel Avizu, TWT Digital's CEO, said in an interview. "It's a huge market, and there's a lot of space for everybody to grow."

Because family-tracking software keeps data on identities and exact locations, privacy controls are a key consideration for developers of the programs. Most apps let users turn their location-monitoring on and off, and require them to go through an extensive opt-in process.

The apps are also designed so that only a predefined group of users can access individual locations, rather than making tracking data publicly available.

"People don't value their privacy that highly and don't think through the implications," Roger Entner, founder of researcher Recon Analytics, said in an interview.

Location apps are also going up against wireless carriers, which already offer tracking services for customers as add-ons to mobile phone and data plans. AT&T and Verizon Communications charge $10 per month for similar services, generating as much $120 million in additional revenue for themselves and other carriers in North America last year, according to Berg Insight.

The tracking apps, which use satellite data and other data to pinpoint locations, are usually free and offer additional features for a cost. While they could siphon sales from wireless providers, the apps could also boost data usage. Verizon, whose venture arm invested in Glympse, is betting that location apps can help the carrier sell more data plans, Haro said.

"What is important to Verizon is to provide the customers with what they want," said Laura Merritt, a spokeswoman for New York-based Verizon.

Premium features also enable uses that go beyond finding out where family members are. Parents can receive alerts if a teen driver is exceeding speed limits, and users can get emergency help or contact a personal assistant.

"Our goal isn't just to track your children, but your pets, your elderly parents, your car," said Michal Stencl, CEO of Sygic, which develops several location apps for finding people, measuring speeds or monitoring traffic.

By linking up with automobiles, wearable devices and home-security systems, family-tracking app companies are betting that they will be able to help users manage all facets of their lives. Life360 is working with ADT on using people-tracking to improve home security, for example.

"If the entire family leaves the house, we can automatically power the security system, turn off the lights and close the garage door," Life360's Haro said.

Courtesy of Glympse/Bloomberg News

Among a rising tide of tracker apps allowing families to stay apprised of their children's whereabouts, Glympse has experienced its fastest growth in the past four months since the app debuted in 2009.

Life360 is adding 2 million new users per month, and just passed 100 million users, up from 63 million at the end of last year.

Courtesy of Life360/ Bloomberg News

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Fossil damaged at dinosaur monument

UT JENSEN — Rangers are searching for leads after someone damaged a fossil at Dinosaur National Monument along the Utah-Colorado line.

The National Park Service said a ranger leading a guided tour Tuesday discovered damage to the fossilized humerus bone of a sauropod dinosaur and removal of part of the bone.

The fossil is among those located along the 1.2-mile Fossil Discovery Trail that runs between the Quarry Visitor Center and the Quarry Exhibit Hall, where a famous wall of about 1,500 dinosaur bones is located.

All fossils in the monument are protected and may not be collected.

A $750 reward is being offered for information leading to a conviction in the case.

Restaurant offers big burrito reward

MN MINNEAPOLIS — A Minneapolis restaurant is offering a lifetime of free burritos to whoever identifies the vandal who spray-painted its catering van.

World Street Kitchen owner Sameh Wadi said Sunday he's gotten multiple leads and hundreds of retweets since announcing the unusual reward on Twitter and Facebook on Friday. He said his staff found the white van covered in black and silver graffiti Friday morning.

Wadi said he has filed a police report and is waiting for more information on his suspects before giving authorities their names. Other vans and a wall in the area have been painted with the same tags.

Minneapolis police say they're investigating the vandalism.

Attempt to oust bees sparks house fire

NJ WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP — A New Jersey resident's attempt to get rid of bees sparked a house fire and left 10 firefighters with bee stings.

The resident had dumped hot coals into the backyard of the Washington Township home in Mercer County to try to get the bees to leave their hive Sunday afternoon.

Deputy Chief Dan Schaffener told the Times of Trenton the coals ignited a mulch pile, which caused the flames to spread to the rear of the home and into the attic.

It took firefighters about 25 minutes to extinguish the flames.

Expert sees fall foliage perfection on schedule

CT NEW HAVEN — A horticulture expert says Connecticut could have a perfect fall foliage. Unless it rains.

The New Haven Register reported that Jeff Ward, chief scientist of Forestry and Horticulture for the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, said the leaves look pretty good so far. He said there's been enough rain to keep them healthy with potential for a "spectacular fall" but that the colors could be dulled if it rains for several days or even if there's a steady drizzle that leeches out the color.

The fall foliage cycle is on schedule in Connecticut, with October the month for leaf-peeping. Ward said the first week of October is peak for northwest Connecticut, the second week for the central area and the third week for the shoreline.

City officials to consider nudity ban

KS TOPEKA — The Topeka City Council will consider making public nudity a misdemeanor offense.

The Topeka Capital-Journal reported the proposal to be considered Tuesday was prompted by people reporting that a man was walking nude in south central Topeka.

The ban would not apply to children younger than 10 or a woman breastfeeding her child.

State law and city ordinances do not ban public nudity, although state law prohibits it in the context of sexual arousal.

The proposed ordinance would impose penalties only when someone intentionally violates the ban.

Store clerk fights off would-be robber

ME PORTLAND — A man trying to rob a South Portland convenience store got more than he bargained for when the clerk fought back, wrestled him to the floor and put him in a chokehold until police arrived.

Police say a masked suspect entered the Circle K store just before 6 a.m. Saturday and demanded cash. He went behind the counter and kept his hand under his hoodie, suggesting he had a weapon.

When the suspect grabbed the clerk's arm, he fought back, and with the help of a customer, held the thief until police arrived.

Police arrested Ronald Castrello, 45, on a robbery charge.

The clerk's name wasn't released.

Police said they usually advise store workers to comply with robbers, but in this case, the clerk was cornered and had no choice.

Famous Washington painting to be restored

DC WASHINGTON — One of the most famous portraits of George Washington will soon get a high-tech examination and a face lift of sorts with its first major conservation treatment in decades.

The National Portrait Gallery has begun planning the conservation and digital analysis of the full-length "Lansdowne" portrait of the first president that was painted by Gilbert Stuart in 1796. Work will begin in 2016 to delicately remove a yellowed varnish to reveal its true colors. They will use digital X-rays and infrared imagery to examine the artist's work beneath the surface.

Bank of America provided a recent grant to fund the project.

Officials said it is part of a "refreshing" of the galleries that hold the presidential portraits to eventually give more historical information about each president's achievements, challenges and events in office.

Worker fired for jury duty gets job back

MN MINNEAPOLIS — A federal judge helped a woman get her job back after she was fired for having jury duty.

Lana Wallace told her boss when she showed up for a new job at Zion Early Childhood Center in Hopkins on July 28 that she was on call for federal jury duty beginning in August. She was sent home the same day, then fired.

When Chief U.S. District Judge Michael Davis found out, he appointed an attorney from a large Minneapolis law firm to help her, noting that federal law prohibits firings because of jury duty.

Attorney William Manning wrote to the minister of the church that runs the day care.

Wallace was rehired with back pay on Aug. 22.

The Rev. Randall Neal acknowledged the church made a mistake.

From wire reports

THE CENSUS

2 **The number of rare albino lobsters caught by two lobstermen in Maine** within a week. Bret Philbrick caught a curious crustacean off Owls Head on Thursday and Joe Bates caught one off the Rockland breakwater days earlier. Albino lobsters are believed to be about one in 100 million. One will go to the Maine State Aquarium in Boothbay Harbor and the other to Brooks Trap Mill in Thomaston. Bates also caught a one-in-30 million yellow lobster.

RONALD W. ERDRICH, THE ABILENE (TEXAS) REPORTER-NEWS/AP

A wild, woolly ride

Ravin Wright holds tightly as her sheep gallops away from the chute during Mutton Busting Sunday at the West Texas Fair & Rodeo in Abilene, Texas. More than 175 children participated in Sunday's event. Finalists were to compete again during the rodeo later in the week.

FACES

Screenshot from Instagram

James Franco sports a fake tattoo of actors Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift on the back of his shaved head for an upcoming movie role.

Bald Franco turns heads at Venice

The Associated Press

James Franco was hailed as a visionary filmmaker as his latest directorial effort screened at the Venice Film Festival on Friday. But everyone was talking about his head.

The unpredictable actor-director has shaved off his hair for his role as a movie obsessive in "Zeroville," and appeared on the red carpet with a fake tattoo of Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift on the back of his head.

Franco was given the festival's "Glory to the Filmmaker Award" in recognition of his work, and used the ceremony to shoot scenes for the new, '70s-set film. He was filmed taking the stage in front of a sign for the 35th Venice Film Festival, which took place in 1977.

Franco told the AP the movie — adapted from Steve Erickson's novel — was about "a guy who is so enamored with movies that they become a religion to him." It follows his quixotic journey through 1970s and '80s Hollywood, and includes a scene set at a film festival.

Franco's William Faulkner adaptation "The Sound and the Fury" screened out-of-competition at this year's Venice festival.

St. Vincent's big year

Musician adds Black Keys tour to chart success, 'SNL,' Nirvana gig

By David Bauder
The Associated Press

St. Vincent, the stage name for singer-songwriter Annie Clark, continues a big year with a full autumn of touring, including a plum slot opening for the Black Keys. Her fourth album, "St. Vincent," had her highest Billboard chart debut (No. 12), she played on the season finale of "Saturday Night Live" and filled in for Kurt Cobain at Nirvana's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction. She's turning heads — not just her own — at concerts.

Clark, 31, complements her guitar playing with simple yet odd stage choreography, often in unison with keyboard player Toko Yasuda: head swivels, leverlike arm movements and skittering, birdlike movements across the stage in high heels.

The sense of whimsy most obviously recalls David Byrne. Clark has recorded and toured with the former Talking Heads frontman, and both work with choreographer Annie-B Parson. People who first saw St. Vincent perform on "SNL" were intrigued or bewildered. A small number hated it, Clark said.

"I like a little bit of mischief," she said.

St. Vincent begins a 14-date U.S. tour Friday in Raleigh, N.C., then heads overseas for a 33-date schedule that ends in Lisbon before coming back to the States to open arena gigs for the Black Keys in December. The big mystery is how fans of the two-piece blues rockers will respond to Clark's act.

"Devo is one of my favorite bands, and there are things about her show that remind (me) of them in the best possible way," said Black Keys drummer Patrick Carney. "I am sure the crowds are going to be very into her show. I know when she played 'SNL' some people didn't get it. But when Devo played in 1978 I am sure there were plenty of people totally baffled as well."

While the arty, angular music on "St. Vincent," where Clark's guitar sails on a sea of synths, is reminiscent of the 1980s, many of Clark's musical heroes are rooted in jazz (John Coltrane) or 1990s rock: PJ Harvey, Sonic Youth and Nirvana.

That made it particularly meaningful when the surviving Nirvana members decided to invite female vocalists, including Clark, to fill in for Cobain.

"It was intimidating in terms of my own affection for Nirvana and wanting to honor the legacy as best I could," she said.

St. Vincent rocks the Pitchfork Music Festival on July 19 in Chicago.

Barry Brecheisen, Invision/AP

Charles Sykes, Invision/AP

Neil Patrick Harris, left, and David Burtka tied the knot over the weekend.

Neil Patrick Harris gets married in Italy

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West aren't the only ones who got married this year in Italy. So did Neil Patrick Harris and David Burtka.

The "How I Met Your Mother" star and his actor-chef groom were married Saturday in Italy. They'd been dating for 10 years and are parents to 3-year-old twins, Gideon and Harper. The grooms wore custom Tom Ford tuxedos and Elton John performed at the reception.

"Yup, we put the 'n' and 'd' in 'husband,'" Harris tweeted Monday. His publicist confirmed the news.

Harris, 41, just won a Tony Award for his role in "Hedwig and the Angry Inch." He has been in several Broadway productions, including "Assassins," "Proof" and as the exuberant master of ceremonies in "Cabaret."

Burtka, 39, played Tulsa in the Bernadette Peters-led revival of "Gypsy," and is also a chef.

"How I Met Your Mother" producer Pam Fryman officiated. Same-sex marriages are not allowed in Italy so it was not legally binding in that country.

The next celebrity couple to pick Italy to marry is George Clooney and human rights lawyer Amal Alamuddin, who will tie the knot in Venice in a couple of weeks.

From The Associated Press

CBS chooses British actor Corden to replace Ferguson

The Associated Press

British actor James Corden will replace Craig Ferguson as host of "The Late Late Show" on CBS next year, part of a complete overhaul of the network's late-night talk show lineup put in motion by the impending retirement of David Letterman.

Corden

The network said Monday it had picked Corden, who won a Tony Award in 2012 for his role in the play "One Man, Two Guvnors" and appears in the movie "Begin Again" with Keira Knightley and Mark Ruffalo. Corden is also in the upcoming film "Into the Woods" with Meryl Streep and Johnny Depp. He hosts a sports-oriented game show in Britain, and also acts in and writes the BBC series "The Wrong Mans."

Nina Tassler, chairman of CBS entertainment, called Corden "a rare entertainment force who combines irresistible charm, warmth and originality with a diverse range of creative instincts and performance talent."

Ferguson has hosted "The Late Late Show" for 10 years. He said he would be leaving shortly after he was passed over to be Letterman's successor, with Stephen Colbert getting that job sometime next year. Ferguson will leave the show in December, CBS said.

Other news

■ A music festival in Mobile, Ala., is canceling an appearance by singer CeeLo Green following his online comments about sexual assault. Mobile Bayfest CEO Bobby Bostwick issued a statement Monday saying Green's performance set for Oct. 4 is being called off. The statement says recent comments attributed to Green conflict with the beliefs and conscience of the music festival. Two other concerts have dropped Green, and TBS is canceling the second season of Green's reality show.

■ **Bob Dylan, Billy Joel and Willie Nelson** are among the artists performing **Paul McCartney** songs in a massive tribute to the former Beatle. Up to 42 songs are featured in "The Art of McCartney," available in various formats including a two-CD package and box set. Organizers said Tuesday that it's due out Nov. 18.

■ **Michael C. Hall's** next step is going to be a gender-bending one — the former "Dexter" star will play the rock chanteuse at the center of "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" on Broadway. Producers of the Tony Award-winning musical revival said Monday that Hall will play the German transsexual Hedwig at the Belasco Theatre starting Oct. 16, through Jan. 4. Hall will take over from Andrew Rannells, the Tony-nominated star of "The Book of Mormon" on Broadway and HBO's "Girls." Rannells replaced Tony-winner and "How I Met Your Mother" star Neil Patrick Harris.

■ **Judge Judy** is offering advice to women free of charge. Television's most popular judge is celebrating the 19th season of her syndicated show by offering her new book, "What Would Judy Say: Be the Hero of Your Own Story," for free. Instructions for receiving a downloadable copy are available at whatwouldjudysay.com.

Correction: Sons of Anarchy

In a story in the Sept. 8 edition about the FX drama "Sons of Anarchy," The Associated Press reported erroneously that a character in the series played by Katey Sagal is named Jenna. The character's name is Gemma.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Home Depot confirms data breach

By Marley Jay
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Home Depot confirmed on Monday that its payment systems have been hacked in a data breach that could affect shoppers who used credit and debit cards at its more than 2,000 U.S. and Canadian stores.

The largest U.S. home improvement chain company did not say how many cards might be affected but said its investigation into the breach goes as far back as April. The news comes a week after Home Depot said it was investigating a potential breach on Aug. 2, when a website that focuses on cybersecurity reported a possible hack.

"We apologize for the frustration and anxiety this causes our customers, and I want to thank them for their patience and support as we work through this issue," Chairman and CEO Frank Blake said in a press release.

Home Depot is the latest retailer to have a data breach. Others include Target, luxury retailer Neiman Marcus, grocer Supervalu, restaurant chain P.F. Chang's and the thrift store operations of Goodwill.

> **'From what I'm hearing ... this will be as big as Target or bigger.'**
> **John Kindervag**
> Forrester Research

In December, Target Corp. disclosed a massive data breach that was the second-largest in history, resulting in the theft of 40 million debit and credit card numbers and the potential exposure of the personal information of up to 70 million shoppers.

Forrester Research analyst John Kindervag said the Home Depot breach could affect similar numbers of shoppers or cards, noting that months' worth of data may have been compromised.

"From what I'm hearing, people think this will be as big as Target or bigger," he told The Associated Press.

The retail breaches have rattled shoppers' confidence at a time when privacy concerns are high. It's also increased pressure on retailers to raise security so customers can feel safe that their personal data is secure when they're out shopping.

Retailers, banks and card companies have responded to the breaches by speeding the adoption of microchips in U.S. credit and debit cards. That technology helps makes transactions more secure.

Home Depot, which said malware was used in the hack, has said it plans to have chip-enabled checkout terminals at all of its U.S. stores by the end of this year.

In the meantime, the Atlanta company said its IT department also is looking into the breach and is working with outside firms, its banking partners and the U.S. Secret Service. It added that customers will not be held responsible for fraudulent charges to their accounts.

The possible breach at Home Depot was first reported by Brian Krebs, of Krebs on Security, a website that focuses on cybersecurity. Krebs said multiple banks reported "evidence that Home Depot stores may be the source of a massive new batch of stolen credit and debit cards" that went on sale on the black market.

MARKET WATCH

Sept. 8, 2014

Dow Jones industrials	-25.94	17,111.42
Nasdaq composite	+9.38	4,592.29
Standard & Poor's 500	-6.17	2,001.54
Russell 2000	+2.18	1,172.31

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Euro costs (Sept. 10)	$1.3214
Dollar buys (Sept. 10)	€0.7568
British pound (Sept. 10)	$1.65
Japanese yen (Sept. 10)	103.00
South Korean won (Sept. 10)	997.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	$1.6098
Canada (Dollar)	1.1026
China (Yuan)	6.1367
Denmark (Krone)	5.7797
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	$1.2882/0.7763
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7505
Hungary (Forint)	225.93
Israel (Shekel)	3.6300
Japan (Yen)	106.22
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2864
Norway (Krone)	6.3554
Philippines (Peso)	43.73
Poland (Zloty)	3.26
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7508
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2641
South Korea (Won)	1,034.60
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9361
Thailand (Baht)	32.11
Turkey (Lira)	2.1986

(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	0.01
30-year bond	3.23

WEATHER OUTLOOK

WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE

THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Wednesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chattanooga	91	68	PCldy	Fort Wayne	79	62	Rain	Louisville	90	69	Cldy	Pocatello	69	45	Clr	Sioux City	61	59	Cldy
Abilene, Texas	97	75	PCldy	Cheyenne	57	46	Cldy	Fresno	96	65	Clr	Lubbock	88	70	PCldy	Portland, Maine	68	55	PCldy	Sioux Falls	56	54	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	81	60	Cldy	Chicago	78	68	Rain	Goodland	67	53	Cldy	Macon	91	70	PCldy	Portland, Ore.	80	55	Clr	South Bend	77	66	Rain
Albany, N.Y.	76	56	PCldy	Cincinnati	86	65	Cldy	Grand Junction	77	53	PCldy	Madison	73	65	Rain	Providence	74	60	Rain	Spokane	68	46	PCldy
Albuquerque	83	65	PCldy	Cleveland	82	62	Cldy	Grand Rapids	74	62	Rain	Medford	92	51	Clr	Pueblo	75	56	Cldy	Springfield, Ill.	81	69	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	76	59	Cldy	Colorado Springs	68	51	Cldy	Great Falls	46	32	Snow	Memphis	92	73	PCldy	Raleigh-Durham	84	65	Cldy	Springfield, Mo.	87	72	Rain
Amarillo	82	62	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	89	69	PCldy	Green Bay	71	62	Rain	Miami Beach	88	79	Rain	Rapid City	50	42	Cldy	Syracuse	79	57	PCldy
Anchorage	58	50	Rain	Columbus, Ga.	90	72	PCldy	Greensboro, N.C.	83	64	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	97	72	Clr	Reno	89	53	Clr	Tallahassee	93	72	Cldy
Asheville	80	62	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	83	63	Cldy	Harrisburg	76	61	Cldy	Milwaukee	77	66	Rain	Richmond	84	68	Cldy	Tampa	92	76	Cldy
Atlanta	87	71	PCldy	Concord, N.H.	71	52	PCldy	Hartford Spgfld	75	57	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	58	58	Rain	Roanoke	82	63	Cldy	Toledo	81	60	Rain
Atlantic City	77	67	Cldy	Corpus Christi	92	78	PCldy	Helena	53	39	Cldy	Missoula	55	42	Cldy	Rochester	81	59	PCldy	Topeka	74	71	Rain
Austin	97	76	PCldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	98	78	PCldy	Honolulu	90	75	Clr	Mobile	92	73	PCldy	Rockford	79	67	Rain	Tucson	92	73	PCldy
Baltimore	79	65	Cldy	Dayton	83	63	Rain	Houston	94	76	PCldy	Montgomery	91	73	Cldy	Sacramento	94	60	Clr	Tulsa	90	76	Cldy
Baton Rouge	94	74	PCldy	Daytona Beach	91	74	PCldy	Huntsville	90	70	PCldy	Nashville	91	69	Cldy	St Louis	86	73	Rain	Tupelo	92	70	Clr
Billings	44	38	Rain	Denver	70	51	Cldy	Indianapolis	83	66	Rain	New Orleans	91	77	PCldy	St Petersburg	90	78	Cldy	Waco	98	77	PCldy
Birmingham	89	72	Cldy	Des Moines	72	67	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	93	72	PCldy	New York City	76	63	Cldy	St Thomas	88	78	Clr	Washington	80	69	Cldy
Bismarck	52	40	Cldy	Detroit	80	64	Rain	Jacksonville	89	72	PCldy	Newark	77	64	Cldy	Salem, Ore.	81	49	Clr	W. Palm Beach	89	78	Cldy
Boise	74	48	Clr	Duluth	49	48	Rain	Juneau	60	41	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	80	72	Cldy	Salt Lake City	76	56	Clr	Wichita	78	72	Cldy
Boston	70	60	Rain	El Paso	90	70	PCldy	Kansas City	72	72	Cldy	North Platte	61	52	Cldy	San Angelo	98	75	PCldy	Wichita Falls	96	77	Cldy
Bridgeport	75	61	Cldy	Elkins	83	56	PCldy	Key West	90	81	Clr	Oklahoma City	89	76	Cldy	San Antonio	99	78	PCldy	Wilkes-Barre	76	56	Cldy
Brownsville	94	79	PCldy	Erie	79	64	Cldy	Knoxville	90	67	PCldy	Omaha	64	63	Cldy	San Diego	79	70	PCldy	Wilmington, Del.	78	64	Cldy
Buffalo	81	61	Cldy	Eugene	82	48	Clr	Lake Charles	92	76	PCldy	Orlando	93	74	Cldy	San Francisco	76	59	Clr	Yakima	75	48	Clr
Burlington, Vt.	76	55	PCldy	Evansville	88	68	Rain	Lansing	73	62	Rain	Paducah	90	71	Cldy	San Jose	82	59	Clr	Youngstown	80	60	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	73	43	Clr	Fairbanks	63	41	Cldy	Las Vegas	93	73	Clr	Pendleton	77	50	Clr	Santa Fe	79	54	PCldy				
Casper	57	42	Cldy	Fargo	52	44	Cldy	Lexington	87	68	Cldy	Peoria	77	69	Rain	St Ste Marie	66	57	Rain				
Charleston, S.C.	88	71	PCldy	Flagstaff	69	46	PCldy	Lincoln	63	60	Cldy	Philadelphia	77	66	Cldy	Savannah	89	72	PCldy				
Charleston, W.Va.	87	63	PCldy	Flint	78	61	Rain	Little Rock	92	72	Cldy	Phoenix	95	79	PCldy	Seattle	72	55	PCldy				
Charlotte, N.C.	85	66	Cldy	Fort Smith	92	73	Cldy	Los Angeles	85	67	PCldy	Pittsburgh	82	61	PCldy	Shreveport	95	75	PCldy				

National temperature extremes

Hi: Mon., 101, Yuma and Youngtown, Ariz., and Borrego, Calif.
Lo: Mon., 25, Stanley, Idaho

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OPINION

Arrogance led to former governor's demise

By Dan K. Thomasson
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON

Most politicians, I'm convinced, believe they can talk their way out of anything. Whether it is arrogance, overconfidence or just plain stupidity, this trait often seems to lead them into disaster when facing serious legal challenges to their conduct in office.

The latest example of this, of course, is that of former Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell and his wife, both of whom are now facing massive jail sentences for accepting gifts from a multimillionaire owner of a company who wanted their influence to help promote his firm's products.

The McDonnells' convictions after a sensational trial on federal charges that didn't include bribery or any of the normal quid pro quo allegations of corruption in these matters is likely, legal analysts say, to expand significantly the temptation for prosecutors to take on cases against public officials they had heretofore decided to skip as too difficult. In instructing the jury, the judge all but declared that anything done while in office can be counted "an official act." The jury literally decided the McDonnells had sold the prestige of the office.

But that's to be settled in the appeals process that will take months. The governor and his wife, apparently now estranged, are scheduled to be sentenced in January and are expected to remain free on bond until a higher court takes a stance.

The real point of this is that we now have learned that most of the governor's troubles and all of those heaped on his wife, Maureen, in one of the more bizarre defenses ever offered in the trial of an elected official at this level, could have gone away last December. He defended himself by pointing his finger at his former cheerleader wife of many years. Is the word "cad" appropriate here?

The appearance of impropriety alone in Williams' beneficence was overwhelming. Did not his legal team warn him of that?

Prosecutors offered the first governor in the history of Virginia to face such charges an opportunity to plead to one count of lying to a bank if he would merely stipulate in a signed statement that he was helping Jonnie Williams' company at the same time Williams was providing him and Maureen an estimated $177,000 in gifts. Maureen would not have been charged with anything and the worst McDonnell would have received would range from probation to three years in prison. He turned down the offer, apparently without consulting Maureen.

What in the world was this guy — who had presidential visions — thinking? Was he nuts or stupid? In either case, he shouldn't have been in office in the first place.

The "Who, me? I'm not guilty of anything" posture he assumed in front of a "jury of his peers" has left him now facing 20 years on each of 11 counts on which he was convicted and the same for his wife to whom the panel handed a "guilty" verdict on nine counts. Neither he nor Maureen will do anywhere near that time if precedent holds. But the anguish caused by this very careless decision at Christmastime last year is truly the gift that will keep on giving for the rest of their lives. In addition, as has been noted, an appeal that upholds the trial judge on his interpretation has the makings of a lot more grief for a lot of elected officials.

A salient fact in this case, by the way, for those of you not familiar with Virginia law, is that the commonwealth has a pretty lenient view when it comes to ethics of public officials. Only gifts of above $50 need reporting. That's likely to change. As for the clean government claims, a detailed study by Indiana University on state corruption ranked Virginia 34th.

The appearance of impropriety alone in Williams' beneficence was overwhelming. They included paying for a McDonnell daughter's wedding reception, clothes for Maureen and so forth. Did not his legal team warn him of that?

Juries are scary, often easily manipulated and fickle creatures. At best one's chances frequently are no better than 50-50, like an advanced cancer. I remember hearing my lawyer son advise his day care client charged in the case of a dead baby. "They probably have overcharged you and I believe I can win the case, but it's still a tossup. I can get you out of this with a much reduced charge of negligence and no jail time. Otherwise you're facing a 50-year sentence. Take the deal." She did.

So should have McDonnell.

Dan Thomasson is an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune and a former vice president of Scripps Howard Newspapers.

For-profit colleges can help GIs, vets advance

By Gregory Kiley

A recent op-ed in Military Times ("'Not recommended' list of schools draws criticism, by George Altman), struck a chord in that all of the schools were of the "for profit" variety. Similarly, educational public policy initiatives currently under consideration by the Department of Education and Congress (the "gainful employment" and "90/10" rules) are clearly aimed at limiting or scaling back access for servicemembers and veterans to for-profit colleges. While my educational background is not from the "for profit" camp, it does position me well to comment on these attacks.

My first major was in history at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and my senior thesis 25 years ago covered the development of the modern university curriculum. At the turn of the 20th century, the United States' university structure was centered on humanities and accessible only to the select few. Growth of mass industry demanded a larger, more educated and specialized workforce. Corporations began sponsoring and endowing universities to fill this need, broadening participation. Some universities were even created and named after our great industrial magnates. Today's for-profit university model is similarly based on improving access and fulfilling a need.

My second, double major at AFA was in economics. We studied the power of the marketplace and the creative genius that is the entrepreneurial spirit. While there is no denying a need for consumer protections against fraud and abuse, ours is a capitalist-based society. Choice and an informed buyer are critical components to a healthy society. Absent clear, compelling need for government intervention, the marketplace should dictate.

One such example of addressing the needs of the marketplace is American Military University, founded in 1991 for the specific purpose of helping current and former military students succeed in the civilian job market after completing their service. AMU is part of the larger umbrella of the American Public University System, a leader in the for-profit university marketplace. AMU is focused on educating current and former military students, as evidenced by the fact that the university offers relevant programs such as logistics and homeland security— that students can use to build on the training they received while serving their nation. In economic terms, AMU is meeting a demand that is not being met by traditional universities or community colleges. It's also a good school. U.S. News and World Report ranked its online bachelor's degree as 34th best in the nation.

A third layer of my education was as a MacArthur Scholar at the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy. Several lessons taught there apply — public policy should be based on quantifiable, measurable goals and care taken to avoid unintended consequences. Two examples below are cause for concern as potentially poor public policy.

The "gainful employment," or GE, rule being proposed by the Department of Education will cut off federal financial aid to programs whose graduates have high levels of student-loan debt relative to their incomes. An issue with GE is that it does not take into account the quality of the school or the program, and it targets only for-profit colleges. Also, by requiring accreditation for all programs at a school, GE will increase tuition rates (for the same classes that were offered before GE was implemented), thereby reducing access to the lower-income students who traditionally attend for-profit colleges.

The 90/10 rule requires schools to get no more than 90 percent of their funds from federal financial aid programs. Utilizing tuition assistance programs through the GI Bill, and because these types of funds are not calculated as part of the 90/10 rule, has enabled for-profit universities to serve the military population. That said, changes to the formula of the nature proposed by Sens. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, and Richard Durbin, D-Ill., and Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., would have the effect of denying many current and former military students access to schools like AMU. Moreover, that limitation of access would not be based on the quality of the education offered by that school but, rather, based on an arbitrary funding formula.

From 1999 through 2009, I served as a senior congressional aide with the Senate Armed Services Committee. As our nation became entangled in conflicts across several fronts, Congress made great strides supporting and improving veterans' benefits. As we enter another decade of deployments and sacrifice, our first consideration should be on the continued improvement of military and veterans' benefits. Passing laws or regulations that limit access to good for-profit colleges like AMU does a disservice to active-duty military and veterans because it stands in stark conflict to helping them succeed after they complete their service.

Gregory Kiley is a graduate of the Seminar XXI Program of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He also worked as an analyst for the National Security Division of the Congressional Budget Office.

OPINION

How instant communication has changed us

By David T.Z. Mindich

At the start of World War I, a century ago last month, the Pacific Ocean was flecked with little islands whose only means of communication with the larger world was by steamer. Residents of American Samoa got a radio in July 1914, according to a contemporary article in The New York Times. Other islands waited month to month to read stacks of old newspapers delivered by sea.

Walter Lippmann's 1922 book "Public Opinion" starts with a tantalizing anecdote about the effects of time-delayed media. When a British mail steamer arrived at one Pacific port more than a month after the Great War started, the island's European residents learned that "those of them who were English and those of them who were French had been fighting in behalf of the sanctity of treaties against those of them who were Germans. For six strange weeks they had acted as if they were friends, when in fact they were enemies."

It is remarkable to consider that only a century ago there were places in which men and women would crowd quays waiting for ships to disgorge old news. The summer of 1914 represents one of the last gasps of humanity's original communication system, in which news and people traveled at the same pace.

Julius Caesar's fastest way to send news was via a man on horse. More than 1,800 years later, George Washington used the same method. In 1815, Andrew Jackson won the Battle of New Orleans weeks after diplomats had ended the War of 1812.

Before the telegraph was invented and implemented in the 1840s, wrote Tom Standage in his book, "The Victorian Internet," if a man picked someone's pocket in London or New York and hopped on a fast train, he was probably home free; no news could outpace his fast train. After the telegraph was invented, a thief escaping by train could be foiled by a message sent to the next station.

Fast forward to our time. On a Sunday night, May 1, 2011, President Barack Obama announced to an audience of millions that Osama bin Laden had been killed by U.S. Special Forces. The killing had taken place a few hours before the president's announcement, about 1 a.m. in Pakistan, which was nine hours ahead of Eastern time in the United States.

SHIZUO KAMBAYASHI/AP

Supporters of Japan's Kei Nishikori watch on television in his hometown, Matsue, on Tuesday as he plays Croatia's Marin Cilic at the U.S. Open tennis final. Cilic won the match, which was played Monday in New York.

In other words, Obama told the nation on a Sunday night about events that transpired in Pakistan early Monday morning. The apparent time-bending was just a matter of the nine-hour time difference aided by instantaneous communication (Obama and his team watched the raid unfold in real time), rapid transportation (helicopters) and mass broadcast media that allowed the world to hear Obama make the announcement live.

When news traveled at human speed, there was a lag between what happened and when (and sometimes what) people found out about it. The shift over the last 100 years to a world cinched together first with wires and then with wireless networks is marked by an even more profound characteristic: instant communication. Instantaneity has changed us in countless ways. Here are three:

Colonialism and imperialism

The telegraph and the wireless radio consolidated imperial power. Before then, media historian James W. Carey noted, the world, and even the British empire, was decentralized.

"It was difficult to determine whether British colonial policy was being set in London or by colonial governors in the field — out of contact and out of control," Carey wrote. "It was the cable and the telegraph, backed of course by sea power, that turned colonialism into imperialism: a system in which the center of an empire could dictate rather than merely respond to the margin."

Arbitrage

Arbitrage is the practice of buying cheaply in one place and selling in a more expensive market. In other words, if pork bellies in the 19th century were selling for $2 a pound in Boston and $1 a pound in Chicago, the telegraph, combined with the railroads, allowed traders to sell Chicago pork to Boston. The telegraph reached Chicago in 1848, precisely the year the Chicago Commodity Exchange was founded to allow for such trading. Today, stockbrokers can make and lose millions when their trading speed is a 10th of a second different than that of their competitors.

Time and space

Before the telegraph changed everything, each city had its own local time. Town timekeepers would judge noon by the sun's place in the sky and then set the official town clocks accordingly. Because of the differences in longitude and latitude, high noon in Boston and New York differed by about 12 minutes. To take a train from Boston to Chicago meant navigating many time changes.

Then, on Nov. 18, 1883, nicknamed the Day of Two Noons, the nation adjusted to standard time, aided by messages sent across telegraph lines. The United States was divided into the same four time zones used today: Pacific, Mountain, Central and Eastern. The rest of the world soon followed suit. It is no exaggeration to say that the telegraph changed our concept of time.

As for space (or, put another way, distance), in 1844, the telegraph's first year, the New York Herald asked, "What has become of space?" and provided its own answer: It had been "annihilated."

And here we are today, when the lag between event and knowledge of it has been narrowed even more. Once, we stood on the dock craving the moment when distant ships would come to us with the latest news. Now, if we wait on distant ships, it is not to discover what is captivating or roiling the world. For that, we have the lightning box in the palm of our hands.

David T.Z. Mindich teaches media studies at Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vt., and is the author of "Tuned Out: Why Americans Under 40 Don't Follow the News." This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Unease when Israelis mourned a Palestinian victim

By Daniel Gordis
Bloomberg News

Along, long time ago, after three Jewish teens were kidnapped and murdered, after an Arab teen was then murdered, but before the rockets and the ground war and the funerals and the 12 cease-fires and the anguish and the destruction — Israel was a country overcome by collective guilt and horror, reeling from the pain that there are Jews, too, who murder innocents.

At first, most of Israel went through paroxysms of guilt and self-doubt. But almost immediately, Hamas unleashed the first of what would be thousands of rockets at Israel. The war started, robbing the nation of the chance to have a real shiva (mourning period) for the three teens, and averting our attention from the self-reflection that had just been getting underway.

Two months have passed, and Muhammad Abu Khdeir, the Arab teen, is in the news again. Back in school, the newspaper Haaretz asserted, Palestinian students who had previously been "uniquely sensitive to Jewish tragedy" have had their "faith in coexistence" shaken. Perhaps. What the Haaretz article did not report, though, was that they were not alone. In ways that none of us would have expected, the aftermath of the murder also dealt a blow to coexistence on the Jewish side.

Within days of the murder, a Facebook invitation to an event organized by a group called Tag Meir (a play on the Hebrew "tag mechir," for "price tag," as Jewish revenge violence is known) spread like wildfire. Jews were going to Shuafat, the Abu Khdeir family's neighborhood, to pay their respects, to ask forgiveness. We gathered, hundreds of us, at the Jerusalem International Convention Center; there actually wasn't enough room on the buses for everyone who showed up. And we were a heterogeneous lot: religious and secular, native Israelis and Anglo immigrants, lefties but lots of centrists, too. A couple from the right. This was not about politics, we knew; this was about being human.

The mood on the bus was somber. What does one say to a father whose son has been burned alive? Yet there was a palpable sense of relief as well. At least we were doing something, saying something.

Once in Shuafat, we lined up to shake the hands of the male members of the family (the women were elsewhere); many said a few words to the father. When everyone was done, we were seated.

A member of the Abu Khdeir family rose to speak. He thanked us for coming, for expressing our shame. He said something about Muhammad being a shahid (Arabic for "martyr," the term often used by Palestinians for suicide bombers), which the translator purposely translated as "murder victim." But the speaker clearly understood Hebrew and stopped. He insisted that the translator say "martyr." People in the crowd began to squirm, to look to see if others were equally uncomfortable.

But he was just getting started. We had come, he said, because we were opposed to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government. (True of some, but not of all.) We had come because we were opposed to the occupation. (Depends on which lines you're speaking about.) We had come, he repeated time and again, because we were ashamed of the settlements. (But there were people there who lived in settlements, and we all knew it. They had taken the greatest social risk in coming, and he was assailing them.)

A few people stood and walked out, as discreetly as they could; they were not willing to be used, they told me later. Many others, myself included, considered leaving, but decided not to; I was uncomfortable and was feeling manipulated, but I didn't want to undo the entire gesture of having come in the first place. The speech felt interminable.

We later made our way through an angry Arab crowd, with some people screaming at us, back to the buses. On the return trip, the mood in the bus was very different. "I felt used." "Did he really assume we were all lefties, or did he mean to insult us?" "Outrageous," a few said, knowing that it still wasn't nearly as outrageous as killing a boy. "If I'd known, I would never have come."

Exiting the tent, I'd seen three ultra-Orthodox Jews, in full regalia, incongruous among the jeans- and T-shirt-wearing crowd. People like them and people like us rarely mix. Curious, I said hello. And then, knowing the powerful role of rabbis in their community, I asked them if anyone had suggested they come. "No." "Then why did you come?" I asked. "It just felt like the right thing to do," they said.

It had, indeed, been the right thing to do, and I was moved that they were there. I was tempted to ask them whether in light of what they had just heard, they would come again. But I decided not to. Even before matters got infinitely worse this summer, I had a sixth sense that if a mourning visit could go so wrong, it was worth trying to hold on to at least some semblance of hope.

Daniel Gordis is senior vice president and Koret distinguished fellow at Shalem College in Jersualem. He is the author of "Menachem Begin: The Battle for Israel's Soul" and "The Promise of Israel."

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Volkswagen, Golf GTI, 2012 $18500.00 very clean and fast US spec. 4 door power sunroof 211 hp 01728616505 sreinhold@freenet.de

Volkswagen GOLF V6, Special Model, 2003 $6200.00 204 HP, 6-speed, born for the Autobahn. Fine German engineering, US inspection valid till June 2015. Black Magic pearl-effect paint, 4-door, practical Hatchback, AC, Blaupunkt stereo & CD. One owner, non-smoker, no accidents. Low mileage, European specs, dealer-serviced, excellent condition. New tires, 17" alloy wheels, leather steering wheel. KBB & NADA value between $6,300-6,800. Selling to you for $6,200. Your ultimate fun-to-drive car. trintelen@hotmail.com

VOLVO, V70, 2.5T, 2005 $8000.00 5-sp Auto (shiftable), 5-cyl inject (208 hp), 5-dr with sunroof (electric), ABS Traction controlinter Mode, SRS (front air bags), SIPS (Side Impact Protect Sys), VIC (Volvo Inflatable Curtain), L & R Child Safety Seat ISO-fix Anchors & Integrated Child Booster Seat, Cruise Control, Power steering brakes, Elect windows (F & B), Leather Interior, Heated Front Seats, AC, 60-40 rear seat, 3rd row Aux Seats (fold down), 12v front, mid & cargo power outlet, Child Safety locks, Sum & Win Tires 0162 270 8868 robert.j.martinek@usace.army.mil

Autos for Sale - Benelux 150

Chevrolet, Camaro Z28 Race Car, 2002 $21000.00 Best 1½ mile time of 9.67 **139 Balanced** 416cu LS iron block Nitrous Outlet Stinger Plate System 100-500hp Forged Eagle Crank, Rods, Wiseco Pistons AFR 225 CNC Heads Comp Cam Solid Roller .650 lift Super Victor EFI w Accufab Dominator TB Kooks 2" Headers Currie 9" Rear End, 3.89 gears with Spool 3.5" Alum DS Brand New Hughes TH400 RMVB with Brake PTC 4000 stall converter Wolfe 6-point Chromoly Cage Runs on Pump Gas with 112 in Nitrous Fuel Cell Can Register as Street Legal in some US States 015202450561 don_1449@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale - UK 154

Audi, A4, 2002 $4800.00, It has new All Season Tires. Also has new MOT that is good till August 2015. It has new brakes pads front and rear. Selling for 2900 GBP½800 USD or OBO. email at or call +447749729025. 361-232-5209 etalamantes23@yahoo.com

Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Ford, Escape XLT, 2002 $6499.00, in excellent condition and only 65000 miles! Six disc CD changer, AC, auto trans, tow pkg. and more. Reliable and runs great. $6,499, more tham 1,000 dollars below book! Contact eric.fowkes@gmail.com

Furniture 510

Couch $300.00 3-piece Couch, grey and white 360x120x38cm. Couch pieces & sections can be put together in different ways. White leather rey cloth on top. jkountz16**hotmail.com**

Dining Table with 4 chairs $100.00 Dining Table 160x90x75cm-length-width-height white, comes with 4 chairs. jkountz16@hotmail.com

Sentry Safe Fire Protection $10.00 2 keys, Its in condition its small. Its good for holding personal stuff or watches, jewelry. Selling in AAFES for $20. The reason I am selling is because I am leaving and not taking anything back to the states with me. email ss2day@gmail.com

Solid Oak China Cabinet and Hutch $450.00 Solid Oak China Cabinet, handmade by a local furniture builder,had a value of around $1500. In very good condition. The top portion has 3 Buzenglass doors and has a large storage and display area with an Oak shelf. It also has 3 small drawers on both sides and between these drawers is an accented shelf. The bottom section has 3 large drawers, one drawer made for silverware. Beneath the drawer are 3 large storage areas.60 by 77 tall. Bottomtop are two separate piece. Photo's by e-mail request. earldow@hotmail.com

Furniture/Appliances 511

Bowflex for sale $400.00 The Bowflex Motivator 2 for sale. Still in great condition! email if interested dean.christopher.payne@hotmail.com

Various light fixtures for sale $50.00 Varied Price for fixtures from 10 to 50 $ dean.christopher.payne@hotmail.com

Furniture/Appliances 511

LG Microwave for Sale $50.00 Selling an LG microwave. $50.00 or best offer. Cash and carry only. Wiesbaden area. Contact for pictures or information. (S&S photo upload not working for some reason!) afh_1974@yahoo.com

Portable room AC $225.00 Great AC unit and portable. Has all pieces needed to make it cold. This unit has no water collection tank, it has a hose for discharge. tf160fi@yahoo.com

Transformers & 220 appliances $500.00 Large and small transformers, AFN HD receiver, toaster, vacuum, crock pots, hand mixer, fan, makeup mirror. All 220 volt. Gallkerr@yahoo.com

Home Electronics 570

220 V LG fridge with freezer $250.00 Selling a white LG fridge with freezer. Great condition,very clean. Energy efficiency rating: A, H: 1.89 cm, W: 60, D: 60. Nothing wrong with it,I don't have space for it. Pick up only. crabby5707@gmail.com

Plasma TV for Sale $150.00 Used Hitachi 42" multi-system plasma TV for sale. Pedestal missing. Wall mount included. Cash and carry only. Wiesbaden area. Pictures & details available upon request. (S&S photo upload not working for some reason!) afh_1974@yahoo.com

Merchandise Wanted 700

Auto or Motorcycle $10000.00 I want to buy a volkswagon camper, or a small car for travel, or a BMW motorcycle somewhere in Euorple by May 2015. Stateside telenol 1:505-264-8166, browningpw2004@yahoo.com

Returning To Germany Heidelberg beat out Texas in the great domicile debate. Veteran and family moving back to Germany and could use household items. Looking for living, dining, and kids furniture; 220 fridge and TV; toys; etc. If you are selling we are interested in seeing what you have to offer. Someguykenadams@gmail.com

House Unfurnished 878

Wies-Dotzheim. Renovated 4bdrm house blt in ktch, wood floors, courtyard + detached bld Euros 2,350 + utls + fee.
Cresanti Immobilien
0172 8921862

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.

Sporting Goods 980

Beretta Silver Hawk 12ga $3500.00 Must have Valid German Hunting or Sports Shooting License. 12 Gauge Side by Side 471 Silver Hawk. I have put about 2 boxes of shells through this gun at the Skeet & Trap range, it is in MINT condition, with all original paper work, Beretta Hard Case, and 5 Choke tubes. I'd perfer an Over & Under in 12 Gauge, so will consider comaparable trade. Price is Firm. 09644689520 djkay913@hotmail.com

Model 64 .38 cal Revolver $300.00 Model 64 Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver, 4inch barrel 06303-6254, rl-kabig20hotmail.com

Tools & Machinery 990

BMX BIKE FOR SALE $75.00 The bike is barely used with all original parts and still has new plastic on the bike dean.christopher.payne@hotmail.com

Miscellaneous 1040

31 pc. Stainless Steel Flatware set from WMF $30.00 These 31 pcs (9 knives, 9 forks, and 9 spoons, plus four small dessert forks) were made by the German firm, WMF. They make high quality products, some of the world's finest. The flatware for sale, in excellent condition, is made of Cromargan protect, making them very resistant to damage of any kind. And although used, the flatware for sale is in very very good condition. selandca@yahoo.com

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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

Autos for Sale - Korea 148

BMW, 520D, 2011 $29000.00 Excellent Condition Like new. Fully Loaded. Black Box. Korea Spec. PCS Mest sell. jason.c.choi@usace.army.mil

Hyundai, Sonata $2900.00 2003 Hyundai Sonata for Sale by owner, $2,900. Pretty much new brakes, belts and batteries replaced, in great condition overall. Mileage 131,700 KM (or 82,000 Miles), 5 speed manual. Call 010-3334-9366 or scottsky@gmail.com. 010 2514 8145

Jeep, Grand Cherokee Laredo 3.7L V6, 2005 $550.00 Brand new Magnaflow catalytic converter for 2005-06 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 3.7L V6. Just want to recoup costs. Cost about $400 + $150 shipping. Total $550. eycc@hotmail.com

Autos for Sale - Korea 148

Toyota, Solara SE, 2007 $7000.00 2007 Toyota Solara SE Coupe (KBB $8,000, asking $7,000 OBO) Car runs great and high MPG, Automatic Transmission, 81K miles, new tint, multi disc changer, new oil change, recent interior detail, etc. Contact: jaehee.yu@gmail.com, 010-6779-4448. jaehee.yu@gmail.com

Volvo, S80, 2006 $8950.00 All leather interior, sun roof, AWD, anti-lock brakes, custom rims, factory installed tinted windows, air bags, 83K miles, 19 MPG city/27 MPG HWY, two owners (both non-smokers), all maintenance records at local Volvo Dealership. 010-2703-9327 nholt769@gmail.com

Volvo, XC90R, 2009 $19000.00 Excellant Condition. Full option. 01027189854 jason.c.choi@usace.army.mil

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Pro soccer

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
D.C.	14	8	5	47	42	30
Sporting KC	12	10	6	42	39	34
New England	12	12	3	39	39	38
Columbus	9	9	9	36	38	34
Philadelphia	9	9	9	36	43	41
New York	8	8	10	34	41	39
Toronto FC	9	11	6	33	35	42
Houston	9	13	4	31	31	48
Chicago	5	7	14	29	33	39
Montreal	5	16	5	20	29	48

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Seattle	16	7	3	51	48	35
Los Angeles	14	5	7	49	54	27
Real Salt Lake	12	5	10	46	42	32
FC Dallas	12	9	6	42	46	36
Portland	8	8	11	35	47	46
Vancouver	7	6	13	34	33	34
Colorado	8	13	6	30	37	46
San Jose	6	10	9	27	32	36
Chivas USA	6	15	6	24	23	47

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday, Aug. 3
Philadelphia 1, Toronto FC 0
New England 3, Sporting Kansas City 1
Seattle FC 4, Chivas USA 2

Friday, Aug. 5
Los Angeles 6, Colorado 0

Saturday, Aug. 6
Philadelphia 2, Toronto FC 0
New York 2, Sporting Kansas City 1
Houston 3, Montreal 2
Real Salt Lake 2, FC Dallas 1
Vancouver 0, D.C. United 0, tie

Sunday, Aug. 7
Columbus 3, Chivas USA 0
Portland 3, San Jose 3, tie
New England 2, Chicago 1

Wednesday's games
Los Angeles at Montreal
D.C. United at New York
San Jose at Vancouver

Friday's games
Real Salt Lake at Seattle FC
Sporting Kansas City at Chivas USA

Saturday's games
New York at Philadelphia
Montreal at New England
Vancouver at FC Dallas
Toronto FC at Chicago
Columbus at Houston
Portland at Colorado

Sunday's game
Los Angeles at San Jose

Boxing

Fight schedule

Sept. 10

At Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand, Amnat Ruenroeng vs. McWilliams Arroyo, 12, for Ruenroeng's IBF flyweight title.

Sept. 11

At the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Luis Ortiz vs. Lateef Kayode, 12, for the interim WBA heavyweight title; Jesus Cuellar vs. Juan Manuel Lopez, 12, for the interim WBA featherweight title.

Sept. 13

At Manchester, England, Scott Quigg vs. Paulus Ambunda, 12, for Quigg's WBA junior featherweight title; Anthony Crolla vs. Gamaliel Diaz, 12, for Crolla's WBO Inter-Continental lightweight title.

At MGM Grand, Las Vegas, Floyd Mayweather, Jr. vs. Marcos Rene Maidana, 12, for Mayweather's WBA Super World and WBC welterweight titles; Leo Santa Cruz vs. Manuel Roman, 12, for Santa Cruz's WBC junior featherweight title; Miguel Vazquez vs. Mickey Bey, 12, for Vazquez's IBF lightweight title; Alfredo Angulo vs. James De La Rosa, 10, middleweights; John Molina Jr. vs. Humberto Soto, 10, junior welterweights.

Sept. 20

At Helsinki, Finland, Richar Abril vs. Edis Tatli, 12, for Abril's WBA lightweight title.

At Foxwoods, Mashantucket, Conn., Thabiso Mchunu vs. Garrett Wilson, 10, cruiserweights.

At Sinaloa, Mexico, Carlos Cuadras vs. Sonny Boy Jaro, 12, for Cuadras' WBC junior bantamweight title; Jhonny Gonzalez vs. Jorge Arce, 12, for Gonzalez's WBC featherweight title.

Sept. 26

At Mesquite, Texas, Anselmo Moreno vs. Juan Carlos Payano, 12, for Moreno's WBA Super World bantamweight title.

Sept. 27

At Moscow, Krzystof Wlodarczyk vs. Grigory Drozd, 12, for Wlodarczyk's WBC cruiserweight title; Denis Lebedev vs. Pawel Kolodziej, 12, for Lebedev's WBA cruiserweight title.

Sept. 29

At TBA, Thailand, Carlos Buitrago vs. Knockout CP Freshmart, 12, for the interim WBA minimumweight title.

At Hidalgo, Texas, Antonio Tarver vs. Johnathon Banks, 10 rounds, heavyweights.

College football

TSN FCS poll

PHILADELPHIA — The top 25 teams in the Sports Network Football Championship Subdivision poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Sept. 6, points and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. North Dakota State (137)	2-0	3928	1
2. Eastern Washington (21)	2-1	3744	2
3. Southeastern Louisiana	2-0	3613	3
4. Montana	1-1	3249	4
5. Coastal Carolina	2-0	3023	5
6. McNeese State	0-1	2971	7
7. New Hampshire	0-1	2964	6
8. Villanova	1-1	2919	10
9. Jacksonville State	1-1	2790	9
10. Northern Iowa	0-1	2682	8
11. South Dakota State	1-1	2407	12
12. Furman	2-0	1523	19
13. Bethune-Cookman	1-0	1473	18
14. Chattanooga	0-2	1460	13
15. Sam Houston State	1-2	1376	15
16. William & Mary	1-1	1325	21
17. Montana State	1-1	1289	20
18. Richmond	1-1	1229	17
19. Fordham	1-1	1223	11
20. Southern Illinois	2-0	1180	—
21. Youngstown State	1-1	863	23
22. Tennessee State	1-1	762	14
23. Maine	1-0	635	24
24. Northern Arizona	1-1	549	25
25. Eastern Illinois	0-2	479	16

Others receiving votes: Towson 261, Liberty 235, Central Arkansas 204, Eastern Kentucky 142, Wofford 100, Delaware 84, Princeton 75, S.C. State 73, Samford 72, Albany 61, James Madison 50, Harvard 41, Alabama State 36, Southern Utah 35, N.C. A&T 33, Charleston Southern 32, Missouri State 22, Sacred Heart 22, Illinois State 21, Southern 14, Alcorn State 12, Sacramento State 11, Cal Poly 11, Gardner-Webb 8, Florida A&M 8, Bryant 7, Western Illinois 7, CCSU 7, SE Missouri 4, Texas Southern 2, Western Carolina 1, San Diego 1, Duquesne 1, Bucknell 1.

AFCA Division II coaches poll

Through Sept. 6

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. NW Missouri State (32)	1-0	800	1
2. Colorado State-Pueblo	1-0	749	4
3. Minnesota-Duluth	1-0	710	3
4. Minnesota-Mankato	1-0	672	7
5. North Alabama	0-0	626	5
6. Lenoir-Rhyne (N.C.)	1-0	617	6
7. Henderson State (Ark.)	1-0	600	8
8. Pittsburg State (Kan.)	1-0	596	9
9. West Chester (Pa.)	1-0	499	10
10. Ohio Dominican	1-0	466	13
11. Shepherd (W.Va.)	1-0	465	12
12. Winston-Salem State (N.C.)	1-0	462	14
13. Carson-Newman (Tenn.)	1-0	399	16
14. Azusa Pacific (Calif.)	1-0	336	22
15. Indianapolis (Ind.)	1-0	322	18
16. Tarleton State (Texas)	0-0	284	17
17. Delta State (Miss.)	1-0	282	19
18. Grand Valley State (Mich.)	0-1	278	2
19. Emporia State (Kan.)	1-0	239	22
20. Indiana (Pa.)	1-0	218	20
21. Bloomsburg (Pa.)	1-0	158	24
22. West Texas A&M	0-1	120	11
23. Valdosta State (Ga.)	1-0	71	—
24. Ferris State (Mich.)	1-0	70	—
25. St. Cloud State (Minn.)	0-1	56	15
25. West Alabama	1-0	56	—

AP Top 25 schedule

Thursday
No. 25 BYU vs. Houston

Friday
No. 8 Baylor at Buffalo

Saturday
No. 2 Oregon vs. Wyoming
No. 3 Alabama vs. Southern Miss.
No. 4 Oklahoma vs. Tennessee
No. 6 Georgia at No. 24 South Carolina
No. 7 Texas A&M vs. Rice
No. 9 Southern Cal at Boston College
No. 10 LSU vs. Louisiana-Monroe
No. 11 Notre Dame vs. Purdue at Indianapolis
No. 12 UCLA vs. Texas at Arlington, Texas
No. 14 Mississippi vs. Louisiana
No. 15 Stanford vs. Army
No. 16 Arizona State at Colorado
No. 17 Virginia Tech vs. East Carolina
No. 20 Missouri vs. UCF
No. 21 Louisville at Virginia
No. 22 Ohio State vs. Kent State

Deals

Monday's transactions

BASEBALL
Major League Baseball

MLB — Suspended Atlanta OF Justin Black 50 games for a positive test for an amphetamine in violation of the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

American League

BOSTON RED SOX — Selected the contract of RHP Matt Barnes from Pawtucket (IL). Transferred OF Shane Victorino to the 60-day DL.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Selected the contract of RHP Jairo Diaz from Arkansas (Texas). Designated INF Ryan Wheeler for assignment.

SEATTLE MARINERS — Activated OF Michael Saunders off the 15-day DL.

National League

COLORADO ROCKIES — Activated OF Michael Cuddyer from the 15-day DL.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Sent LHP Onelki Garcia to Chattanooga (SL) for a rehab assignment.

NEW YORK METS — Activated RHP Vic Black from the 15-day DL. Recalled RHP Gonzalez Germen from Las Vegas (PCL).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Recalled INF Greg Garcia, OF Tommy Pham and RHP Sam Tuivailala from Memphis (PCL). Designated C Audry Perez and OF Rafael Ortega for assignment.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

DETROIT PISTONS — Signed F Greg Monroe to the one-year qualifying offer for the 2014-15 season.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS — Signed G Justin Holiday to a training camp contract.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

NFL — Suspended RB Ray Rice indefinitely.

ARIZONA CARDINALS — Signed P Drew Butler.

BALTIMORE RAVENS — Released RB Ray Rice.

BUFFALO BILLS — Released DE Jacquies Smith.

CHICAGO BEARS — Signed S Ahmad Dixon off Minnesota's practice squad. Released CB Demontre Hurst.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Released RB LaMichael James. Signed WR Kassim Osgood to a one-year contract.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Signed OT Andrew McDonald. Released G David Arkin and S Josh Aubrey from the practice squad. Signed G Nate Isles and safety Terrance Parks to the practice squad. Placed CB Jeremy Lane on the injured reserve/designated list.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

ARIZONA COYOTES — Named Steve Sullivan development coach.

COLLEGE

NCAA — Announced it eliminated the remaining two years of a four-year postseason ban for the Penn State football program and restored all scholarship sanctions for the 2015 season.

PAC-12 CONFERENCE — Fined Southern California athletic director Pat Haden $25,000 for coming down to the field at Stanford Stadium on Saturday and confronting game officials.

SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE — Named Melissa Cebold assistant director of communications.

NEW MEXICO — Agreed to terms with men's basketball coach Craig Neal on a six-year contract.

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S — Fired football coach Michael Costa and defensive coordinator/recruiting coordinator Tremayne Henry. Named Michael Morand interim football coach.

SMU — Announced the resignation of football coach June Jones. Named Tom Mason interim football coach, Dan Morrison and Jason Phillips co-offensive coordinators.

TEXAS-PAN AMERICAN — Named Rise Alexander women's golf coach.

UCONN — Announced sophomore QB Casey Cochran will not play football because of multiple concussions.

WAKE FOREST — Suspended junior QB Kevin Sousa indefinitely for a violation of team rules.

AP sportlight

Sept. 10

1962 — Rod Laver becomes the first man since Don Budge in 1938 to win the Grand Slam beating Roy Emerson 6-2, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, at the U.S. Open. Margaret Smith becomes the first Australian woman to win the U.S. Open with a 9-7, 6-4 win over Darlene Hard.

1966 — Muhammad Ali knocks out Karl Mildenberger in the 12th round in Frankfurt, Germany, to retain his world heavyweight title.

1972 — The United States men's basketball team loses its first game in Olympic competition. The Soviet Union wins 51-50 with the help of a controversial ending. Dr. William Jones, secretary general of the International Amateur Basketball Federation, tells the referees to have the players replay the final three seconds and the Soviets score a last-second bucket. The Americans, who had the lead when the buzzer sounded the first time, protest in vain. The U.S. team later refuses to accept the silver medal.

1972 — Ilie Nastase trailing two sets to one and facing break point at 1-3 in the fourth set, comes back to defeat Arthur Ashe, 3-6, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3, for the U.S. Open men's singles title.

1977 — Chris Evert beats Wendy Turnbull 7-6, 6-2 to capture the U.S. Open title for the third straight year.

1983 — Martina Navratilova wins her first U.S. Open women's singles championship, beating Chris Evert Lloyd 6-1, 6-3.

1988 — Steffi Graf becomes the third women to complete the Grand Slam, defeating Gabriela Sabatini 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the U.S. Open.

1993 — Pernell Whitaker and Julio Cesar Chavez fight to a majority draw. Two judges score the fight 115-115 and the third scores the fight 115-113 for Whitaker. It's the first blemish on Chavez's record who was 87-0 entering the bout.

1997 — Mark McGwire joins Babe Ruth as the only players in major league history with consecutive 50-homer seasons by hitting a 446-foot shot off Shawn Estes in the third inning of St. Louis' game against at San Francisco. Ruth's 50-homer seasons came in 1927 and 1928.

1998 — The NBA calls off a game because of a labor dispute for the first time in its history. The Oct. 12 exhibition in Tel Aviv between the Miami Heat and Israel's No. 1 team, Maccabi Elite, is called off because of the lockout imposed by the owners.

Basketball

FIBA World Cup

ROUND OF 16
Saturday, Sept. 6
At Madrid
France 69, Croatia 64
Spain 89, Senegal 56

At Barcelona, Spain
United States 86, Mexico 63
Slovenia 71, Dominican Republic 61

Sunday, Sept. 7
At Madrid
Serbia 90, Greece 72
Brazil 85, Argentina 65

At Barcelona, Spain
Lithuania 76, New Zealand 71
Turkey 65, Australia 64

QUARTERFINALS
Tuesday, Sept. 9
At Barcelona, Spain
Lithuania vs. Turkey
Slovenia vs. United States

Wednesday, Sept. 10
At Madrid
Serbia vs. Brazil
France vs. Spain

SEMIFINALS
Thursday, Sept. 11
At Barcelona, Spain
Slovenia-United States winner vs. Lithuania-Turkey winner

Friday, Sept. 12
At Madrid
France-Spain winner vs. Serbia-Brazil winner

THIRD PLACE
Saturday, Sept. 13
Semifinal losers

CHAMPIONSHIP
Sunday, Sept. 14
Semifinal winners

WNBA playoffs

(x-if necessary)
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-three)
Eastern Conference

Chicago 1, Atlanta 1
Chicago 80, Atlanta 77
Atlanta 92, Chicago 83
Chicago 81, Atlanta 80

Indiana 2, Washington 0
Indiana 78, Washington 73
Indiana 81, Washington 76, OT

Western Conference

Phoenix 2, Los Angeles 0
Phoenix 75, Los Angeles 72
Phoenix 93, Los Angeles 68

Minnesota 2, San Antonio 0
Minnesota 88, San Antonio 84
Minnesota 94, San Antonio 89

CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-three)
Eastern Conference

Chicago 2, Indiana 1
Indiana 77, Chicago 70
Chicago 86, Indiana 84, 2OT
Chicago 75, Indiana 62

Western Conference

Phoenix 2, Minnesota 1
Phoenix 85, Minnesota 71
Minnesota 82, Phoenix 77
Phoenix 96, Minnesota 78

FINALS
(Best-of-five)

Phoenix 1, Chicago 0
Phoenix 83, Chicago 62
Tuesday: at Phoenix
Friday: at Chicago
x-Sunday: at Chicago
x-Wednesday, Sept. 17: at Phoenix

Golf

LPGA money leaders

Through Aug. 31

	Trn	Money
1. Stacy Lewis	20	$2,052,616
2. Michelle Wie	17	$1,627,653
3. Inbee Park	17	$1,563,555
4. Lydia Ko	19	$1,240,766
5. So Yeon Ryu	18	$1,155,765
6. Anna Nordqvist	19	$1,007,391
7. Lexi Thompson	18	$840,149
8. Azahara Munoz	20	$821,038
9. Cristie Kerr	18	$817,184
10. Shanshan Feng	16	$773,231
11. Suzann Pettersen	17	$765,857
12. Karrie Webb	15	$707,714
13. Chella Choi	22	$704,553
14. Na Yeon Choi	19	$655,093
15. Mo Martin	20	$643,064
16. Angela Stanford	20	$638,709
17. Jessica Korda	17	$616,458
18. Paula Creamer	18	$567,143
19. Lizette Salas	16	$537,511
20. Jenny Shin	19	$533,517
21. Meena Lee	21	$524,291
22. Julieta Granada	20	$521,156
23. Mirim Lee	16	$480,952
24. Brittany Lincicome	19	$466,831
25. Amy Yang	15	$460,932
26. Pornanong Phatlum	18	$423,186
27. Eun-Hee Ji	19	$405,890
28. Karine Icher	20	$400,963
29. Catriona Matthew	17	$398,078
30. Gerina Piller	20	$365,833
31. Haru Nomura	19	$300,494
32. Austin Ernst	18	$299,658
33. Morgan Pressel	21	$295,183
34. Line Vedel	17	$294,918
35. Hee Young Park	21	$294,459
36. Sandra Gal	19	$274,841
37. Christina Kim	17	$272,658
38. Caroline Masson	21	$259,768
39. Se Ri Pak	14	$258,028
40. Brittany Lang	21	$254,772
41. Mina Harigae	20	$242,041
42. Yani Tseng	17	$238,139
43. Jennifer Johnson	18	$232,682
44. I.K. Kim	12	$217,623
45. Mi Hyang Lee	18	$200,028
46. Danielle Kang	19	$198,080
47. Mariajo Uribe	19	$193,052
48. Katherine Kirk	19	$188,882

Tennis

U.S. Open

Monday
At The USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center
New York
Purse: $38.3 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Men
Championship

Marin Cilic (14), Croatia, def. Kei Nishikori (10), Japan, 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Bell Challenge

Monday
At Club Avantage Multi-Sports de Quebec
Quebec City
Purse: $250,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Indoor
Singles
First Round

Tatjana Maria, Germany, def. Anna Tatishvili (7), United States, 7-6 (9), 6-4.

Shelby Rogers (4), United States, def. Tereza Martincova, Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-3.

Madison Brengle, United States, def. Samantha Crawford, United States, 6-3, 6-3.

Asia Muhammad, United States, def. Johanna Konta, Britain, 6-2, 6-7 (0), 7-6 (4).

Sesil Karatantcheva, Kazakhstan, def. Sanaz Marand, United States, 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (6).

Julia Goerges (5), Germany, def. Stephanie Dubois, Canada, 6-1, 6-2.

Doubles
First Round

Naomi Broady, Britain, and Irina Falconi, United States, def. Liga Dekmeijere, Latvia, and Nicole Melichar, United States, 7-5, 6-2.

Veronica Cepede Royg, Paraguay, and Heidi El Tabakh, Canada, def. Danielle Lao, United States, and Alexandra Mueller, United States, 7-6 (4), 7-5.

Timea Babos, Hungary, and Kristina Mladenovic (1), France, def. Francoise Abanda and Carol Zhao, Canada, 6-1, 6-2.

Hong Kong Open

Monday
At Victoria Park Tennis Stadium
Hong Kong
Purse: $250,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round

Kiki Bertens, Netherlands, def. Anna Schmiedlova (8), Slovakia, 6-2, 7-6 (5).

Grace Min, United States, def. Julia Glushko, Israel, 6-4, 6-2.

Doubles
First Round

Wang Yafan and Zheng Jie, China, def. Andreja Klepac, Slovenia, and Monica Niculescu (2), Romania, 6-4, 6-2.

Pauline Parmentier and Laura Thorpe, France, def. Jocelyn Rae and Anna Smith, Britain, 7-6 (8), 7-5.

Tashkent Open

Monday
At The Olympic Tennis School
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Purse: $250,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
First Round

Bojana Jovanovski (1), Serbia, def. Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, 1-6, 6-4, 6-1.

Aliaksandra Sasnovich, Belarus, def. Olivia Rogowska, Australia, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, def. Maryna Zanevska, Ukraine, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3.

Akgul Amanmuradova, Uzbekistan, def. Jovana Jaksic, Serbia, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2.

Lyudmyla Kichenok, Ukraine, def. Danka Kovinic (8), Montenegro, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (2).

Urszula Radwanska, Poland, def. Vesna Dolonc, Serbia, 6-2, 6-2.

Doubles
First Round

Margarita Gasparyan and Alexandra Panova, Russia, def. Cagla Buyukakcay, Turkey, and Kateryna Kozlova, Ukraine, 6-1, 6-0.

Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, and Karin Knapp, Italy, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, and Klaudia Jans-Ignacik (4), Poland, 6-3, 6-4.

Aleksandra Krunic, Serbia, and Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, def. Misaki Doi, Japan, and Oksana Kalashnikova (2), Georgia, 6-2, 3-6, 13-11.

Auto racing

NASCAR Sprint Cup points leaders

Through Sep. 6

1. Brad Keselowski	2,012
2. Jeff Gordon	2,009
3. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2,009
4. Jimmie Johnson	2,009
5. Joey Logano	2,009
6. Kevin Harvick	2,006
7. Carl Edwards	2,006
8. Kyle Busch	2,003
9. Denny Hamlin	2,003
10. Kurt Busch	2,003
11. Kasey Kahne	2,003
12. Aric Almirola	2,003
13. AJ Allmendinger	2,003
14. Matt Kenseth	2,000
15. Greg Biffle	2,000
16. Ryan Newman	2,000
17. Clint Bowyer	746

AUTO RACING

Gibbs cars need speed to contend in Chase

By Jenna Fryer
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Joe Gibbs Racing got all three of its cars into NASCAR's playoffs, but if something doesn't turn around quickly, the organization won't have a shot at winning the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

Kyle Busch, Denny Hamlin and Matt Kenseth have a combined two victories between them, and the trio was hardly impressive in Saturday night's final warmup before the Chase begins.

Busch was never a contender in the Sprint Cup race at Richmond International Raceway, where he finished 14th a day after he led flag-to-flag to win Friday night's Nationwide Series race. Hamlin, at his home track, finished 21st and two laps off the pace, and Kenseth was 41st after hitting the wall early.

"It was a really bad night," Kenseth conceded.

It's a far cry from where the organization was a year ago when Kenseth went into the Chase as the top seed and reeled off back-to-back wins in the first two races. Busch was just as strong, finishing second behind Kenseth in the first two races and opening the Chase with three top-five finishes.

They've shown no sign of being able to replicate that performance when the Chase opens Sunday at Chicagoland Speedway. The entire organization has failed most of this season to keep pace with Hendrick Motorsports, Team Penske and Kevin Harvick from Stewart-Haas Racing.

Asked after Saturday night's race if JGR is even in the game with the teams that have shown consistent speed, Hamlin said dryly: "We're on the same racetrack."

But Hamlin wasn't conceding anything. He's raced the past six weeks without crew chief Darian Grubb and car chief Wesley Sherrill, both suspended for a rules violation. They return to the No. 11 team this weekend. It's possible the time away from the track allowed Grubb to focus on building new cars that could help JGR close the gap.

"I hope they've got some beast race cars coming up for us," Hamlin said.

Hamlin also referenced Tony Stewart's sour outlook in 2011, when he first complained his team would be wasting space in the Chase field if he qualified. Stewart later left his name off the list of drivers he considered championship contenders.

Stewart then reeled off five wins in the 10 Chase races to win his third NASCAR title. Grubb was his crew chief at the time.

"I can give you the Tony Stewart speech from 2011 telling you we're 'a waste of space' and all that, but we'll just take his quotes and maybe we'll go on that same run," Hamlin said.

Only Busch didn't sound as if that's a realistic possibility. The JGR drivers have been vocal about a horsepower deficiency in their Toyota engines, and they've simply not run in the same league as Harvick, Brad Keselowski, Joey Logano, or the Hendrick juggernaut of Jeff Gordon, Jimmie Johnson and Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Busch has only nine top-10 finishes this season, and his 365 laps led have him well on pace to lead the fewest amount of laps since 2005, when he led 362 as a rookie.

Asked what he's expecting in the Chase, Busch just shrugged. "I have no idea. Just fight every week and see what we can get and try to work hard."

Kenseth, who won a series-high seven races last year, is the most optimistic of the group even though he's winless on the season. Kenseth had a pair of top-three finishes in the last three weeks, and has five top-10s in the last eight races.

"I feel great about my team. I've got a ton of confidence in the group," he said. "Our preparation has been good, execution has been great, so I feel good about the company and the team and everything we can do."

Still, he acknowledged the concerns with the Toyota engines — "it's no secret we've just kind of been off on speed," — and said it will take flawless execution to remain competitive.

JGR can take some solace in the new Chase format, which will favor consistent teams early and reward winning drivers with an automatic berth into the next round. Four of the 16 qualifiers will be eliminated every three races, and the champion will be winner-take-all in the season finale.

"Anything can happen," Hamlin said. "I think these first two segments, for sure you can run like we've been running, just kind of be consistent, top 10 or so, and advance. Those last four races, those last two segments, you're really going to have to have speed to be a contender."

Mike McCarn/AP

Denny Hamlin, left, talking with team owner Joe Gibbs, is one of three drivers on the JGR team that qualified for NASCAR's Chase for the Championship series, joining Matt Kenseth and Kyle Busch.

NASCAR Sprint CUP SERIES

Chase schedule

Sunday — MyAFibStory.com 400, Joliet, Ill.
Sept. 21 — Sylvania 300, Loudon, N.H.
Sept. 28 — AAA 400, Dover, Del.
Oct. 5 — Hollywood Casino 400, Kansas City, Kan.
Oct. 11 — Bank of America 500, Concord, N.C.
Oct. 19 — GEICO 500, Talladega, Ala.
Oct. 26 — Goody's Headache Relief Shot 500, Ridgeway, Va.
Nov. 2 — AAA Texas 500, Fort Worth, Texas
Nov. 9 — Quicken Loans Race for Heroes 500, Avondale, Ariz.
Nov. 16 — Ford EcoBoost 400, Homestead, Fla.

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MORALE WELFARE RECREATION BAHRAIN Arabian Gulf
PATRIOT DAY RUN BAHRAIN 2014
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US OPEN/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Cilic tops Nishikori, wins first Slam title

By Howard Fendrich
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Marin Cilic was barred from last year's U.S. Open during a doping suspension he still says was unjust.

Unable to compete, he watched the tournament on TV from his home in Croatia, while using the forced time away from the tour to improve under the tutelage of new coach Goran Ivanisevic.

Now, 12 months later, look at Cilic.

"Seems completely unreal," he said, "to be called 'Grand Slam champion.'"

The 14th-seeded Cilic won his first major final Monday, beating 10th-seeded Kei Nishikori of Japan 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 at the U.S. Open by using 17 aces and the rebuilt game and confidence instilled by Ivanisevic.

"This is a second chance he got," Ivanisevic said, referring to Cilic's four-month ban in 2013, "and now he can just go forward and forward."

Cilic earned a $3 million winner's check and will rise to No. 9 from his pre-U.S. Open ranking of No. 16, which made him the first man from outside the top 10 to win a Grand Slam title in a decade.

"This," Cilic said, "is (from) all the hard work in these last several years — and especially this last year."

He prevented Nishikori from becoming the first man from Asia to win a major singles championship.

"Tennis has not been our biggest sport in Japan," Nishikori said. "Hopefully I can win next time."

There hadn't been a matchup between players making their Grand Slam final debuts at the U.S. Open since 1997.

Mike Groll/AP

Marin Cilic reacts after defeating Kei Nishikori for the U.S. Open championship on Monday in New York.

Lopsided and lasting less than two hours, this hardly qualified as a classic. It had been 40 years since a U.S. Open men's runner-up failed to win at least four games in any set of the final.

"Both of us were pretty nervous in the first set, especially," Cilic acknowledged.

Cilic won the last 10 sets he played in the tournament, including three against 17-time major champion Roger Federer in the semifinals, and three against 2010 Wimbledon runner-up Tomas Berdych in the quarterfinals.

Nishikori stunned No. 1 Novak Djokovic in the semifinals, so this was the first Grand Slam final since the 2005 Australian Open without Djokovic, Federer or Rafael Nadal, who won the U.S. Open in 2013 but is sidelined now by a wrist injury. That trio had won 34 of the past 38 major titles, but this was the second of this season that eluded them.

Some, including Cilic, had seen Stan Wawrinka's victory at the Australian Open in January as an indication that the next tier — Cilic calls them "the guys from second line" — was about to get a crack at the hardware.

Cilic tested positive for a stimulant at a tournament in Germany in May 2013. The International Tennis Federation initially sought a two-year punishment; Cilic wound up with a much shorter suspension on appeal. He said he ingested the substance unintentionally via a glucose tablet bought at a pharmacy and says the process that led to his penalty "wouldn't be fair to any tennis player."

But he looks on the bright side.

"I just used the positive parts, which, you know, made me tougher," Cilic said.

Plus, it was last September that he connected with the only other man from Croatia to win a major, 2001 Wimbledon champion Ivanisevic.

"Any Croatian knows where he was at that time," said Cilic, who was 12 and at summer camp.

Ivanisevic insisted the biggest change for Cilic is being more relaxed on court.

"He didn't learn how to play tennis in this year," Ivanisevic said. "He always knew how to play tennis."

Cilic won 19 of his last 20 service points in the opening set. And he wound up with twice as many winners, 38-19.

Nishikori only broke once, in the second set, and Cilic broke right back. In the third set, trailing 4-2, Nishikori had three other break points. But one was erased by an ace and on the others, Nishikori slapped second-serve returns into the net — an escape Cilic termed "lucky."

NCAA lifts ban on Penn State

Nittany Lions eligible for postseason this year

By Dan Gelston
The Associated Press

Penn State students turned campus into the site of a peaceful and jubilant celebration after the football program had its bowl ban lifted.

They chanted Joe Paterno's name and, of course, threw in "We Are" for good measure on Monday night.

The thousands that rallied were in stark contrast to the mess 2½ years ago, when disgruntled students took to the streets and wracked their college town in violence after Paterno's dismissal.

Good times — and big games — are back at Penn State.

"We were sitting in a computer lab, and we just started running around telling people, letting them know, just going crazy," fifth-year senior Brad Vasko said. "We bought a keg. Immediately."

The Nittany Lions got out from under the most severe on-field sanctions imposed two years ago over the Jerry Sandusky child abuse scandal, learning Monday that the NCAA will allow Penn State to compete in this year's postseason and that all scholarships will return in 2015.

The surprise announcement, linked to progress the school has made reforming its athletic program, moved the university a step farther away from the fallout from Sandusky, the former assistant coach convicted of sexual abuse of 10 boys, including acts at university facilities.

The scandal badly tarnished what had been one of college sports' most respected programs, led to charges of a criminal cover-up against former university administrators Graham Spanier, Gary Schultz and Tim Curley — whose cases are still pending. Paterno was fired.

Penn State had been halfway through a four-year postseason ban handed down during the summer of 2012. Some of the 40 scholarships the program was originally docked were restored earlier than expected a year ago.

The university still must pay a $60 million fine and vacate 111 wins that came under Paterno.

The decision by the NCAA's Executive Committee followed a recommendation by former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell, whose second annual report as Penn State's athletics integrity monitor concluded the university was in compliance with a 2012 agreement and consent decree.

"Senator Mitchell's report and recommendations, along with the actions taken by the NCAA today, are a recognition of the hard work of many over the past two years to make Penn State a stronger institution," said Penn State President Eric Barron, who took over in February.

Mitchell said the school had made progress toward implementing a new human resources system, "fostering an ethical culture" and improving security at its sports facilities. His own five-year oversight role, scheduled to continue until 2017, might end earlier as a result of the progress that has been made, he said.

Mitchell said his recommendation was focused on aspects of the penalties that affect student-athletes, many of whom stayed at Penn State despite the ability to transfer without penalty.

Penn State is 2-0 this season. If the Nittany Lions win the East division, they will be eligible to play in the Big Ten championship game.

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NFL

PAUL SANCYA/AP

Giants quarterback Eli Manning is knocked down by Lions defensive end Ezekiel Ansah during the second quarter on Monday in Detroit.

Stafford, Johnson connect for early TDs as Lions roll

BY NOAH TRISTER
The Associated Press

DETROIT — For all the talk about Matthew Stafford and how quickly he would pick up a new system in Detroit, it was easy to forget one crucial factor.

He and Calvin Johnson are now in their sixth season together.

Talk about a comfort level.

"I think through the years and the number of reps those guys have had together, you do establish a pretty strong rapport," Lions coach Jim Caldwell said. "When you're throwing the ball accurately and you have a guy that can run and get it and stretch and get it the way that Calvin can, it allows Matthew to put the ball in a position where it's our ball and nobody else's ball.

"Most of the time [Johnson] can get his hands on it in those situations. They do have great synergy."

Stafford threw two early touchdown passes to Johnson on what looked like broken plays, and the Lions beat the New York Giants 35-14 on Monday night. Caldwell won his first game as Detroit's coach, and Stafford threw for 346 yards.

Johnson had seven catches for 164 yards.

When the Lions collapsed down the stretch last year and missed the playoffs, Johnson wasn't fully healthy. He looked fine against the Giants in Detroit's first Monday night opener since 1971.

"There were some opportunities there where we had some single coverage, you know, but it wasn't all the time," Johnson said. "But there were some opportunities. It's the NFL, you get the best playing against the best, so you are going to get those opportunities."

Here are a few things we learned from Detroit's convincing win:

Avoiding mistakes: The Lions committed too many penalties in the first half, but aside from that, it was a pretty clean performance. They didn't have any turnovers after averaging more than two per game last season.

"I'm just trying to be as smart as I possibly can," Stafford said. "Our defense was playing outstanding. They were getting us the ball back."

Trouble up front: New York's injury-plagued offensive line was a concern coming into the game, and the Giants didn't look confident. Even when they had first-and-goal from the 1 in the second quarter, they called three passes and only one run, finally scoring on Eli Manning's 1-yard pass to Larry Donnell.

Pass defense: The Lions were supposed to be the team with concerns in the secondary, but the Giants let Johnson get behind them for the game's first touchdown, a 67-yarder in the first quarter.

"I don't know if it's first-game jitters or guys trying to do too much," safety Antrel Rolle said. "It wasn't enough fire out there. We didn't lay down, but it wasn't enough fire, so we need to pick up that aspect, also."

Detroit's secondary avoided any major problems even though safety James Ihedigbo was inactive and cornerback Bill Bentley went down with a knee injury.

Pass rush: Detroit had some success pressuring Manning — thanks in part to an unfamiliar name. Defensive end George Johnson, who hadn't played in an NFL game since 2012 and had never had a sack, contributed 1½ sacks against the Giants.

"They have a good front four. They brought some pressure with the linebackers a few times, but we knew we weren't going to be able to sit back there all day and hold it and do a lot of seven-step drops," Manning said.

CARLOS OSORIO/AP

Lions wide receiver Calvin Johnson completes a 67-yard touchdown catch during the first quarter against the New York Giants on Monday.

Scoreboard

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
Miami	1	0	0	1.000	33	20
N.Y. Jets	1	0	0	1.000	19	14
Buffalo	1	0	0	1.000	23	20
New England	0	1	0	.000	20	33
South						
Tennessee	1	0	0	1.000	26	10
Houston	1	0	0	1.000	17	6
Jacksonville	0	1	0	.000	17	34
Indianapolis	0	1	0	.000	24	31
North						
Cincinnati	1	0	0	1.000	23	16
Pittsburgh	1	0	0	1.000	30	27
Cleveland	0	1	0	.000	27	30
Baltimore	0	1	0	.000	16	23
West						
Denver	1	0	0	1.000	31	24
San Diego	0	1	0	.000	17	18
Oakland	0	1	0	.000	14	19
Kansas City	0	1	0	.000	10	26

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
Philadelphia	1	0	0	1.000	34	17
Washington	0	1	0	.000	6	17
Dallas	0	1	0	.000	17	28
N.Y. Giants	0	1	0	.000	14	35
South						
Carolina	1	0	0	1.000	20	14
Atlanta	1	0	0	1.000	37	34
New Orleans	0	1	0	.000	34	37
Tampa Bay	0	1	0	.000	14	20
North						
Minnesota	1	0	0	1.000	34	6
Detroit	1	0	0	1.000	35	14
Chicago	0	1	0	.000	20	23
Green Bay	0	1	0	.000	16	36
West						
Seattle	1	0	0	1.000	36	16
San Francisco	1	0	0	1.000	28	17
Arizona	1	0	0	1.000	18	17
St. Louis	0	1	0	.000	6	34

Thursday's game
Seattle 36, Green Bay 16

Sunday's games
Minnesota 34, St. Louis 6
Buffalo 23, Chicago 20, OT
Houston 17, Washington 6
Tennessee 26, Kansas City 10
Atlanta 37, New Orleans 34, OT
Pittsburgh 30, Cleveland 27
Philadelphia 34, Jacksonville 17
N.Y. Jets 19, Oakland 14
Cincinnati 23, Baltimore 16
Miami 33, New England 20
San Francisco 28, Dallas 17
Carolina 20, Tampa Bay 14
Denver 31, Indianapolis 24

Monday's games
Detroit 35, N.Y. Giants 14
Arizona 18, San Diego 17

Thursday, Sept. 11
Pittsburgh at Baltimore

Sunday, Sept. 14
Dallas at Tennessee
New England at Minnesota
Miami at Buffalo
Jacksonville at Washington
Arizona at N.Y. Giants
New Orleans at Cleveland
Atlanta at Cincinnati
Detroit at Carolina
Seattle at San Diego
St. Louis at Tampa Bay
Houston at Oakland
Kansas City at Denver
N.Y. Jets at Green Bay
Chicago at San Francisco

Monday, Sept. 15
Philadelphia at Indianapolis

Thursday, Sept. 18
Tampa Bay at Atlanta

Sunday, Sept. 21
San Diego at Buffalo
Dallas at St. Louis
Washington at Philadelphia
Houston at NY Giants
Minnesota at New Orleans
Tennessee at Cincinnati
Baltimore at Cleveland
Green Bay at Detroit
Indianapolis at Jacksonville
Oakland at New England
San Francisco at Arizona
Denver at Seattle
Kansas City at Miami
Pittsburgh at Carolina

Monday, Sept. 22
Chicago at NY Jets

Monday
Lions 35, Giants 14

N.Y. Giants	0	7	0	7—14
Detroit	14	0	13	8—35

First Quarter
Det—C.Johnson 67 pass from Stafford (Freese kick), 12:11.
Det—C.Johnson 16 pass from Stafford (Freese kick), 5:12.

Second Quarter
NYG—Donnell 1 pass from Manning (J.Brown kick), 12:54.

Third Quarter
Det—FG Freese 28, 11:54.
Det—FG Freese 27, 5:50.
Det—Stafford 5 run (Freese kick), 3:51.

Fourth Quarter
NYG—Jennings 1 run (J.Brown kick), 11:53.
Det—Bell 3 run (Fauria pass from Stafford), 4:39.
A—64,401.

	NYG	Det
First downs	16	20
Total Net Yards	197	417
Rushes-yards	22-53	30-76
Passing	144	341
Punt Returns	2-30	3-11
Kickoff Returns	1-14	0-0
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	2-31
Comp-Att-Int	18-33-2	22-32-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	2-19	1-5
Punts	5-40.2	2-54.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	4-25	8-85
Time of Possession	23:56	36:04

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—N.Y. Giants, Jennings 16-46, A.Williams 5-9, Jernigan 1-(minus 2). **Detroit**, Bell 15-51, Bush 9-15, Riddick 1-4, Tate 1-4, Stafford 4-2.

Passing—N.Y. Giants, Manning 18-33-2-163. **Detroit**, Stafford 22-32-0-346.

Receiving—N.Y. Giants, Donnell 5-56, Jennings 4-50, Jernigan 4-25, Cruz 2-24, Randle 2-1, Fells 1-7. **Detroit**, C.Johnson 7-164, Tate 6-93, Bush 6-49, Fauria 1-26, Pettigrew 1-9, Bell 1-5.

Missed field goals—Detroit, Freese 43 (WL).

Cardinals 18, Chargers 17

San Diego	0	3	14	0—17
Arizona	0	6	0	12—18

Second Quarter
Ari—FG Catanzaro 22, 12:42.
SD—FG Novak 36, 6:00.
Ari—FG Catanzaro 44, :00.

Third Quarter
SD—Floyd 6 pass from Rivers (Novak kick), 11:38.
SD—Ry.Mathews 20 run (Novak kick), 5:26.

Fourth Quarter
Ari—Taylor 5 pass from Palmer (run failed), 12:30.
Ari—Jo.Brown 13 pass from Palmer (pass failed), 2:25.
A—61,292.

	SD	Ari
First downs	15	22
Total Net Yards	290	403
Rushes-yards	24-52	26-109
Passing	238	294
Punt Returns	2-17	0-0
Kickoff Returns	0-0	3-49
Interceptions Ret.	0-0	1-12
Comp-Att-Int	21-36-1	24-37-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	0-0	2-10
Punts	6-39.3	5-43.6
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-2
Penalties-Yards	6-47	5-23
Time of Possession	28:11	31:49

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—San Diego, Ry.Mathews 12-40, Rivers 2-10, Woodhead 6-5, Royal 2-(minus 1), Brown 2-(minus 2). **Arizona**, Ellington 13-53, Palmer 4-29, Dwyer 7-20, Taylor 1-5, Floyd 1-2.

Passing—San Diego, Rivers 21-36-1-238. **Arizona**, Palmer 24-37-0-304.

Receiving—San Diego, Gates 6-81, Allen 5-37, Floyd 4-50, Green 2-24, Ry.Mathews 2-20, Royal 1-20, Woodhead 1-6. **Arizona**, Floyd 5-119, Ellington 5-27, Taylor 3-21, Jo.Brown 2-29, Ginn Jr. 2-29, Dwyer 2-8, Fitzgerald 1-22, Carlson 1-20, Housler 1-16, Hughes 1-7, Ja.Brown 1-6.

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NFL

ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Arizona quarterback Carson Palmer (3) looks to pass under pressure from San Diego outside linebacker Dwight Freeney during the first half of Monday's game in Glendale, Ariz. The Cardinals scored two late touchdowns to beat the Chargers 18-17.

Cards rally past Chargers

BY BOB BAUM
The Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Just when things looked bleakest for the Arizona Cardinals, their offense came alive with two late touchdown drives.

And the second one was a doozy.

Arizona went 91 yards in 10 plays, capped by rookie John Brown's 13-yard TD catch from Carson Palmer with 2:25 to play, to rally for an 18-17 season-opening victory over the San Diego Chargers on Monday night.

"It's just good," Palmer said. "It's just good for our offense to get that confidence and get that drive."

Then it was up to the defense to keep the Chargers down.

"I don't think anybody was surprised," Palmer said. "I think we all expected it."

None of the Cardinals were surprised that Brown, the small, speedy wide receiver from little Pittsburg State (Kansas) made the winning play.

"It was a sweet little touchdown," Palmer said. "That's what he does. He's so shifty. It's like somebody's controlling him with a joystick. He is so quick and so hard to find on those little quick screens."

Brown took the short toss in the flat and eluded tacklers into the end zone, capping an 11-play, 91-yard drive.

"When I first caught the ball, I saw a Charger player coming, and I saw our guy block him," Brown said, "and I saw another Charger dude coming, and I took a step inside and he got blocked, and I ran right in the end zone."

Arizona trailed 17-6 after three quarters.

"We had some ups and downs," Cardinals coach Bruce Arians said. "It wasn't the prettiest game, but a win is a win."

Jerry Attaochu blocked a punt and forced a fumble, setting up 10 Chargers points.

"Too many mistakes. Too many mistakes in crucial times," Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers said. "We had plenty of opportunities. Offensively, we had too many mistakes in crucial times that turned into points."

Sources: Pegulas buying Bills

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Buffalo Sabres owners Terry and Kim Pegula are closing in on their purchase of the Buffalo Bills.

The bid has been tentatively approved by members of late owner Ralph Wilson's estate, two people familiar with discussions told The Associated Press on Tuesday. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because the sale is being conducted privately.

The next step, the people said, is for the estate to get initial approval from the NFL. That could come by the end of the week and as early as later in the day in a process that could be completed by next month.

The development comes a day after the Pegulas were among at least three prospective ownership groups to submit binding bids to purchase the team.

The other two groups to submit bids were New York City real estate mogul Donald Trump and a Toronto group fronted by rocker Jon Bon Jovi.

49ers release RB James

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Running back LaMichael James was released by the San Francisco 49ers on Monday.

Coach Jim Harbaugh announced the move a day after his team's 28-17 win at Dallas. James has sought a greater role in the running game, but he had just two carries for no yards against the Cowboys on Sunday.

Harbaugh, who has an open-door policy with players, wouldn't talk about whether he met with the frustrated James, saying, "We thought it was in the best interest of our team." The 49ers later re-signed wide receiver Kassim Osgood.

James was a second-round draft pick by the 49ers in 2012 out of Oregon. He also has handled return duties while playing in 15 regular-season games for San Francisco.

Colts have likely lost Mathis

INDIANAPOLIS — Robert Mathis likely won't get a chance to defend his NFL sacks title.

Less than two weeks after starting a four-game, league-imposed suspension, the Colts' best pass rusher sustained an Achilles' tendon injury while working out privately in Atlanta.

A person with knowledge of the injury told The Associated Press on Monday that Mathis tore the tendon, which would keep him out the entire season. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team has not confirmed the diagnosis.

The injury occurred while Mathis was away from the team.

NFL

Video shows spitting, cursing

By Rob Maaddi
The Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Ray Rice and Janay Palmer can be heard shouting obscenities at each other, and she appears to spit in the face of the three-time Pro Bowl running back right before he throws a knockout punch in a video shown to The Associated Press by a law enforcement official.

The video, shown to the AP Monday night, includes audio and is longer than the grainy TMZ Sports video released earlier that day. After the TMZ video made its way around the Internet, the Baltimore Ravens cut Rice and the league suspended him indefinitely. Rice was originally suspended for two games and coaches and others had praised his behavior since the arrest for striking his then-fiancee in February.

The videos show Rice and Palmer in an elevator at an Atlantic City casino. Each hits the other before Rice knocks Palmer off her feet and into a railing. Months ago, a TMZ video showed Rice dragging Palmer, now his wife, from the elevator at the Revel casino, which closed on Sept. 2.

The higher-quality video shown to the AP shows Rice made no attempt to cover up the incident. After Palmer collapses, he drags her out of the elevator and is met by some hotel staff. One of them can be heard saying, "She's drunk, right?" And then, "No cops." But Rice didn't respond.

The video was shown to the AP on condition of anonymity because the official isn't authorized to release it.

Coach John Harbaugh said he met with Ravens owner Steve Bisciotti, team president Dick Cass and general manager Ozzie Newsome after they saw the TMZ video, and they made the decision to let Rice go.

"It's something we saw for the first time today, all of us," Harbaugh said. "It changed things, of course. It made things a little bit different."

The action represented a complete reversal for the team, even though an Atlantic City police summons stated that Rice caused "bodily injury to Janay Palmer, specifically by striking her with his hand, rendering her unconscious."

The Ravens had used words like "respect" and "proud" in referring to Rice following his arrest.

When the NFL announced Rice's two-game suspension for domestic violence on July 24, Newsome said: "We respect the efforts Ray has made to become the best partner and father he can be. That night was not typical of the Ray Rice we know and respect. We believe that he will not let that one night define who he is, and he is determined to make sure something like this never happens again.

Lloyd Fox, Baltimore Sun/MCT

The Baltimore Ravens released running back Ray Rice Monday after video of him punching his then-fiancee in an elevator was posted online. A longer, more detailed version of the footage was shown to the AP on Monday night.

Asked Monday night if Rice misled him, Harbaugh said he didn't want to get into "all that."

"I don't think of it that way. Everything I said in terms of what I believe, I stand by," he said. "I believe that still, and I'll always believe those things, and (we'll) always stand in support of them as a couple, and that's not going to change."

Rice said in a news conference this summer that his actions that night were "inexcusable." But the Ravens never took action against him until after the second video was released.

The NFL, which has been working hard to promote the game to women, also took action after the explicit video was released. Commissioner Roger Goodell announced that, based on the new video evidence, Rice has been suspended indefinitely.

"We requested from law enforcement any and all information about the incident, including the video from inside the elevator," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Monday morning. "That video was not made available to us and no one in our office has seen it until today."

Rice's lawyer, Michael Diamondstein, declined to comment when contacted by The Associated Press.

Rice, 27, stood to make $4 million this year.

"Obviously, any video that depicts an act of violence in that video is disturbing to watch. For our union, we have an unshakable position against any violence, certainly domestic violence included," NFLPA executive director DeMaurice Smith said at the Seahawks' facility in Renton, Washington. "It will be a time for us now to catch up with everything else that has occurred today."

He had been charged with felony aggravated assault in the case, but in May he was accepted into a pretrial intervention program that allowed him to avoid jail time and could lead to the charge being purged from his record.

After Goodell drew criticism not being tough enough on Rice, he wrote a letter to all 32 NFL owners in August saying he "didn't get it right."

First-time offenders now face a six-game suspension.

Rice began his suspension Sunday, when the Ravens opened their season with a 23-16 loss to the Cincinnati Bengals. He was scheduled to return after Thursday night's game against Pittsburgh.

He leaves the Ravens as the second-leading rusher in franchise history, behind only Jamal Lewis. A three-time Pro Bowl selection, Rice is the team's career leader in total yards from scrimmage (9,214) and is the only player in Ravens history to rush for 1,000 yards in four consecutive seasons.

But those are numbers, and his actions in that elevator shed new light on him.

"I'm not going to go into what he told us or anything or if it matches or if it doesn't," Ravens receiver Torrey Smith said. "That doesn't matter. What matters is what you see. It wasn't a pleasant sight at all."

Patrick Semansky/AP

Janay Rice lashed out at the media for coverage of her husband's assault.

Wife breaks silence via social media

By Aaron Wilson
The Baltimore Sun

In an emotional message, the wife of former Ravens running back Ray Rice broke her silence Tuesday morning, one day after Rice's contract was terminated and he was indefinitely suspended by the NFL.

Those events followed a graphic video surfacing in which Rice punched his then-fiancee, Janay Palmer, whom he later married and now has his last name. The couple has been in counseling since the incident in February, which occurred, in Atlantic City, N.J.

The Baltimore Sun has verified that the following unabridged message from her official Instagram account is from Janay Rice and was intended to be released publicly:

"I woke up this morning feeling like I had a horrible nightmare, feeling like I'm mourning the death of my closest friend," Janay Rice wrote. "But to have to accept the fact that it's reality is a nightmare in itself. No one knows the pain that (the) media & unwanted options from the public has caused my family. To make us relive a moment in our lives that we regret every day is a horrible thing. To take something away from the man I love that he has worked his ass (off) for all his life just to gain ratings is horrific.

"THIS IS OUR LIFE! What don't you all get. If your intentions were to hurt us, embarrass us, make us feel alone, take all happiness away, you've succeeded on so many levels. Just know we will continue to grow & show the world what real love is! Ravensnation we love you!"

Fallout: Players express dismay after seeing knockout punch

FROM BACK PAGE

player, and voice your opinion. And if you really feel strongly about something, I don't think the uniform you wear or the team you play for should determine if you speak out or not."

Knighton is the oldest of four boys, "and I'm a role model for them also. So, I don't think that's acceptable in any workplace, any job you have, anywhere you live, wherever you are, what color you are, how much money you make. That shouldn't be accepted anywhere."

He said if one of his teammates were involved in domestic violence, "I wouldn't be friends with the guy or talk to the guy."

Knighton said he didn't speak out about Rice's initial two-game suspension because he didn't know all the details.

> **'There's just no place for that behavior in our society.'**
>
> **Mike Pettine**
> Cleveland Browns coach

"Originally, you just see him carrying her so you don't know what happened," Knighton said. "... But now that the video is out, I think the league handled it the right way. Like I said, there's no place in the world for domestic violence."

When Knighton was voted a defensive captain by his peers last week, he said part of being a leader was "speaking your mind. When things are uncomfortable and things are wanted to be said, you man up and say those things."

When he saw the TMZ video of Rice's hit, Knighton took to Twitter, saying "this video "makes me sick to my stomach" and adding, "That man should be thrown out the nfl and thrown into jail. Shame on those deciding his punishment. Smh."

Here's a sampling of other reactions across the NFL:

■ Steelers cornerback William Gay:

"We're talking about a life, I don't care about a sport when it comes down to domestic violence. This is real. Someone can lose their life to it.

"So I'm not concerned about the sport. I'm concerned about what happens in the world, what happens in real life. "

Gay's mother, Carolyn, was shot and killed by Gay's stepfather in Tallahassee, Fla., when Gay was 7 years old. He volunteers at the Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh and is an advocate for domestic violence victims.

"We need to do everything we can to help Ray Rice because we don't need to run away from him and say he's evil."

■ Bills coach Doug Marrone, who supports Vera House, which assists victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse:

"Am I happy the NFL has taken a harder stance? ... I mean, there is no excuse for abuse. I really believe that."

■ Cleveland Browns coach Mike Pettine, who called the video "deeply disturbing, especially as a father that has two daughters":

"There's just no place for that behavior in our society."

■ Titans tackle Michael Oher, former teammate of Rice's in Baltimore whose locker was next to the running back:

"If my daughter was to get hit like that from another man, I'd have a serious problem with it. So I wish him the best, but it's no place for that. I don't care if you're a football player, a professional athlete or anything, a regular man or anything, there's no place for that — striking a woman."

NFL/SPORTS BRIEFS

LYNNE SLADKY/AP

New England quarterback Tom Brady, right, is sacked during Sunday's 33-20 loss to Miami. Brady was sacked four times.

Week 1 shocker: Patriots in cellar

BY BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Yes, the NFL tends to mess with your mind. So here's something football fans haven't seen in a long time: New England alone at the bottom of the AFC East standings.

Don't count on it lasting much longer.

To say the Patriots have owned the division for a dozen or so years is to undervalue the achievements by Tom Brady and company.

They have crushed the Dolphins, Jets and Bills pretty much since Brady stepped behind center early in the 2001 season. A season that concluded with the first of three Super Bowl titles in four years, incidentally.

With the exception of struggling in its trips to Miami (6-7 in games Brady has played, including Sunday's defeat), New England has been in another galaxy from the rest of the East.

It is 16-9 overall against the Dolphins since 2001 — excluding 2007, when Brady was injured — 17-6 vs. the Jets (plus 1-1 in the playoffs), and an almost unfathomable 22-2 against Buffalo.

While it's unwise to overreact to anything other than key injuries that occur in Week 1, that's particularly true in the case of the Patriots. What's a bit unsettling is that Brady sounded a lot like a panicky fan after the 33-20 loss.

"You can't play the way we played today and think we'll win a game this season," he said. "There's nothing that's positive to really take from it. The things that we were doing, I think this is a good way and a good example of if we do the things that we did today, you'll get beat."

True. But also true is how effective the Patriots are at fixing their ills. Bill Belichick isn't the longest-tenured coach in the NFL because of his fashion sense or his chattiness.

Since beating the Eagles for that third crown, New England has gone 110-34 in the regular season — including 11-5 in 2008 behind Matt Cassel, a record not good enough to make the postseason. They won the AFC East in all but 2008.

They also are 9-8 in the playoffs in that span, which doesn't sound so great. But how many franchises wouldn't take playing in 17 postseason games over the past nine seasons?

The last time the Patriots were 0-1 was 2003, when they got routed at Buffalo, 31-0.

And guess what: New England won the Super Bowl that season.

Briefly

Hawks discipline Ferry for racist comments

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The fallout from racially charged comments by Atlanta Hawks leadership continued on Tuesday as general manager Danny Ferry was disciplined for making inflammatory comments about British forward Luol Deng.

Hawks CEO Steve Koonin imposed undisclosed discipline on Ferry for comments the GM made to the ownership group in June when the team pursued the Sudan-born Deng as a free agent.

Atlanta's WSB-TV obtained a letter from Hawks co-owner Michael Gearon Jr. which cites Ferry telling the ownership group that Deng "has a little African in him."

Gearon's letter to co-owner Bruce Levenson said Ferry went on to say, "Not in a bad way, but he's like a guy who would have a nice store out front and sell you counterfeit stuff out of the back.

"Ferry completed the racial slur by describing the player (and impliedly all persons of African descent) as a two-faced liar and cheat."

In the letter, Gearon recommended that Ferry resign or be fired.

Deng

Ferry

SMU's Jones resigns two games into season

DALLAS — SMU coach June Jones resigned Monday only two games into his seventh season at the school, citing unspecified personal reasons for the decision.

The resignation, effective immediately, came after the Mustangs scored only one touchdown while losing their first two games this season.

"It was a very difficult decision for me to make, as you can imagine. I have devoted my life for the last 50 years to playing and coaching this game and it has been a great journey," Jones said in a statement released by the school. "This job has a lot of demands, as you know, and along with that journey comes a price that is paid. I have some personal issues I have been dealing with and I need to take a step away so I can address them at this time."

The 61-year-old Jones, who was 36-43 at SMU after nine seasons at Hawaii, didn't elaborate on what those personal issues were. The former NFL coach didn't return a message left on his cell by The Associated Press.

In other college football news:

■ The Oklahoma Supreme Court has ruled that the University of Oklahoma can enforce its one-year suspension of linebacker Frank Shannon.

An Oklahoma student accused Shannon of sexual assault earlier this year. Though no charges were filed, the school conducted a Title IX investigation and decided to suspend Shannon. He appealed in district court, and the suspension was blocked. The school appealed to the state supreme court, and it ruled that Shannon's suspension could be enforced.

Johnson feeling better after dehydration

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Hendrick Motorsports said Tuesday defending NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson is feeling "much better" after suffering from dehydration at Richmond.

A spokeswoman also said crew chief Chad Knaus found nothing wrong in the car that would have caused Johnson's dehydration.

The six-time NASCAR champion was assisted to the infield medical center following his eighth-place finish Saturday night. Johnson was lying down next to his car after the race and was helped by his crew to a golf cart.

He spent nearly 90 minutes in the care center and needed 5 liters of intravenous fluids and said after he wasn't sure what caused the dehydration.

Phoenix dominates WNBA Finals opener

PHOENIX — Brittney Griner swatted her way into the record books. Candice Dupree made just about every shot she took. Diana Taurasi dominated in all aspects.

Utilizing all of their star power at both ends of the floor, the Phoenix Mercury turned the opening game of the WNBA Finals into a roaring rout.

If Chicago doesn't play better or get Elena Delle Donna's back healthy, this could be one quick series — and the Sky know it.

The WNBA Finals appeared to be lopsided heading into the series: a team that set a league record for regular-season victories (Phoenix with 29) facing the first one to make the playoffs with a losing record (Chicago at 15-19).

The on-paper mismatch materialized on the court in the opener as the Mercury ran past the Sky and Delle Donne, who was limited to 11 minutes because of lower-back pain.

Griner set the tone early, blocking five shots in the first quarter on her way to eight for the game, both WNBA records.

Dupree hit her first 10 shots and had 26 points.

Taurasi was in full control of Phoenix's offense, finishing with 19 points and 11 assists while the Mercury shot a Finals-record 58.5 percent from the field.

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	84	59	.587	—
New York	73	68	.518	10
Toronto	74	69	.517	10
Tampa Bay	69	75	.479	15½
Boston	63	81	.438	21½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	79	63	.556	—
Detroit	79	65	.549	1
Cleveland	74	68	.521	5
Chicago	64	79	.448	15½
Minnesota	61	82	.427	18½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	88	55	.615	—
Oakland	80	63	.559	8
Seattle	79	64	.552	9
Houston	63	81	.438	25½
Texas	54	89	.378	34

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	81	61	.570	—
Atlanta	74	70	.514	8
Miami	70	72	.493	11
New York	69	75	.479	13
Philadelphia	66	77	.462	15½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	80	64	.556	—
Pittsburgh	75	68	.524	4½
Milwaukee	74	70	.514	6
Cincinnati	67	77	.465	13
Chicago	64	80	.444	16

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	82	62	.569	—
San Francisco	78	65	.545	3½
San Diego	66	77	.462	15½
Arizona	59	84	.413	22½
Colorado	59	85	.410	23

Monday's games

L.A. Angels 12, Cleveland 3
Detroit 9, Kansas City 5
Toronto 8, Chicago Cubs 0
Baltimore 4, Boston 0
Chicago White Sox 5, Oakland 4, 12 innings
Seattle 4, Houston 1
Washington 2, Atlanta 1
Pittsburgh 6, Philadelphia 4
N.Y. Mets 3, Colorado 2
St. Louis 5, Cincinnati 0
Miami 6, Milwaukee 4
L.A. Dodgers 9, San Diego 4

Tuesday's games

Minnesota at Cleveland
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees
Kansas City at Detroit
Baltimore at Boston
L.A. Angels at Texas
Oakland at Chicago White Sox
Houston at Seattle
Atlanta at Washington
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia
Chicago Cubs at Toronto
Colorado at N.Y. Mets
St. Louis at Cincinnati
Miami at Milwaukee
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers
Arizona at San Francisco

Wednesday's games

Baltimore (W.Chen 14-4) at Boston (Workman 1-8)
Minnesota (Gibson 11-10) at Cleveland (House 2-3)
Tampa Bay (Odorizzi 10-11) at N.Y. Yankees (Capuano 2-3)
Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 6-1) at Toronto (Hutchison 9-11)
Kansas City (Shields 13-7) at Detroit (Porcello 15-10)
L.A. Angels (Shoemaker 14-4) at Texas (Tepesch 4-9)
Oakland (Samardzija 4-5) at Chicago White Sox (Bassitt 0-1)
Houston (Tropeano 0-0) at Seattle (Iwakuma 14-6)
Atlanta (Harang 10-10) at Washington (Strasburg 11-10)
Pittsburgh (Worley 6-4) at Philadelphia (Je.Williams 3-0)
Colorado (Matzek 5-9) at N.Y. Mets (R.Montero 0-3)
St. Louis (Lackey 2-2) at Cincinnati (Simon 13-10)
Miami (Cosart 4-1) at Milwaukee (W.Peralta 15-10)
San Diego (Kennedy 10-12) at L.A. Dodgers (Haren 12-10)
Arizona (Collmenter 10-7) at San Francisco (Vogelsong 8-10)

Monday

Marlins 6, Brewers 4

Miami	ab	r	h	bi	Milwaukee	ab	r	h	bi
Yelich lf	5	1	2	1	CGomz cf	3	2	1	1
Solano 2b	5	0	0	0	Gennett 2b	4	1	2	1
Stanton rf	4	1	1	1	Lucroy c	4	0	2	2
McGeh 3b	3	0	1	1	ArRmr 3b	3	0	0	0
Ozuna cf	4	2	2	1	Braun rf	4	0	0	0
GJones 1b	4	1	2	2	KDavis lf	3	0	0	0
Sltlmch c	4	0	0	0	MrRynl 1b	3	0	0	0
Hchvrr ss	4	1	2	0	Overay ph	1	0	0	0
Penny p	2	0	1	0	Segura ss	2	1	1	0
SDyson p	0	0	0	0	Gallard p	1	0	0	0
RJhnsn ph	1	0	0	0	Estrad p	1	0	0	0
ARams p	0	0	0	0	GParra ph	1	0	0	0
Morris p	0	0	0	0	Broxtn p	0	0	0	0
Cishek p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	**36**	**6**	**11**	**6**	**Totals**	**30**	**4**	**6**	**4**

Miami 132 000 000—6
Milwaukee 200 000 020—4

E—Ar.Ramirez (9). DP—Miami 3, Milwaukee 1. LOB—Miami 6, Milwaukee 3. 2B—G.Jones (27), C.Gomez (30), Gennett (29). HR—Stanton (37), Ozuna (20), G.Jones (14). SB—Yelich (18). S—Penny.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Miami						
Penny W,2-1	6	4	2	2	3	1
S.Dyson	1	0	0	0	0	0
A.Ramos	⅔	2	2	2	1	0
Morris H,17	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Cishek S,33-37	1	0	0	0	0	1
Milwaukee						
Gallardo L,8-9	3⅔	9	6	5	2	1
Estrada	4⅓	2	0	0	0	4
Broxton	1	0	0	0	0	1

WP—Penny. T—2:50. A—31,203 (41,900).

TONY DEJAK/AP

The Angels' David Freese, right, is congratulated by Howie Kendrick and Albert Pujols after Freese hit a three-run home run off Indians starting pitcher Danny Salazar in the fifth inning on Monday.

Nationals 2, Braves 1

Atlanta	ab	r	h	bi	Washington	ab	r	h	bi
Heywrd rf	3	0	0	0	Span cf	3	0	1	0
Bonifac cf	3	0	0	0	Rendon 3b	3	1	1	1
R.Pena ph	1	0	0	0	Werth rf	3	0	0	0
BUpton cf	0	0	0	0	LaRoch 1b	4	0	2	0
FFrmn 1b	3	0	2	1	Dsmnd ss	4	0	1	1
J.Upton lf	3	0	0	0	Harper lf	4	0	0	0
CJhnsn 3b	4	0	0	0	WRams c	3	0	1	0
LaStell 2b	3	0	1	0	Koerns pr	0	1	0	0
ASmns ss	4	0	0	0	Loaton c	0	0	0	0
Laird c	3	0	0	0	ACarer 2b	3	0	1	0
Minor p	2	0	0	0	Fister p	2	0	0	0
Hale p	0	0	0	0	Hairstn ph	0	0	0	0
Doumit ph	1	0	1	0	Schrhlt ph	1	0	0	0
Constnz pr	0	1	0	0	Clipprd p	0	0	0	0
JWaldn p	0	0	0	0	Thrntn p	0	0	0	0
					Stmmn p	0	0	0	0
					Storen p	0	0	0	0
Totals	**30**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**Totals**	**30**	**2**	**7**	**2**

Atlanta 000 000 010—1
Washington 100 000 10x—2

DP—Washington 1. LOB—Atlanta 6, Washington 7. 2B—Doumit (3), A.Cabrera (6). CS—Rendon (2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Atlanta						
Minor L,6-10	6	7	2	2	2	3
Hale	1	0	0	0	1	0
J.Walden	1	0	0	0	0	1
Washington						
Fister W,13-6	7	2	0	0	3	3
Clippard H,33	⅔	1	1	1	1	2
Thornton	0	1	0	0	0	0
Stammen H,4	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Storen S,3-6	1	0	0	0	0	3

Thornton pitched to 1 batter in the 8th. Minor pitched to 2 batters in the 7th. WP—Minor. T—2:39. A—25,448 (41,408).

Mets 3, Rockies 2

Colorado	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
CDckrs lf	5	0	1	0	Lagars cf	4	0	1	0
Hwkns p	0	0	0	0	Niwnhs lf	3	1	0	0
Rutledg ss	3	0	2	0	DWrght 3b	4	0	2	0
Arenad 3b	4	1	1	1	Duda 1b	3	0	1	1
Cuddyr 1b	4	1	1	1	TdArnd c	4	0	1	0
Stubbs cf	3	0	0	0	EYong pr	0	1	0	0
McKnr c	2	0	1	0	Grndrs rf	3	1	1	1
Kahnle p	0	0	0	0	Flores ss	3	0	0	1
Paulsn ph	1	0	0	0	DHerrr 2b	3	0	0	0
BBrwn p	0	0	0	0	Niese p	2	0	0	0
Fridrch p	0	0	0	0	Carlyle p	0	0	0	0
Blckmn rf	0	0	0	0	dnDkkr ph	1	0	0	0
BBarns rf-lf	4	0	1	0	Black p	0	0	0	0
LeMahi 2b	4	0	2	0	CTorrs p	0	0	0	0
Lyles p	2	0	0	0					
Rosario ph-c	2	0	0	0					
Totals	**34**	**2**	**9**	**2**	**Totals**	**30**	**3**	**6**	**3**

Colorado 010 000 010—2
New York 100 000 002—3

One out when winning run scored. E—Cuddyer (1). LOB—Colorado 8, New York 6. 2B—Co.Dickerson (27), LeMahieu (14), Lagares (22), D.Wright (30), Duda (23), T.d'Arnaud (19). 3B—D.Wright (1), Granderson (2). HR—Arenado (18), Cuddyer (7). SB—Stubbs (18). CS—Rutledge (3). S—Rutledge. SF—Flores.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Colorado						
Lyles	6	3	1	1	2	4
Kahnle	1	0	0	0	0	1
B.Brown H,5	⅔	1	0	0	0	0
Friedrich H,2	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Hawkins L,3-3 BS,3-25	⅓	2	2	2	0	0
New York						
Niese	6⅔	8	1	1	1	7
Carlyle	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Black	1	1	1	1	1	1
C.Torres W,7-5	1	0	0	0	0	0

HBP—by Lyles (Duda). T—2:53. A—21,710 (41,922).

Angels 12, Indians 3

Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi	Cleveland	ab	r	h	bi
Calhon rf	3	2	3	2	Bourn cf	4	0	0	0
Trout cf	4	2	2	0	T.Holt cf	0	0	0	0
Campn cf	0	0	0	0	JRmrz ss	5	0	0	0
Pujols dh	5	3	3	3	Brantly lf	4	0	1	0
HKndrc 2b	5	2	3	2	Walters lf	0	0	0	0
LJimnz 3b	0	0	0	0	CSantn 1b	4	1	2	0
Freese 3b	4	1	1	3	Aguilar 1b	0	0	0	0
JMcDnl 3b	0	0	0	0	Kipnis 2b	3	1	2	0
GBckh ph-ss	1	0	0	0	Sellers 2b	0	0	0	0
Aybar ss	4	0	1	0	Chsnhll 3b	4	1	2	3
Green ph-2b	1	0	1	0	YGoms c	3	0	0	0
Cron 1b	3	1	1	0	Gimenz c	0	0	0	0
ENavrr 1b	1	0	0	0	Giambi dh	2	0	1	0
Conger c	5	1	1	0	Shuck pr-dh	1	0	0	0
Cowgill lf	4	0	0	1	DvMrp rf	4	0	0	0
Totals	**40**	**12**	**16**	**11**	**Totals**	**34**	**3**	**8**	**3**

Los Angeles 000 060 204—12
Cleveland 000 021 000— 3

DP—Los Angeles 1, Cleveland 2. LOB—Los Angeles 5, Cleveland 8. 2B—Green (5), Kipnis (23), Giambi (2). HR—Calhoun (14), Pujols (26), H.Kendrick (7), Freese (7), Chisenhall (13). SB—Aybar (15).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Los Angeles						
Weaver W,16-8	6	6	3	3	2	2
Grilli	1	1	0	0	0	0
Salas	1	1	0	0	0	0
Ja.Diaz	1	0	0	0	2	2
Cleveland						
Salazar L,6-7	4⅔	8	6	6	2	4
McAllister	2	4	2	2	1	1
Crockett	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
A.Adams	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hagadone	0	1	2	2	1	0
B.Price	1	3	2	2	0	0

Hagadone pitched to 2 batters in the 9th. T—3:16. A—15,116 (42,487).

Mariners 4, Astros 1

Houston	ab	r	h	bi	Seattle	ab	r	h	bi
Grssmn lf	5	1	3	0	AJcksn cf	4	0	1	1
Altuve 2b	3	0	0	1	EnChvz lf	3	0	1	0
Fowler cf	5	0	1	0	Denrfi ph-lf	2	0	0	0
Carter dh	3	0	1	0	Sucre c	0	0	0	0
JCastro c	4	0	0	0	Cano 2b	4	0	2	0
MGnzlz ss	4	0	1	0	KMorls dh	4	0	0	0
Singltn 1b	2	0	0	0	Seager 3b	4	0	0	0
MDmn 3b	3	0	1	0	Morrsn 1b	3	1	1	0
Presley rf	2	0	0	0	Zunino c	2	0	0	0
Mrsnck rf	1	0	0	0	J.Jones pr-lf	0	1	0	0
					MSndrs rf	2	1	1	0
					BMiller ss	4	1	2	3
Totals	**32**	**1**	**7**	**1**	**Totals**	**32**	**4**	**8**	**4**

Houston 000 000 100—1
Seattle 000 001 03x—4

LOB—Houston 11, Seattle 11. 2B—Ma.Gonzalez (13), Cano (33), Morrison (14). 3B—Grossman (2), B.Miller (4). SB—Grossman (6), Carter (4), A.Jackson (16), J.Jones 2 (25). CS—Presley (1). SF—Altuve.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Houston						
Peacock	5	4	0	0	2	6
D.Downs	⅓	0	1	1	1	0
De Leon	⅔	1	0	0	1	1
K.Chapman	1⅓	1	0	0	0	2
Foltynewicz L,0-1	0	0	1	1	1	0
Sipp	0	1	2	2	1	0
J.Buchanan	⅔	1	0	0	0	0
Seattle						
F.Hernandez	6	5	0	0	4	8
Maurer BS,1-1	1	1	1	1	0	1
Farquhar W,3-1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Rodney S,44-47	1	1	0	0	1	0

Foltynewicz pitched to 1 batter in the 8th. Sipp pitched to 2 batters in the 8th. HBP—by Peacock (Zunino). WP—F.Hernandez 2. T—3:42. A—15,617 (47,476).

Orioles 4, Red Sox 0

Baltimore	ab	r	h	bi	Boston	ab	r	h	bi
Markks rf	3	0	0	0	Betts cf	3	0	1	0
De Aza lf	4	1	1	0	Pedroia 2b	4	0	0	0
A.Jones cf	4	0	0	1	D.Ortiz dh	3	0	1	0
N.Cruz dh	4	2	2	0	Cespds lf	3	0	1	0
C.Davis 3b-1b	3	1	1	0	Napoli 1b	4	0	1	0
Pearce 1b	4	0	2	1	Nava rf	4	0	1	0
KJhnsn 3b	0	0	0	0	Bogarts ss	4	0	1	0
CJosph c	3	0	0	0	Mdlrks 3b	4	0	1	0
Flahrty ss	4	0	1	1	D.Ross c	3	0	0	0
Schoop 2b	4	0	0	0					
Totals	**33**	**4**	**7**	**3**	**Totals**	**32**	**0**	**7**	**0**

Baltimore 010 002 100—4
Boston 000 000 000—0

E—C.Davis (8), D.Ross (7), Bogaerts (19), Cespedes (6). DP—Baltimore 3, Boston 1. LOB—Baltimore 9, Boston 8. 2B—Flaherty (10), D.Ortiz (26). SB—De Aza (16). CS—De Aza (9). SF—A.Jones.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Baltimore						
M.Gonzalez W,9-7	6⅓	6	0	0	3	4
Tom.Hunter H,8	1⅓	0	0	0	0	3
Matusz	0	1	0	0	0	0
O'Day	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
R.Webb	1	0	0	0	0	1
Boston						
J.Kelly L,1-2	6⅓	6	4	3	3	6
Layne	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
A.Wilson	2⅓	1	0	0	1	2

Matusz pitched to 1 batter in the 8th. HBP—by J.Kelly (C.Davis, Markakis). T—3:08. A—35,894 (37,499).

Tigers 9, Royals 5

Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi	Detroit	ab	r	h	bi
Aoki rf	4	0	1	2	Kinsler 2b	5	0	0	0
Infante 2b	4	1	1	0	TrHntr rf	5	2	3	1
AGordn lf	2	0	0	0	TyCllns rf	0	0	0	0
S.Perez c	4	0	0	0	MiCarr dh	5	1	2	1
Hosmer 1b	4	1	3	1	VMrtnz 1b	5	1	3	1
BButler dh	4	0	0	1	JMrtnz lf	5	1	1	0
Mostks 3b	4	1	1	0	Carrer cf	0	0	0	0
L.Cain cf	4	2	2	1	Kelly cf-3b	3	1	1	1
AEscor ss	3	0	0	0	Cstllns 3b	4	2	2	2
					RDavis lf	0	0	0	0
					Avila c	2	1	1	1
					AnRmn ss	4	0	2	0
Totals	**33**	**5**	**8**	**5**	**Totals**	**38**	**9**	**15**	**7**

Kansas City 002 000 210—5
Detroit 026 000 01x—9

E—Hosmer 2 (9). DP—Kansas City 1, Detroit 1. LOB—Kansas City 4, Detroit 8. 2B—Tor.Hunter (28), D.Kelly (5), Castellanos (30), Avila (22). 3B—Hosmer (1). HR—L.Cain (4). SB—An.Romine (10). S—A.Escobar.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Kansas City						
Guthrie L,10-11	2⅔	10	8	6	1	1
C.Coleman	1⅓	1	0	0	2	1
L.Coleman	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0
S.Downs	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0
Frasor	1⅓	2	1	1	0	0
Detroit						
Verlander W,13-12	7	6	4	4	1	4
Chamberlain	1	2	1	1	1	1
Nathan	1	0	0	0	0	0

WP—Frasor. T—3:19. A—30,758 (41,681).

Dodgers 9, Padres 4

San Diego	ab	r	h	bi	Los Angeles	ab	r	h	bi
Solarte 3b	3	1	1	0	DGordn 2b	5	2	1	0
RLirian rf	4	2	1	0	HRmrz ss	5	1	4	2
Gyorko 2b	3	0	0	0	Rojas ss	0	0	0	0
Rivera c	4	0	1	1	AdGnzl 1b	4	1	1	0
Grandl 1b	4	1	1	1	Kemp rf	3	2	1	1
Medica lf	4	0	0	0	Crwfrd lf	4	2	3	3
Maybin cf	3	0	0	0	Puig cf	4	0	1	1
Amarst ss	3	0	0	0	Uribe 3b	4	1	2	1
Despgn p	2	0	0	0	A.Ellis c	3	0	0	1
Garces p	0	0	0	0	Kershw p	4	0	0	0
Camps p	0	0	0	0	P.Baez p	0	0	0	0
RAlvrz p	0	0	0	0					
AMoore ph	1	0	0	0					
ATorrs p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	**31**	**4**	**4**	**2**	**Totals**	**36**	**9**	**13**	**9**

San Diego 000 102 001—4
Los Angeles 110 240 01x—9

E—Maybin (1), Amarista (8), H.Ramirez (13), A.Ellis (4), Puig (3). DP—San Diego 1. LOB—San Diego 2, Los Angeles 9. 2B—Ad.Gonzalez (36), Kemp (33). HR—Grandal (12), C.Crawford (7), Uribe (8). SB—R.Liriano (3), D.Gordon (59). CS—H.Ramirez (5), C.Crawford (6).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
San Diego						
Despaigne L,3-6	4⅓	8	7	6	3	3
Garces	⅓	2	1	1	0	0
Campos	1⅓	1	0	0	2	4
R.Alvarez	1	0	0	0	1	0
A.Torres	1	2	1	0	0	2
Los Angeles						
Kershaw W,18-3	8	3	3	1	2	8
P.Baez	1	1	1	1	0	2

T—3:04. A—41,886 (56,000).

Blue Jays 8, Cubs 0

Chicago	ab	r	h	bi	Toronto	ab	r	h	bi
Coghln lf	4	0	0	0	Reyes ss	4	0	1	0
J.Baez ss	4	0	0	0	Bautist rf	3	1	1	3
Valuen dh	3	0	0	0	Encrnc dh	4	1	1	0
Soler rf	3	0	1	0	Lind 1b	4	1	2	0
Castillo c	3	0	0	0	STllsn pr-3b	0	1	0	0
Olt 1b	3	0	1	0	DNavrr c	3	1	2	2
Alcantr cf	3	0	0	0	Valnci 3b-1b	4	0	1	1
Watkns 2b	3	0	0	0	Pillar lf	4	1	2	1
Valaika 3b	3	0	1	0	Goins 2b	4	1	1	0
					Gose cf	4	1	1	0
Totals	**29**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**Totals**	**34**	**8**	**12**	**7**

Chicago 000 000 000—0
Toronto 010 130 12x—8

E—Watkins 2 (3). DP—Chicago 2, Toronto 1. LOB—Chicago 2, Toronto 4. 2B—Lind (22), D.Navarro (20), Pillar (7). HR—Bautista (32). CS—Bautista (2). SF—D.Navarro.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Chicago						
Ja.Turner L,5-9	6	7	5	4	1	2
Straily	1⅔	5	3	3	0	2
Rosscup	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Toronto						
Stroman W,10-5	9	3	0	0	0	8

WP—Ja.Turner. T—2:20. A—16,879 (49,282).

White Sox 5, Athletics 4 (12)

Oakland	ab	r	h	bi	Chicago	ab	r	h	bi
Crisp cf	5	0	1	0	Eaton cf	4	1	0	0
Fuld lf	4	0	1	1	AlRmrz ss	4	1	0	0
Dnldsn 3b	5	0	0	0	JAreu dh	5	0	0	0
A.Dunn dh	5	0	1	0	Gillaspi 3b	4	1	1	2
DeNrrs c	5	1	2	0	AGarci rf	4	0	1	1
Reddck rf	4	1	1	2	Wilkins 1b	3	0	0	0
Lowrie ss	4	1	1	1	MTaylr ph-lf	2	0	0	0
Moss 1b	2	0	0	0	Viciedo lf-1b	4	0	0	0
Gentry ph	1	0	0	0	Flowrs c	4	2	3	2
Freimn 1b	2	0	0	0	Semien 2b	3	0	1	0
Sogard 2b	2	0	0	0					
Callasp ph	0	0	0	0					
BBurns pr	0	1	0	0					
Parrino 2b	2	0	0	0					
Totals	**41**	**4**	**7**	**4**	**Totals**	**37**	**5**	**6**	**5**

Oakland 000 030 010 000—4
Chicago 200 001 001 001—5

One out when winning run scored. E—Moss (6). DP—Oakland 2, Chicago 2. LOB—Oakland 5, Chicago 5. 3B—De.Norris (1). HR—Reddick (11), Lowrie (6), Gillaspie (7), Flowers 2 (14). SB—B.Burns (1). S—Semien. SF—A.Garcia.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Oakland						
Gray	7	4	3	2	3	4
Gregerson H,21	1	0	0	0	0	1
O'Flaherty BS,1-2	1	1	1	1	0	1
Otero	2	0	0	0	1	1
J.Chavez L,8-8	⅓	1	1	1	0	1
Chicago						
Noesi	6⅓	4	3	3	1	4
Surkamp	1	2	1	1	1	0
D.Webb	1	1	0	0	1	2
Belisario	1⅔	0	0	0	1	0
Guerra W,2-3	2	0	0	0	0	1

HBP—by Gray (Viciedo). WP—Gray, D.Webb. T—3:38. A—15,517 (40,615).

Pirates 6, Phillies 4

Pittsburgh	ab	r	h	bi	Philadelphia	ab	r	h	bi
SMarte lf	5	1	3	2	Revere cf	4	1	0	0
Snider rf	3	0	0	0	Rollins ss	2	1	1	0
GPolnc rf	1	0	0	0	Galvis ss	1	0	0	0
AMcCt cf	4	1	3	0	CHrdz ph-ss	0	0	0	1
NWalkr 2b	5	1	1	1	Utley 2b	4	0	1	2
RMartn c	5	1	1	0	Howard 1b	3	0	1	1
I.Davis 1b	3	0	0	0	GwynJ pr	0	0	0	0
GSnchz ph-1b	0	0	0	1	DeFrts p	0	0	0	0
Mercer ss	4	1	2	1	Byrd rf	4	0	1	0
Morel 3b	4	0	2	1	Ruf lf-1b	4	0	0	0
Locke p	3	1	0	0	Ruiz c	4	0	0	0
Lambo ph	1	0	0	0	Franco 3b	4	1	1	0
JHughs p	0	0	0	0	Kndrck p	2	0	0	0
Watson p	0	0	0	0	Diekmn p	0	0	0	0
Melncn p	0	0	0	0	LuGarc p	0	0	0	0
					DBrwn ph-lf	0	1	0	0
Totals	**38**	**6**	**12**	**6**	**Totals**	**32**	**4**	**5**	**4**

Pittsburgh 000 020 040—6
Philadelphia 000 100 030—4

E—Mercer (11), Byrd (5), Franco (1). LOB—Pittsburgh 8, Philadelphia 4. 2B—S.Marte (24), Mercer 2 (23), Morel (2), Byrd (25). 3B—Rollins (4), Utley (6). HR—S.Marte (11). SF—G.Sanchez, C.Hernandez.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pittsburgh						
Locke W,7-4	7	3	1	1	0	9
J.Hughes	⅓	1	3	0	0	1
Watson H,30	⅔	1	0	0	0	0
Melancon S,27-31	1	0	0	0	0	1
Philadelphia						
K.Kendrick L,8-12	7	9	5	5	2	8
Diekman	⅓	2	1	1	0	0
Lu.Garcia	⅔	0	0	0	0	2
De Fratus	1	1	0	0	0	0

K.Kendrick pitched to 3 batters in the 8th. HBP—by J.Hughes (D.Brown), by Watson (Howard). T—3:08. A—23,140 (43,651).

Cardinals 5, Reds 0

St. Louis	ab	r	h	bi	Cincinnati	ab	r	h	bi
MCrpnt 3b	5	0	2	2	BHmltn cf	4	0	0	0
Jay cf-lf	3	1	1	0	B.Pena 1b	3	0	0	0
Hollidy lf	5	0	2	0	Frazier 3b	3	0	0	0
Bourjos pr-cf	0	1	0	0	Mesorc c	3	0	1	0
MAdms 1b	4	1	1	3	Phillips 2b	3	0	2	0
JhPerlt ss	4	0	0	0	Bruce rf	3	0	0	0
YMolin c	5	0	0	0	Heisey lf	3	0	0	0
Tavers rf	2	0	0	0	Cozart ss	3	0	0	0
Grichk ph-rf	2	1	2	0	Axelrod p	0	0	0	0
Wong 2b	4	1	2	0	Holmrg p	1	0	0	0
SMiller p	2	0	0	0	Lutz ph	1	0	0	0
Neshek p	0	0	0	0	MParr p	0	0	0	0
SFrmn p	0	0	0	0	LeCure p	0	0	0	0
					Dennck p	0	0	0	0
					Villarrl p	0	0	0	0
					Ondrsk p	0	0	0	0
					Ludwck ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	**36**	**5**	**10**	**5**	**Totals**	**28**	**0**	**3**	**0**

St. Louis 000 000 203—5
Cincinnati 000 000 000—0

DP—St. Louis 2. LOB—St. Louis 10, Cincinnati 1. 2B—Grichuk (3), Mesoraco (23). HR—Ma.Adams (15). S—S.Miller 2.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
St. Louis						
S.Miller W,9-9	7	3	0	0	0	4
Neshek H,23	1	0	0	0	0	0
S.Freeman	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cincinnati						
Axelrod	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Holmberg	5⅔	4	0	0	2	5
M.Parra L,0-3	⅓	3	2	2	1	0
LeCure	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Dennick	0	0	0	0	0	1
Villarreal	1⅔	2	2	2	1	1
Ondrusek	⅔	1	1	1	0	1

Dennick pitched to 1 batter in the 7th. S.Miller pitched to 1 batter in the 8th. WP—Dennick. T—3:00. A—27,612 (42,319).

MLB

Tigers top Royals, close gap to one game

The Associated Press

DETROIT — Brad Ausmus called the Tigers' series against the Kansas City Royals the biggest of the season so far.

Detroit got off to a good start.

Torii Hunter had two of his three hits in a six-run third inning and Detroit beat Kansas City 9-5 Monday to move within a game of the American League Central-leading Royals.

"I thought there was going to be more energy in our ballclub today (than in recent games), because we're looking up at the Royals in the standings and this is our chance," the manager said after the win.

The win was the Tigers' 9,000th in franchise history.

Justin Verlander (13-12) allowed four runs and six hits in seven innings, walking one and striking out four for Detroit, which moved into a tie with Seattle for the second AL wild card.

"It was pretty good," Verlander said. "They put up a couple runs in a couple innings, but even after they got those two early runs, I went back and watched the video and those were all good pitches. They've just got a good lineup."

Nick Castellanos had two hits, two runs and two RBIs for the Tigers. Victor Martinez had three hits and an RBI, and Hunter scored twice and drove in a run.

Lon Horwedel/AP

Detroit center fielder Ezequiel Carrera, center, high fives first-base coach Omar Vizquel following the Tigers' 9-5 win over Kansas City Royals on Monday in Detroit.

Royals starter Jeremy Guthrie (10-11) allowed eight runs — six earned — and 10 hits in 2⅔ innings. Guthrie has given up 14 earned runs in his last 6⅔ innings against Detroit.

"We were down six and I knew we were going to battle back and make it interesting," Kansas City manager Ned Yost said. "We had the tying runs on in the eighth."

Lorenzo Cain hit an inside-the-park home run for the Royals in the seventh inning. Eric Hosmer had three hits with an RBI for the Royals.

Seven of Detroit's first eight batters got hits in the third, which began with Hunter's infield single. Martinez's infield hit drove in the first run, glancing off the glove of first baseman Hosmer toward the dirt behind second. Don Kelly's double made it 4-2, Castellanos hit a two-run double and RBI singles by Alex Avila and Hunter boosted the lead to 8-2.

"He was one pitch away from getting out of that third inning but it just kept snowballing and he couldn't make that pitch," Royals manager Ned Yost said.

Detroit tied a season high with eight hits in the inning. The last time it happened was in the fifth inning July 10 at Kansas City, a 16-4 win. That inning was also started by Guthrie.

Detroit took a 2-0 lead in the second on a two-out, two-base error by Hosmer on Andrew Romine's grounder with the bases-loaded. Hosmer bobbled the ball and then threw wildly to Guthrie, who was covering first. Romine wound up on second.

Roundup

Pirates keep grip on second NL wild card

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Starling Marte had turned toward a crowd of media at his locker when a passing teammate cracked a one-liner about the soft-spoken outfielder.

"What do they think they'll get out of Marte," he asked.

In words, maybe not much.

At the plate, enough to keep Pittsburgh in the hunt for a second straight playoff spot.

Marte hit a two-run homer and fell a triple short of the cycle to help the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Philadelphia Phillies 6-4 on Monday night.

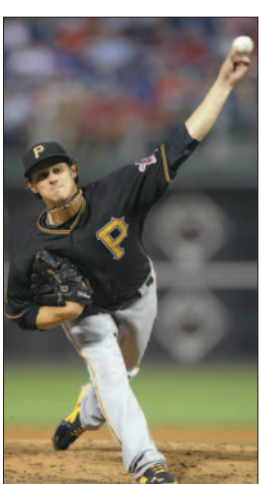
Jeff Locke (7-4) struck out nine in seven strong innings to help the Pirates go up 1½ games on Milwaukee and Atlanta for the second wild card.

"The second wild card has opened up so many opportunities for so many teams, so many cities," manager Clint Hurdle said. "It's been so exciting for fans. For more teams to try and pay attention to it would be chaotic."

Locke and Kyle Kendrick (8-12) were in a pitcher's duel until Pittsburgh broke open a one-run lead with four more in the eighth. The Pirates won their fourth straight and are 65-50 since May 2.

Marte has been a big reason for the hot streak. He singled, doubled and homered in his first three plate appearances and extended his hitting streak to eight games. He's batting .358 (38-for-106) with six homers and a 1.018 OPS over his last 28 games.

Mark Melancon tossed a scoreless ninth for his 27th save.



Matt Slocum/AP

Pittsburgh starter Jeff Locke improved to 4-0 against the Phillies on Monday and kept the Pirates in playoff contention.

Locke, who improved to 4-0 lifetime against the Phillies, retired the first 10 batters until Jimmy Rollins hit a one-out triple in the fourth. He scored on Ryan Howard's single and 92nd RBI of the season.

Locke, though, fanned Howard twice and struck out at least one batter in every inning. His nine K's were a season high and three more than he had combined in his last three starts (6). Locke rebounded nicely after lasting only 3-plus innings in a loss to St. Louis in his last start.

He gave up just one run and kept the Pirates in contention for another playoff berth.

"He had his best performance of the season," Hurdle said. "Locke pitched as good a game as we could have ever hoped for him to pitch tonight."

The Pirates gave reason for their fans to cheer — and plenty did, with "Let's Go Pirates!" echoing through a mostly barren Citizens Bank Park with every rally.

Marte's 11th homer gave the Pirates a 2-1 lead in the fifth. The Pirates chased Kendrick in the eighth, with Neil Walker, Jordy Mercer and Brent Morel all producing run-scoring hits and Gabby Sanchez chipped in with a sacrifice fly.

Angels 12, Indians 3: Jered Weaver became the AL's first 16-game winner, and visiting Los Angeles did all its damage against Danny Salazar in one inning for its fifth straight win.

White Sox 5, Athletics 4 (12): Tyler Flowers hit a tying solo homer in the ninth inning, and then another drive in the 12th to give host Chicago the win.

Marlins 6, Brewers 4: Giancarlo Stanton hit his NL-leading 37th homer, tying visiting Miami's record for career homers.

Nationals 2, Braves 1: Doug Fister pitched seven shutout innings, leading host Washington to the victory in the opener of a three-game series between the top teams in the NL East.

Cardinals 5, Reds 0: Matt Carpenter broke a scoreless tie with his two-run single for visiting St. Louis in the seventh inning, and Matt Adams added a three-run homer.

Orioles 4, Red Sox 0: Nelson Cruz had a pair of hits and Miguel Gonzalez pitched into the seventh inning, helping visiting Baltimore open a double-digit lead in the AL East.

Blue Jays 8, Cubs 0: Marcus Stroman pitched a three-hitter for his first complete game, and Jose Bautista hit a three-run homer for host Toronto.

Mets 3, Rockies 2: Curtis Granderson hit a tying triple off LaTroy Hawkins in the ninth and scored two pitches later on Wilmer Flores' sacrifice fly, sending host New York to the win.

Dodgers 9, Padres 4: Clayton Kershaw became the major leagues' first 18-game winner, Yasiel Puig ended a 60 at-bat RBI drought, and host Los Angeles beat San Diego.

Mariners 4, Astros 1: Brad Miller had a tiebreaking two-run triple in the eighth inning and drove in three runs, helping host Seattle gain in the AL wild-card race with a victory over Houston.

SPORTS

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NCAA removes punishment from Sandusky case | Page 25

The fallout

NICK WASS/AP

The Ravens released running back Ray Rice on Monday after new footage appeared online showing him brutally knocking his fiancée unconscious (inset) in the elevator of an Atlantic City casino. The NFL suspended Rice indefinitely after a public outcry over the video.

What they said

"Hey @nfl -- by default, @TMZ has a better moral compass than you. Think about that for a second."
— Patton Oswalt, actor

"Roger Goodell made $44 Million last year to make really difficult decisions. This was an easy one."
— Sage Rosenfels, ex-NFL QB

"Looks like the Ravens' strategy of "MOVE ALONG FOLKS, RAY RICE'S WIFE IS SORRY SHE GOT BEATEN" might not have been the best choice."
— Chris Kluwe, ex-NFL kicker

"I don't know much about football, but I know that Ray Rice is a piece of garbage who shouldn't be allowed to play it professionally anymore."
— Seth Rogen, actor

"Roger Goodell's position as Commissioner of the NFL is no longer tenable. Whether he saw the #RayRice video or he did not, he failed."
— Keith Olbermann, ESPN host

"The Ray Rice video is the most disturbing thing I've seen in a long time. He could have killed her w/ punch or when her head hits rail. SAD"
— Anthony Becht, ex-NFL player

"Ray Rice, at a loss for words. If anybody believes that's the FIRST time he's hit a woman, I got an ocean in AZ I'd like to sell you #Coward
— LeCharles Bentley, ex-NFL player

SOURCE: Twitter.com

Rice condemned by league, team, players after violent video released

BY ARNIE STAPLETON
The Associated Press

Football is a fraternity, and NFL players rarely criticize one another publicly, especially when it comes to matters of discipline.

That changed with the release of a video Monday that shows Ray Rice striking his then-fiancée in February. Hours later, the running back was let go by the Baltimore Ravens and suspended indefinitely by the NFL.

Players across the league made their feelings clear through social media and in interviews.

Among the most outspoken was Denver defensive tackle Terrance "Pot Roast" Knighton.

He unleashed a series of tweets saying, among other things, that Rice should be kicked out of the league and thrown in jail. He also criticized NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell for initially suspending Rice for just two games.

"It just came from the heart, really," Knighton explained later in the locker room. "Whether I was a football player or not, I spoke my mind. A lot of guys don't speak their mind just because they're worried about the consequences and what people think. But I'm one of those guys that regardless of what it is, I'm going to speak my mind.

"I felt strongly about the situation and domestic violence overall. So I just spoke on it. I gave my opinion. I think the league handled it the right way."

Denver teammate Bubba Caldwell said Knighton's tweets made him watch the video, "and once I saw it, I was 100 percent behind him. I would never want anybody to put their hands on my mother or sister. I believe the punishment is what it should be."

Caldwell acknowledged that players are loathe to criticize one another, but "sometimes you've got to step up, not just as a football

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- Wife lashes out at media, Page 28
- Spitting, cursing seen in long video, Page 28

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