

Character doesn't count

Military lawyers lose the 'good soldier' defense

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

Can good soldiers do bad things? It stands to reason that they can, just as good dentists, police officers, politicians, priests, astronauts and football players can.

But unlike their civilian counterparts, military criminal defendants had recourse to "the good soldier defense": to try to persuade court-martial judges and juries — through service records, ratings and testimony from colleagues and superiors — that they were too professional to have engaged in the criminal behavior of which they stood accused.

The 1998 court-martial of Sergeant Major of the Army Gene McKinney on charges of sexually harassing and assaulting six women, for example, featured 26 character witnesses, including a four-star general. They all testified to McKinney's integrity, leadership and devotion to soldiers.

SEE CHARACTER ON PAGE 2



ILLUSTRATION BY BEV SCHILLING
Stars and Stripes

The anatomy of a failed hostage rescue deep into Islamic State territory

By KAREN DEYOUNG
The Washington Post

On the evening of Thursday, June 26, the Pentagon sent a bold hostage rescue plan to the White House for approval. Dozens of Special Operations forces would fly into Syria under the barest sliver of moonlight, set down in the heart of Islamic State territory and snatch four Americans being held

‘We will do everything we can, short of providing an incentive for future Americans to be caught.’

President Barack Obama

by the militants.

The landing took place almost exactly a week later. Yet the commandos who rushed

through gunfire into the makeshift prison found only half-eaten meals and a wisp of hair. The hostages had been there. But

they were gone.

By the end of the year, the Islamic State had brutally killed three of the Americans, posting their videotaped beheadings online.

The last hostage and the only woman, Kayla Mueller, was declared dead last Tuesday after the militants sent photographs of her body to her family.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

“That’s been the joke: He had too much love. He had to give it away.”

—Chris Crawford, speaking about his son Oliver Otto, who was born seven weeks early on Jan. 5 with a heart the size of a 5-year-old child’s and became one of the youngest heart transplant recipients at Phoenix Children’s Hospital

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MILITARY

Character: Defense ‘allowed people to put their thumb on the scale’

FROM FRONT PAGE

“In military law, character does count, and character alone may be enough to cause reasonable doubt,” McKinney’s defense lawyer, Charles Gittins, said in his closing argument to the jury. McKinney was acquitted of all but one charge — obstruction of justice — and reduced in rank to master sergeant.

Now that defense has gone the way of flogging as a tool in military justice. As part of reforms to address sexual assault that were included in this year’s National Defense Authorization Act, Congress restricted using military character evidence, bringing courts-martial more in line with civilian courts’ rules of evidence.

“When I was prosecuting sex crimes in Kansas City courtrooms, defendants couldn’t use their good work record as proof they hadn’t committed a rape,” Sen. Claire McCaskill, a Missouri Democrat and one of the measure’s sponsors, said in an email. “In the military, how good an airman, sailor, soldier, or Marine you are has absolutely nothing to do with whether a rape has occurred.”

The change came with overwhelming bipartisan congressional support and approval from legal scholars who said it was long overdue.

The defense was “the antithesis of criminal justice that prosecutes acts, not character,” said Elizabeth Hillman, a law professor at the University of California’s Hastings College of Law and a former Air Force officer. “Who did it benefit? People of high rank and long service,” she said. “It exacerbated the perception that [they] were immune from prosecution.”

The defense was pernicious in sexual assault cases, in which there is often little forensic evidence and fact-finders must weigh witness credibility especially carefully, experts said.

“It allowed people to put their thumb on the scale,” said Don Christensen, formerly the Air Force’s top prosecutor and now president of the victim advocacy group Protect Our Defenders. That was particularly true when commanders or high-ranking officers vouched for a defendant’s character, Christensen said.

“It can have a potentially huge impact even though it’s factually meaningless,” he said.

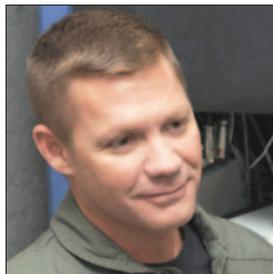
“It’s like a priest accused of sexual misconduct, or a teacher. How many times have they been teacher of the year? People who commit sexual offenses are often model citizens.”

But members of a military jury are likely to give deference to the testimony or statement of a three-star general or a defendant’s commander, he said. “They’re going to assume that the three-star knows more about the case than they do. They think, ‘He’s looked at the evidence, he wouldn’t be saying that if the defendant were guilty.’”

A 2012 article in The Army Lawyer by Marine Maj. Walter Wilkie explaining how to best use the defense called it “a powerful tool” in all phases of a criminal defense — from before charges are filed to after a guilty verdict.



The “good soldier” defense largely worked for former Sergeant Major of the Army Gene McKinney, left, who faced charges of sexually harassing and assaulting six women but was convicted only of obstruction of justice. It also helped Lt. Col. James Wilkerson, right, when the commander of the 3rd Air Force used it to dismiss Wilkerson’s guilty verdict in a sexual assault case after reviewing letters vouching for Wilkerson’s sterling character.



“[T]he defense can use it to influence the command in the accused’s favor before and after trial and to influence the factfinder in his favor during trial,” Wilkie wrote.

In the case of Aviano Air Base, Italy, fighter pilot Lt. Col. James Wilkerson that same year, character evidence was unsuccessful at court-martial. A jury found him guilty of sexually assaulting a sleeping houseguest, dismissed him from the service and sentenced him to a year in jail.

But it worked eventually. After reviewing scores of letters vouching for Wilkerson’s sterling character in his 2013 review of the case, now-retired Lt. Gen. Craig Franklin, then commander of 3rd Air Force and convening authority in the case, decided Wilkerson would not have committed the crime. Franklin, as military law

then allowed, dismissed the verdict and reinstated Wilkerson into the Air Force. Congress responded by changing the law to strip commanders of the long-held, unfettered discretion to dismiss verdicts and reduce sentences — despite opposition from military leaders, commanders and the defense bar.

There was little opposition from military leaders to the change. Even the reaction of defense lawyers to the good soldier military defense curtailment has been mostly muted. “It is a step back for the defense,” said

David Court, a Europe-based defense lawyer who retired last year. “Anytime you lose a potential defense it’s a loss by definition. It also strengthens the [prosecution]. Is it right? Is it fair? There you get into your own personal point of view.”

“I can understand that in the civilian world being a good Xerox repairman would not be a good defense,” said Kyle Fischer, a former Army lawyer now in practice near Fort Benning, Ga. “I would never argue that this soldier is a good soldier so he wouldn’t commit rape.”

But putting on good soldier evidence was beneficial in reminding jurors that a defendant was in fact a good soldier whose career and life were in their hands, Fischer said. “I think they’re more likely to give the defendant the benefit of the doubt for reasonable doubt,” he said.

Fischer said he expected more convictions as a result and lamented the recent changes to military law. “It seems at every step of the way they’re chipping away at every protection put in place to assure that the defendant can get a fair trial,” he said.

The new law specifically prohibits the good character defense for sexual offenses, larceny, robbery and arson, and generally whenever it’s not “relevant.”

Character evidence may still be introduced before sentencing at courts-martial, just as in the civilian system. And it is still allowed during the fact-finding portion of courts-martial for specifically military offenses such as desertion or disobeying orders.

That’s where its use began, Hillman said, before the military courts gained jurisdiction of nonmilitary crimes such as rape and murder.

montgomery.nancy@stripes.com

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MILITARY

Army's top NCO tells of 'stress' in the force

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sgt. Maj. Daniel Dailey was sworn in as the new sergeant major of the Army on Jan. 30, becoming the Army's top noncommissioned officer and the service chief's No. 1 adviser on matters affecting enlisted soldiers.

In an interview with Stars and Stripes, he talked about the state of the force and what the future will bring.

Recruiting good soldiers likely will become more challenging in the years ahead, according to Dailey.

"We are a nation that's coming away from war ... and the economy is getting better," he said. "That's good from a national perspective. [But] historically we've seen a drop in accessions based upon the increase in the economy" because potential recruits have more job opportunities elsewhere.

He said offering new enlistment and retention bonuses is one option for attracting and keeping quality people, but "we'll have to see" if that's needed.

The Army recently changed their recruiting slogan, asking potential recruits in TV ads, "Can you make the cut?" Part of Dailey's job description is to promote the Army to the public.

"One of the things [Army chief of staff Gen. Ray Odierno] has tasked me to do is to get out there and make sure that the American people understand the image of the United States Army and the great professionals that serve within it," Dailey said.

A smaller army

As the Army comes out of more than a



CARLOS BONGIOANNI/Stars and Stripes

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey speaks about his role in his Pentagon office in Arlington, Va., in January.

decade of war, the service plans to shrink the size of the force from 490,000 active-duty troops to somewhere in the range of 440,000 to 450,000. In doing so, the Army will have to force people out.

"The way we need to become a smaller Army is a standards-based approach," Dailey said. "That's the goal, to make sure we're doing this right ... and minimizing the [number of] good soldiers [to whom] we have to say, 'I'm sorry, we have no room for you.'"

As battle-hardened veterans leave the service, he's concerned about the consequences for the force.

"It doesn't take long to atrophy in both skills and personnel," he said. "Some of our great warriors ... will separate. It's critically important to understand that they have to teach and coach and mentor the next generation, because someone's got

to carry on this legacy."

Dailey is well aware that troops and their families are worried about the impact of defense budget constraints and force structure reductions on their futures.

"It is uncertainty ...," he said. "They have a lot of questions: What does sequestration mean? Where is the Army headed? How many people will have to go home? And those are all very valid questions, especially for those family members that have sacrificed for the last [13] years of war," he said.

He said he tells them the service has to control costs.

"We have the responsibility ... to preserve our nation's wealth [and] we have to be able to exercise caution when we use the gracious gift of the taxpayer's dollar," he said, adding that he's confident that civilian leaders "will give us the resources we need to accomplish our mission."

Changing benefits

Other concerns for soldiers and their families are potential changes to the military retirement and health care systems. Proposals include encouraging troops to opt out of the current pension system and enrolling them in a Thrift Savings Plan account that would sock away 3 percent of pay along with a contribution from the military, and replacing Tricare health insurance with an array of private-provider options.

Dailey declined to address specific proposals, but said, "If there is a change, our goal is to preserve what we have for our soldiers currently serving now." If future recruits have to accept a different retire-

ment system, "I'm OK with that," he said. "I think that's fair."

Health and readiness

Dailey acknowledged the toll taken by 13 years of continuous war, including multiple deployments for many troops.

"I spent a significant amount of time deployed with those young men and women [and] there is stress in the force," he said.

He noted the increase in mental health problems within the ranks, and said the Army is working hard to "make sure that we take care of our wounded warriors, whether you can see those wounds or not."

Asked about overall health and morale, Dailey said he believes the "force is healthy with regard to the spirit" because "those young men and women ... that have chosen to make this a career are very resilient ... I think they have much more resiliency than I had when I was a young soldier."

The Army is coming out of Afghanistan and is transitioning to more of a peacetime footing. But American soldiers in recent months have been sent back to Iraq, have deployed to Africa to deal with the Ebola outbreak, and have been dispatched to Europe to reassure NATO allies worried about Russian aggression.

Dailey said soldiers need to be prepared to deploy overseas for contingencies even though there aren't any large-scale U.S. ground wars going on now.

They can "turn on the news any day [and ask themselves] where are we going to go next?" he said. "They have to be ready in a moment's notice."

harper.jon@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @HarperStripes

USAREUR's top enlisted moves on; no successor set

By MATT MILLHAM
Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — U.S. Army Europe Command Sgt. Maj. David Davenport will move on to a new assignment in March after serving three years and three generals in the post.

Davenport, who has spent most of his 31-year Army career in Europe, has been tapped to take the top enlisted spot at the Army's Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Eustis, Va., a place he said he's never been.

The Army has yet to name his successor.

Though his position is not as high-profile as that of USAREUR commander, Davenport has become well known in the European military community over the past three years, both from his numerous appearances on the American Forces Network and from his frequent trips to visit U.S. and allied soldiers around the continent.

Those who see him on TV know he's a fan of Miami Dolphins football and Baltimore Orioles baseball.

Out of the spotlight, he was working to increase the effective-

ness of the Army's much-reduced European force by making sure young sergeants got training they needed for further promotion and that soldiers were ready to deploy.

The command, which numbered more than 200,000 troops during the Cold War, now has about 30,000.

About two years ago, roughly 13 percent of USAREUR's soldiers weren't available for deployment for various reasons, such as medical or administrative problems. In the past year and a half, the percentage of soldiers not available for deployment has dropped to 9 percent, Davenport said.

"There's no glory in that. I mean, there's no headlines." USAREUR chief Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, Davenport's boss, said Thursday at a going-away ceremony for the cavalryman. "But it's about helping make a system work and it's about helping soldiers get the care they're supposed to get" and help units navigate the military's "thick" bureaucracy.

"That's part of his legacy," Hodges said.

Davenport, 49, who came to



MATT MILLHAM/Stars and Stripes

Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, left, pins the Distinguished Service Medal on Command Sgt. Maj. David Davenport during a going-away ceremony Thursday for U.S. Army Europe's senior enlisted leader.

USAREUR from a stint as command sergeant major for Fort Bliss and the 1st Armored Division, said the hardest part of his job in Europe was getting around to see the soldiers, who are dispersed among seven major garrisons in three countries and are deployed across the continent from the Baltics to Turkey.

At Bliss, he said, "it was very

easy to jump in a car to drive and visit 4th Brigade. But you just can't do that in this footprint."

He'd like to have spent more time out to quell the fears among soldiers, civilians and family members about Army decision-making, such as plans to cut the force's end strength — a frequent source of concern, he said.

While he would have been

happy to retire from USAREUR, he's looking forward to TRADOC, a command with a very long reach and that oversees everything from basic training to leader development.

"That affects the whole force, so I'm very excited about that," Davenport said.

millham.matt@starsandstripes.com
Twitter: @mattmillham

MILITARY

Amid hunger, North Koreans are fed slogans

By ERIC SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — North Korea could one day become a land of fairies, where a pungent, fishy aroma permeates the air as stylishly dressed children walk to school.

This is what the reclusive communist nation wants its people to aspire to, according to a list of 310 national slogans released by its state media Thursday.

There are five different references to building a socialist, scientific or military-influenced fairyland, according to a translation of the Rodong Simnun story by the KCNA Watch blog.

Several of the slogans concern food production. One calls for “fragrant smell of fish and other seafoods,” while another declares, “Let the strong wind of fish farming blow across the country!” Other slogans are less aspirational and more educational, for example, “Fertilizer means rice and socialism.”

The slogans were printed in Korean and haven’t been posted in the English versions of the Rodong Simnun or the Korean Central News Agency, North Korea’s primary media organs.

Although the slogans may appear humorous to foreigners and were likely designed to rally a domestic audience, there is a more serious issue behind the phrases: a potential food shortage.

“We’re concerned about seed scarcity and the low level rain and snowfall,” John Ayliffe, deputy Asia director for the United Nations World Food Program, told The Washington Post last week from Pyongyang. “All of these things are raising concerns about the winter harvest this year.”

Food shortages have proven to be a chronic problem. Somewhere between 500,000 and 2.5 million North Koreans died of hunger in the 1990s, according to U.S. Census Bureau and congressional reports.

In the past, North Korea has procured relief aid by leveraging the desire by South Korea and its allies for talks aimed at ending its worrying nuclear weapons development.

In 2000, former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung held a historic summit with North Korea’s leader Kim Jong-il at the cost of \$500 million in aid, it was later

Rallying cries

Here are a few of the more colorful examples among North Korea’s latest domestic propaganda slogans:

- Let us turn the whole country into a socialist fairyland by the joint operation of the army and people!

- Let us build a fairyland for the people by dint of science!

- Make fruits cascade down and their sweet aroma fill the air on the sea of apple trees at the foot of Chol Pass!

- Let this socialist country resound with Song of Big Fish Haul and be permeated with the fragrant smell of fish and other seafoods!

- Let the strong wind of fish farming blow across the country!

- More stylish school uniforms and quality school things for our dear children!

- Let us turn all counties into the people’s fairyland by applying the spirit of the historic Changsong Joint Conference!

- Fertilizer means rice and socialism.

- Let the wives of officers become dependable assistants to their husbands!

- Let us carry through the great Generalissimo’s instructions on “grass for meat!”

learned.

In January, former South Korean President Lee Myung-bak told Reuters that he refused talks with North Korea after Pyongyang asked for 500,000 tons of food and \$10 billion in exchange.

South Korea does provide money for food aid to the U.N. World Food Program, which operates within North Korea.

Most nations are wary of granting North Korea direct food aid, due to Pyongyang policies that favor regime officials and the military.

“The distribution of food has prioritized those who are useful to the survival of the current political system at the expense of those deemed to be expendable,” the 2014 U.N. report on human rights stated.

slavin.eric@stripes.com
Twitter:@eslavin_stripes



AHN YOUNG-IL, POOL/AP

DMZ graduation

Graduate Park Jin, left, is congratulated by U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Daniel E. “Dan-o” McShane after a graduation ceremony at Tae Sung Dong Elementary School in Paju, South Korea, near Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone separating South and North Korea, on Friday. The school is just a few hundred yards from the border with North Korea. Only four students graduated from the school.

Despite hormone therapy approval, Manning must keep her hair short

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
AND DAVID DISHNEAU
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Although the Army has approved gender-reassignment hormone therapy for Chelsea Manning, the former intelligence analyst convicted of espionage for sending classified documents to the WikiLeaks website, she can’t grow out her hair.

The decision on hormone therapy marks the first time the Defense Department has authorized such treatment for an active servicemember.

But Manning will not yet be allowed to grow her hair to a female grooming standard, according to the Feb. 5 memo from Col. Erica Nelson, commandant of the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where Manning is serving a 35-year sentence.

The Associated Press obtained the memo Friday. It was first reported Thursday by USA Today.

The treatment would help the Army private formerly known as Bradley Manning make the transition to a woman. Manning changed her legal name in April 2014.

The decision follows a lawsuit filed in September in U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. It alleged Manning was at a high



AP

U.S. Army Pfc. Chelsea Manning wore a wig for this photo, which was taken during her trial.

risk of self-castration and suicide unless she received more focused treatment for gender dysphoria, the sense of being a woman in a man’s body.

Nelson wrote that she approved the treatment after carefully considering a recommendation that it was medically appropriate and necessary and after “weighing all associated safety and security risks.”

Manning’s hairstyle will be revisited seven months after the hormone treatment begins, according to the memo. It didn’t say when the treatment would start. An immediate change in hair length “is not supported by the risk assessment and potential risk mitigation measures at this time,” Nelson wrote.

The American Civil Liberties Union has not withdrawn its law-

suit alleging that the Army was providing some treatment but not enough, including psychotherapy from a mental health specialist who lacked the qualifications to treat gender dysphoria. The Federal Bureau of Prisons and many state and local corrections agencies administer hormone therapy to prisoners with gender dysphoria, but Manning is the first transgender military prisoner to request such treatment.

Chase Strangio, an attorney with the ACLU and counsel for Manning in her lawsuit, called the decision an important first step in Manning’s treatment regimen.

“But the delay in treatment came with a significant cost to Chelsea and her mental health and we are hopeful that the government continues to meet Chelsea’s medical needs as is its obligation under the Constitution so that those harms may be mitigated,” Strangio said in a statement.

The 26-year-old former intelligence analyst was convicted in August 2013 of espionage and other offenses for sending more than 700,000 classified documents to WikiLeaks while working in Iraq.

Transgender people are not allowed to serve in the U.S. military, but Manning can’t be discharged from the service while serving her prison sentence.

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MILITARY

VA releases plan to assist homeless vets in Los Angeles

BY JENNIFER HLAD
Stars and Stripes

SAN DIEGO — The Department of Veterans Affairs released a plan Friday to use a 387-acre tract of land in West Los Angeles to help end veteran homelessness in the city.

The plan — part of a legal settlement — calls for enhancing outreach to homeless veterans, improving services for chronically homeless vets, connecting veterans with permanent housing and getting them the support they need to stay in that housing.

There's a real focus on getting homeless veterans into housing quickly, said Gary Blasi, one of the attorneys with Public Counsel, which represented veterans in a lawsuit against the VA over the use of its West Los Angeles campus.

There is also a new focus on providing immediate, temporary housing for homeless veterans while they wait for permanent housing to become available, Blasi said. Recently, veterans have been waiting about 100 days for that permanent housing, and did not have access to "bridge" housing before. And instead of just putting veterans into homes, the plan includes increasing the support services and therapy for those already in permanent housing, so they can succeed there and not return to the streets.

"Nobody falls through the cracks," Blasi said.

The plan specifies that within the next 100 days, the VA will hire experienced people to help get homeless veterans into permanent housing, will increase funding to support for veteran families, and will make temporary housing available for those who cannot immediately move into permanent housing. By April, 650 veterans will get homes through a partnership with the Home for Good organization, according to the plan.

Beyond 100 days, the VA will coordi-

nate with the Los Angeles mayor's office to improve access to affordable housing, will work with the Department of Labor and other organizations to increase job opportunities and access to federal, state and local services for homeless veterans, and will open a 62-bed work therapy facility on the West LA campus.

In 2011, attorneys working on behalf of homeless veterans filed a class-action suit against the VA, saying its benefits programs discriminated against veterans who are homeless as a result of severe mental disabilities.

The lawsuit also accused the VA of misusing its West Los Angeles campus. The land was deemed to the federal government in 1888 to provide a home for disabled veterans, but it currently houses several rental tenants, including a hotel luxury facility and the UCLA baseball stadium.

Los Angeles has the largest concentration of homeless veterans in the country, and although the West campus had previously housed thousands of veterans, much of the land has been rented for other uses for the past several decades, Blasi said.

"This was a huge resource, and there wasn't a single unit of permanent supportive housing on it," he said.

In late January, the VA agreed to a settlement that required officials to create a plan for using the land to house homeless veterans. During a January swing through the Los Angeles area, VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald said he was sending \$50 million and 400 workers to the region, according to a Los Angeles Times report.

The VA is expected to begin working immediately to turn the VA property to its intended use, but won't release its master plan for the campus until October.

Ending veteran homelessness is a real challenge, Blasi said, but it is "nothing compared to what the veterans have done."

"We have to step up," he said.

had.jennifer@stripes.com



John F. Williams/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Coleman Knabe, a graduate student at Virginia Tech, assists as a Shipboard Autonomous Firefighting Robot extinguishes a fire during testing aboard the Naval Research Laboratory's former USS Shadwell in Mobile, Ala., in November.

Navy tests robot for fighting fires on ships

BY BROCK VERGAKIS
The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The Navy has developed a prototype of a man-sized robot to do one of the most dangerous jobs aboard a ship: fight a fire.

Standing 5 feet, 10 inches and weighing in at about 140 pounds, the humanoid robot is capable of walking on an uneven ship floor and seeing through smoke, detecting a heat source and extinguishing a fire with a hose. Shipboard fires that aren't contained quickly can cause extensive damage and threaten the lives of crewmembers as well as the survivability of the ship itself. Having a robot as part of a fire-fighting crew would allow sailors to come in behind the two-legged humanoid after it has detected where the fire is coming from and has started spraying it with water.

"In the civilian world, if the fire's too intense, the fireman can decide just to let it go. On the ship, you don't have that option. You've got to fight it," said Thomas McKenna, the Office of Naval Research's program manager for human-robot interaction and cognitive neuroscience.

The Navy estimates that it's at least five years away from getting the technology to a point where it's ready for procurement, but completing a series of tests aboard a ship in Mobile, Ala., in November was a significant milestone, McKenna said.

A video shot by the Navy aboard the former USS Shadwell — a decommissioned landing ship — shows the battery-powered

robot walking with a hose that it held in one of its mechanical arms and extinguishing a fire.

Virginia Tech students who developed the robot during the past four years are seen guiding it from computers, but they're already working on an upgraded version of the robot that would operate independently as part of a Defense Department competition to develop robots for natural disaster responses that are too dangerous for people.

Fighting a fire aboard a ship with a robot presents a unique set of challenges. That's because it has to be able to go up and down steep ladders and must step through some passageway doors that are elevated so they can be sealed off from water, making a wheeled robot less desirable.

At Virginia Tech, which has done work for the military developing robotic jellyfish, among other things, the school already had experience with legged machines because it had developed soccer-playing robots. "Walking on two legs is really, really challenging," said Coleman Knabe, a Virginia Tech graduate student from Yorktown who had worked on a team developing the robot for four years.

Aside from its maneuverability aboard a ship, using a humanoid has other advantages. It can wear the same type of fire protection suits that human firefighters wear and no special tools need to be created for it to do its job. Ideally, it will be able to use drills or other equipment sailors already have available.

Brigade in Kuwait to be one of largest ground forces in region

The Associated Press

FORT CARSON, Colo. — More than 4,000 Fort Carson soldiers are heading to Kuwait, where they will take over as one of America's largest ground forces in the region after President Barack Obama asked Congress to authorize military action against terrorists who are cutting a large swath across the Middle East.

Obama ruled out large-scale U.S. ground combat operations similar to those in Iraq and Afghanistan, but he asked for the option to use military force against Islamic State fighters for three years. The fight could be extended to any "closely related

successor entity" to the Islamic State organization that has overrun parts of Iraq and Syria, imposed an extreme form of Sharia law and killed several hostages it has taken, Americans among them.

The U.S. Army has kept a brigade in Kuwait since the end of the Iraq War in 2011. Those soldiers, including two units from Fort Carson, have worked to train local troops from throughout the Middle East.

In its most recent deployment to Kuwait, a combat team from Fort Carson conducted training missions with allies including Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, which have joined the coalition against Islamic State fighters.

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Hostage: Some family members criticize White House for failed rescue

FROM FRONT PAGE

The finality of that news has given rise to painful questions about whether more could have been done to save the hostages. Grieving relatives of the victims, some of whom have accused the administration of waiting too long to launch a rescue mission, have also criticized the U.S. policy of non-negotiation with hostage-takers.

The administration has acknowledged it could do better at communicating with the families, notwithstanding its ongoing rejection of paying ransom, and has launched a review led by the National Counterterrorism Center. "We will do everything we can, short of providing an incentive for future Americans to be caught," President Barack Obama said in an interview last week with BuzzFeed.

But some of those who worked on the rescue mission say they believe the White House itself is at least partly to blame for the failure. They charge that there were delays in bringing the plan to Obama's desk, and that, as a result, the rescuers missed the hostages by a matter of days, or even hours.

In interviews with The Washington Post and in other published accounts, a number of operational-level U.S. intelligence and military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity to voice criticism of higher-ups, have said their disappointment at the failure of the mission was mixed with frustration over the decision process.

Obama himself acknowledged in the BuzzFeed interview that they "probably missed [the hostages] by a day or two." But, he said, it was inaccurate "to say that the United States government hasn't done everything we could."

Senior administration officials strongly denied there was any delay in the approval, especially once it reached the White House.

Instead, four senior officials directly involved in the decision, and several others with close knowledge of it, said that one of the most complex and dangerous such efforts ever undertaken had moved through the planning, approval and execution process at what one called "warp speed."

To prove their point, the officials revealed new details about a rescue mission that, once it failed, was never intended to be made public.



U.S. aid worker Peter Kassig delivers supplies for Syrian refugees. Kassig was beheaded by Islamic State militants in November.

COURTESY OF THE KASSIG FAMILY/AP



American photojournalist Luke Somers, left, works in Sana'a, Yemen, on July 17, 2013, before he was captured by al-Qaida.

tempt, in late November, officials believed that several hostages were being held in a cave, although they were not sure Somers was among them. There was no information that his life was in immediate danger, but the location was considered easy and the risk to U.S. forces was judged to be fairly low. The operational plan was presented to the White House on Thursday; Obama approved it on Sunday.

All of the presumed terrorists at the site were killed. One of the rescuers was wounded in the arm. Somers was not there.

Less than two weeks later, new intelligence located Somers in a compound of buildings in the southern Yemeni province of Shabwah, and there was a "clear indication he was about to be killed," the senior Pentagon official said. Intelligence on the location was good, although the assessed risk was high. Significant components of the previous attempt were still in place, and Obama's approval came within a day.

The Dec. 6 mission resulted in the deaths of Somers and another hostage the Americans said they did not know was being held with him, South African aid worker Pierre Korkie. Both were shot by their captors, who were alerted to the landing force before U.S. commandos could reach the site on foot. Korkie's family and employer later said the failed rescue mission came just as they were negotiating his release.

In March and April of last year, Islamic State militants in Syria released at least six European hostages. Although the exact circumstances of their freedom remain murky, most if not all are presumed to have been exchanged for ransom.

SEE HOSTAGE ON PAGE 7

'It wasn't a nice little surgical operation'

"For us, the clock starts when they tell us they have an operation that they want the president to review and approve," said Susan Rice, Obama's national security adviser. The clock on the mission to rescue James Foley, Steven Sotloff, Peter Kassig and Kayla Mueller "began on a Friday and ended on a Saturday evening" when the president, meeting with his top advisers, gave the "go" order.

"It can't happen any faster than that . . . particularly given the complexity of the risk," Rice said.

A senior Defense Department official said he understood the frustration of intelligence operatives, planners and "the guys ready to go."

But this "was a risky operation, deep into Syria, where we hadn't been before," he said. "It involved a lot of people," with substantial danger to both the troops and the hostages themselves. "It wasn't a nice little surgical operation."

Moreover, while the rescuers found evidence at the site that the hostages had been there, the mission was launched with no definitive intelligence confirming their presence.

"There wasn't a hot, smoking trail," the Pentagon official said.

'An incredibly risky decision'

Deputy White House national security adviser Ben Rhodes acknowledged the feeling that "if the timing had been different, maybe the outcome would have been different. The fact of the matter is, if you're talking about a major military operation inside Syria, the notion that you shouldn't have any review of the plan before it goes to the president for signature is contrary to how things should be done."

"Frankly, the president made an incredibly risky decision," Rhodes said. "In some respects, it was more risky than the bin Laden operation."

"Hostage rescues are the hardest thing we do," the senior Pentagon official said. "It's twice as hard as capturing a prisoner" in a hostile environment overseas, as Special Operations forces have done successfully on a number of occasions during the Obama administration.

If the target prisoner gets killed in the process, he said, "it's no big deal."

Osama bin Laden, whether or not it was part of the plan, ended up dead. Terrorist suspects captured by U.S. raids into Libya — Nazih Abdul-Hamed al-Ruqai in 2013 and Ahmed Abu Khattala in 2014 — both ended up in U.S.

prisons.

But a rescue mission is a different story. According to a range of officials involved in such actions, the factors weighed begin with the level of certainty about where the hostage is located. There was only one case among attempted and successful rescues in recent years when there was absolute knowledge of where a hostage was and the conditions of captivity, officials said.

The January 2012 rescue of American aid worker Jessica Buchanan and her Danish colleague was considered a relative piece of cake. With substantial overhead and ground intelligence, the Pentagon assured Obama that they were completely confident of her position in the wilds of north-central Somalia. They knew the al-Shabab fighters holding her were lightly armed and poorly trained and that there were no reinforcements nearby.

A team of Navy SEALs dropped into the camp. One jumped atop Buchanan to shield her, the others killed a number of her guards. The successful operation was over in minutes.

Last fall, long after the Buchanan operation and the failed summer raid in Syria, U.S. commandos made two attempts to rescue American photojournalist Luke Somers, kidnapped by al-Qaida in Yemen in 2013.

In planning for the first at-



President Barack Obama himself acknowledged in a BuzzFeed interview that they "probably missed [the hostages] by a day or two." But, he said, it was inaccurate "to say that the United States government hasn't done everything we could."

WAR ON TERRORISM

Hostage: Despite the risky plan, Obama gave OK for rescue attempt

FROM PAGE 6

At least some of the captives had been held with the Americans. The Islamic State frequently moves its captives, but after debriefing the released Europeans, U.S. intelligence officials believed that at least Foley, and possibly more, were at a location outside the militants' de facto headquarters in the north-central Syrian city of Raqqa. On that basis, the Joint Special Operations Command, or JSOC, began drawing up a rescue plan.

The hostage site was described as a compound of buildings, including a small oil refinery, on the city's outskirts. A substantial concentration of militant troops was said to be nearby, along with the main Islamic State force in Raqqa, whose pre-war population totaled about 220,000 civilians.

At the time — months before U.S. airstrikes would begin in September — there was virtually no air intelligence on Syria and little desire to risk engaging Syrian government air defenses. Information from the released hostages, the administration believed, was inconclusive and intelligence from inside the country, particularly from areas wholly occupied by the Islamic State, was scant at best. The Tampa, Florida-based Central Command, presented with a preliminary proposal by JSOC, was hesitant.

'Nothing was done to save our ... Americans'

Meanwhile, the hostages' families were gathering their own intelligence. To them, the situation seemed far more clear-cut than it did to the administration, which they believed was dragging its feet.

Some remain bitter. "Nothing was done to save our young Americans," Diane Foley said in an ABC News interview last week. Her son and the others were "held for nearly two years and there were many opportunities along the way: several times when the captors reached out, several times when returning hostages brought sensitive information," she said.

"It is no secret that the administration neglected this case," Barak Barfi, the principal hostage adviser to the Sotloff family alleged in an interview. "It never dedicated the necessary resources to locate the Americans. ... The administration was always two steps behind us as we were the first to debrief European hostages as well as receive information from Syrians who had been held with the Americans."

For the administration, the breakthrough that pushed the rescue plan forward came in mid-June with the release of another European, Danish photojournalist Daniel Rye Otosen. After a ransom of what Danish newspapers said was about \$2.3 million was paid, Otosen was taken by the Islamic State from the Raqqa prison on June 17.

He was released from a militant safe house near the Turkish border on June 19, and on June

22, FBI agents interviewed him in Denmark. Otosen helped solidify the information learned from the other released hostages. He had been with all four of the Americans just days before and provided a description of the prison site so exact that planners had enough certainty of where it was, and what the rescuers would encounter when they touched down, that the plan began to move up the military chain of command.

The Central Command signed off, despite ongoing doubts about the quality of the intelligence, the large amount of troops and other assets involved, and the fact that Syria was unknown territory, administration officials said. From the Central Command it went to the Joint Staff, and then to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, who signed it and sent it to the White House.

Rescue plan 'was so freaking complicated'

The plan, by all accounts, was unprecedented in its degree of difficulty and hazard. More than 100 Special Operations forces were to be involved, along with an array of fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

"It required more resources, more effort, more time to stage and prepare" than any previous such operation and involved representatives of all U.S. military services, a Pentagon official said. "It was so freaking complicated."

Because of the presence of a large force of Islamic State fighters, this official said, the plan involved several "diversionary elements" designed to "distract the handlers from the site."

"We had to have the assistance of some countries in order to stage assets," a senior administration official involved in the process said. "It is not a decision that the Defense Department or JSOC can make." Other officials said the operation was launched from Jordan.

"We had information that made us think they could be there," the senior administration official said of the Raqqa prison site. "But we also didn't know what they were walking into. We didn't have a huge intelligence base. We didn't have overwatch. We didn't have a lot of what you might have in other operations." The risk to both the hostages and the commandos was assessed as high.

For the Special Operations forces readying to take action, the wait was nerve-racking. "These guys are snake eaters," the Pentagon official said. "They move quickly, they don't want to be slowed down for anything. They don't live in the world" of policy decisions.

Senior representatives from all national security departments and agencies convened at the White House early on Friday, June 27. Later that day, their Cabinet-level principals met to examine the plan so that it could be presented to the president with all questions answered and risks assessed.

On Saturday, it was forwarded



Matt Hinshaw, The (Prescott, Ariz.) Daily Courier/AP

Carl and Marsha Mueller, the parents of Kayla Jean Mueller, seen above speaking to a group in Prescott, Ariz., in May 2013, released a statement last week saying they have been told by members of the Islamic State group that she has died. The White House also issued a statement confirming her death.

to Obama, with a recommendation for approval, by his top national security team. "I frankly expected the president to say, being presented with such a high risk, complex operation, 'OK, thank you, let me sleep on it,'" said a senior official who was present at the meeting in the White House situation room. Obama signed off before the meeting ended.

Presidential approval set a series of events in motion. Jordan needed to be briefed on the final plan and agree to it. Special Operations forces assigned to the mission had to be gathered at their home base at Fort Bragg and transported to the Middle East. Aircraft had to be positioned to carry the rescuers in and out, participate in the diversions and conduct overhead surveillance while the operation was underway. The weather and phases of the moon had to be studied, to ensure cover of darkness.

The commandos would fly in heavily armed Black Hawk helicopters from the Army's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, known as the "Night Stalkers."

When the force landed in the early morning of July 4 in Syria, their stay was brief. What one military official said was "a good number" of militants were killed. One U.S. servicemember received a minor injury when Islamic State fire hit a helicopter.

There were no hostages. Despite later conjecture that they might have been moved only a few hours earlier, and Obama's estimate of a day or two, several senior administration and military officials said it could have been days, or a week or more. "We don't know," said one. "We know that they were there, based on what we found. But we don't know" when they left.

News of the raid, and its failure, would not become public until Aug. 20, the day after the Islamic State posted a video of Foley's beheading.

A similar video of Sotloff's killing was posted on Sept. 2, followed by Kassig on Nov. 16. Last week, when Mueller's death was

announced, the administration confirmed that she, too, had been one of the four held at the prison outside Raqqa.

U.S. and Jordanian officials denied that she had been killed, as the militants claimed, by a coalition airstrike.

"I understand the frustrations of folks who are working their

hearts out, removed from what goes on in the Pentagon, in the White House, in the State Department. I get that," one senior official said of the failed rescue mission.

"I don't think it was too long a time," the official said. "I think it is heart-breaking that they weren't there."

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NATION

War vote confronts presidential hopefuls

By JULIE PACE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In 2002, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton cast a vote in favor of the Iraq War that would later come to haunt her presidential campaign.

Now, a new crop of senators eyeing the White House — Republicans Marco Rubio, of Florida; Rand Paul, of Kentucky; and Ted Cruz, of Texas — will face a similar choice about authorizing military action in the Middle East.

A vote in favor of President Barack Obama's use-of-force resolution would give the potential candidates a share of the responsibility for the outcome of military action in a combustible region. As Clinton learned well, the public's support for a military campaign can quickly fade, making the long-term implications of the vote difficult to predict.

Obama asked lawmakers last week to approve a three-year offensive against the Islamic State group and affiliated forces. His request includes no constraints on geographical boundaries but would bar "enduring offensive combat" — intentionally vague language that some lawmakers fear leaves open the prospect of a U.S.-led ground war.

So far, most of the 2016 hopefuls currently in Congress have sidestepped questions about how they would vote on Obama's mea-



AP photos

A vote by then-U.S. Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, left, in 2002 in favor of the Iraq War haunted her presidential campaign. Current senators weighing White House bids, including Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio, right, will have to make a similar choice about President Barack Obama's use-of-force request.

sure, which could be amended before they have to say yes or no. Among Republicans, Rubio has been perhaps the most specific in outlining his views, saying he opposes the president putting constraints on his ability to use military force against an enemy.

"What we need to be authorizing the president to do is to destroy them and to defeat them, and allow the commander in chief — both the one we have now and the one who will follow — to put in place the tactics, the military tactics, necessary to destroy and defeat ISIL," Rubio said, using an alternate acronym for the Islamic State.

A spokesman for Paul said Friday that the senator is reviewing the legislation but has not decided how he would vote. Cruz has called for Congress to "strengthen" the legislation by making sure the president is committed to clear objectives. He also has suggested the authorization should include a provision to directly arm the Iraqi Kurds, but it is unclear what other changes he wants to see.

Despite Americans' war weariness, there is public support for formally authorizing the mission. An NBC News/Marist poll released Friday showed that 54 percent of respondents want their member of

Congress to vote for Obama's request.

Clinton, who is laying the groundwork for another presidential run, will also be pressed to take a position. But this time around, she will have the advantage of weighing in from the outside, without the pressure of voting.

"You can talk about the subject without actually being pinned down on a particular vote that you're going to have to defend for years to come," said Jim Manley, a longtime aide to the late Edward Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democrat who worked to get Clinton and other Democrats to vote against the 2002 war authorization.

Clinton has made no public comments since Obama sent lawmakers the draft legislation last week, and her spokesman did not respond to a request for her position Friday.

The former secretary of state has previously called the fight against the Islamic State group a "long-term struggle" and has said military action is essential to prevent the group from making further advances.

The military campaign against the Islamic State militants began six months ago, and Obama is, in effect, seeking Congress' approval retroactively.

He has said the current mission is legally justified under the 2002 authorization. President George W. Bush used to start the Iraq War — the resolution Clinton voted for.

Legal questions unlikely to deter health care ruling

By MARK SHERMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Despite questions about four challengers' legal right to bring their lawsuit, the Supreme Court probably will not be deterred from deciding whether millions of people covered by the health care overhaul are eligible for the subsidies that make their insurance affordable.

The court will hear arguments in early March over whether the Affordable Care Act allows people in states without their own insurance markets to receive federal tax credits that reduce coverage costs. The number of uninsured could rise by 8 million if the subsidies disappear, two independent think tanks have estimated.

The challengers, who live in Virginia, object to being forced to get insurance or pay a penalty. If the subsidies were not available, they would not pay a penalty for failing to be insured because even the cheapest health plan would be too costly, according to sworn statements they filed in 2013.

But the Wall Street Journal re-

ported that two are Vietnam veterans who probably could obtain health care through the Department of Veterans Affairs, meaning they would not be affected by the subsidies issue. The newspaper and Mother Jones reported that a third plaintiff lived in a motel at the time that her address and age were used to calculate the cost of insurance. She now lives elsewhere in the state.

The fourth is a substitute school teacher in Richmond who said she could not recall how she became involved in the case.

The Competitive Enterprise Institute, an anti-regulatory group, is paying for the legal challenges and recruited the four.

The right to get into court on an issue is known as standing.

"The important thing is there has to be someone in the case who is actually injured by the law," said Tara Grove, a law professor at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va. "That is what determines whether the court has jurisdiction." It takes just one person who has been harmed to keep a lawsuit alive,

Grove said.

The Obama administration or the justices could ask lawyers for the challengers to address the questions that have been raised about the four. The Justice Department contended that two would have earned too little to be subject to the penalty, but lower courts rejected that argument. The administration did not challenge the presence of any of the four at the Supreme Court.

The court could raise the topic on its own. But given its decision to take up the health law even in the absence of the usual requirement that lower courts be divided on an issue, several legal experts doubted the plaintiffs' situations would detail the case.

"For a test case, these are not the best people one could put forward. It's hard for them to demonstrate that they've had an actual injury," said Robert Dudley, a professor of government and politics at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

But the court creates its own rules on whether it can reach a decision in a case, Dudley said.

Technical issue with sign-ups fixed

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A technical problem that had been interfering with sign-ups for the U.S. health care law has been fixed, officials say. Any consumer whose enrollment was hampered by the glitch will be provided with a special enrollment period.

The problem popped up the day before a Sunday deadline to sign up for subsidized private health insurance. It had been intermittent, meaning some people were able to complete their applications and submit them. Health and Human Service Department spokeswoman Katie Hill said.

By Saturday night, the problem had been resolved, Hill said in a statement. Consumers affected by the problem should log in to their Marketplace account and click on their 2015 application to finish it and complete their enrollment for health coverage, she said.

Some people trying to get coverage hadn't been able to get their

income information electronically verified. That's crucial because the amount of financial assistance to help pay premiums is based on people's income.

The health care law offers health insurance to people who don't have coverage on the job. More than 8 in 10 of those who apply qualify for help. Without it, most can't afford the coverage.

The IRS handles income verification for the HealthCare.gov website. In a statement, Hill said the problem was due to issues with "external verification sources."

The glitch seemed to affect people with new applications. People who previously submitted their income details — but hadn't completed the final step of picking a plan — were still able to do so.

The official sign-up deadline in the 37 states served by HealthCare.gov is 2:59 a.m. Eastern time Monday. The administration has set a goal of 9.1 million people signed up and paying their premiums in 2015.

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NATION

Snow, dangerous winds, cold strike again in New England

By SYLVIA LEE WINGFIELD
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Snow and dangerous high winds roared across parts of New England in the dark of night to face an army of road crews and emergency workers Sunday, who had readied themselves for the fourth winter onslaught in less than a month. The odds favored the ominous weather.

More than 6 feet of snow already stood in some areas from previous storms; a blizzard warning was in effect for coastal communities from Connecticut to Maine into Monday; and a bone-chilling blast of cold, with lows of minus-10 degrees, was in the Sunday night forecast in parts of the region.

Heavy snow had moved into parts of eastern Massachusetts by early Sunday, according to

National Weather Service meteorologist Alan Dunham.

Between 3 and 8 inches of snow had fallen across parts of the region, with the heaviest in Boxford in Essex County, which recorded 13 inches, Dunham said. Boston also was getting hit with heavy snow. Winds across the area also were increasing in intensity.

Before it is all over, southern New England could get several more inches of snow and Maine could see up to 2 feet, weather forecasters said.

"On Sunday, the best thing people can do is stay home, stay indoors," said William Babcock, another weather service meteorologist.

Gov. Charlie Baker in Massachusetts and Gov. Gina Raimondo in Rhode Island warned motorists to stay off the roads.

Baker stopped short of an outright travel ban.

"I can't stress this enough," Baker said. "Please stay off the roads ... so the crews can do the work they need to do to remove this snow."

Transportation officials in the region had taken precautions. Nearly 400 Sunday flights were canceled at Boston's Logan International Airport, and none was scheduled Sunday morning. The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority canceled all rail, bus and ferry service in the Boston area on Sunday.

Babcock said gusts could max out at 75 mph — hurricane territory — on Cape Cod. Officials warned of possible power outages, and north-facing or vulnerable coastal areas could suffer flooding and beach erosion, the



MICHAEL DWYER/AP

A man shovels snow Sunday in Boston.

weather service said.

Ahead of the storm, forces gathered to remove piles of snow and to get ready for the next round.

Massachusetts called up hundreds of National Guard troops to assist with snow removal, and the Hanscom Air Force base outside Boston became a staging area for heavy equipment pouring in from eight other Northeast states to help in the effort.

Crews worked urgently in Boston's Financial District to remove the massive amounts of snow that clogged streets and triggered numerous roof collapses.

The bad weather going into the weekend spanned several states. Winter storm warnings extended west into Michigan and Ohio, where without conditions led to a pileup on the Ohio Turnpike that killed at least two people.

Republicans say Obama giving immigrants 'amnesty bonuses'

By STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Millions of immigrants benefiting from President Barack Obama's executive actions could get a windfall from the IRS, a reversal of fortune after years of paying taxes to help fund government programs they were banned from receiving.

Armed with new Social Security numbers, many of these immigrants who were living in the U.S. illegally now will be able to claim up to four years' worth of tax credits designed to benefit the working poor. For big families, that's a maximum of nearly \$24,000, as long as they can document their earnings during those years.

Some Republicans are labeling the payments "amnesty bonuses," one more reason they oppose Obama's program shielding millions of immigrants from deportation.

"I represent hard-working, law-abiding Texans," said Rep. Sam Johnson, a senior Republican on the House Ways and Means Committee. "I think these amnesty rewards, and that's what they are, need to be stopped."

Advocates argue that many of

these immigrants pay taxes, so they should be able to claim the same tax credits as anybody else. During the past decade, immigrants in the U.S. illegally have paid an estimated \$100 billion in Social Security payroll taxes, even though few will ever be able to collect benefits, said Stephen Goss, Social Security's chief actuary.

Obama has issued executive orders shielding about 4 million immigrants from deportation. Some were brought to the U.S. as children; others are parents of children who are either U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Republicans in Congress oppose Obama's actions and are trying to use a funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security to overturn them. Democrats are resisting, resulting in a stalemate that is threatening to shut down the department.

Funding for the department, which oversees immigration enforcement, runs out Feb. 27.

The dispute over tax credits illustrates the complicated relationship that many immigrants have with the U.S. tax system. Social Security estimates that immigrants living in the country illegally work at about the same

rate as the rest of the population, even though federal law bars them from employment.

They are less likely to pay federal taxes. Those who do have been boosting Social Security's finances for years.

How does Social Security know when it receives taxes from immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally? There is no foolproof method, Goss said. One way is by tracking reported wages in which the Social Security number does not match the name the agency has on file.

Some of those are clerical errors or unreported name changes. But Goss estimates that a majority of these wages come from immigrants who have made up Social Security numbers or used someone else's.

The numbers are huge. From 2003 to 2012, the total was nearly \$750 billion in wages. Tellingly, only 7 percent of those wages are ever claimed and credited to an actual worker, Goss said.

There are an estimated 11 million to 12 million immigrants in the U.S. illegally. By law, you must have a Social Security number to work in the U.S. but millions of people work without them.

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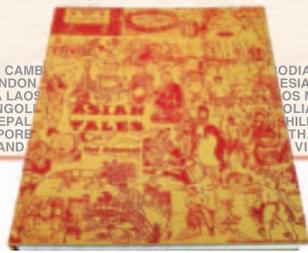
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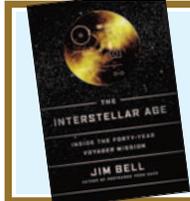
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NATION

Claudia Morales, 13, prepares to leave for school at a migrant laborers camp where she lives in Watsonville, Calif. Her father, Jose Morales, below, works the strawberry fields in Watsonville. He has to move his family seasonally according to the crop cycle.

PHOTOS BY JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

Seasonal migration

Farmworkers children repeatedly uprooted by California rules

By MARTHA MENDOZA
The Associated Press

WATSONVILLE, Calif. — A lifetime of moving has taught Claudia Morales to start packing early, because like many 13-year-olds, her room “is always a mess.”

The hoodies go in her suitcase, but as usual, all her partially completed schoolwork ends up in the trash. Just a week later, Claudia has new notebooks, along with new textbooks, and three bulging suitcases to start unpacking 200 miles away.

She does this every year. Twice.

In December, thousands of migrant farmworker children were making their annual trek to new schools in California, but they do so also at other times throughout the country. During growing season, their parents rent low-cost housing in federally subsidized labor camps, but state rules mandate that families move at least 50 miles away when the camps close for the winter.

“We have a life we need to live,” Claudia said. “I like both places, but when I grow up I expect to have good work and buy a house where we can stay permanently.”

Claudia gets straight As at one school, somewhat lower grades at the other. But as years pass and coursework gets more complex, the odds rise against her. Eventually, about 90 percent of kids living in seasonal worker housing drop out of school, according to the San Jose-based nonprofit human rights organization Human Agenda.

At Aptos Junior High School, where Claudia started eighth grade last fall, migrant counselor Juan Alcantar said he has a handful of students who are flunking every class, biding their months before their move, sometimes as far away as Mexico.

“They see themselves as visitors on this campus,” he said. “They figure, ‘I come from a labor camp next to a dump site. I don’t belong, and I’m leaving soon.’”

A state lawmaker last year tried to change the 50-mile rule, but the bill died in committee.

For Claudia, the cycle continues. Her labor camp is less than an hour drive south of Silicon Valley, where in the past 50 years the region has transitioned from lush orchards and vegetable fields

to a global technology hub.

“This is a largely invisible population, but we all should care a whole lot about this,” said Stanford University Professor Amado Padilla, who studies immigration. “Kids who don’t finish school end up being a burden on society. On the flip side, kids who are well-educated end up being the caregivers both personally and



economically of the older generation.”

California has 24 seasonal farmworker centers, 1,900 apartments all together, run by the state’s Office of Migrant Housing. The program dates to the 1930s, when the federal government opened migrant labor camps for Dust Bowl refugees.

The idea behind the 50-mile rule was to provide seasonal housing for families who come to an area to work only during picking season.

State officials say that despite a sharp drop-off in the past decade of migrating farmworker families, the seasonal housing should not be occupied year-round and hence unavailable for the next season’s pickers and planters.

“We are not aware of members of families being in jams or having a problem with having to move away,” said Guerdon Stuckey, an assistant deputy director at the state Department of Housing and Community Development. He said some families move from crop to crop and are not looking for permanent housing.

“We’ve met several of these farmworkers and, on the contrary, they’re not only aware of the many affordable housing options, they enjoy this lifestyle,” he

said.

Claudia’s family lives in a complex of 50 flimsy — Styrofoam and plywood — prefabricated duplexes built in the late 1960s. Her bedroom window overlooks a small valley, a county jail and a dump. The rent of about \$350 a month is still a lot for Claudia’s dad, Juan Morales, who made \$9.50 an hour planting strawberry root stocks in November.

Morales — in a large straw hat — joked with nearby planters, all bent at the waist, as loud music blared over the field. But he got serious when asked if Claudia, her brother Jose, 7, and sister Maria, 16, will ever join him. Legally they can start picking at 13.

“I want them to get a good education. I don’t want them working here,” he said.

“They take the pain for us,” Claudia said of her parents’ labors.

Claudia started school each fall riding a school bus with other labor camp kids to Aptos Junior High, a buzzing school splashed with murals in a largely affluent community. After Thanksgiving, she moved to Palo Verde Union School in Tulare, a newer campus in a low-income community.

In the labor camp, Claudia knew just about everybody. “I can walk around with my eyes closed,” she said.

In Tulare, her family shares one room of a mobile home in a gang-ridden neighborhood. Claudia does not go out at night, but she likes it there. She has her own bed near the television where they watch her beloved telenovelas, Spanish language soap operas.

Claudia started physics last fall in her science class. In September, they formed teams to build a roller coaster. She told her teacher she’d be gone before the due date and so she sat that one out, a lucky break, she said.

In Tulare, the science class was studying chemistry.

“Who remembers what a molecule is?” asked teacher Kevin Meneses on her first day. “If I have two or more of a different type of atom stuck together, what do I have?”

Hands shot up. Students called out. Claudia was still.

“I just listen, I write it down, but I don’t raise my hand because I have no idea what they’re asking about,” she said, shrugging. “I just sit there.”



NATION



SUE OGROCKI/AP

Maintenance workers inspect the damage to one of the spires on Benedictine Hall at St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Okla., in November 2011 after two earthquakes hit the area in less than 24 hours.

Study: Daily, small quakes in Oklahoma raise risk of big ones

By SETH BORENSTEIN
The Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Small earthquakes shaking Oklahoma and southern Kansas daily and linked to energy drilling are dramatically increasing the chance of bigger, dangerous quakes, federal research indicates.

This once-stable region is now just as likely to see serious, damaging and potentially harmful earthquakes as the highest-risk places east of the Rockies such as New Madrid, Mo., and Charleston, S.C., which had major quakes in the past two centuries.

Still it's a low risk, about a 1-in-2,500-years chance of happening, according to geophysicist William Ellsworth of the U.S. Geological Survey.

"To some degree, we've dodged a bullet in Oklahoma," Ellsworth said after a presentation to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

But, he added, "This is not to say we expect a large earthquake tomorrow."

During the 90-minute session on human-induced earthquakes, three quakes larger than magnitude 3.1 hit northern Oklahoma. Federal records show that since Jan. 1, Oklahoma has had nearly 200 quakes that people have felt. Those quakes started to increase in 2008 and made dramatic jumps in frequency in June 2013 and again in February 2014, Ellsworth said.

They are mostly in areas with energy drilling, often hydraulic fracturing, a process known as fracking. Many studies have linked the increase in small quakes to the process of injecting wastewater deep underground because it changes pressure and triggers dormant faults.

Until now, those quakes were mostly thought of as nuisances and not really threats. But Ellsworth's continuing study, which is not yet published, showed the mere increase in the number of tiny tremors raises the risk of earthquakes that scientists consider major hazards. That's generally above a magnitude 5 with older buildings and a magnitude 6 for modern ones, Ellsworth said.

"The more small earthquakes we have, it just simply increases the odds we're going to have a more damaging event," Ellsworth said.

A 2011 earthquake in Prague, Okla., was a magnitude 5.7, causing some damage and hurting two people. Some studies said that was a side effect of the drilling process, but other scientists are not convinced.

Experts at the science session said Ellsworth's finding of a higher risk for big quakes makes sense.

"We are worried about this, no question about it," said Rex Buchanan, interim director of the Kansas Geological Survey.

Some schools are including e-cigarettes in drug policies

By MICHAEL FELBERBAUM
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Some schools are getting tougher on e-cigarettes, even punishing possession of the devices more harshly than regular cigarettes.

The devices, which heat a nicotine solution to create vapor instead of burning tobacco, have passed traditional smokes in popularity among teenagers. Schools are clamping down because e-cigarettes, sometimes also known as vaporizers, also can be used for illegal substances like marijuana.

Most schools have folded e-cigarettes into their anti-tobacco policies, which typically punish students with detention, a letter home and sometimes a tobacco education class.

But other schools in states in-

cluding North Carolina, New Jersey, Washington and Connecticut, are grouping the devices in with bongs and pipes, meaning students could face long suspensions and required drug tests and could have possession of drug paraphernalia marked on their school records.

"Our goal is to reduce access and discourage use on campus," said Sarah D'Annolfo, dean of students at The Taft School in Watertown, Conn. The coed boarding school amended its policy this school year to have e-cigarettes fall under its drug and alcohol policy. A disciplinary committee made up of faculty and students evaluate violations case-by-case, but each could result in a week-long suspension and a mark on their record rather than a chat with the dean and school doctor

and parental notification. "It definitely sparks conversation within the school community about e-cigarette use and the possible dangers and the possible benefits," D'Annolfo said. "That conversation alone is a hugely important learning opportunity."

According to an annual government survey of more than 41,000 students, e-cigarettes have surpassed traditional smoking in popularity among teens.

Some 16 percent of 10th-graders had tried an e-cigarette in the past month, and 17 percent of high school seniors. Regular smoking continued inching down, to 7 percent of 10th-graders and 14 percent of 12th-graders. However, the survey didn't ask about repeat use, or whether teens were just experimenting with something new.

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NATION

Measles outbreak shows a need for adult immunization

By ROSANNA XIA AND RONG-GONG LIN II
Los Angeles Times

Measles was once considered a childhood illness, spreading rapidly across schools, playgrounds and parks.

But the national measles outbreak that began two months ago at Disneyland has shown another side of the highly infectious disease — that it is a danger to people of all ages.

Adults 20 years and older make up 59 percent of confirmed measles illnesses — and most had no record of being immunized as children. Now, health officials are wrestling with how to better monitor the vaccination levels of adults to prevent even broader spread of the disease. Right now, officials focus on tracking immunizations of young children.

The stakes are high, given how quickly and easily measles can spread. Adults pose a greater risk than children of passing on the disease because they travel

and come in contact with more people.

With declining rates of childhood measles vaccinations in California over the last dozen years, experts say more adults will be entering college and the workforce without being fully immunized.

"We've had this wake-up call with Disneyland," said Dr. James Cherry, a UCLA professor and primary editor of the "Textbook of Pediatric Infectious Diseases." "Adults have been ignored for years."

Some institutions already are taking action. The University of California announced last week that it will for the first time require proof of four immunizations, including for measles, in addition to an existing Hepatitis B vaccine requirement.

KinderCare, a nationwide chain of about 1,500 day care centers, said it will begin requiring measles vaccines for all staff working with babies under 15 months old. The chain also will collect re-

ords of measles immunizations for all workers. The move came as eight infants at a KinderCare in a Chicago suburb fell ill with the measles.

Much of the debate in recent weeks has been about getting more children immunized. But now, there is talk about whether adults in schools should be checked as well.

"In the past, we've always assumed that everybody was immunized — teachers were immunized," said Pamela Kahn, health and wellness coordinator for the Orange County Department of Education. "As of now, I think we're pretty sure that most teachers do so routinely, but that is going to change in the next few years because of the trend in the last decade or two."

It makes sense to consider ways to make sure teachers have gotten their vaccines, Kahn said.

"If you're going to require it of students in schools, well, it should probably be of the teachers," she said.

In drive to be 45th president, Jeb Bush wrestles with legacies of 43rd, 41st

By PHILIP RUCKER
The Washington Post

BONITA SPRINGS, Fla. — Jeb Bush came here this past week to bask in the glow of his extended family. His sister called him "remarkable and brilliant," a president-in-waiting. His mother said she had changed her mind, that it was time after all for another Bush in the White House. And his father, the 41st president, cheered him on.

Yet even as Bush embraced his dynastic family as relatives, he tried not to get saddled by them as politicians. When a reporter asked how he might have handled his brother's unpopular wars in Iraq and Afghanistan differently, Bush said: "I won't talk about the past; I'll talk about the future. ... It's not about re-litigating anything in the past."

But it won't be so easy to escape the burdens of being a Bush. Wrestling with how to handle the legacies of the two previous, controversial presidents in the family, Bush and his advisers say one

of his foremost challenges will be to establish his own political identity distinct from theirs, just as he did in two successful campaigns for governor here in Florida.

The campaign stickers his supporters wore back then, and which they are sporting anew these days, say "Jeb!" with no hint of the Bush name that comes after.

There are other ways the Bush team thinks the Jeb brand could be unique. His father, George H.W. Bush, governed as a freespending, tax-raising, foreign-policy pragmatist, while Jeb Bush aims to offer himself as a small-government conservative reformer motivated chiefly by domestic concerns.

Where older brother George W. Bush was widely regarded as an incurious and at times inept executive, Jeb Bush believes he might appeal to voters as a competent and details-oriented leader with wonkish curiosity and a zest for big ideas.

The 41st president presented as a patrician patriot and public servant, while the 43rd styled himself

as a brush-clearing cowboy with Texas bravado. The Bush who hopes to become the 45th thinks he can do so by portraying himself as the embodiment of modern America's cultural melange: a fluent Spanish speaker and Catholic convert who married a Mexican immigrant, made Miami his home and preaches a gospel of inclusion and opportunity.

As a scion of the most powerful family in Republican politics, Bush, 62, has clear advantages, namely a vast and loyal network of donors, policy gurus, operatives and grass-roots activists he has begun to mobilize. He is far ahead of his would-be rivals in fundraising, with the possibility of raising as much as \$100 million by spring.

But his family associations also bring significant challenges and risks. George H.W. Bush lost his re-election campaign and was blamed for a weak economy, while George W. Bush left office in 2009 amid the Great Recession with a dismal approval rating of 34 percent.



TERRY TANG/AP

Caylyn Otto comforts her son, Oliver, at the Phoenix Children's Hospital on Friday. The baby, born nearly seven weeks early, is recovering from a heart transplant.

Arizona baby born prematurely receives heart transplant

By TERRY TANG
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Caylyn Otto bought a bracelet for her unborn son, but not for his baptism.

"I pictured it being on an urn or being buried with him," Otto said. "I never thought he'd get to wear it."

Now, instead of planning his funeral, the Mesa, Ariz., dental assistant can start planning her son's future. Born nearly seven weeks early, Oliver became one of the youngest heart transplant recipients at Phoenix Children's Hospital last month. He will need to be hospitalized a few more weeks. But doctors said Oliver, who was due Feb. 20, has been doing remarkably well post-transplant.

"He immediately looked like a new baby," said father Chris Crawford, a pizza-delivery driver.

Otto said doctors noticed about 20 weeks into her pregnancy that Oliver's heart was significantly enlarged. At an appointment a month later, the heart had gotten bigger. The couple, who have a 20-month-old son, then were told to be prepared for their baby possibly being stillborn or to consult with hospice caregivers.

Oliver was born Jan. 5 with a heart the size of a 5-year-old child's, with a large left ventricle, Otto said. Dr. John Nigro, the pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon who performed the transplant, said the heart was affecting the infant's lung and kid-

ney development.

Ideally, an infant needs to reach a gestational age of 36 weeks before undergoing a heart transplant, Nigro said. But Oliver was put on the transplant list.

To everyone's surprise, a donor heart became available a few days later. Though Oliver was not yet at the ideal age, the surgical team decided to have him go through the 10-hour procedure.

"If you get the perfect donor, you may never get that donor again," said Dr. Daniel Velez, who was in charge of procuring the heart and making sure it met all the requirements needed for Oliver.

Velez said the hospital conducts about one heart transplant per month. The last time the procedure was performed on someone as young as Oliver was about a year ago. Nigro said everyone has been pleasantly surprised at how Oliver, who now weighs 7 pounds, is coping.

"He's a real fighter. There's no question about that," Nigro said.

Oliver will have to be immunosuppressant drugs and to be constantly monitored for the rest of his life. But there's no reason not to expect that he can't go on to live a normal life like going to school and playing sports, Crawford said. He said now they can joke that the size of their son's heart was an indicator of who he is as a person.

"That's been the joke: He had too much love. He had to give it away," Crawford said.

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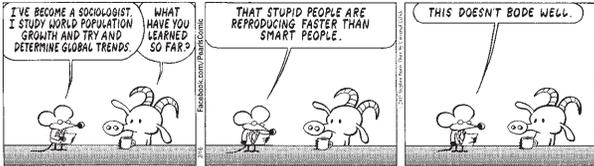
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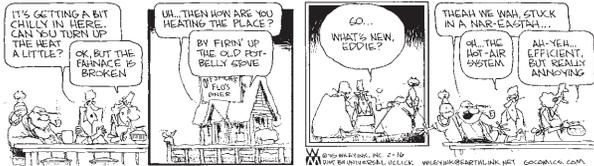
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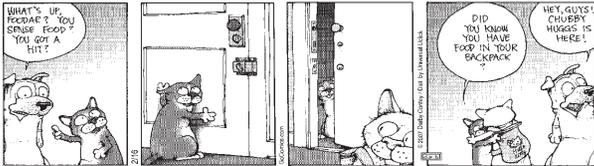
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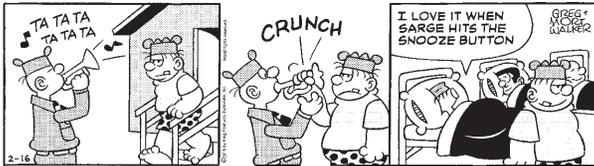
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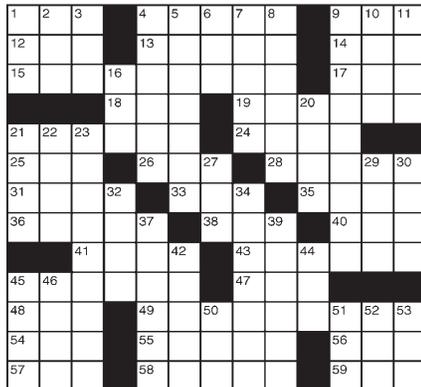
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Be in the red
- 4 Glitch
- 9 Marry
- 12 Resistance measure
- 13 Deceived
- 14 Raw rock
- 15 Indoor chores
- 17 — Tin Tin
- 18 Tavern
- 19 Detachable shirtfront
- 21 Political argument
- 24 Ignore
- 25 Hwy.
- 26 Day fractions (Abbr.)
- 28 Wine sediment
- 31 Landers and Richards
- 33 Beatles' " — Blues"
- 35 Carbon compound
- 36 Luxury craft
- 38 Symbol of intrigue
- 40 Hollywood trickery (Abbr.)
- 41 Employ
- 43 Chess piece
- 45 Mollusc
- 47 Can. neighbor
- 48 Historic time
- 49 Clemens alias
- 54 Knight's address

DOWN

- 1 Be in the red
- 4 Glitch
- 9 Marry
- 12 Resistance measure
- 13 Deceived
- 14 Raw rock
- 15 Indoor chores
- 17 — Tin Tin
- 18 Tavern
- 19 Detachable shirtfront
- 21 Political argument
- 24 Ignore
- 25 Hwy.
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- 38 Symbol of intrigue
- 40 Hollywood trickery (Abbr.)
- 41 Employ
- 43 Chess piece
- 45 Mollusc
- 47 Can. neighbor
- 48 Historic time
- 49 Clemens alias
- 54 Knight's address
- 55 Wickerwork
- 56 Lingerie item
- 57 Erstwhile acorn
- 58 Copy, for short
- 59 Taxi
- 60 Tub
- 61 Remedied
- 62 Low, heavy wagon
- 63 Sicilian spouter
- 64 Standard
- 65 Stitch
- 66 29 Type of dancer
- 67 Blunder
- 68 Member of the fleet
- 69 Severe critic
- 70 Ostrich's cousin
- 71 Detective
- 72 — Medal (kiddie lit prize)
- 73 Commotion
- 74 Fairlane and Focus
- 75 Cruel
- 76 Garage feature
- 77 A Great Lake
- 78 Gainsay
- 79 Hot tub
- 80 Remedied
- 81 Low, heavy wagon
- 82 Sicilian spouter
- 83 Standard
- 84 Stitch
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- 104 29 Type of dancer
- 105 Blunder
- 106 Member of the fleet
- 107 Severe critic
- 108 Ostrich's cousin
- 109 Detective
- 110 — Medal (kiddie lit prize)
- 111 Commotion
- 112 Fairlane and Focus
- 113 Cruel
- 114 Garage feature
- 115 A Great Lake
- 116 Gainsay

Answer to Previous Puzzle



2-16

CRYPTOQUIP

QWCI DWCDQT YDCVJY TI
 DGC SXGZZ STD GIDT V RVB
 VXSEOCID, BT UTE DWGIJ

DWCU QXCX CORXTGZCB?
 Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE ROBOT SHOULD MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A BLACKSMITH. HE'S CONCERNED ABOUT HIS METAL HEALTH.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals Y

WORLD

Ukraine cease-fire largely holds; town tense

By PETR JOSEK
AND PETER LEONARD
The Associated Press

LUHANSKE, Ukraine — A cease-fire that went into effect Sunday in eastern Ukraine appeared largely to be holding, officials said, except for around the strategic railway hub of Debaltseve.

Heavy fog shrouding sodden fields muffled the sound of artillery, but regular shelling could still be heard from Luhanske, a town about 9 miles to the northwest. Associated Press journalists were blocked from moving closer by Ukrainian troops, who said it was not safe to travel ahead.

The cease-fire has kindled slender hopes of reprieve from the conflict between government troops and Russia-backed separatists that has claimed more than 5,300 lives since it began in April. Attention will be focused in the coming days on Debaltseve,

where Ukrainian forces for weeks have been fending off severe onslaughts from the rebels. The town is a railway link between the main separatist-held cities of Donetsk and Luhansk.

This latest cessation of hostilities was agreed to after a marathon session of diplomacy last week that brought together the leaders of Ukraine, Russia, Germany and France for talks in the capital of Belarus, Minsk.

Under the deal hammered out at those negotiations, the progress of the cease-fire is to be monitored by observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The head of the OSCE monitoring mission, Ertugrul Apakan, said that the organization has dispatched 20 patrols to monitor the state of the cease-fire. "We made an attempt to send our monitors to Debaltseve. However, our patrol has been refused access by the so-called DPR,"

Apakan said, using the acronym for the Donetsk People's Republic separatist movement.

Apakan said the cease-fire was being respected on the whole, barring some isolated instances.

A spokesman for the Ukrainian army general staff, Vladislav Seleznyov, said during a morning briefing that shelling was noted 10 times, with all but one incident occurring in the Debaltseve area.

Another military spokesman, Andriy Lysenko, said Sunday that nine Ukrainian troops had died during the previous day's unrest.

The rebels, in turn, have accused the Ukrainians of deploying artillery in the Debaltseve area shortly after midnight. Also, they argue that because they have fully encircled Debaltseve, the territory should be deemed as being theirs.

But Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, as he issued the cease-fire order at one minute

after midnight Kiev time Sunday, said the road to the town remained open and that Ukrainian troops there had been resupplied with ammunition.

At an army checkpoint along the road to Debaltseve, a commander said the shelling appeared to have come from an area beyond Debaltseve controlled by "gangs other than the Russians and the separatists, such as Cossacks." The commander, who would identify himself only as Sanich, said these forces "submitted to no authority."

Donetsk, the separatist stronghold, was quiet Sunday morning with no shelling from government forces, the Donetsk News Agency, a separatist mouthpiece, reported, citing the city administration.

In the Luhansk region, two civilians were killed shortly after midnight in the government-controlled town of Popasne as a result of shelling, regional authorities said. The town lies directly

on the front line, only a mile or two from the nearest separatist positions.

The shells hit a shop, a medical clinic and a private residence, Luhansk Governor Hennadiy Moskal said in a statement. "The owners of the house — an 87-year-old man and a 67-year-old woman — died under the ruins," Moskal said.

The hours before the cease-fire were marked by ferocious battles around Debaltseve as Ukrainian armed forces undertook desperate attempts to gain control over a highway linking the town to their rearguard.

The U.S. State Department said satellite images from eastern Ukraine offer "credible pieces of evidence" that the Russian military has deployed larger amounts of artillery and multiple rocket launchers around Debaltseve to shell Ukrainian forces. The images could not immediately be verified.



JULIAN STRATENSCHULTE, DPA/AP

Germany parade canceled over threat

A woman dressed up for Carnival talks to a policeman Sunday in Braunschweig, Germany. Police in Braunschweig canceled a popular Carnival street parade because of fears of an imminent Islamist terrorist attack. Police spokesman Thomas Geese said police received credible information that there was a "concrete threat of an attack" on Sunday's parade and called on all visitors to stay at home. Braunschweig's Carnival parade is the biggest one in northern Germany and draws about 250,000 visitors each year.

Female suicide bomber kills 16 in Nigeria

The Associated Press

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria — A teenage female suicide bomber blew herself up at a crowded bus station in northeast Nigeria on Sunday, killing at least 16 and wounding 30 others.

Most of the victims were children who had either been selling peanuts or begging for money at the time of the explosion, witnesses said.

The bomber managed to get through the security check at the entrance to the bus station in Damaturu, the capital of Yobe state, and detonated herself at 1 p.m. local time.

"It was an eyesore looking at the scene which is littered with chopped flesh and battered bodies of victims," said Hassan Umar.

The suicide bomber was a teenager, said Umar, who said he saw

her remains.

"The girl that carried out the suicide should be around 16 years old, because her face was a bit matured," Umar said.

At least eight of the bodies were taken to the mortuary at Damaturu Specialists Hospital, said a worker who spoke to The Associated Press by phone and asked for anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to the media.

Police in Denmark kill man suspected in shooting spree

By JAN M. OLSEN
AND KARL RITTER
The Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — Danish police shot and killed a man early Sunday suspected of carrying out shooting attacks at a free speech event and then at a Copenhagen synagogue, killing a Danish documentary filmmaker and a member of the Scandinavian country's Jewish community. Five police officers also were wounded in the attacks.

"Denmark has been hit by terror," Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt said. "We do not know the motive for the alleged perpetrator's actions, but we know that there are forces that want to hurt Denmark. They want to rebuke our freedom of speech."

Jens Madsen, head of the Danish intelligence agency PET, said investigators believe the gunman was inspired by Islamic radicalism.

"PET is working on a theory that the perpetrator could have been inspired by the events in Paris. He could also have been inspired by material sent out by (the Islamic State group) and others," Madsen said.

Islamic radicals carried out a massacre at the Charlie Hebdo newspaper in Paris last month, followed by an attack on Jews at a kosher grocery store, taking the lives of 17 victims.

At a news conference, Madsen also said investigators have identified the suspect and that he is someone who had been on the agency's "radar." He did not reveal his identity.

Later Sunday, at least two people with handcuffs were taken out by police from an Internet cafe in Copenhagen, Danish media reported. Police spokesman Steen Hansen told The Associated Press that "the action was part of the police investigation" but declined to give further details.

The Danish Film Institute said the 55-year-old man killed at the free speech event was documentary filmmaker Finn Noergaard.

The institute's chief, Henrik Bo Nielsen, said he was shocked and angry to find out Noergaard was gunned down while attending a discussion on art and free speech.

Noergaard directed and produced documentaries for Danish television, including 2004's "Boomerang Boy" about an Australian boy's dreams to become a world boomerang champion, and 2008's "Le Le" about Vietnamese immigrants in Denmark.

Denmark's Chief Rabbi, Jair Melchior, identified the Jewish victim as Dan Uzan, 37, a longtime security guard for the 7,000-strong community. He was guarding a building behind the synagogue during a bat mitzvah when he was shot in the head. Two police officers who were there were slightly wounded.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu decried the attack and said his government plans to encourage a "massive immigration" of Jews from Europe.

Other leaders also condemned the attacks, including British Prime Minister David Cameron, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and European Union President Donald Tusk.

SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

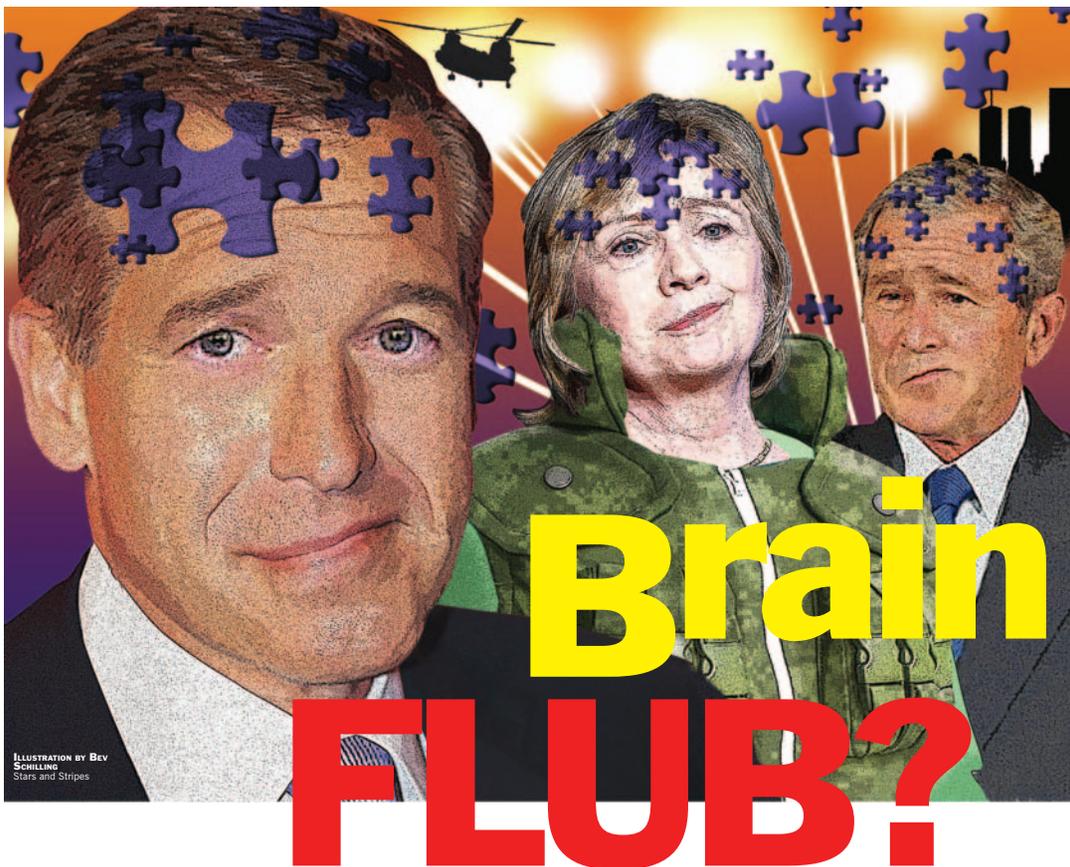


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SCHILLING
Stars and Stripes

Scientists say memory of autobiographical events is pliable, even unreliable

By AMY ELLIS NUTT
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON

When we tell stories about our lives, most of us never have our memories questioned. NBC's Brian Williams, like other high-profile people in the past, is finding out what happens when someone does.

Williams' faux pas — retelling a story of his helicopter coming under fire in Iraq a dozen years ago when it was actually the helicopter flying ahead of him — was much like Hillary Clinton's during the 2008 presidential campaign. Her story was about coming under fire during a visit to an airfield in Bosnia 12 years earlier.

George W. Bush also misremembered when, on several occasions, he told audiences how on 9/11 he watched the first plane fly into the north tower of the World Trade Center on TV, just before entering that classroom in Florida to read a book to schoolchildren.

In each case, these were highly emotional moments. Williams' helicopter made an emergency landing in the desert behind the aircraft that was hit. Hillary Clinton was made to don a flak jacket and told her airplane might not be able to land at the airport in Bosnia because of sniper fire in the area; and George Bush was told by an aide about the first crash into World Trade Center just before entering the classroom.

That each of these memories was false created huge

public relations headaches for Clinton and Williams. But the fact is that false memories are not that uncommon, especially for highly emotional events.

Scientists have been telling us for years that memory for autobiographical events, also known as episodic memory, is pliable and even unreliable. The consensus from neuroimaging studies and laboratory experiments is that episodic memory is not like replaying a film but more like reconstructing an event from bits and pieces of information.

Memories are stored in clusters of neurons called engrams, and the proteins responsible for storing those memories, scientists say, are modified and changed just by the reconstruction process of remembering.

These findings are just one reason why last year, the U.S. National Research Council recommended the criminal justice system exert tighter controls over the use of eyewitness testimony in court and come up with a more scientific approach to the identification of suspects in police lineups.

Using neuroimaging, Northwestern University scientist Kenneth Pallar was able to offer one reason why people can misremember something as important as being shot at or a terrorist attack. Pallar determined which parts of the brain were activated in forming a false memory and which when forming a real memory. The result: The part of the brain that perceives an object or event overlaps with the part that imagines an object or event.

Even scientists who specialize in memory research

are susceptible to misremembering.

Several years ago, University of Illinois psychologist Daniel Simons performed an experiment on himself by first writing down everything he could remember about his own experiences on 9/11 beginning with hearing about the planes crashing into the twin towers. He then asked the people who were with him at that time to write down their own recollections. Later, he discovered that two of the people he asked were, in fact, not with him at the time. And he did not remember one person who was there.

The experiment made Simons empathize with both Clinton and Bush.

“The next time you hear a politician or celebrity make a false claim about what they remember,” he wrote in 2010, “keep in mind that they might not be lying maliciously. They might not even realize their memory is wrong (and if you tell them, they might not believe you).”

Williams, as well as Clinton and Bush, could also have simply been lying, not misremembering. Research also tells us that people by and large act, think and, yes, even remember in a way that is beneficial to themselves. Everyone lies to gain an advantage of some kind, but we lie in little bits so that we can still feel good about ourselves.

Dan Ariely, a behavioral economist who wrote the book “The Honest Truth About Dishonesty: How We Lie to Everyone — Especially Ourselves” put it this way: “People may allow themselves to cheat sometimes, but not if it involves identifying themselves as Cheaters.”

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police say robbers wore underwear disguises

OR MEDFORD — Oregon State Police said two men were arrested in a southern Oregon convenience store robbery in which the robbers' "hoods" were actually boxer brief-style underwear in a camouflage pattern.

Lt. Josh Brooks said Friday that a trooper acting on a tip determined that one suspect in the Sept. 19, 2014, robbery of an AM/PM store in Eagle Point was in custody in Florence, Ore., on unrelated matters. Brooks said that while interviewing that man, the trooper developed information that led to the second suspect.

The spokesman said Gage Miller, 21, and Timothy Raybould, 22, were arrested and taken to the Jackson County Jail in Medford for investigation of robbery. Both are from Florence.

Suspected 'tip jar bandit' is arrested

CA BEVERLY HILLS — Beverly Hills police say they've arrested a 20-year-old woman suspected of being the "tip jar bandit."

Investigators say the woman looted a tip jar Thursday at a coffee shop and is suspected in similar robberies at cafes and restaurants in the area.

The suspect was followed out of the coffee shop by a witness, who called police.

Minutes later, officers arrested Jessica Shub on suspicion of commercial burglary.

The Los Angeles Times reported Shub, a Beverly Hills resident, was being held on \$20,000 bail.

Police believe she carried out two similar tip jar burglaries in Beverly Hills and three others in Los Angeles.

Teacher pleads not guilty to stealing guns

AR ASHDOWN — An Ashdown School District teacher who coached the district's skeet shooting club has pleaded not guilty to charges of stealing shotguns used by the club.

The Texarkana Gazette reported Friday that Terry Simmons, 41, pleaded not guilty to two counts of theft of property. Simmons is suspected of selling, or trading the guns at a pawn shop.

The guns were among 10 used by the skeet club and were kept in a safe at the Little River County Sheriff's Office. Just three guns were in the safe when a new coach took over the club and asked for an inventory. Authorities said Simmons provided them with guns that he said had been in his home.

Ashdown Superintendent Jason Sanders said Simmons is on leave from the district.

Odd-looking billboards puzzling to motorists

NM LAS CRUCES — Motorists in southern New Mexico are stumbling upon a series of puzzling billboards along highways and hear they're warnings in hieroglyphics.

THE CENSUS

785

The number of pairs of panties stolen from a Victoria's Secret store in Atlanta. Police say a woman entered the store at Lenox Square Mall on Saturday, stuffed the underwear into three shopping bags during a two-hour period, then left without paying. Police have released surveillance camera photos of the woman, but no arrests have been made. The missing underwear has a total value of about \$10,000.



MICHAEL DEMOCKER, THE (NEW ORLEANS) TIMES-PICAYUNE/AP

Fantastic voyagers

Crowds scream for beads on Orleans Avenue during a Carnival parade celebrating "Fantastic Voyages" in New Orleans on Saturday.

No, it's just public art. The Las Cruces Sun-News reported the strange billboards with symbols are part of a moving gallery of contemporary pieces.

Samantha Frank, territorial director of the nonprofit organization Los Angeles Nomadic Division that promotes public art exhibitions, said the pieces are part of the Manifest Destiny Billboard Project.

He said it's a series of artist-produced billboards and activations that will be shown along Interstate 10 from Jacksonville, Fla., to Los Angeles.

Motorist Craig Melton, who delivers business supplies, said he thought the billboards may be from the Islamic State group or "other subversives (who) might be trying to get at us."

Sled dog race canceled because of lack of snow

AK KENAI — A lack of snow in the Kenai Peninsula has forced the cancellation of the Tustumena 200 sled dog race for the second consecutive year.

The (Kenai) Peninsula Clarion reported the 200-mile race

already was postponed from its original Feb. 7 start date to Feb. 21.

Race board members made the decision Thursday night to cancel the race this year.

Race director Tami Murray said all possible options for the trails were explored and there just isn't enough snow.

She said it takes about a week to put in trails, and holding the race any later than Feb. 21 would put the race too close to the start of the Iditarod Trail Sled dog race, which begins March 7 with a ceremonial start in Anchorage.

Juveniles accused in child porn case

FL PEMBROKE PINES — Police are asking parents in South Florida to check the online accounts of their children after three teens were accused of creating an Instagram account to solicit and post explicit photos of other minors.

Pembroke Pines police arrested two boys, ages 12 and 13, and a girl, 13, on Thursday, following a 10-week investigation. They face charges of electronic transmission of child pornography.

"The Pembroke Pines Police Department urges the community to pay close attention to their children's online activity," Sgt. Angela Goodwin said in a news release Thursday. Parents who think their children may have been exploited can contact Pembroke Pines police or any other law enforcement agency.

Police say the social media account encouraged its 500 followers to post nude and sexually explicit photos of minors to "expose" them.

The posts included their names and personal information. Many followers posted cruel comments in response to the images.

Officials push condom effort at sex museum

NY NEW YORK — Health officials used the Museum of Sex as a backdrop while promoting New York City's condom giveaway program.

A condom campaign launched Friday is called "Be sexy, be safe."

Condom distribution has been a key component in the city's fight against HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases for decades.

Commissioner Dr. Mary Bassett said her department has "wrapped the city in high-quality latex."

New York City began distributing free condoms in 1971. The city introduced the first nation's municipally branded condom in 2007.

Health officials say the city gave out 37 million free condoms in 2014.

Part of Outer Banks' Rodanthe Pier in ocean

NC RODANTHE — Part of the Rodanthe Pier on the Outer Banks has fallen into the ocean because of high winds. The Virginian-Pilot of Norfolk reported that owner Terry Plumblee said about 75 feet of the pier fell into the water Thursday afternoon.

Wind gusts of up to 50 mph were reported on Hatteras Island last week.

Plumblee hopes to reopen the pier by the end of next month. The 725-foot pier closed for the winter in November.

From wire reports

FACES

'Elementary' star takes another turn behind the camera

BY LYNN ELBER
The Associated Press

“Elementary” star Lucy Liu had to be pushy to get a chance to turn director on the CBS crime drama. “It’s harder for women in general. You have to ask and ask and ask. You have to break the door down. ... and come in with a real belief in what you’re doing,” she said.

Liu directed the Feb. 12 episode of the series in which she plays Dr. Joan Watson opposite Jonny Lee Miller’s Sherlock Holmes. The job required juggling acting with the demands of going behind the camera and the pace of TV production, she said. “Television is a machine. You

jump on to this conveyer belt that is going at a very quick speed, and if you can’t keep up you fall off and fall hard,” said Liu, who directed her first episode of “Elementary” last season.

She avoided any tumbles, she said, and is eager to repeat the experience. Liu, whose on-screen credits include “Ally McBeal” and the films “Charlie’s Angels” and “Kill Bill,” said she remains enthusiastic about acting but appreciates the growth that directing and its broader view of a project can bring.

“After having directed, you really don’t see things the same way anymore. You approach things with a different eye, as a different person, ultimately,” Liu said.

“Elementary” star Lucy Liu directed an episode of the series that aired Feb. 12 in the U.S. It airs on AFN-Prime.

CBS



Drake releases surprise album on iTunes

Drake was featured on Beyoncé’s surprise album — and now he’s taking a page from her book.

The Grammy-winning rapper released a new album called “If You’re Reading This It’s Too Late” early Feb. 13 on iTunes. It includes 17 tracks and features Lil Wayne, Travis Scott and PARTYNEXTDOOR.

The release comes more than a year after Beyoncé released her self-titled album on iTunes without announcing it. Others have dropped albums in surprise form, from alternative rapper Kid Cudi to Australian rockers Wolfmother to rap group G Unit.

Drake’s last album was 2013’s “Nothing Was the Same,” his third studio album. It sold more than 650,000 units its debut week.

Drake’s hits include “Started from the Bottom,” “Take Care” and “Best I Ever Had.”

Other news

■ **Rosie O’Donnell** has ended her second stint on “The View,” her goodbye about as short as her tenure. Holding her toddler daughter, O’Donnell made her exit Feb. 12 in a segment that lasted barely 40 seconds. She thanked the show’s creator, Barbara Walters, for having her on its twice. Her first tenure lasted a stormy eight months and ended in 2007. She announced last weekend she was leaving. O’Donnell, who is going through a divorce and has had a heart attack, said she needed to reduce the stress in her life.

■ It’s been nearly four years since “Cereonials,” **Florence + the Machine**’s last album. Now the project led by singer Florence Welch finally has finished a follow-up. Her new LP, “How Big How Blue How Beautiful,” is due June 2 on Republic Records. The LP features a notable roster of collaborators, including Goldfrapp’s Will Gregory. The album’s first single, “What Kind of Man,” is now on iTunes.

■ **James Franco** will star in the small-screen adaptation of Stephen King’s first travel novel about President John F. Kennedy’s assassination. Franco’s role in the nine-hour series based on King’s “11/22/63” was announced Feb. 12 by Hulu and Warner Bros. Television.

■ Actor **Emile Hirsch** was charged Feb. 12 with assault after police said he put a studio employee in a chokehold and dragged her across a nightclub table while he was in Utah for the Sundance Film Festival. Hirsch was charged with aggravated assault, which is punishable by up to 15 years in prison and a \$5,000 fine. He was also charged with intoxication, a misdemeanor. Summit County prosecutor Ryan Stack confirmed that the victim, Daniele Bernfeld, works for Paramount Pictures.

■ Media columnist **David Carr**, who wrote the Media Equation column for The New York Times and penned a memoir about his fight with drug addiction, collapsed at his office and died Feb. 12. He was 58.

From wire services

Eddie Murphy releases reggae single

BY BIANCA ROACH
The Associated Press

Veteran actor-comedian Eddie Murphy is on a different chart these days, with his latest single rising to the top of the most downloaded reggae songs on iTunes.

Released Jan. 27, “Oh Jah Jah” was inspired by recent news events, Murphy said.

“I was watching CNN about two or three months ago and all this craziness was going on with the terrorism and chopping off people’s heads and then St. Louis, Ferguson. A bunch of police brutality going on (at the same time and I had that progression, but I didn’t have any lyrics, but I had that groove. I’d been playing that progression for about a month and then I was watching the news and it all came together one day,” he said.

Murphy recently spoke to The Associated Press about his music, film and comedy.

The Associated Press: If you were to release a reggae album, would you put it out as Eddie Murphy or would you think of a reggae name?

Murphy: I’ve got 25 years of stuff on the shelf. I could go right now and pick six, seven, eight reggae songs and put out a reggae album. I could go back there and pick seven or eight country songs and do a country album, or I

could do a regular dance/R&B album. I’ve had people say, “You should put a record out because it’s a good song and if they didn’t know it was you they’d like it under a different name,” but, hey, these are my tracks and I’m not hiding behind any of it. It is what it is.

Will there be an upcoming album or any collaborations?

I have collaborations with all kinds of different artists over the years. Stuff with B.B. King, I’ve recorded with Paul McCartney, Snoop, I’ve recorded with a bunch of different interesting artists. Raphael Saadiq. As far as future collaborations, that all has to come together organically. As far as an album coming out, if one of these tracks jumps off, if one of them connects with the people digging it and I get some momentum going, I’ll put out an album but I’m not planning an album until I’m sure people want to hear something. Otherwise it’ll stay on the shelf for years and years. A hundred years from now they dig through everything and I’m totally fine with them finding hours and hours and hours of collaborations and they’ll say, “We didn’t even know Eddie Murphy.” I’m totally fine with that.

What about any upcoming film projects?

About two weeks ago I just finished a movie, it’s not a comedy, though. It’s called “Cook,” and it’s got a really strong director, the guy that directed “Driving Miss Daisy” and “Ten-



“I’ve had people say, ‘You should put a record out because it’s a good song and if they didn’t know it was you they’d like it under a different name,’ but, hey, these are my tracks and I’m not hiding behind any of it. It is what it is,” says Eddie Murphy.

Any plans on returning to stand-up comedy?

When I was doing stand-up, it was a hundred comedians; now it’s a hundred thousand of them. So if I got onstage again, I’d have to be doing something that makes me different from all these other hundred thousand comics. My fantasy when I think about live performances is playing with a really strong band playing a half-hour or 40 minutes of music and having the curtains go down, then doing an hour of stand-up comedy. I’d have a really fly show if I could pull that one off.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Report: Apple working on electric car

By **BERNARD CONDON**
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — You've heard of the iPhone and iPad. How about the iCar?

The Wall Street Journal is reporting that Apple has hired hundreds of people to work on a secret project — code name "Titan" — to develop an electric vehicle. The newspaper cites people familiar with the project who spoke under condition of anonymity.

Apple spokesman Tom Neumayr declined to comment.

The article says that the vehicle will resemble a minivan and that it would be branded as an Apple product.

Apple's industrial design team is staffed with several people with automaking experience, the article says. That group includes Marc Newson, a designer who once created a concept car for Ford.

Apple has confirmed that News-on is on its staff.

If Apple does sell an electric car, it will face some competitors.

General Motors announced on Thursday that it will build an electric car, the Chevrolet Bolt, with a 200-mile range at a factory near Detroit. The car will cost \$37,500, not including a \$7,500 federal tax credit, GM said. The car will be built starting in 2017.

Silicon Valley automaker Tesla Motors plans to start selling a 200-mile-per-charge car about the same time. The price of Tes-

la's Model 3, including the tax credit, is likely to be well below \$30,000 after the tax credit.

Nissan is already selling an electric car, the Leaf, though not many — 158,000 around the world.

The Journal notes that Apple is always experimenting with new products, many eventually abandoned. But it says the senior people involved in the electric car project suggest that it is serious venture.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Feb. 16)	\$1.1711
Dollar buys (Feb. 16)	€0.8539
British pound (Feb. 16)	\$1.58
Japanese yen (Feb. 17)	¥117.00
South Korean won (Feb. 17)	₩1,072.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.5394/0.6496
Canada (dollar)	1.2473
China (Yuan)	6.2427
Denmark (Krone)	6.5367
Egypt (Pound)	7.6279
Euro	\$1.1387/0.8782
Hong Kong (dollar)	7.7556
Hungary (Forint)	268.73
Israel (Sheqel)	3.9088
Japan (Yen)	118.77
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2953
Norway (Krone)	7.4686
Philippines (Peso)	44.26
Poland (Zloty)	3.67
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7517
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3547
South Korea (Won)	1,067.78
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9332
Thailand (Baht)	32.60
Turkey (Lira)	2.4590

(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., not the dollar), the rates are 7.7556 cents, which you will multiply by the number of dollars to get the amount in the foreign currency. 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
3-month bill	1.50
6-month bill	1.75
Federal funds market rate	0.12
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	2.65

Feds approve apples modified to resist browning

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Don't expect to see them too soon, but they could be coming to your local grocery store — two types of apples genetically modified to resist turning brown after they're bruised or sliced.

The development could boost

sales of apples for snacks, salads and other uses.

Arctic Golden and Arctic Granny Smith are being developed by a Canadian company, Okanagan Specialty Fruits Inc. of Summerland, British Columbia.

The Agriculture Department gave its OK on Friday — saying

the apples aren't likely to pose a plant pest risk and or have "a significant impact on the human environment."

The first Arctic apples are expected to be available in late 2016 in small, test-market quantities.

It takes apple trees several years to produce significant quan-

ties, so it will take time before the genetically-modified apples are widely distributed.

Apples brown quickly after they are cut open and exposed to air. The browning-resistant varieties are considered especially desirable for use as pre-sliced apples, in fruit salad and salad bars.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

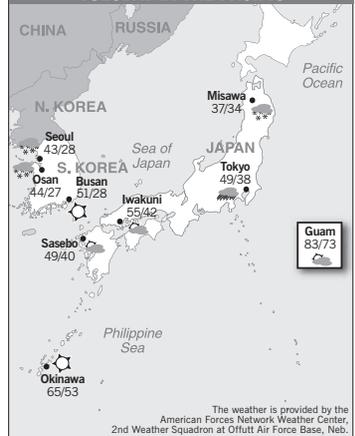
MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



MONDAY IN EUROPE



TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

Monday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Arlene, Tex	40	30	Cldy	Chatanooga	32	27	Snow	Fort Wayne	14	8	Cldy	Louisville	22	12	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	12	4	Pcldy	Chicago	21	11	Cldy	Fresno	74	49	Cir	Lubbock	43	27	Pcldy
Albuquerque	62	29	Cir	Cincinnati	20	12	Snow	Goodland	38	20	Cldy	Macon	47	42	Rain
Allentown, Pa.	16	10	Cir	Cleveland	11	5	Pcldy	Grand Junction	46	21	Cldy	Madison	19	6	Snow
Amarillo	40	27	Rain	Colorado Springs	33	15	Snow	Grand Rapids	12	9	Cldy	Medford	64	38	Cir
Anchorage	42	26	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	38	32	Cldy	Great Falls	36	18	Cldy	Memphis	31	24	Snow
Ashville	27	24	Snow	Columbus, Ga.	48	40	Cldy	Green Bay	16	7	Snow	Miami Beach	73	65	Cldy
Atlanta	38	33	Rain	Columbus, Ohio	16	11	Cldy	Harrisburg	16	8	Pcldy	Milwaukee	18	8	Cir
Atlantic City	21	12	Cir	Concord, N.H.	11	5	Snow	Hartford Spfld	12	2	Snow	Midland-Odessa	50	31	Cldy
Austin	52	36	Cldy	Corpus Christi	76	43	Cldy	Helena	41	21	Cldy	Missoula	38	20	Pcldy
Baltimore	20	14	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	41	31	Cldy	Honolulu	85	66	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	26	23	Cldy
Baton Rouge	70	36	Rain	Dayton	17	11	Cldy	Houston	68	39	Rain	North Platte	39	19	Cldy
Bilings	29	23	Cldy	Daytona Beach	73	60	Cldy	Huntsville	40	25	Cldy	Nashville	32	17	Snow
Birmingham	46	28	Rain	Denver	33	15	Snow	Indianapolis	20	12	Cir	New Orleans	73	43	Rain
Bismarck	24	1	Cldy	Des Moines	27	11	Cldy	Jackson, Miss.	60	34	Rain	New York City	17	8	Pcldy
Boise	51	27	Cir	Detroit	10	5	Snow	Jacksonville	66	54	Cir	Newark	11	1	Cldy
Boston	15	3	Snow	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Jama	39	34	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	26	23	Cldy
Bridgeport	51	4	Pcldy	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Kansas City	30	18	Cldy	North Platte	39	19	Cldy
Brownsville	79	51	Cldy	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Key West	74	70	Pcldy	Oklahoma City	58	27	Cldy
Buffalo	5	-1	Cir	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Knoxville	30	23	Snow	Omaha	34	15	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	4	-9	Snow	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Lake Charles	67	37	Rain	Orlando	74	60	Cir
Caribou, Maine	4	-9	Snow	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Lansing	17	7	Cldy	Paducah	26	12	Snow
Casper, Wyo.	28	14	Snow	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Las Vegas	76	50	Cir	Pendleton	45	30	Cir
Charleston, S.C.	46	39	Cldy	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Lexington	19	10	Snow	Pesita	23	14	Cir
Charleston, W.Va.	19	16	Snow	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Lincoln	39	17	Cldy	Philadelphia	17	15	Cir
Charlotte, N.C.	32	26	Snow	El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Little Rock	34	24	Snow	Phoenix	79	55	Cir
				El Paso	70	43	Pcldy	Los Angeles	73	55	Pcldy	Pittsburgh	12	6	Pcldy
				El Paso	70	43	Pcldy								

National temperature extremes
Hi: Sat., 90, Thermal, Calif.
Lo: Sat., -26, Houston, Maine

Stripes

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EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@strips.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@strips.com
Sam Amrhein, Managing Editor International
amrhein.sam@strips.com
Tina Croyley, Managing Editor for Content
croyley.tina@strips.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@strips.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@strips.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Teddie Wye, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
wye.teddie@strips.com
+49(0)613.3615.9310; cell +49(0)711.315.1881;
DSN (314)583.9310
Pacific
Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief
alexander.paul@strips.com
+81-3 6385-3777; cell (090)5883.1673
DSN (315)22.5377
Washington
Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief
dickson.patrick@strips.com
(+1)202(761)0908; DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
busters.brian@strips.com
Amanda Trampas, Design Desk Supervisor
trampas.amanda@strips.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast
Robert Reismann, reismann.robert@strips.com
+49(0)613.3615.9150; DSN (314)583.9150
Europe
Van Rowell, rowell.van@strips.com
+49(0)613.3615.9111; DSN (314)583.9111
Pacific
Mari Matsumoto, customerhelp@strips.com
+81-3 6385-3171; DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US

Washington
tel: (+1)202-761-0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
5125 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters
letters@strips.com

Additional contacts
strips.com/contacts

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OPINION

The working class has gone missing

By Andrew J. Cherlin

Lost in the debate over the middle-class tax policies that President Barack Obama proposed in his State of the Union address is the puzzling disappearance from our political language of a once-common term: working class. Suddenly, no one in politics seems willing to use those words, as if calling someone working class were an insult. Their absence makes it harder to discuss measures that might help the large and beleaguered group that this descriptor still fits.

In his State of the Union addresses, Obama has used the term middle class 28 times. But he has never said "working class" except in 2011, when he described Vice President Joe Biden, who was seated behind him, as "a working-class kid from Scranton." In last month's address, the president argued that his proposals would benefit "every middle-class and low-income family with young children" — as if there were no one in between. But in fact millions of families fall between the college-educated middle class and the poor. They tend to be headed by people who have a diploma but not a bachelor's degree. In 2014, among all families with children under age 18, 54 percent were headed by an adult who had the first but not the second.

A generation or two ago, those in this category supported their families by taking the industrial jobs that were plentiful, or by marrying someone who did. Today's working class, in contrast, competes for the diminishing number of blue-collar jobs that haven't yet been automated or outsourced. To lump these people together with the college-educated is to create a group that is so

broad as to be meaningless.

When asked, few Americans will volunteer that they are in the working class, but many accept it once they are presented with the term. The 2012 General Social Survey asked a national sample of adults whether they would say they belong in "the lower class, the working class, the middle class, or the upper class." Forty-four percent chose working class and 44 percent chose middle class.

To be sure, the working-class label has long been mildly pejorative. In television series of earlier decades, such as "The Honeymooners" and "All in the Family," the working-class man was sometimes depicted as a buffoon or bigot. Today, as the college-educated middle class has expanded and factory work has declined, the working class has come to be seen as encompassing those who haven't made it economically. And if you are not upwardly mobile in America, many people think it's your own fault. In a 2012 Pew Research Center national survey, 38 percent thought that poverty was caused by a lack of individual effort, 46 percent said it was due to circumstances beyond a person's control, and 11 percent thought both factors were involved. Politicians may prefer to call working-class families by the class position they aspire to rather than the one they hold.

Whatever the reason, the disappearance of the working class from political discourse means that little attention gets paid to assistance that could be targeted to working-class young adults. Decent-paying professions exist for the noncollege-educated, such as medical technicians in the growing health industry and operators of computer-controlled machines in high-

tech factories. However, we need to better train young adults for the skills needed for jobs such as these. Many experts urge that we provide more work-based teaching in career-oriented high schools, in apprenticeships and in community college partnerships with local firms. Committing to this path requires giving up the American dream of a four-year college education for all, a goal that is worthy in the abstract but may not always be in the best interests of the working class.

The working class has also been hit hard by the decline of the labor movement. Just 7 percent of private-sector workers now belong to unions, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Yet high rates of union membership in the past appear to have lifted wages not just for members but also for nonunion workers. To help the working class, government should take measures designed to bolster unions rather than weaken them, as has been the recent trend in many jurisdictions. The working class would also benefit from an increase in the minimum wage, which was worth 22 percent less in purchasing power in 2012 than in 1970.

Admittedly, none of these steps would do much for the college-educated middle class, who already have bachelor's degrees, usually work for salaries rather than union wages and earn well above the minimum. Helping the struggling working class requires that we develop policies aimed at them. Why can't we say so?

Andrew J. Cherlin is professor of public policy in the Department of Sociology at Johns Hopkins University and the author of "Labor's Love Lost: The Rise and Fall of the Working-Class Family in America." This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Measles anywhere is measles everywhere

By Andrea Kay

The measles outbreak linked to Disneyland has heightened public debate about the effect of anti-vaccination sentiment and what can be characterized as a luxury of choice in the United States. Understandably, much of the dialogue is focused on whether to vaccinate kids. It's critical to address these issues so we can dispel myths about immunization and re-emphasize the important benefits of vaccines. But there is another conversation that we're not having, one that is equally important to making sure measles outbreaks don't happen in the United States: how to stop measles outbreaks wherever they occur.

Measles is still a major killer in many parts of the world where families often have no ability to choose whether to vaccinate because they simply lack access to the measles vaccine. Every day, about 400 children — mostly children under the age of 5 — die of measles complications. I have had many conversations in parts of Africa where mothers have told me that a child is not given a name until he or she has survived a measles attack.

As long as this highly infectious disease is a threat in many places around the world, it remains a threat to all of us. Though measles was eliminated from the United States in 2000, outbreaks occur here when unvaccinated travelers pick up

the disease abroad and bring it back to the U.S. as an unwelcome, and often completely undetected, souvenir.

Last year's outbreaks in Ohio, Washington state, New York, Nebraska and San Diego have all been linked to unvaccinated Americans traveling to measles hot spots. The virus in many of the recent measles cases in California is genetically the same as the one that Philippine health authorities have struggled to control since Typhoon Haiyan struck in late 2013.

The good news is that through vaccination, we can stop this devastating disease. For nearly a decade and a half, the Measles & Rubella Initiative has focused on eliminating measles. Before its founding in 2001, more than 562,000 children died globally of measles complications each year — an average of more than 1,500 a day. This partnership — whose founding partners are the American Red Cross, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the UN Foundation, UNICEF and the World Health Organization — has helped control outbreaks around the world by vaccinating 1.8 billion children in more than 88 countries. It has reduced measles deaths by 75 percent globally, bringing down the number of estimated deaths to 145,700 in 2013. But there is still much work to do.

There are still millions of children around the world who don't have access to the measles vaccine. In 2013, nearly 22

million children did not receive their first dose of measles vaccine. It costs just \$1 to vaccinate a child in low-income countries, making the measles vaccine one of the most cost-effective interventions in global health. Compare that with the \$100,000 or more that the U.S. spends on tracking and managing the outbreak response for a single case of measles domestically. Or compare it with the month of household income a family in Ethiopia loses if a child is sick from measles.

What needs to be done to get vaccines to children who need them?

Simply put, we need more resources for the global effort. The United States has been an important leader in this effort, and it's critical that stopping measles worldwide remain a priority. One way is for Congress to devote resources to this goal as it considers the U.S. commitment to the Global Health Security Agenda — a multinational partnership that aims to secure the world from infectious disease threats.

Another way is to invest in measles everywhere, including the United States. An investment in global immunization can help prevent future importations of the virus and — even more significant — can help ensure that no child anywhere dies of a preventable disease like measles.

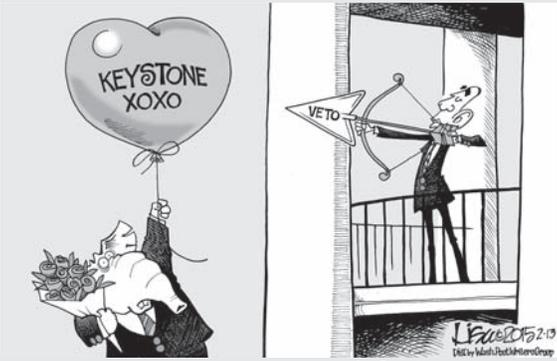
Andrea Kay is executive director of Children's Health at the United Nations Foundation and a member of the Measles & Rubella Initiative. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

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A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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NHL

Roundup

Kings top Caps in 4th straight win

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Defense created much of the offense for the Los Angeles Kings in a solid two-way performance against the Washington Capitals.

Trevor Lewis and Jarret Stoll scored third-period goals and Dwight King also found the net for the Los Angeles Kings in a 3-1 victory on Saturday night.

"It was a pretty consistent 60 minutes," Lewis said. "There were a couple of things we can clean up, but overall I thought the effort was better. The physical play was there and we got our chances off of it. We're a good team when we're a good checking team, and limiting the other team's grade-A chances is big for us."

The defending Stanley Cup champions have won four in a row, their longest streak since a six-game stretch that followed season-opening losses to the San Jose Sharks and Arizona Coyotes. Jonathan Quick made 27 saves.

"We were really good in our own zone," coach Darryl Sutter said. "We blocked some shots against (Alex) Ovechkin and Jonathan made some big saves. Three different lines scored, and we got some decent minutes out of our defenses."

Ovechkin did score his 34th goal of the season and 456th of his career. That tied Detroit Red Wings great Alex Delvecchio for 54th place on the all-time list.

The Capitals lost to the Kings for the eighth time in their last nine meetings with the exception being a 4-0 win on Feb. 3 at Washington.

"We had everybody going that night and they didn't have enough people going. Tonight it was the reverse," coach Barry Trotz said. "They had a lot of people going and we didn't have enough."

Braden Holtby stopped 27 shots for the Capitals, who were coming off a 5-4 overtime victory at San Jose on Wednesday and had won four of their previous five games.

"It wasn't a very good effort on

our part, obviously — especially the first two periods," said Holtby, who was hung out by his teammates on several occasions. "We know we got beat by our own mistakes tonight."

"In the third period, I think they went into a bit of a defensive shell and that made it seem like we were playing better. But we can't play this way — myself, too," he said.

Predators 3, Devils 1: Colin Wilson scored the tiebreaking goal on a tic-tac-toe play with 3:27 left, leading host Nashville to its fifth straight win.

Rangers 5, Coyotes 1: Rick Nash scored his NHL-best 35th goal early in a four-goal third period, and visiting New York gave coach Alain Vigneault his 500th career win.

Vigneault became the 21st coach in league history to reach the milestone, coming in his second season with the Rangers. Jonathan Quick made 27 saves.

Jets 5, Red Wings 4 (SO): Drew Stafford scored the only shootout goal to lift visiting Winnipeg past Detroit.

Canadiens 2, Maple Leafs 1 (SO): Alex Galchenyuk and David Desharnais scored in the shootout to lift host Montreal.

Wild 6, Hurricanes 3: Thomas Vanek had two goals and an assist, and Devan Dubnyk stopped 24 shots to lift surging host Minnesota.

Senators 7, Oilers 2: Milan Michalek had two goals and an assist for host Ottawa.

Islanders 6, Blue Jackets 3: Josh Bailey scored two goals in the first period, John Tavares had two goals and two assists, and host New York fought off two rallies by Columbus.

Avanche 4, Stars 1: Alex Tanguay had a goal and an assist and Semyon Varlamov stopped 24 shots for host Colorado.

Flames 3, Canucks 2: Sean Monahan scored two and Lance Bouma got the tiebreaker early in the third period for host Calgary.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	57	34	17	6	7	76	148	123
Tampa Bay	55	34	17	6	7	74	184	154
Detroit	54	13	36	6	7	32	118	151
Boston	55	28	20	7	6	63	144	141
Florida	54	19	30	5	10	54	134	151
Ottawa	54	22	22	10	4	54	152	152
Toronto	57	23	29	5	11	60	175	175
Buffalo	55	36	15	3	6	83	193	159

Metropolitan Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Islanders	56	15	35	6	7	39	117	156
Pittsburgh	55	23	15	8	7	60	130	139
N.Y. Rangers	54	16	32	6	10	44	126	161
Washington	56	29	17	10	6	68	163	142
Philadelphia	55	24	23	8	5	59	149	161
New Jersey	54	24	27	3	5	51	149	154
Carolina	54	11	36	7	9	31	124	174
Colorado	54	13	28	7	6	45	120	147

Western Conference

Central Division		GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	56	38	12	6	6	82	170	131
Washington	55	36	15	4	6	76	176	135
Chicago	56	34	18	4	7	72	130	149
St. Louis	55	28	20	7	6	68	161	162
Minnesota	55	28	20	7	6	63	153	149
Dallas	56	26	22	8	6	60	175	179
Colorado	56	22	21	11	6	59	154	159

Pacific Division

Team	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	55	33	14	7	77	166	156
San Jose	57	28	20	9	65	158	161
Vancouver	55	31	21	3	65	155	145
Edmonton	55	27	22	6	60	156	156
Los Angeles	55	25	18	12	62	152	148
Arizona	57	20	30	7	47	129	189
San Jose	56	22	29	5	41	131	191

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Saturday's games	
Montreal 4, Toronto 1	OT
Winnipeg 5, Detroit 4	SO
St. Louis 4, Edmonton 2	OT
N.Y. Islanders 6, Columbus 3	
Nashville 3, New Jersey 1	
Minnesota 6, Carolina 3	
N.Y. Rangers 5, Arizona 1	
Edmonton 4, Detroit 1	
Colorado 2, Washington 1	

Sunday's games	
Philadelphia at Chicago	11:30
St. Louis at Buffalo	12:00
Philadelphia at Anaheim	7:00
Tampa Bay at San Jose	7:00

N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers	
Chicago at Ottawa	7:00
Edmonton at Winnipeg	7:00
Arizona at Colorado	7:00
Tampa at Calgary	7:00
Minnesota at Vancouver	7:00
Boston Bay at Los Angeles	7:00

Monday's games

Columbus at Philadelphia	7:00
Washington at Pittsburgh	7:00
N.Y. Islanders at Carolina	7:00
Buffalo at New Jersey	7:00
Los Angeles at Toronto	7:00
Dallas at St. Louis	7:00
San Jose at Nashville	7:00

Tuesday

Kings 3, Capitals 1

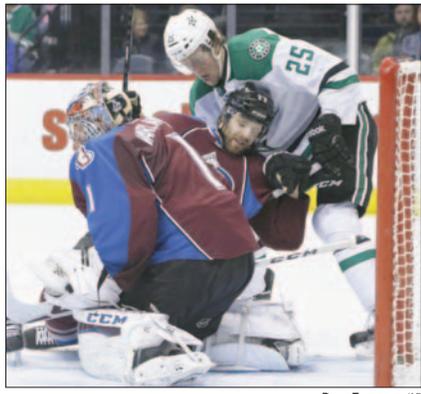
Washington 0 0 1-1
Los Angeles 1 0 2-2
Third Period—1, Los Angeles, King (Trotter, Carter), 9:03.
Third Period—2, Los Angeles, Lewis 7 (Gaborik, Kopitar), 17:3. Washington, Ovechkin 34 (Fedorov), 1:55; 4, Los Angeles, Stoll 6 (Brown, Williams), 7:09.
Fourth Period—1, Los Angeles, Stoll 28, Los Angeles 14-12-3-0.
Power-play opportunities—Washington 10, Los Angeles 10.
Goals—Washington, Holtby 26:12-9 (29 shots); Los Angeles, Quick 21:15-10 (28-27).
A-18,230 (18,118), T-2:31.

Flames 3, Canucks 2

Vancouver 1 1 0-2
Calgary 0 1 2-1
First Period—1, Vancouver, Kenins 3 (Hansen, Hudak), 16:12.
Second Period—1, Vancouver, Monahan 18 (Gaudreau, Hyatt), 6:48; 3, Calgary, Johnston 19 (Forsberg), 11:42; 4, Vancouver, Vey 9 (Higgins), 17:43.
Third Period—5, Calgary, Bouma 10 (Wideman), 1:41.
Shots on goal—Vancouver 8:19-30.
Calgary 11-14-34.
Power-play opportunities—Vancouver 0 of 1; Calgary 0 of 1.
Goals—Vancouver, Miller 26:15-1 (34 shots-31 saves), Calgary, Ramo 9-5-1 (30-29).
A-19,289 (19,289), T-2:25.

Predators 3, Devils 1

New Jersey 0 1 0-1
Nashville 0 1 0-2
First Period—1, Nashville, Oleson 5 (Smith, Weber), 8:49.
Second Period—2, New Jersey, Bernier 10 (Gelinas, Gomez), 17:37 (pp.).
Third Period—1, Nashville, Wilson 18 (Bartley, Ribeiro), 16:33; 3, Nashville, Smith 15 (Gullen, Fisher), 17:39.
Shots on goal—New Jersey 9:11-22. Nashville 20-8-10.
Power-play opportunities—New Jersey 6 of 2; Nashville 0 of 2.
Goals—New Jersey, Schneider 19-22; 5 shots 35 saves; Nashville, Rinne 33-7-2 (22-21).
A-17,353 (17,113), T-2:30.



Colorado goalie Semyon Varlamov, front, stops a redirected shot as defenseman Brad Stuart, center, struggles to stop Stars right wing Brett Ritchie in the third period Saturday, Colorado won 4-1.

Avanche 4, Stars 1

Dallas 0 0 1-1
Colorado 1 1 2-4
First Period—1, Colorado, Landeskog 12 (MacKinnon, O'Reilly), 11:28.
Second Period—2, Colorado, Tanguay 15 (Everberg, Guenin), 5:28.
Third Period—3, Colorado, Iginla 18 (Stuart, Duchene), 2:04; 4, Dallas, Spezza 12 (J.A.Benn, Jokipakka), 9:58; 5, Colorado, Everberg 2 (Tanguay, Mitchell), 19:36.
Shots on goal—Dallas 6-9-10-25. Colorado 10-14-6-26.
Power-play opportunities—Dallas 0 of 3; Colorado 0 of 1.
Goals—Dallas, Enroth 13-22-2 (30 shots-26 saves), Colorado, Varlamov 15-14-7 (25-24).
A-18,087 (18,087), T-2:40.

Rangers 5, Coyotes 1

N.Y. Rangers 0 1 4-5
Arizona 0 1 0-1
First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider 13 (Stapan, Klein), 5:5; 2, Arizona, Vermette 13 (Ekman-Larsson, Lessio), 11:53.
Third Period—5, N.Y. Rangers, Nash 35 (Klein, Brassard), 1:19; 4, N.Y. Rangers, Hayes 10, 11:54 (sh.); 5, N.Y. Rangers, Staal 4 (Stapan, St. Louis), 14:16; 6, N.Y. Rangers, Stenmatt 7 (Girardi, D.Moore), 17:48.
Missed Penalties—Rieder, Art, 6:20 third.
Arizona 0-1-4-1-3-3.
Third Period—1, N.Y. Rangers 10-13-32.
Goals—N.Y. Rangers, Talbot 8-5-2 (35 shots-34 saves), Arizona, Smith 10-25-5 (32-27).
A-17,119 (17,125), T-2:18.

Wild 6, Hurricanes 3

Carolina 1 2 0-3
Minnesota 1 3 2-4
First Period—1, Minnesota, Vanek 11 (Granlund, Fontaine), 1:15; 2, Minnesota, Vanek 12 (Fontaine, Suter), 8:17; 3, Minnesota, Schroeder 2 (Scandella, Spurgeon), 15:21; 4, Carolina, Nestrasil 5 (McClellan, Faulk), 19:49.
Second Period—5, Minnesota, Prosser 2 (Vanek, Granlund), 2:16; 6, Carolina, Skinner 12 (Jo Staal, Jordan), 6:02; 7, Carolina, Lindholm 11 (Faulk, McClellan), 6:52.
Third Period—8, Minnesota, Haula 5 (Brodie, Veilleux), 0:44; 9, Minnesota, Parise 23 (Spurgeon, Koivu), 18:11 (en); 10, Minnesota, Haula 6 (Carolina 7-15-17-27).
Minnesota 14-7-24-30.
Power-play opportunities—Carolina 0 of 2; Minnesota 2 of 2.
Goals—Carolina, Khudobin 6-9-3 (23 shots-18 saves), Minnesota, Dubnyk 19-6-3 (27-24).
A-19,220 (17,954), T-2:21.

Jets 5, Red Wings 4 (SO)

Winnipeg 1 2 1 0-5
Detroit 1 2 1 0-5
First Period—1, Winnipeg, Thornburn 6 (Trouba, Byfuglien), 2:36; 2, Detroit, Kronwall 6 (Zetterberg, Nugent), 16:54 (pp.).
Second Period—1, Detroit, Helm 11 (Stastny, Tatar), 2:00 (pp.); 4, Detroit, Datsyuk 16 (Helm, Tatar), 5:55; 5, Winnipeg, Hossa 10 (Lefterov, Byfuglien), 8:44; 6, Winnipeg, Little 10 (Myers, Folco, 9:48) (pp.).
Third Period—1, Detroit, Helm 19 (Stastny, Byfuglien), 4:38 (pp.); 8, Detroit, Datsyuk 17 (Smith, DeKeyser), 13:27.
Winnipeg won shootout 1-0.
First Period—1, Winnipeg, Thornburn 6 (Trouba, Byfuglien), 2:36; 2, Detroit, Kronwall 6 (Zetterberg, Nugent), 16:54 (pp.).
Shots on goal—Winnipeg 11-16-27. Detroit 12-18-12-42.
Power-play opportunities—Edmonton 0 of 2; Ottawa 2 of 2.
Goals—Edmonton, Fasth 6-15-2 (15 shots-17 saves), Ottawa, Lehner 11-16-27 (27-23).
Ottawa, Lehner 9-11-3 (27-25).
A-17,100 (19,153), T-2:21.

Canadiens 2, Maple Leafs 1 (SO)

Montreal 1 0 0 0-1
Toronto 1 0 0 0-2
First Period—1, Toronto, Winnik 6 (Panik, Polak), 11:19; 2, Montreal, Gallaagher 10 (Pheasant, Subban), 12:00.
Shots on goal—Toronto 1 (Bozak, Ng, Santorelli, Gu, Van Riemsdyk, NG), Montreal 2 (Galchenyuk, G, Desharnais, G, Gallagher) 9.
Goals—Montreal, Price 7-12-6-4-29. Montreal 9-13-8-3-32.
Power-play opportunities—Toronto 0 of 4; Montreal 1 of 2.
Goals—Toronto, Bernier 16-17-5 (32 shots-31 saves), Montreal, Price 31-11-2 (29-28).
A-21,287 (21,273), T-2:43.

Islanders 6, Blue Jackets 3

Columbus 2 1 0-3
N.Y. Islanders 1 4 2-4
First Period—1, N.Y. Islanders, Bailey 10 (Lee, Tavares), 1:07; 2, N.Y. Islanders, Bailey 11 (Tavares, Leo), 8:21; 3, Columbus, Dubinsky 5 (Calvert, Tyutin), 15:45; 4, Columbus, King 12, 19:28.
Second Period—5, N.Y. Islanders, Strome 10 (Visnovsky, Nielsen), 7:02; 6, Columbus, Foligno 22 (Foligno, Wisniewski), 19:28.
Third Period—7, N.Y. Islanders, Nielsen 10 (Hickey, Gaborik), 1:54; 8, N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 25 (Lee, Straloff), 7:08; 9, N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 25 (Bailey, Leo), 11:15.
N.Y. Islanders goal—Columbus 11-19-37. N.Y. Islanders 31-40-61-119-61.
Power-play opportunities—Columbus 0 of 1; Islanders 2 of 2.
Goals—Columbus, Forsberg 9-0-0 (6 shots-6 saves), N.Y. Islanders, Halak 31-11-10 (37-34).
A-15,678 (16,170), T-2:29.

Senators 7, Oilers 2

Edmonton 1 1 0-2
Ottawa 1 2 2-7
First Period—1, Ottawa, Michalek 10 (Hornum, Karlsson), 7:18 (pp.); 2, Edmonton, D.Roy 6 (R.Hampton, Yakupov), 15:17.
Second Period—3, Ottawa, Cecil 4 (Condra, Chasson), 4:1; 4, Ottawa, Turris 12 (Stone, Michalek), 5:7; 5, Edmonton, Fayze 2 (Fayze, Schieff), 6:09.
Third Period—3, Ottawa, Turris 3, 7; Ottawa, Chasson 9 (Condra, Karlsson), 18:44.
Fourth Period—3, Ottawa, Hoffman 19 (Shanley, Ryan), 4:07; 4, Ottawa, Legwand 8 (Wiercioch, Ryan), 15:59 (pp.).
Shots on goal—Ottawa 11-16-27. Ottawa 22-18-12-42.
Power-play opportunities—Edmonton 0 of 2; Ottawa 2 of 2.
Goals—Edmonton, Fasth 6-15-2 (15 shots-17 saves), Ottawa, Lehner 9-11-3 (27-25).
A-17,100 (19,153), T-2:21.



Kings center Trevor Lewis, left, and goalie Jonathan Quick congratulate each other after a 3-1 victory over the Capitals.

MARK A. TERRELL/AP

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC WRESTLING

Kinnick's Paylor wins in first finals

St. Mary's, Kinnick split Division I crowns, Edgren claims third straight D-II championship

By DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — Dre Paylor lost the first match of his high school career to Ricky Salinas. On Friday, Paylor got the best kind of payback — a Far East tournament title at Salinas' expense.

The Kinnick junior and first-year wrestler scored a 15-4 technical fall over Salinas, a Kadena senior, to win the 168-pound title on a Friday filled with Far East tournament redemption and repeats in the individual finals.

"I worked hard for it all year," said Paylor, who got pinned by Salinas, then of E.J. King, on Dec. 13 at the season-opening Edgren Invitational. Then, Paylor said, he tried to outmuscle his more experienced opponent. "I've been working on my technique more since I lost to him."

Paylor's positive approach to the sport and to the team also helped, Red Devils coach Gary Wilson said. "He brings such a nice dynamic to the team (and) the practice room," he said. "His positiveness is infectious. He's a great kid. I love him to death."

Asked how good he felt Paylor would be had he begun wrestling as a freshman, Wilson said: "How much better can you get than Far East champion?"

Among others earning redemption was Kadena's Gabe Duplon. He lost to St. Mary's Ryo Osawa by pin in last year's Far East and avenged that defeat by blanking Osawa 6-0 for the 122-pound title. "Gabe worked really, really hard for this championship," Panthers coach Steve Schrock said. "I just stayed composed, had good defense, took good shots and just lucked out in the end," Duplon said.

St. Mary's junior Ryan Vasconcellos (135) won at 122 in 2013 but lost in the 135-pound final last year to Christian Academy Japan's Sam Johnson. He said he had a "refuse to lose" attitude this season after beating Seoul American's Hunter Lane by technical fall 11-1.

"He was determined," Titans assistant coach Ian Harlow said. "Instead of waiting, he went after the kid. That made a difference in



RILEY DANIELS/Special to Stars and Stripes

Dre Paylor of Kinnick gains the edge on Kadena's Ricky Salinas during the 168-pound Far East tournament championship bout. Paylor, a first-year wrestler, beat Salinas by technical fall 15-4.



JESSICA REZENDES/Special to Stars and Stripes

Kadena's Gabe Duplon gets the edge on Ryo Osawa of St. Mary's during Friday's 122-pound Far East final. Duplon won a 6-0 decision.

the mentality ... wrestling to win instead of wrestling to lose."

Senior Jonathan Miller of American School in Japan had to sit out two seasons when he suffered a lumbar fracture as an eighth-grader. He wrote a happy ending to his wrestling narrative by edging Seoul American's Brandon Rothe at 180 pounds.

"This has been my dream since I started wrestling," Miller said, adding that when he was convalescing, "I never thought this would happen, that I would get

this far."

Then, there was the parade of repeat champions. St. Mary's defended its Division I individual team title. And Edgren won its third straight Division II title.

"We're happy about it," Eagles coach Justin Edmonds said. "We worked hard. We're a young team, but they kept their composure and did what they had to do."

The Eagles turned around the won the dual-meet title as well, topping Osan in the final 46-16. Edgren recorded five pins and

two victories by technical fall.

While Edgren was busy racking up pins, Kinnick's wrestlers were busy staying off their backs in the dual meet final against St. Mary's and rallied from a 19-7 deficit to win 29-26.

Wilson said averting pins was instrumental in staying close enough to the Titans that Kinnick was able to finish with a rush at the upper weights.

Instead of surrendering five points per pin loss, the Red Devils only allowed three for a basic decision and four for a tech, and even scored a classification point in three of their losses, by Matt Abrenilla (108), Vincent Soles (122) and Brady Yoder (148).

"That was huge, picking up those one points," Wilson said, adding that "we came in with a plan" and had assistant coach Dustin Haney sit with each of the wrestlers individually to outline the expectation. "I feel like we were never really forced. We were able to go through according to plan."

ornauer.dave@stripes.com

Scoreboard

Individual tournament

Division I standings

St. Mary's, 139%; Kinnick, 135; Seoul American, 112%; Kadena, 101%; Kubasaki 85%; American School in Japan, 46; Christian Academy Japan, 27.

Division II standings

Edgren, 53; Osan and E.J. King, 40.

Championship bouts

101—Lucas Wirth, Kinnick, pin, Ryan Frederick, SAHS, 1:51.

108—Chang Young Lee, St. Mary's, tech, Matt Abrenilla, Kinnick, 11-0, 1:52.

115—Lucas Shiraki, St. Mary's, dec. Chon Darsing, Kinnick, 5-0.

122—Gabe Duplon, Kadena, dec. Ryo Osawa, St. Mary's, 6-0.

129—Alberto Orsara, St. Mary's, pin, Danny Bendine, SAHS, 2:03.

135—Ryan Vasconcellos, St. Mary's, tech, Hunter Lane, SAHS, 11-1, 3:23.

141—Jason Bland, Kadena, tech, Itsuji Shibahara, St. Mary's, 10-0, 3:31.

148—Kazuho Kawashima, St. Mary's, dec. Brady Yoder, Kinnick, 10-4.

158—Riku Osawa, St. Mary's, dec. Morgan Baek, Daegu, 11-10.

168—Dre Paylor, Kinnick, tech, Ricky Salinas, Kadena, 15-4, 4:23.

180—Jonathan Miller, ASU, dec. Brandon Rothe, SAHS, 7-6.

215—Jack Barnes, SAHS, pin, Josiah Allen, Kubaki, 5-0.

Heavyweight—Christian Fernandez, Kubasaki, pin, Chris Deibel, Kinnick, 4-0.

Dual-meet tournament

Division I

Championship bracket

Semifinals

Kinnick 32, Seoul American 27

St. Mary's 23, Kadena 28

Championship

Kinnick 29, St. Mary's 26

101—Lucas Wirth, Kinnick, pin, Eshan Shringi, 3:35.

108—Chang Young Lee, St. Mary's, tech, Matt Abrenilla, 12-2, 5:33.

115—Lucas Shiraki, St. Mary's, dec. Chon Darsing, 8-0.

122—Ryo Osawa, St. Mary's, tech, Vincent Soles, 10-0, 1:28.

129—Alberto Orsara, St. Mary's, tech, Jhon Labato, 10-0, 1:28.

135—Ryan Vasconcellos, St. Mary's, tech, George Calbert, 11-0, 1:28.

141—Darius Swenson, Kinnick, dec. Itsuji Shibahara, 2-0.

148—Kazuho Kawashima, St. Mary's, dec. Brady Yoder, 10-4.

158—Riku Osawa, St. Mary's, tech, Ian Olson, 10-0, 1:30.

168—Dre Paylor, Kinnick, tech, Mitchell Krcellic, 10-0, 2:21.

180—Dwayne Lyon, Kinnick, tech, Joon Seo, 10-0, 4:20.

215—Nicolas Alvarez, Kinnick, pin, Nily Hingarr, 2-0.

Heavyweight—Chris Deibel, Kinnick, by walkover.

Division II

Championship bracket

Semifinals

Edgren 44, King 21

Osan 44, Zama 16

Championship

Edgren 46, Osan 16

101—Liam Knowles, Edgren, pin, Jeremiah Smith, 2:23.

108—Gabriel Gomez, Edgren, tech, Isaiah Smith, 10-0, 1:16.

115—Cory Hartino, Osan, pin, Abigail Gomez, 1:29.

122—Kade Sundvall, Edgren, dec. Sam Kim, 15-12.

129—Michael Shields, Edgren, by walkover.

148—Ray Phillips, Edgren, pin, Kai Chatfield, 1:10.

141—Jackson Edmonds, Edgren, pin, Brent Smith, 2:23.

148—Daniel Lovett, Edgren, pin, Brendon Becker, 1:25.

158—JP Krussick, Edgren, pin, Mike Harlow, 2:25.

168—Kade Leonard, Osan, pin, Kurt Beardsley, 2:25.

180—Patrick Sledge, Edgren, tech, Christian Schmitt, 10-0, 1:07.

215—Eugene Wilkerson, Osan, by walkover.

Heavyweight—Carlos Easter, Edgren, by walkover.

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HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE BASKETBALL

Patch, AOSR, Alconbury are boys frontrunners

By Gregory Broome
Stars and Stripes

Three freshly-realigned brackets debut this week in the 2015 DODDS Europe boys basketball championship tournament, scheduled for Wednesday through Saturday at sites around Wiesbaden, Germany. Here's a look at each division's top contenders.

Division I: Two weeks ago, the Patch Panthers appeared to be cruising toward a dominant undefeated regular season and a matching status as the presumptive Division I champion. While their unbeaten record survived to the end of the season, their aura of invincibility did not.

A narrow 51-50 victory over Ramstein applied the brakes to the Panthers' runaway momentum, recasting Patch as a deserving, but not unbeaten, top seed in this nine-team tournament.

Even that is something of a surprise given the unproven roster the Panthers brought into the season. While the program claimed the past two Division I titles, few current Patch players had anything to do with that accomplishment. The revamped team could have just as easily slid into divisional mediocrity.

Instead, the Panthers might be better than the perimeter-heavy group that won the 2013 and 2014 titles. This Patch group is more balanced, from playmaking point guard Pablo Paradis to linchpin wing Holten Sparring to front-



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Robert Braswell is part of a balanced Patch team that is the favorite in the D-I tournament that begins Wednesday.

court duo Colin Whitten and Robert Braswell.

While Ramstein's upset bid fell just short, the Royals still rank as Patch's most substantial threat. Ramstein, itself sporting a largely new rotation, is the only other Division I team to beat each opponent on its schedule; it's only other loss, a 47-46 defeat to archrival Kaiserslautern, was effectively avenged with a 46-39 Royals win in the rematch two weeks later.

While its hands are dirtier, Kaiserslautern still merits mention as a legitimate title threat. The

Raiders have been inconsistent, splitting two games each with Ramstein and Wiesbaden while losing handily to Patch, but they have enough talent and depth to pull off a win in any game they play this week.

Members of the next tier of this top-heavy division will find a lot of things to go well to find their way into the title picture. Wiesbaden pulled itself out of a late-season freefall with a desperately-needed 49-43 win over Kaiserslautern on Feb. 7, a decision that ended a shocking seven-game losing streak for last season's runner-up. Four combined losses to Kaiserslautern and Wiesbaden make Lakenheath a championship longshot despite its 10-4 overall record. Vilseck gained confidence from a four-game late-season winning streak in January, and SHAPE earned by a final-weekend sweep by Patch.

The new Division I entries, meanwhile, are unlikely to be major factors in their large-school debut season. Both Vicenza and Naples took losses to Vilseck and Patch when the two German schools came calling in January, and SHAPE has struggled to compete against like-sized competition all winter.

Division II: While Naples and Vicenza have moved on, the road to Division II glory still appears to wind through Italy.

Last weekend, American Overseas School of Rome completed a season-ending 11-game winning

streak with a pair of wins over Naples. The Falcons haven't lost in more than 2½ months; their only losses were a pair of opening-weekend blowouts to Aviano that are looking more like statistical outliers every day.

The AOSR team that will headline this Division II tournament is unlikely to be routed — or maybe even beaten — by anyone. While beating every Italian team in every division save for Aviano, the Falcons also dipped into German competition for wins against Ansbach and Hohenfels.

As impressive as AOSR has been, Aviano maintains that mental edge over the Falcons until proven otherwise. The Saints have been hit-and-miss against the non-divisional foes on their schedule, but they too handled Ansbach and Hohenfels in January and also twice routed Maryland to keep their Division II record clean.

The wild card here is Rota. The Spain-based school has just four DODDS Europe games on its record this winter, but they're impressive; in January, the Admirals traveled to Netherlands and came away with two solid wins apiece against AFNORTH and Bitburg. It remains to be seen, however, if that small sample size of success can translate to a sustained tournament run against stronger competition.

Black Forest Academy, meanwhile, is on the cusp of contention after pulling off two head-turning

regular-season upsets against Division I Wiesbaden. But double-header splits with Ansbach and Hohenfels relegate BFA to the middle of the divisional pack entering the postseason.

Division III: Were they still in Division III, the Alconbury Dragons would likely find themselves in the thick of the above-mentioned title scrap. Instead they're back in Division III, and at this level the view is far less cluttered.

Alconbury enters the tournament with a 10-2 record, a staggering body of work for a Division III team that played a total of six games against upper-division opponents. Its only losses came in the first weekend of the season against Lakenheath; the Dragons haven't tasted DODDS Europe defeat since Dec. 6.

While the competition is less overwhelming at the small-school level, at least one major threat exists. The Dragons appear to be on a collision course — from opposite extremes of the continent, no less — with Signella. The Jaguars too have admirably navigated a daunting schedule, splitting with upper-division Italian opponents Naples, AOSR and Vicenza while sweeping Aviano.

Division II transfer Baumholder and defending champion Brussels lurk as potential disruptive forces to a projected Jaguars-Dragons final.

broome.gregory@stripes.com
Twitter: @broomestripes

Wiesbaden is only clear favorite in girls fields

By Gregory Broome
Stars and Stripes

The DODDS Europe girls basketball championship tournament tips off Wednesday at sites around Wiesbaden, Germany, commencing with three divisional championship games Saturday. Here's a look at the top contenders.

Division I: Realignment brought a new dynamic to DODDS Europe sports this year. Where once the German powers spent their season fighting amongst themselves, with a wary eye paid toward archrival Lakenheath, now the contenders come from all directions. The result is the deep and dangerous nine-team bracket.

The addition of traditional Italian powers Naples and Vicenza, who in SHAPE made the leap from Division II, the apparent game-changer. That was certainly true in the fall volleyball tournament, when Naples pushed Wiesbaden to the limit in the championship match and Vicenza edged out legacy programs to win the title.

The Wildcats and Cougars basketball teams, however, might not be equipped for such a showing. Both enjoy gaudy regular-season records, but those resumé are exaggerated by predominantly lower-division competition and an unimpeachable performance in January divisional contests.



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Wiesbaden's Rebecca Russells scores against Patch last month. The Warriors went undefeated and look headed toward a title.

Naples rattled off six wins to start the season, but ran into trouble when its new Division I rivals made the trip down from Germany late last month. The Wildcats edged last-place Vilseck 31-29 and took a discouraging 37-29 loss to middling Patch. A 39-38 loss to Vicenza on Feb. 7 didn't help matters.

While that intracountry win was a boost, Vicenza too strug-

gled against schools its own size. The Cougars fell to Patch 50-30 and barely beat Vilseck 27-26.

Further, Naples and Vicenza have plenty of company in the thick of the newly-popular Division I field. That group of mid-level contenders each had its moments this winter.

Lakenheath turned in an impressive 43-38 overtime win at Kaiserslautern in a 7-5 regular season. Patch looked strong on its Italy swing. Kaiserslautern notched a 31-29 upset of then-undefeated, albeit shorthanded, Wiesbaden.

But each of those teams was ultimately outclassed by the bracket's two frontrunners, Ramstein and Wiesbaden.

While both teams distanced themselves from the rest of the divisional pack, Wiesbaden is the clear favorite of the two. The Warriors never lost and were hardly challenged when at full strength, and they retained enough of last year's core to make a postseason swoon unlikely.

Ramstein played Wiesbaden tough when the two met on Jan. 30-31, taking respective losses of 39-28 and 36-33. From this view, the Royals might be the only major obstacle to a title that is looking like the Warriors' to lose.

Division II: The two biggest contenders in Division II got the

postseason off to a de facto early start in the final weekend of the regular season.

On Friday, Bitburg edged defending champion Black Forest Academy 31-27, a confidence-boosting win in which the Barons turned the tables on the vaunted BFA defense by holding the Falcons to a single second-quarter point.

But the Falcons weren't entirely grounded. On Saturday, BFA responded with a 41-36 win to split the doubleheader and negate any attempts at determining a Division II favorite.

Instead, the bracket of mid-sized schools opens as it usually does, in spite of the realignment, with a small handful of teams capable of laying claim to the trophy but equally vulnerable to skipping Saturday entirely.

In addition to Bitburg and BFA, court Aviano, AFNORTH, Hohenfels and American Overseas School of Rome among that group. Each has shined at times this winter, often at another's expense: Hohenfels took Bitburg to overtime on Feb. 7 and beat Aviano in January; AOSR edged Hohenfels 41-40; Aviano twice routed AOSR in the season's opening weekend; and AFNORTH comes in with a robust 10 victories.

Division III: None of the six entries in this year's small-school

bracket will enter the tournament with a winning overall record. Some will enter without any DODDS Europe games to their name since last year's tournament. That's a recipe for unpredictability.

Based on history, Brussels and Signella are the teams to beat. The two stalwart contenders played for last year's title, with Brussels winning 38-31 in overtime.

But the bulk of that Brigands team has moved on, leaving an unproven young squad that sank in the standings. Signella fared better in the regular season, including a split with Aviano, but the Jaguars' overall talent level took a similar hit.

It's bad timing for the Brigands and Jaguars to have down years. Realignment shuffled Alconbury and Baumholder back to D-III, and each should be a tough out this week. Both proved it with two regular-season wins apiece over Brussels.

Alconbury holds the edge in a potential meeting with Baumholder. The Dragons finished up with an even .500 record that included a win over Division I SHAPE and two wins each over divisional rivals Brussels and Baumholder.

broome.gregory@stripes.com
Twitter: @broomestripes

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE WRESTLING

Lower weight run leads Patch to team title

BY GREGORY BROOME

Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — It's said there is no playing field as even as a wrestling mat. That was certainly the case on Saturday, the final day of the DODDS Europe wrestling championships.

Nine schools were represented in Saturday's finals. Four schools placed three or more wrestlers in one of the 14 title bouts, and five programs came away with individual championships.

Here's a rundown of the newly crowned European champions:

106 pounds — Lakenheath sophomore Brandon Lovett won a tense 4-2 decision over Vilseck's Blaise Marley.

Lovett finished fifth as a freshman last season, and came into this winter prepared to contend. He carried that confidence all the way through Saturday's finale.

"I was less nervous, more experienced," Lovett said. "I was just ready."

That feeling held even as Marley stayed in striking distance throughout the full-length match.

"I lost control a little bit," Lovett said. "But I was still in the zone."

113 — All the evidence suggested a loss for Vilseck's Aydan Huezio.

Even Huezio didn't dispute that he was an underdog. After following the exploits of undefeated AF-NORTH senior Anthony Doerfer all winter, the Falcons junior knew he was up against. A preliminary-round loss to Doerfer earlier Saturday reinforced it.

But that match, a 9-7 decision that was Doerfer's first non-pin-fall win of the season, also proved that Huezio belonged at the highest level despite his five regular-season losses.

"It definitely boosted me up a bit," Huezio said.

In fact, it carried all the way to an upset 9-8 decision for the championship. Huezio, a transfer from Seoul American, ramped up his offense in the rematch to turn the tables on the favored Doerfer.

Afterward, he leapt into the pack of teammates cheering him on from just off the mat.

"Best feeling ever," Huezio said.

120 — Christopher Matzke of Patch won his second consecutive title by pinning his opponent for the second time of the day. His title-clinching pin of Ramstein's Stan Cruz came in 94 seconds.

Matzke won six preliminary matches in the unconventional seven-man round-robin field, including a Saturday morning pin of Cruz, to reach the final.



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Robert Call, right, won Patch's fourth straight title by beating Lakenheath's Zackary Adamson in the 138-pound final at the DODDS Europe wrestling championships on Saturday

The win kicked off a string of titles for the reigning champions.

126 — Matthew Bolduc became Patch's second straight repeat champion with a 59-second pinfall defeat of Kaiserslautern's Evan Herfyord.

Bolduc successfully made the leap from 106 pounds, the class he won at last year's tournament, to a division three levels higher.

132 — Another Patch title was assured in this title match, the only teammate-versus-teammate bout of the day. Johnathan Brabazon took the title over Isaiah Phillips with a pin just under two minutes into the match.

138 — The stalwart Panthers threatened to hijack the otherwise balanced tournament as

Patch junior Robert Call gave the school its fourth championship in a row. Call, last year's 132-pound champion, took a 12-2 major decision over Lakenheath's Zackary Adamson for his second title in as many seasons.

145 — Due to sheer numbers and the resulting depth, the middle-weight divisions are considered among the most competitive in DODDS Europe. Saturday's matches confirmed that notion.

After a winter of evenly-matched action in the 145-pound class, Lakenheath's Emilio Medina and Kaiserslautern's Lawrence Abbott extended the season by an extra period in Saturday's final. The two ended regulation deadlocked; a takedown at 27 sec-

onds in the one-minute extra period clinched the win for Medina.

152 — A nearly identical match followed. This time Vicenza's Robert Maldonado and Wiesbaden's Matthew Hall fought to a regulation standstill. Hall's takedown at the 37-second mark gave the decision to the hometown wrestler.

160 — Lakenheath continued its banner Saturday at the expense of a new rival hoping for its own breakthrough.

Matthew Okoniewski recorded a 5-0 decision over Vicenza's Marshall Peretti for the Lancers' third European title of the day. Lakenheath didn't have any wrestlers compete in the European finals last season.

Okoniewski was the tournament's outstanding wrestler by DODDS Europe coaches.

170 — Brady Lemon gave Kaiserslautern a taste of a European crown with his second consecutive title, recording a 57-second pin over Vicenza's Seth Shields. Lemon won at 182 pounds in 2014. Vicenza's otherwise impressive tournament, meanwhile, ended in frustration as all three of its title-match contenders settled for runner-up status.

182 — The Raiders rivalry continued as Aaron Gauff gritted out a grueling pinfall victory over Ramstein's Dillon Thompson. The match nearly went the distance before Gauff secured the pin at five minutes and 53 seconds.

Gauff was among the most dominant wrestlers in any class at the tournament. He earned pins in all five of his matches, with the first four all coming in the first

two minutes before Thompson extended him in the title bout.

195 — Few people have a perspective on the extremes of DODDS Europe athletics like that of Patch junior Eli Spencer.

In August, Spencer transferred to Patch from Incirlik, one of the organization's smallest schools. And on Saturday, he added to his new school's abundant trophy case with a sudden 46-second pin of Alconbury's Chris Dufresne. Spencer's win was the fifth and final Panthers title of the day.

Spencer finished second to Lemon at 182 pounds last year. The move to Patch gave him the boost he needed.

"I think it improved me immensely," Spencer said. "Patch is the most amazing wrestling program in all of DODDS."

The outcome dashed the hopes of Alconbury, anchor of DODDS Europe's smallest programs. Chris's brother Nick Dufresne lost in the 182-pound semifinal round. Still, the brothers' efforts led the Dragons to the Division III team championship.

220 — The home-standing Warriors fielded a smaller group of European qualifiers compared to last year's Division I runner-up squad. But the two in Saturday's final round did their part.

Wiesbaden senior Hunter Lujanias won his second straight championship at 220 pounds with a forceful one-minute, 29-second pin of Lakenheath's Colten Menges.

285 — Casey Fairchild of Lakenheath and Brian Mogavero of Patch were on a collision course all tournament, if not all season. Turns out they collided twice Saturday.

Fairchild and Mogavero both went 4-0 in Friday's early rounds before meeting Saturday morning to wrap up pool wrestling. Fairchild won that match 3-1.

Then he won the big one — in all senses of that word. The Lancer heavyweight muscled his way to a hard-won five-minute, 21-second pin.

Fairchild's win capped a strong day for Lakenheath, which earned four weight-class trophies. Lakenheath finished second to Patch in the team race, with 217 points to the Panthers' 252.

"The kids have worked real hard this year. They put in the time," said Lancers coach Darryl Brock, who will now take this season's memories into retirement. "I couldn't be happier for them."

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MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Kaiserslautern's Brady Lemon, top, defeated Vicenza's Seth Shields to take the 170-pound title.

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SKIING/GOLF/SPORTS BRIEFS

Shiffrin claims 2nd slalom title

By PAT GRAHAM
The Associated Press

BEAVER CREEK, Colo. — After such a big win, Mikaela Shiffrin was at a complete loss. Her quandary? How to celebrate.

Even after all her victories, she's never really learned the art of the post-race exultation. So she simply stood there at the finish, frozen by her emotions.

The fans roared anyway for the American teenager from just down the road.

Shiffrin became the third woman to win back-to-back slalom titles at the world championships with a strong burst near the end of a choppy course Saturday. She finished in a combined time of 1 minute, 38.48 seconds, edging Frida Hansdotter of Sweden by 0.34 seconds. Sarka Strachova of the Czech Republic earned bronze.

"I'm not that great at showing my emotions," said Shiffrin, who won the slalom two years ago at worlds in Austria. "Guess I have to work on that."

These days, that's about the only thing.

With Lindsey Vonn done for the Beaver Creek championships, the 19-year-old Shiffrin, who's from nearby Eagle-Vail, slipped into

the role of hometown favorite and didn't disappoint.

First, though, a little nap an hour before the race. The cameras caught her dozing in a snow bank, oblivious to what was going on. She said she was just hot and needed to cool off.

That little catnap left her well rested for a late charge.

Leading after the first pass, Shiffrin fell behind in her final run, only to switch to another gear with the finish line in sight and make up ground on the last few gates in softer snow. A pretty impressive recovery to become the first female skier to capture a slalom title in her backyard at worlds since Italy's Deborah Compagnoni at Sestriere in 1997.

"It does mean a lot — I'm admitting that now that the race is over," said Shiffrin, whose birthday is next month. "I can now admit how much I wanted this race."

"I found my rhythm and just kept going and it just got better and better," she said. "Everybody I talked to kept saying, 'Whoa, you almost killed us down here (with that run).'"

That's nothing compared to how she won her Olympic gold at the Sochi Games last February.



ALESSANDRO TROVATI/AP

American Mikaela Shiffrin races down the course during the women's slalom competition at the Alpine skiing world championships on Saturday in Beaver Creek, Colo. Shiffrin successfully defended her title.

In that slalom race, she briefly lost her balance, her left ski rising too far off the snow before finding a way to recover for the win.

Still, by being a little slower up top Saturday it gave Hansdotter a glimmer of hope of possibly earning a gold medal. Just a glimmer, though.

"Then the last part she was skiing really good and I knew she would take it," said Hansdotter, who leads the slalom standings

this season on the World Cup circuit.

Shiffrin vows to work on her celebration. Maybe come up with something cool. You know, like Ted Ligtzy throwing his ski after winning the giant slalom Friday. Or how Lindsey Vonn falls to the snow after her big victories. Or maybe something like Tina Maze of Slovenia performing cartwheels.

"I feel like all the best racers

had an epic finish celebration," Shiffrin said. "I come into the finish and I'm like, 'That was fun.' I'm not quite at that level yet."

Shiffrin's performance increases the medal count for Team USA to five with only the men's slalom Sunday left on the program. The Austrians lead with nine medals.

Maze finished eighth in the slalom. Still, it was a memorable world championships for her as she earned two golds and a silver.

Golf roundup

Furyk claims lead with birdie spree

The Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Jim Furyk hasn't competed on the PGA Tour in seven months, so he kept his expectations to a minimum at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

That changed into pressure he knows all too well with one big round.

Furyk made seven birdies over his last 10 holes at Pebble Beach on Saturday, the last one with a wedge he spun back to tap-in range on the par-5 18th, for his best round in two decades playing this tournament. He had a 9-under 63 and a one-shot lead over Matt Jones and Brandt Snedeker going into the final round.

For the 44-year-old Furyk, it's another chance to end more than four years without a victory. He has had at least a share of the 54-hole lead eight times during that drought without converting. But at least he has another chance.

"Ultimately, I want to win golf tournaments and that's what's most important to me," said Furyk, who was at 18-under 197. "It's not hard to look you right in

the eye and say, 'I want to win golf tournaments.' But it's hard to go out the next day and try to play the same way and not put extra pressure on yourself."

"We all expect a lot of ourselves and we all put pressure on ourselves on Sunday," he said. "But I think that the way maybe I was doing it in the past was a little counterproductive at times."

Jones made six birdies in a seven-hole stretch and built a three-shot lead late in the glorious afternoon until he made bogey on his last two holes at Pebble Beach for a 67. Furyk caught up to him and then passed him with a wedge to a foot on the final hole. Brandt Snedeker, who went 47 holes before making his first bogey of the tournament, made a 76 on his birdie putt on his final hole for a 67.

"Didn't have my best stuff starting out today," Snedeker said. "I was able to get out a good round. You kind of have to do that. ... You're going to have a stretch of golf where you're not playing your best, and hopefully, mine is behind me now."

Furyk had a stretch of great



ERIC RISBERG/AP

Jim Furyk reacts after making a birdie putt in the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am on Saturday.

golf, and it carried him to his best round at Pebble Beach. He made an 8-foot birdie on the ninth hole and took off.

Champions Tour: In Naples, Fla., Colin Montgomerie overcame a double bogey to shoot his second straight 6-under 66, holding onto a one-stroke lead after two rounds of the ACE Group Classic at TwinEagles Golf Club on Saturday.

Montgomerie birdied four of his last six holes and is 12-under 132 for the tournament. Lee Janzen also had a double bogey but shot a 7-under 65 and is one back at 11 under.

Briefly

Kenseth ends drought in Daytona exhibition

The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Matt Kenseth's latest victory came in an exhibition race and with only 12 cars running at the end.

The circumstances didn't matter to Kenseth, who made his first trip to Victory Lane in 17 months on Saturday night.

Kenseth, coming off a winless 2014 season, has opened the new year with a long-awaited win. He claimed Saturday night's exhibition Sprint Unlimited, which was a crash-filled kickoff to the NASCAR season for the second consecutive year.

"It's always fun to win at Daytona for sure, it's fun to win anywhere," Kenseth said. "There's nothing like winning. That's why we come out and do this every week. Getting a win was the best part for us."

Only 12 of the 25 cars in the field were running at the end of the race, which was stopped twice by red flags for multi-car accidents. There were only eight cars running at the end of the 2014 race.

Kenseth, in his third season with Joe Gibbs Racing, had one of the strongest cars in the field and

pulled away on a restart with four laps remaining to claim the win.

Now he's hoping it's a sign that his Toyota will be a contender in the Feb. 22 season-opening Daytona 500.

Martin Truex Jr., who led just one lap all of last season, led 30 laps but finished second. Carl Edwards, in his debut race for Joe Gibbs Racing, was third.

Reigning NASCAR champion Kevin Harvick exchanged cross words with Joey Logano after the 75-lap race.

Harvick was upset with Logano for how he pushed Harvick's car in the final laps, and the two showed their displeasure with each other by banging cars on the cool-down lap. They then spoke on pit road, where Harvick held the conversation while wearing his helmet.

Predators bring back Franson, Santorelli

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Nashville Predators have traded with Toronto, bringing back defenseman Cody Franson and forward Mike Santorelli as they try to boost a team already sitting atop the NHL standings.

NASCAR

Five things to watch

Daytona Speedweeks gets season rolling

By JIM UTTER

The Charlotte Observer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. Here we are again.

There is more than a week before the 2015 NASCAR season will officially kick off at Daytona International Speedway with the season-opening races in the Sprint Cup, Xfinity and Truck series.

However, there are a few "unofficial" matters to deal with this week, namely Thursday's Daytona 500 Media Day and Saturday night's Sprint Unlimited non-points race.

As Daytona Speedweeks gets underway, here are five things to watch as the newest NASCAR season unfolds:

1 Jeff Gordon's farewell tour: Make no mistake, Jeff Gordon is going to be around NASCAR for many years to come. But this season will be his last as a full-time competitor in the Cup series.

Given his performance of a year ago, there is little reason to doubt Gordon will be a factor in this season's championship.

How fitting would it be for his fifth championship — and first in the Chase format — to come on the 20th anniversary of his first title and in his final season?



STEPHEN M. DOWELL, ORLANDO SENTINEL/AP

Fireworks explode as drivers walk onto the stage before the Sprint Unlimited exhibition race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach on Saturday.

2 Electronic pit-road officiating: NASCAR will utilize 45 HD video cameras to monitor the activity on pit road rather than rely on a single official assigned to each team's pit stall, which it had been doing.

The system was tested at the

end of the 2014 season but will get its first live test during Saturday night's Sprint Unlimited.

At least at the start of the season, there are likely to be more pit-road penalties than usual as teams become accustomed to far more rigid enforcement.

3 Kurt Busch's fate: The 2014 season ended with Kurt Busch being investigated for a domestic assault incident involving his former girlfriend, Patricia Driscoll.

Here we are about to start the season and there still is no decision by Delaware authorities

whether to charge him. He's also awaiting a decision on a protective order sought by Driscoll.

With no clear resolution, Busch will begin the season with a cloud over his future. Should he be charged, he could face suspension by NASCAR, which would throw the season into chaos for himself and his Stewart-Haas Racing team, which would need to find a replacement driver.

4 Is Danica 3-and-out? Fan favorite Danica Patrick enters her third full season in the Cup series and the final year of her contract with SHR and the sponsor of her team.

Whether her NASCAR experiment continues could depend on whether she makes significant improvement this season. She showed signs last season of gaining speed and improved significantly in qualifying.

However, she still finished 28th in the series standings, one spot lower than her rookie season.

5 New rules package: We'll have to wait until the second race of the year, at Atlanta, to see the results of NASCAR's new aerodynamic rules package for the Cup series.

NASCAR will use the same rules package on its superspeedway tracks as it did last season, which means no changes to the cars at Daytona or Talladega, Ala.

Last: Gordon wants to avoid 'sideshow'

FROM BACK PAGE

Gordon does not want the focus to be on him every week for 38 races. He doesn't want it to become a sideshow.

"I am concerned about it. The statements and comments and accolades have already become overwhelming," he said. "But I want to race hard and be competitive and be focused at the race track. We're trying to do all that we can to talk to the tracks and talk to NASCAR about how we can maintain that level of focus."

Gordon had all the ingredients to top last season, which saw him come close to a fifth championship. He won four races and was one of the strongest drivers all year, but a sequence of events in the third segment of NASCAR's new elimination-round playoffs knocked him out of title contention.

He will need to be just as good this year to have a shot at reaching the finale in Homestead, where four drivers will race for the Cup.

The title last year went to Kevin Harvick, in his first season with Stewart-Haas Racing. Harvick and crew chief Rodney Childers were the class of the field all year, and their hard work was rewarded with the championship that team co-owner Tony Stewart promised if they moved to SHR.

Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano, who made Team Penske a two-driver threat last year, are expected to be just as strong this season. The only issue is if Keselowski, who sparred with many drivers last season, will be able to just race and set aside his off-track concerns.

The lineup is different at Joe Gibbs Racing, which expanded to a fourth driver by adding Carl Edwards. There was also an

offseason crew chief overhaul in which only Matt Kenseth's crew remained intact. Not even Denny Hamlin, who came one caution away from perhaps beating Harvick for the title, was immune. Crew chief Darrian Grubb was moved to help Edwards.

At SHR, where Harvick was the one constant all season, teammates Danica Patrick and Kurt Busch will be looking for results. And Stewart? His swagger seems to have returned after two trying seasons.

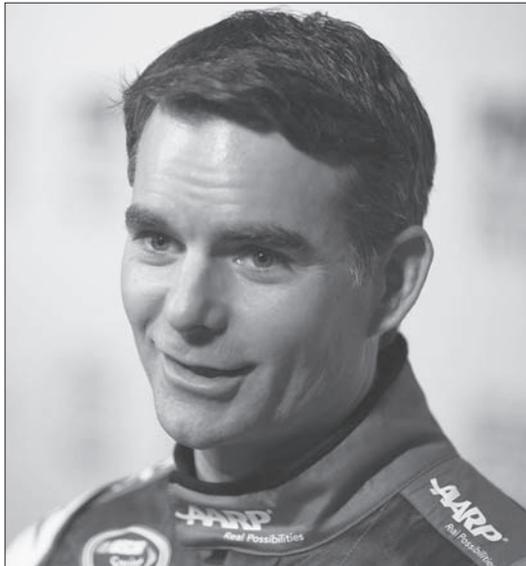
Offseason surgery has the three-time champion walking without a limp for the first time since he broke his right leg in a 2013 accident, and he seems emotionally healed after the August death of sprint car racer Kevin Ward Jr., who was struck and killed by a car Stewart was driving.

"I'm not happy about the last two years of my life, by any means, but I've never questioned who I am or what I do," Stewart said. "It's probably made my desire stronger than ever."

The Cup cars this year have smaller spoilers, reduced horsepower and drivers will be able to make their own track bar adjustments from inside the cockpit. NASCAR has also replaced officials with 45 cameras that will police pit road and be monitored from a command center.

With testing banned this offseason, the teams have not had a good look at the 2015 rules and won't until Daytona opens on Friday. Some haven't been in a car since the Nov. 16 finale.

"I'm itching to go, man," said six-time Sprint Cup champion Jimmie Johnson. "We're all really anxious to get into our race cars."



STEPHEN M. DOWELL, ORLANDO SENTINEL/TNS

Four-time Sprint Cup champion Jeff Gordon speaks during NASCAR Media Day at Daytona International Speedway on Thursday in Daytona Beach, Fla.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 1 Kentucky overwhelms SC

Wildcats tie program's best start at 25-0

By GARY B. GRAVES
The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Top-ranked Kentucky matched the best start in the program's storied history, improving to 25-0 on Saturday when Willie Cauley-Stein scored 14 points and Aaron Harrison added 11 in a 77-43 rout of South Carolina.

The 1953-54 Wildcats finished the regular season at 25-0 with a team that featured future Naismith Hall of Famers Cliff Hagan and Frank Ramsey, then declined an NCAA tournament bid. A year earlier, Kentucky had been under suspension by the NCAA and canceled its season.

This year's Wildcats are trying to win the school's ninth national championship. They took another step toward their quest for perfection by completing a season sweep of the overmatched Gamecocks (12-12, 3-9 Southeastern Conference).

After holding South Carolina to 23 percent shooting in last month's meeting, Kentucky limited the Gamecocks to just 13.6 from the field (24 percent) this

time. The Wildcats (12-0 SEC) needed less than 12 minutes to build a 20-point lead. Dakari Johnson added 13 rebounds and 10 points for Kentucky, which shot 50 percent.

Sindarius Thornwell scored a game-high 20 points for the Gamecocks, who were out-rebounded 45-21 and beaten in just about every statistical category except steals (3-2).

The dominant performance was just what Kentucky coach John Calipari wanted from his talented squad after Tuesday night's escape at LSU. On Friday, he voiced his distaste for close wins and challenged the Wildcats to show a "killer instinct" with the postseason just around the corner.

Kentucky players got the message and responded with a strong start that put South Carolina in a hole that steadily deepened. The Wildcats led 26-6 with 8:21 left in the first half and never eased off in overwhelming South Carolina on both ends.

It was 43-18 at halftime, and Kentucky poured it on against a



JAMES CRISP/AP

Kentucky's Dakari Johnson (44) pulls down a rebound between South Carolina's Demetrius Henry, left, Sindarius Thornwell (0) and Mindaugas Kacinas during Saturday's game in Lexington, Ky. The Wildcats routed the Gamecocks 77-43.

Gamecocks squad looking to build off a five-point win over Missouri. Instead, they ended up at the footnote in a history-tying performance that the Wildcats hope to break on Tuesday at Tennessee.

Calipari a Naismith finalist: Earlier in the day, Calipari was

picked as one of 12 semifinalists for the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. He said in a statement that he was "at a loss for words" at the selection and thanked Kentucky, Memphis and UMass for the coaching opportunities. The 2015 class

will be announced on April 6 in Indianapolis.

Welcome back: Former Wildcats Julius Randle and James Young, both first-round NBA draft picks last summer, attended the game with the league off for the all-star break.

Roundup

Barber leads NC State to upset of No. 9 Louisville

The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Anthony Barber's surging self-assuredness could be the catalyst that alters the course of North Carolina State's season.

It was, at least, enough to spark Saturday's 74-65 win over No. 9 Louisville, the Wolfpack's second win against a top 10 conference opponent this year.

N.C. State (15-11, 6-7 Atlantic Coast Conference) had lost five of its last six, with all but one of those losses coming by five or fewer points.

The Wolfpack held Louisville to 33 percent shooting area dominated near the basket, outscoring the Cardinals 32-16 in the paint.

Trevor Lacey had 14 points and Ralston Turner 10 for N.C. State.

Chris Jones scored 20 and Wayne Blackshear added 19 for Louisville (20-5, 8-4 ACC).

Terry Rozier and Montrezl Harvell, Louisville's leading scorers, combined for just 11 points after totaling 50 in Wednesday's 69-56 win against Pittsburgh.

No. 2 Virginia 61, Wake Forest 60: Anthony Gill scored 19 points and Malcolm Brogdon stole the ball from Cody Miller-McIntyre to prevent a potential game-winning shot in the final seconds, preserving Virginia's victory



TIMOTHY D. EASLEY/AP

North Carolina State's Anthony Barber, front, attempts to drive around the defense of Louisville's Chris Jones on Saturday in Louisville, Ky. N.C. State surprised No. 9 Louisville 74-65.

against visiting Wake Forest.

No. 3 Gonzaga 56, Pepperdine 48: At Spokane, Wash., Kevin Pangos scored 19 points and Gonzaga took over in the second half to beat stubborn Pepperdine.

No. 4 Duke 80, Syracuse 72: Jahill Okafor had 23 points and 13 rebounds for his ninth double-double of the season, outplay-

ing Syracuse big man Rakeem Christmas to help Duke beat the host Orange.

No. 6 Villanova 68, No. 18 Butler 65: Darrun Hilliard rallied Villanova in the second half and hit a three-pointer with 1.5 seconds left to give the Wildcats a victory over host Butler.

No. 8 Kansas 74, No. 16

Baylor 64: Kelly Oubre scored 18 points, including a clinching three-pointer in the final minutes, and host Kansas overcame a slow start to beat Baylor.

Pittsburgh 89, No. 12 North Carolina 76: Sheldon Jeter scored a career-high 22 points and hot-shooting Pittsburgh dominated visiting North Carolina.

No. 14 Iowa State 79, No. 21 West Virginia 59: Monte Morris scored 19 points and 14th-ranked Iowa State overwhelmed visiting West Virginia to sweep the season series with the Mountaineers.

No. 15 Wichita State 68, Illinois State 62: Ron Baker scored 19 points and Wichita State overcame poor shooting with tenacious defense in holding off host Illinois State.

Kansas State 59, No. 17 Oklahoma 56: Marcus Foster made a tiebreaking three-pointer with 3.4 seconds left and scored 14 points in his return from a three-game suspension to lead host Kansas State past Oklahoma.

No. 19 Maryland 76, Penn State 73: Dez Wells scored 22 points, Melo Trimble added 20 and Maryland used strong shooting in the second half to scramble past host Penn State.

No. 20 VCU 79, George Washington 66: Melvin Johnson scored 17 points, hitting five three-point-

ers, and visiting VCU snapped a two-game losing streak with a victory at George Washington.

TCU 70, No. 21 Oklahoma State 55: Amric Fields had 12 points and a big part in an upset-sealing run as last-place TCU beat visiting Oklahoma State.

Michigan State 59, No. 23 Ohio State 56: Michigan State's Denzel Valentine celebrated Feb. 14 in style, sinking a three-pointer with 3.2 seconds remaining to give host Michigan State a victory over Ohio State.

No. 24 Arkansas 71, Mississippi 70: Manuale Watkins hit a short jumper with 6.4 seconds remaining to lift visiting Arkansas over Mississippi.

No. 25 SMU 73, UConn 55: Markus Kennedy and Yanick Moreira scored 13 points apiece and the two big men combined for a couple of dunks that helped build a big first-half lead in SMU's win over visiting Connecticut.

Navy 70, Colgate 69: Worth Smith sank the game-winning basket with 13 seconds left as Navy rallied from a 10-point deficit to edge host Colgate.

Air Force 76, UNLV 75: Marek Olesinski scored 19 points, Zach Kocur had 18, making five of his six three-pointers in the second half, and host Air Force held off UNLV 76-75 on Saturday.

NBA

Curry, LaVine shine on All-Star Saturday

Warriors guard takes three-point crown; T-wolves teen best dunker

BY ANTONIO GONZALEZ
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stephen Curry honored a fallen fan the best way he knew how. Zach LaVine made a name for himself in a dunk contest that lacked star punch.

Curry bested Golden State Warriors teammate Klay Thompson and six others to win his first three-point contest, and LaVine put on a spectacular aerial display to take home the dunk competition during a memorable All-Star Saturday night.

Curry paid homage to one of the three victims of the shooting in North Carolina, writing a message to Deah Shaddy Barakat on his sneakers for the shooting stars competition, then swapping those for a different color pair for the three-point contest. Barakat was one of three Muslim college students killed Tuesday in Curry's home state.

"It only seemed right to honor him and his family, and hopefully they know that people are thinking about them," Curry said. "They're not alone, and hopefully it can give them some kind of peace and comfort knowing that he was a special guy. And I just did my little part to shed light toward him."

Curry said there were several connections to the family that touched him.

He said Barakat did his wedding photo similar to a magazine cover featuring Curry and his wife, Ayesha. Barakat also wore a No. 30 jersey — Curry's number — in basketball leagues and some of Curry's family members even played pickup games with Barakat in North Carolina.

"They all spoke highly of him," Curry said. "It's a great platform to be on, but it only seemed right."

Barakat's wife, Yusor Mohammad Abu-Salha, and her sister, Razan Mohammad Abu-Salha, also were killed in the attack. Craig Stephen Hicks, 46, has been charged with three counts of first-degree murder in their deaths.

Curry, the starting point guard for the Western Conference in Sunday's All-Star game at Madison Square Garden, made sure he'd have the chance to shine a bright light on Barakat and his family.

He scored 27 points in the final round. Curry connected on 13 consecutive shots until missing his final attempt, bringing fans and celebrities roaring to their feet after every swish at Brooklyn's Barclays Center.

Thompson, who had an opening-round best of 24, scored



PHOTOS BY FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

The Timberwolves' Zach LaVine, right, takes the ball from teammate Andrew Wiggins during the All-Star Saturday Slam Dunk contest.

only 14 points in the final round. Cleveland's Kyrie Irving finished second with 17 points in the three-man final.

It was a rare year when the three-point competition had as much — if not more — intrigue heading into it than the dunk contest because of the notable names who were — and weren't — participating in each.

Even still, LaVine left a lasting impression few will forget. The 19-year-old Timberwolves rookie scored a perfect 100 in the opening round. He highlighted his scintillating start with a through-the-legs, one-handed reverse slam, wearing a white No. 23 Jordan jersey for what he dubbed the "Space Jam" dunk.

On his second dunk, he tossed the ball up, put it behind his back in the air and threw down a powerful one-handed slam for another 50 from the Hall of Fame judges — Julius Erving, Walt Frazier, Nate Archibald, Bernard King and Chris Mullin.

LaVine had a final round score of 94 to overtake Orlando's Victor Oladipo, who struggled to convert his first attempt in the final and finished with a 72 in the championship round. LaVine became the first Timberwolves player to win the dunk contest since Isaiah Rider in 1994.

"I'm still on cloud nine. I feel like I'm dreaming," LaVine said. "Seeing all the dunk contests and people hoisting the trophy, I just saw myself do it and lived it. So

it's a dream come true. I'm glad my family is here to witness it and go through it."

Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokoumpo, aka The Greek Freak, and Brooklyn's Mason Plumlee didn't advance past the opening round.

Even with all the above-the-rim athleticism, the MVP front-runner put on quite a show from long distance.

Curry, who set the NBA-record with 272 three-pointers in a season two years ago, finally took home the three-point crown on his fourth try. He earned bragging rights over his fellow "Splash Brothers" star in the process, putting pressure on Thompson to follow his spotlight-stealing final round.

He couldn't. Nobody could.

Atlanta's Kyle Korver, who is shooting a league-high 52.3 percent from beyond the arc, and defending champion Marco Belinelli of San Antonio never made it past the first round with scores of 18. Portland's Wesley Matthews finished with 22, Los Angeles Clippers guard J.J. Redick scored 17 and Houston's James Harden had 15.

Chris Bosh, Dominique Wilkins and Swin Cash won their third straight shooting stars competition earlier. Houston's Patrick Beverley won the skills competition.



Golden State's Stephen Curry competes during the All-Star Saturday Three-point contest in New York. Curry scored 27 points in the final round, including 13 straight, to win.

SPORTS



Perfect match

No. 1 Kentucky ties 1952-53 squad for best start in program history » Page 30

NASCAR SEASON PREVIEW

Last ride

All eyes on Gordon's final year in No. 24

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.

Through driver changes, a new championship format and NASCAR's push to reinvent itself, the one constant for more than two decades has been Jeff Gordon behind the wheel every week of the iconic No. 24.

Now it's time to buckle up for what's going to be Gordon's final ride.

The four-time NASCAR champion will report to Daytona International Speedway this week to begin preparations for his final season-opening Daytona 500.

Gordon said last month he will give up full-time driving at the end of 2015, and while he didn't rule out racing a little in the future this will be his final appearance in the "Great American

Race" that kicks off the season Feb. 22.

It will be the beginning of what will surely be a NASCAR season packed with tributes to Gordon, whose storied career includes pushing the sport into mainstream visibility.

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After 23 years behind the wheel, four-time NASCAR champion Jeff Gordon will retire as a full-time driver following this season. Nonetheless, Gordon doesn't want the fanfare around his impending retirement to distract from what is still his primary goal — winning races.

ROBERT DUYOS, SUN
SENTINEL/TNS

Curry, LaVine winners on All-Star Saturday » Page 31



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