

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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## WEEKEND EDITION EUROPE & PACIFIC



### TRAVEL

In Venice, Carnevale means mystery, masked mischief

Page 30

### VIDEO GAMES



'World of Tanks': Free-to-play done right for Xbox

Page 26

### MUSIC

Robert Ellis shows range on new album

Page 37

### WORLD



After 3 years, Koreans share tearful family reunions

Page 16

### OLYMPICS



Stage set for prime matchups in men's hockey semifinals

Back page

### UKRAINE PROTESTS



EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Activists pay respects to protesters killed in clashes with police in Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine, on Thursday. Violence in Ukraine's capital shattered a brief truce between the government and protesters.

## Death toll mounts

### Dozens killed in clashes between police, protesters as crisis escalates

By YURAS KARMANAU  
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Tossing firebombs, protesters advanced upon police lines Thursday in Ukraine's embattled capital. Government snipers shot back, killing at least 70 people and wounding hundreds of others, according to a protest doctor.

Video footage on Ukrainian television showed shocking scenes Thursday of protesters being cut down by gunfire, lying

on the pavement as comrades rushed to their aid. Trying to protect themselves with shields, teams of protesters carried bodies away on sheets of plastic or planks of wood.

One of the wounded, volunteer medic Olesya Zhukovskaya, sent out a brief Twitter message — "I'm dying" — after being shot in the neck. Dr. Oleh Musiy, the medical coordinator for the protesters, said she was in serious condition after being operated on.

SEE UKRAINE ON PAGE 12

## Army in Europe to shed hundreds of local national jobs

By MATT MILLHAM  
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — U.S. Army Europe and Installation Management Command-Europe announced force structure changes Thursday that will reduce the service's local national workforce by 579 positions.

The changes also will result in a net increase of 44 U.S. civilian positions, while 89 military posi-

tions will be shed.

Army officials described the actions as a "rebalancing" of forces, adjusting the size of units that support the Army's combat forces stationed in Europe.

Those forces have been heavily slashed in recent years, as two heavy brigade combat teams and a corps headquarters were shuttered and various smaller units were repatriated or inactivated. All told, those actions amounted to the loss of more than 11,000

soldiers across the continent — roughly a quarter of the Army's total strength in Europe.

Workers were notified of the force reductions Thursday, but many local national employees won't have to leave their jobs for more than a year as the process of identifying individual workers for cuts and the requirements of various host-nation agreements play out, USA-EUR officials said.

A number of the positions tar-

geted are already empty, easing somewhat the number of layoffs the restructuring will cause.

The realignment affects three major units: the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, the Joint Multinational Training Command and Installation Management Command-Europe. Most of the reorganization will hit locations in Germany, though sites in Belgium and the Netherlands also will be affected.

SEE JOBS ON PAGE 2

# QUOTE OF THE DAY

"April of 2013 wasn't Brandon's time to die. ... You've killed two of your children. ... Not God. Not your church. Not religious devotion. You."

— Judge Benjamin Lerner, in sentencing a couple, who believed in faith-healing, after the death of their child, who never saw a doctor despite having pneumonia

See story on Page 10

# TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. 2nd National Guard soldier suspended over casket photo scandal
2. Air Force will take 'appropriate action' over viral POW/MIA emblem photo
3. National Guard soldier suspended over 'distasteful' military funeral photos and comments
4. Commander relieved after Sub Ball fundraising includes adult businesses
5. Navy Onions likely damaged in hangar collapse

# COMING SOON

Shifting Gears



VW works to move surplus Bugatti Veyrons

# TODAY IN STRIPES

- American Roundup ..... 19
- Business ..... 20
- Comics ..... 42, 46-47
- Crossword ..... 42, 46-47
- Faces ..... 43
- Faith ..... 14
- Letters/Opinion ..... 44-45
- Sports ..... 53-64
- Weather ..... 20
- Weekend ..... 21-42

# MILITARY

# Jobs: Losses concentrated most in Grafenwöhr, Hohenfels

FROM FRONT PAGE

The 21st TSC's Theater Logistics Support Center-Europe is hit hardest, losing 455 local national positions and four U.S. civilian slots.

"The cuts to the organization 'are completely necessary,'" said Helmut Haufe, general manager of TILSC-E. "Less troops, less units to be supported means less supporters required. And that's a logic nobody can deny."

Three of the TILSC-E's primary functions — supply, maintenance and transportation — will take major hits. On its own, the Maintenance Activity Kaiserslautern, which repairs everything from tracked vehicles and trucks to weapons and radios, will lose 330 positions, leaving 177.

"USARUE lost the fair share of its force structure" when it inactivated two heavy brigade combat teams and the maintenance-intensive equipment that came with them, Haufe said, "and we have to adjust our capacity."

The TILSC-E's remaining cuts will come from the 6966th Truck Transportation Training and Maintenance Activity Vilsbiburg and Supply Activity Europe.

The Joint Multinational Training Command, based in Grafenwöhr, will eliminate 83 military positions, nine U.S. civilian slots and 114 local national positions under the restructuring.

While the job losses will be spread somewhat across the command's presence, which extends to every Army community in Europe, they will be most heavily concentrated in Grafenwöhr and Hohenfels, which have served as the main training ranges for U.S. forces deploying to Afghanistan from Europe.

"When you start looking at what requirements we're going to need to support our U.S. forces here, there is a reduction in force, lots of a capacity reduction that isn't going to be made up," said Col. Adam Loveless, chief of staff for JMTC.

Much of the paring of the JMTC's military staff will come from the noncommissioned officer academy, which trains junior enlisted leaders. With fewer soldiers left in Europe to train, the academy's training staff will be reduced by one training company, Loveless said.

Meanwhile, Installation Man-

## Force restructuring

Net change in positions as a result of U.S. Army Europe force restructuring:

	Military	Civilian	Local National
Stuttgart	+2	+2	+91
Mannheim	—	—	-3
Ansbach	-1	+6	-20
Bamberg	—	—	-3
Garmisch	+1	-4	+14
Grafenwöhr	-32	+19	-101
Hohenfels	-53	-16	-117
Schweinfurt	—	—	-5
Vilsbiburg	-3	-2	-20
Wiesbaden	-2	+38	+30
Hanau	—	—	-2
Darmstadt	—	—	-1
Baumholder	-8	-11	-164
Kaiserslautern	+3	+18	-257
Sembach	—	+3	+4
Chievres	-2	—	-30
Brussels	+5	+5	+5
Schinnen	+1	-15	—

Approximate reductions over the last five years (including this announcement):

Germany	-12,600	-2,150	-2,250
Belgium	-5	-25	-60
Netherlands	-5	-25	-15

SOURCE: U.S. Army Europe

Stars and Stripes

## Less troops, less units to be supported means less supporters required.

Helmut Haufe

Theater Logistics Support Center-Europe's general manager

agement Command-Europe will see its workforce increase modestly, though some communities will see major job cuts while others see gains.

"The reductions are largely behind us," said Dan Thompson, a spokesman for IMCOM-E.

The command's pending actions, he said, are largely about rebalancing and adjusting support to various communities.

IMCOM-E's workforces in Baumholder and Hohenfels will see significant reductions, while U.S. Army Garrisons Bavaria and Ansbach will see smaller declines. Meanwhile, U.S. Army Garrisons Rheinland-Pfalz, Stuttgart and Wiesbaden will gain jobs.

Some of those gains include "the formal inclusion" of Army Community Service and Soldier and Family Assistance Center support positions previously considered "overhire," Thompson

wrote in an email.

The community losing the most jobs in IMCOM-E's rebalancing is Baumholder, which was home to the 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, one of the two brigades that were inactivated in the past two years. It will be converted from a garrison to a "small site" and will lose eight military, 11 civilian and 154 local national positions.

A significant number of those local national positions are already unfilled, Baumholder Mayor Peter Lang said, citing information he received from Army officials.

"Effectively, we speak about 80 jobs, not 154" jobs being eliminated from the community, Lang said.

U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz, which has grown in population as units consolidated here from Mannheim, Heidelberg and

See an interactive map at [stripes.com/go/drawdown](http://stripes.com/go/drawdown)



elsewhere, will gain the most from IMCOM-E's moves, with the addition of three military, 21 U.S. civilian and 179 local national employee positions.

Altogether, IMCOM-E will see a net gain of 66 U.S. and 15 local national positions and a reduction of 10 military positions.

Bruce Anderson, a spokesman for U.S. Army Europe, said in an email that the primary driver behind the force realignment is meeting the needs of a changed mission but he said the moves also would result in cost savings.

JMTC will save an estimated \$17 million annually in salaries, Loveless said, while the 21st TSC will save an estimated \$25 million annually, according to Anderson. IMCOM-E did not provide figures directly relating to the moves.

It likely will be about four months before it is known which individual local national workers will be terminated. According to the USARUE release announcing the restructuring, the 21st TSC will reduce its civilian positions no later than April 2015, while JMTC and IMCOM-E have until Sept. 30 of this year to make their civilian cuts.

Department of the Army civilians affected by the announcement won't necessarily end up on the unemployment rolls. Depending on individual situations, some may look for government jobs statewide, some may retire, some may slide into new or existing vacancies and some may enter a priority placement program that can reassign displaced personnel.

Local national workers in affected organizations will have to compete for the remaining positions. Those identified for termination won't necessarily find themselves unemployed, either. Depending on individual circumstances, some may be eligible for job retraining, retirement or transfer to vacant positions in other units.

The number of positions opening, however, is far smaller than the number being eliminated, Haufe said, "so I'm afraid there isn't much placement opportunity."

Reporter Marcus Kloetner contributed to this report.

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MIDEAST

# 1 dead in Kabul suicide attack

By CID STANDIFER  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL — A suicide bomber attacked a library and cultural center in Kabul on Thursday, killing a security guard and injuring four other people, Afghan officials said.

Sediqi Sediqi, a spokesman for Afghanistan's Interior Ministry, said that, according to a security guard, the attacker tried to get into the cultural center about 9 a.m. He was turned away but returned half an hour later and detonated himself outside the cultural center's gate.

"Everybody knows this place," Sediqi said.

By 10:30 a.m., Afghan journalists were trudging through mud near the scene as armed police officers waded them back from the site of the attack. A power line suddenly burst into a shower of sparks, making the gathered crowd jump and then laugh nervously.

One witness, Shujuddin Rohani, told a huddle of journalists that he had been close to the cultural center when he heard the blast.

"The Internet is free here at the Sayed Mansour Nadert's library, so the young people used to come and use Internet here," he said.

The country has been on edge in recent weeks, waiting to see if insurgents will step up violence before presidential elections in April.

Sediqi and eyewitnesses said it did not appear the attack was targeting a campaign event.

On Wednesday, the convoy of one presidential candidate, Abdullah Abdullah, was attacked on its way back to Kabul from a campaign rally in Jalalabad. Abdullah escaped unharmed, and his cam-

paign spokesman told The Wall Street Journal no one was killed.

Zubair Babakarkhail and Stars and Stripes reporter Alex Pena contributed



Employees clean the site of a suicide attack as security personnel stand guard in Kabul on Thursday. A suicide bomber on foot struck a compound belonging to the minority Ismaili community, who make up a branch of Shiite Islam. The compound houses a cultural center, library and a hospital.

Massoud Hossaini/AP

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### Taliban says indirect talks held over POW

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Washington has held indirect talks with the Taliban over the possible transfer of five senior Taliban prisoners from Guantanamo Bay in exchange for a U.S. soldier captured nearly five years ago, a senior Taliban official told The Associated Press.

Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, 27, of Haley, Idaho, was last seen in a video released in December, footage seen as "proof of life" demanded by the United States.

The talks, which the Taliban official said took place sometime over the past two months in a Middle East country, would be the first significant movement toward an exchange since it was last discussed by the U.S. and the Taliban in June 2013.

State Department deputy spokeswoman Marie Harf would not confirm the efforts.

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## MILITARY

# Bush dedicated to helping vets

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Former President George W. Bush hosted a Military Service Initiative Summit on Wednesday and spoke about the many problems facing post-9/11 veterans and how his institute hopes to address them.

"A lot of people ask me, you know, do I miss much about being president," Bush said at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas. "The answer really [is] no, [but] I do miss saluting men and women who volunteer to defend our nation during war.

"Many are coming home and are preparing for new missions as civilians. And I intend to salute these men and women for the rest of my life ... And through the Military Service Initiative, the [George W.] Bush Institute is going to help.

"Since 9/11, more than 2.5 million Americans have worn the uniform ...," Bush said. "They are the 1 percent of America who kept the 99 percent safe. And we owe them and their families a deep debt of gratitude. Our country can never really fully repay our vets, but we ought to try."

Bush said his institute's plans have been shaped by a joint study that the organization conducted with the Syracuse University Institute for Veterans and Military Families, which he described as "one of the most comprehensive studies ever conducted of post-9/11 veterans."

Bush said the Military Service Initiative will focus on the following broad tasks to make it easier for former servicemembers to transition to civilian life:

■ Help Americans understand what they can do as individuals to support veterans and empower them to succeed.

"The [civilian-military] divide is exacerbated by public perceptions that the veteran is either a hero or to be pitied," Bush said. "Most veterans ... don't want lavish celebrations or expressions of condolences. And while it never hurts to say thank you, that's not really the point. What most veterans want is to have their service understood and appreciated for what it is ... and now they want to experience the American dream."

■ Help veterans translate their military skills to work in rewarding civilian jobs.

"From our research, we know one problem is that veterans and employers both have a hard time translating military experience [into obvious qualifications for civilian jobs]. That's not surprising," Bush said. "I mean, you don't see many job postings that

say, 'Wanted: experience in hunting insurgents and terrorists, willing to risk life for co-workers.'

[But] when a resume says United States military, that means you can count on the applicant to be loyal, [they've] got good leadership, teamwork skills, and discipline. To an employer, that should mean a lot."

■ Work with leaders at higher education institutions to promote innovative programs to improve the recruitment, retention and graduation rates of veterans at colleges and universities.

"Some veterans are ready to enter the workforce immediate, [but] others need to update their skills," Bush said. "[That's] especially true for younger veterans who entered the military right after high school or a short stint in college. At the Bush Center we believe it's never too late to learn a new skill. [But] unlike many Americans struggling to make it through college, the [high dropout rate] problem here is not money, the problem is fitting in ... Many [veterans] report feeling isolated from their classmates and/or their professors."

■ Help businesses understand how they can improve their companies by hiring veterans, and enable employers to better tailor their recruitment and hiring efforts.

"We're going to send a broader message: Hiring veterans is not only the right thing to do, it is a smart thing to do," Bush said.

■ Study and compare the more than 46,000 nongovernmental organizations that list helping veterans as one of their missions, and develop tools and metrics to assess which ones perform better and

## Understanding post-9/11 veterans

At a summit on veterans issues Wednesday in Dallas, former President George W. Bush offered highlights of a study on post-9/11 veterans and their concerns.

- Of the 2.5 million post-9/11 veterans, more than 2 million served in Afghanistan or Iraq.
- The average veteran spent one out of every three years overseas.
- 82 percent said that they would recommend military service to someone considering signing up, 94 percent said they were proud of their military service.
- 84 percent say the American public has little awareness of the challenges they and their families face; 71 percent of Americans say they do not understand the problems facing our veterans.
- Post-9/11 veterans face ever higher rates of unemployment than their civilian counterparts, and this is their top concern.
- Veterans without a steady job are more susceptible to other problems, such as depression, addiction, homelessness and suicide.
- The dropout rate for veterans exceeds 80 percent at some institutions of higher learning.

SOURCES: George W. Bush Stars and Stripes Institute, The Syracuse

deliver the best results.

"It can be overwhelming for newly returned veterans looking for help," Bush said. "While these organizations have good intentions, I suspect some deliver better results than others."

■ Help veterans get treatment if they are suffering from wounds of war — especially post-traumatic stress — and de-stigmatize mental health problems.

"PTSD is treatable," Bush said. "Military and medical communities have made great strides in developing effective ways to reduce and overcome PTSD. Like depression, PTSD can be controlled through medication and therapy and other treatment. But like most serious injuries, it rarely goes away on its own. Those affected must get help. ... We are going to use our platform to make clear that veterans receiving treatment for post-traumatic stress are not 'damaged goods' [and] they are not mentally shattered. They are people who got hurt defending our country and are now overcoming wounds.

"Employers would not hesitate to hire an employee getting treated for a medical condition like diabetes or high blood pressure, and they should not hesitate to hire veterans getting treated for post-traumatic stress."

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Retired Col. Miguel Howe gets a playful pat on the head from former President George W. Bush during a break in a summit.

“Since 9/11, more than 2.5 million Americans have worn the uniform. ... They are the 1 percent of America who kept the 99 percent safe. And we owe them and their families a deep debt of gratitude. Our country can never really fully repay our vets, but we ought to try.”

Former President George W. Bush

Former President George W. Bush smiles as he walks off stage after giving a speech at a summit titled “Empowering Our Nation’s Warriors” at the George W. Bush Institute at Southern Methodist University in Dallas on Wednesday.

PHOTOS BY LM OTERO/AP

## MILITARY

# 2nd Guard member suspended over photos

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A Wisconsin National Guard member who publicly defended a subordinate who posted controversial photos and comments about military funerals on the Internet has been suspended from his regular duties pending the outcome of an investigation into the matter, according to Maj. Paul Rickert, the director of public affairs for the Wisconsin Guard.

The photos and comments, which ignited a firestorm of criticism on social media and caused the Wisconsin National Guard and the Army National Guard to initiate separate investigations into the scandal, appeared on the Instagram page of Spc. Terry Harrison, a member of the Madison-based 1st Battalion, 147th Aviation Regiment.

One photo shows a group of soldiers in Army Combat Uniforms, some posing disrespectfully around a flag-draped training casket, along with a caption that reads, "We put the FUN in funeral — your fearless honor guard from various states." The other photo shows Harrison in a car, and the comment below it reads, "It's so damn cold out. Why have a funeral outside? Somebody's getting a jacked up flag," suggesting that the family of a fallen servicemember would receive an unprofessionally presented American flag during the ceremony because of the poor weather.

The Wisconsin Guard announced Tuesday that Harrison had been removed from the military funeral detail indefinitely.

Rickert said Wednesday that Sgt. Luis Jimenez has also been suspended from funeral honors duties because of comments he made on Facebook after Harrison was criticized.

"[Harrison] isn't disrespecting anyone ...," Jimenez wrote in a Facebook post, which has since been removed. "It's actually a selfless commitment she has made. These [military funeral] practice sessions are very long. It's good to let loose a little when your job constantly asks you to be serious."

Rickert told Stars and Stripes that the angry calls his office received after the scandal broke also contributed to the decision to suspend Jimenez.

"We felt [the suspension] was prudent based on [Jimenez's] comments online and also the phone calls that we were receiving ...," Rickert said. "We have received phone calls from individuals expressing their outrage and the emotional impact that they have received from the photos and the comments. Some of those phone calls have been very emotionally charged."

"This has definitely had an impact on the military community and the friends and families of fallen soldiers and veterans, and we take that very seriously."

Some Gold Star Mothers whose children were killed in action have taken to social media to express their anger over the images.

"We have reached out to Gold Star families and Gold Star Mothers to let them know that we take this extremely seriously, that we too were outraged, and that we expect the members of our funeral honors team to act in a professional and honorable manner, and that we do not condone or excuse the behavior," Rickert said.

Rickert said one purpose of the

investigation is to determine if other members of the unit have been acting inappropriately.

"The funeral honors team will be looked at to ensure that these are the actions of an individual and not a larger problem," he said. "Once the investigation is complete, there will be swift and appropriate action."

Stars and Stripes was unable to contact Harrison or Jimenez for comment.

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Wisconsin National Guard member Spc. Terry Harrison's Instagram post shows soldiers mugging as they stand around a casket draped in a flag.



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MILITARY

# Unit working to bring it all home

## Marines in Afghanistan focus on salvaging, shipping gear out

By JENNIFER HLAD  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Forklifts, weapons, radios, tactical vehicles. Containers, trailers, air conditioners, generators. If the Marines brought it to Afghanistan, they need to get it out of Afghanistan, and it's R4OG's job to get it done.

"Saving money is the key reason why we exist," said Lt. Col. John Flynn, commander of Retrograde and Redeployment in Support of Reset and Reconstitution Operations Group, or R4OG. "We could burn, crush and bury everything in country and get out faster, but equipment would be wasted."

The unit was honored this week with the Ground Logistics Unit of the Year award for its work from Oct. 1, 2012, to Sept. 30, 2013, during which time it sent home more than \$570 million worth of equipment and materials. Marine Commandant Gen. James Amos presented the trophy to the unit here in Helmand province Tuesday, and praised the work the unit has done even since — retrograding "millions and millions and millions of dollars' worth of stuff."

The Marines need that gear to redistribute around the Corps, particularly as more Marines are moved to the Pacific, Amos said.

There are now four infantry battalions on the ground in Okinawa and nearly 22,000 Marines west of Honolulu, compared with roughly 16,000 a year ago, he said. In about a month, the Corps will put about 1,200 infantry, logistics and aviation Marines on the ground in Darwin, Australia, Amos said — and all those Marines need equipment.

Much of the nonmilitary stuff — desks, televisions, office equipment — will be given to the Afghans or destroyed if they don't want it, but just about everything else needs to be moved out.

U.S. Central Command, which oversees operations in the region, estimates that across Afghanistan, the U.S. will spend \$5 billion to \$7 billion shipping out 20,000 containers of equipment and 24,000 vehicles or large pieces of equipment in addition to tens of thousands of troops.

The 340 members of R4OG come from 95 units and constitute a diverse group of military occupational specialties, Flynn said. Many arrived in the past two months. The challenge they have now is backward planning so that they are able to retrieve, clean, repair and redeploy all the gear they can — and then redeploy themselves.

Maj. Brian McCaw, commander of R4OG's Headquarters and



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER HLAD/Stars and Stripes

Gear collected from units leaving Afghanistan is staged on a lot Wednesday at Camp Leatherneck in preparation for transport back to the U.S.



From left, Lance Cpl. Matthew Ford, Cpl. Matthew Pappas and Lance Cpl. Albert Adams, all of Retrograde and Redeployment in Support of Reset and Reconstitution Operations Group, prepare a pallet of gear for transportation from Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, to 1 Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Support Company, said the process is vastly different than the retrograde after the first Gulf

War, where he also served. There, he said, it was incredibly disorganized, with "vast piles of stuff"

everywhere.

Now, the Marines take a more organized approach — logging and fixing the gear, certifying it for transport and working with Marine Corps Central Command to determine which units need which equipment.

"We're ahead of schedule, and we're good at what we do," McCaw said.

Flynn said the process also differs from the retrograde from Iraq, which took place during the course of a year. The planning for the Marine Corps retrograde from Afghanistan began in 2011, he said, and the process is constantly improving.

Amos said the Marine Corps already has removed 75 percent of its equipment.

"I couldn't be prouder of you," he said. "We're on a glide slope to finish the mission here by the end of December. That's what's going to happen."

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# Report: US drone may have killed a dozen civilians in Yemen

By KIMBERLY DOZIER  
*The Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — A U.S. military drone strike in Yemen last December may have killed up to a dozen civilians on their way to a wedding and injured others, including the bride, a human rights group says. U.S. officials said only members of al-Qaida were killed, but they have refused to make public the details of two U.S. investigations into the incident.

Human Rights Watch released a report on the drone strike Thursday, citing interviews with eight witnesses and relatives of the dead as well as Yemeni officials. The report said four Hellfire missiles were fired at a wedding procession of 11 vehicles on Dec. 12, 2013, in Radda in southern Yemen, killing at least 12 men and wounding at least 15 others, six of them seriously.

The report said the procession "may have included members" of Yemen's al-Qaida in the Ara-

bian Peninsula, "although it is not clear who they were or what was their fate." Family members and survivors say all those hit were civilians; Yemeni officials told Human Rights Watch that most were militants.

"We asked both the Yemeni and the U.S. authorities to tell us which of the dead and wounded were members of militant groups and which if any were civilians," report author Letta Taylor, a senior terrorism and counterterrorism researcher at Human Rights Watch, told The Associated Press. "They did not reply to this question."

She added: "While we do not rule out the possibility that AQAP fighters were killed and wounded in this strike, we also do not rule out the possibility that all of those killed and wounded were civilians."

The New York-based group called on the U.S. government to investigate and to make the findings public.

A Pentagon spokesman, Navy Rear Adm. John Kirby, said he would not comment on specific operational details. He noted that the Yemeni government has stated that the targets were "dangerous senior al-Qaida militants."

U.S. and Yemeni officials said the target of the attack, Shawsqi Ali Ahmad al-Badani, a midlevel al-Qaida leader, was wounded and had escaped.

Al-Badani is on Yemen's most-wanted list and is accused of masterminding a plan for a major attack last summer. When an intercepted message revealed the plot, the U.S. temporarily closed 19 of its diplomatic posts across Africa and the Mideast. Some European missions were closed as well.

Three U.S. officials said the U.S. government did investigate the strike against al-Badani — twice — and concluded that only members of al-Qaida were killed in the three vehicles that were hit.

The officials said the Penta-

gon can't release details because both the U.S. military and the CIA fly drones over Yemen. By statute, the military strikes can be acknowledged, but the CIA operations cannot. The officials said that if they explain one strike but not another, they are revealing by default which ones are being carried out by the CIA.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the drone operations publicly.

The continued secrecy surrounding the drone program shows how the Obama administration has been slow to transfer the CIA drones to the military's Joint Special Operations Command nearly a year after Obama promised in a May 2013 speech to put the military largely in charge of lethal strikes and thereby to make the program more transparent. Congress has objected to the transfer to the military because the CIA can strike in countries where the military cannot

— for instance, in countries that refuse to allow U.S. counterterrorism actions on its soil.

With the drone program in limbo, U.S. officials simply have continued to say nothing of the strikes, wherever they occur.

"The U.S. refusal to explain a deadly attack on a marriage procession raises critical questions about the administration's compliance with its own targeted killing policy," Taylor wrote in the report.

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## MILITARY

## Report: DOD can skip BRAC process

Stars and Stripes

The tug of war between the Pentagon and Congress about base closures might have gotten a little more interesting.

According to a story published Wednesday in the online defense magazine Breaking Defense, largely forgotten laws give the Defense Department authority to close facilities without the Base Realignment and Closure process — without DOD even getting permission from Congress.

Speaking at the Association of the U.S. Army's winter conference in Huntsville, Ala., House Armed Services Committee staffer Vickie Plunkett said Wednesday that buried in Title 10 — the chapter of the U.S. Code that governs the Defense Department — is Section 2687, which, she said, "does give the services authority to do closures, and it only requires notification to Congress," Breaking Defense reported.

If the Pentagon and the White House were willing to take the political risk, they could shut down facilities and dare a gridlocked Congress to undo it.

"It's notification with time for Congress to act" before the closure is carried out, the magazine reported her saying. But, the veteran staffer went on — emphasizing her opinions were her own, not committee policy — "Congress is basically dysfunctional right now."

"The authorities only require notification. Take your chances," she said to an eruption of laughter, "because it's going to require us to get our act together to stop it."

The Army has recommended to the Office of the Secretary of

Defense and Congress that a new round of BRAC is needed for 2017. More than 350 installations have been closed in five BRAC rounds in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995 and 2005.

No one is suggesting that the Pentagon should try to slip something past Capitol Hill, Breaking Defense stressed. As a matter of constitutional law, any such actions need to be included in the annual budget, which has to be passed by Congress.

As a matter of practical politics, the military informs Congress when it lets go even a handful of arsenal or depot employees, even people fired for misconduct, because of congressional sensitivity to constituents' complaints about job cuts.

The Pentagon is in an even stronger position when it comes to the Army's arsenals, the government-owned manufacturing facilities for military equipment. Section 4532 of Title 10 — portions of which predate the Civil War — is the Arsenal Act, which Plunkett pointed out contains this language:

"The Secretary may abolish any United States arsenal that he considers unnecessary."

And that's not even the Secretary of Defense, because the Act was written before that job existed; it's the Secretary of the Army.

"The secretary of the Army has unilateral authority — standing, statutory, Title 10 authority — to close arsenals. Unilateral," Plunkett said.

"Now the issue is will the services ... take advantage of those status?"

## DeCA urges return of Hot Pockets because of recall

Stars and Stripes

The Defense Commissary Agency is taking part in a recall on some Nestle Hot Pockets flavors due to a contaminated beef source used in the products.

Customers with the following Hot Pockets are urged to return them to the commissary where they were purchased for a full refund, DeCA officials announced in a news release.

■ Hot Pockets Philly Steak and Cheese — UPC: 43695071078; Batch Codes: 3021544512, 3029544512, 3197544512, 3240544512; Best Before Date: March, September, October 2014.

■ Hot Pockets Philly Steak and Cheese — UPC: 43695075205; Batch Code: 3022544513, 3191544512, 3224544512, 3254544512, 3268544512; Best Before Date: March, September, October, November 2014.

■ Hot Pockets Philly Steak and Cheese — UPC: 43695159905; Batch Code: 3197544512, 3240544512; Best Before Date:

September, October 2014.

■ Hot Pockets Croissant Crust Philly Steak and Cheese — UPC: 43695056341; Batch Code: 3211544512, 3248544512, 3283544512; Best Before Date: September 2014.

Commissaries did stock some of the infected product, and officials are working with all stores to get it removed as quickly as possible, Chris Wicker, public health adviser for the DeCA, said in the news release.

The reason is the recall announced last week by Rancho Feeding Corp., which affects many companies, Nestle said on its website.

On Feb. 14, Rancho Feeding Corp., a Petaluma, Calif., establishment, recalled some 8.7 million pounds of beef, because it processed diseased and unsound animals and carried out those activities without the full benefit of federal inspection, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service.

## Report: Military mental illness work ineffective

USA Today

The military has produced dozens of programs aimed at preventing mental illness among troops during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, but there's little evidence that most of them work, a blue-ribbon panel of scientists said in a report released Thursday.

The findings by a committee of 13 experts appointed by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies come as about 1,000 Iraq- and Afghanistan-era veterans are being diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder each

week, according to data from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"There's no substantive indication of effectiveness (in the military prevention programs) and, most importantly, there's no evidence of an enduring impact," said panelist David Rudd, provost at the University of Memphis and an authority on suicide in the military.

The Pentagon issued a statement Thursday saying that it is reviewing the study's findings, said Army Lt. Col. Catherine Wilkinson, a spokeswoman.

The Institute study, requested

by the Pentagon, follows an earlier Institute of Medicine review released last year concluding that the Pentagon and Department of Veterans Affairs are struggling to keep pace with a growing number of mental health problems generated by the wars.

The scientists in the study released Thursday singled out for prominent criticism the largest and costliest program, the Army's Comprehensive Soldier Fitness effort — since expanded and renamed Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness.

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## NATION

## Records show Wis. fundraising tactics

By SCOTT BAUER  
The Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Newly released records show that Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's campaign partnered with a Republican lieutenant governor candidate in 2010 to tap wealthy donors who already had given all they could to Walker, a move designed to bolster their potential ticket.

The behind-the-scenes navigating of Wisconsin's campaign finance laws by Walker staffers was revealed Wednesday as part of the release of 28,000 pages of documents collected during a criminal investigation into one of the governor's aides.

Walker, who faces re-election this year and is considering a run for president in 2016, was not charged with any wrongdoing in the investigation that closed last year with convictions against six of his former aides and associates.

Democrats are hoping Walker could be sunk by the investigation, which has shadowed him for years. It was unsuccessfully used against him in his 2010 run for governor and recall attempts in 2012 — and it hasn't hurt his fundraising ability. That gubernatorial race state spending records at \$36 million, and the recall hit \$81 million, largely because state laws limiting donations don't apply until a recall election is officially set. That allowed Walker to collect checks as large as \$500,000 from backers.

The newly released records show how Walker's campaign was working closely with Republican lieutenant governor can-

didate Brett Davis' campaign to milk all they could out of Walker's supporters during his first run for governor, in 2010. The plan eventually fell apart because Davis lost in the primary election. Walker at the time was the Milwaukee County executive.

In one February 2010 email with a subject line of "Damn it," Walker's deputy chief of staff in his Milwaukee County office demands that Walker's campaign manager, Keith Gilkes, provide her with a list of people who had maxed out their donations to Walker.

"Where's my maxed out donor list?" Kelly Rindfleisch wrote. "Do I have to do everything?" "Yeah, yeah — we are working on it," Gilkes responded. "We don't drop everything just to make Kelly happy in this office."

Six days later, Walker's deputy campaign manager supplied the donor list.

It's clear from the emails that Rindfleisch at least didn't care for Rebecca Kleefisch, who defeated Davis in the September 2010 primary and became Walker's running mate for lieutenant governor, a position she still holds.

"Ugh, I just hate Becky," Rindfleisch wrote in a March 30, 2010, email to Davis's campaign manager, Emily Loe.

Rindfleisch was convicted in 2012 of misconduct in office, a felony, for doing campaign work for Davis on government time while in Davis's county executive office. Rindfleisch, who is appealing her conviction, was sentenced to six months in jail and three years of probation.

## Senate hopefuls collected \$500K per day last year

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Candidates in U.S. Senate races this year collectively raised more than a half-million dollars per day in 2013, suggesting a spate of never-ending campaign ads, mail and phone calls to come before November's elections.

Democrats on the ballot in 2014 raised more than \$108 million last year, besting Republicans' \$87 million, according to an Associated Press analysis of Senate candidates' campaign disclosure reports filed with the secretary of the Senate and the Federal Election Commission. Incumbent Democrats outraised incumbent Republicans by more than 2-to-1 and outspent them almost 3-to-1.

Both parties' Senate candidates started the election year with their campaign accounts totaling pretty much the same. Democratic candidates had a combined \$78 million in cash; Republicans almost \$80 million.

The nearly \$200 million raised by candidates is slightly lower than the amount raised in 2009, when Senate candidates, both incumbents and challengers, raised almost \$203 million.

The 2010 Senate elections were the last time a presidential race was not on the ballots with the Senate races.

Then, however, donors lacked the option of giving to PACs, the outside groups that can raise unlimited cash to pay for television ads, mail and phone calls independent of a candidate's campaign. Such groups have flourished since the Supreme Court ruled four years ago they could accept unlimited contributions from individuals.

That means candidates could have less direct control over campaign money — and less money to spend — in 2014 than four years ago.

Candidates or their individual campaign committees still raise the bulk of money spent on Senate campaigns.



President Barack Obama and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper shake hands as Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto looks on Wednesday after a news conference concluding the North American Leaders Summit in Toluca, Mexico.

EDUARDO VERUGO/AP

## Obama finding the world intrudes on his travels

By JIM KUHNHENN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even given President Barack Obama's own penchant for finding foreign travels eclipsed by distractions, his day-trip to Mexico stands out as a tour de force of multitasking.

The president was in Mexico on Wednesday for a summit with his North American counterparts — Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper — to discuss issues of trade, security and energy.

Each topic was fraught enough, with what opposition at home for a 12-nation Pacific rim trade deal, a stalled immigration overhaul bill and a pending decision by his administration on a contentious oil pipeline from Canada.

But there would be more, and it was not on the original summit agenda.

With an eruption of violence in Ukraine, the visit began with Obama, at Pena Nieto's side, demanding that President Viktor Yanukovich's government halt its bloody crackdown on protesters in the streets of Kiev or face consequences. By day's end, he cautiously noted reports of a truce

between Yanukovich and the protesters, saying it "could provide space for the sides to resolve their disagreements peacefully."

He also condemned violence in Venezuela and called on President Nicolas Maduro's government to release detained protesters.

In between, he applauded a clothing retailer's wage practices, placed a call to Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and kept enough of an eye on Olympic hockey to know that the U.S. victory over the Czech Republic had set up a U.S.-Canada semifinal clash.

In a way, it was a quintessential second-term day, with all its limitations, symbols and modest gestures as well as its focus on foreign affairs.

Obama acknowledged that "elements of my party" oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership deal, but disputed the notion that Democratic concerns would derail the agreement.

"We'll get this passed if it's a good agreement," he said in a joint news conference with the two other North American leaders.

He signed an executive order cutting back red tape on exports to show determination in the face of congressional inaction. Be-

cause press photographers witnessed the signing aboard Air Force One, he called the moment "historic."

Then he saluted The Gap for announcing that the company intended to raise wages for their workers beginning this year, drawing attention to his call for a higher minimum wage.

Obama's trips have a history of getting overshadowed by events.

Last June, his two-day summit with the Group of Eight industrial economies and his visit to Berlin came after revelations that the National Security Agency had conducted surveillance of foreign communications.

His trip to Brazil and Chile in March 2011 was overwhelmed by U.S. bombing over Libya.

In Seoul, South Korea, in 2012, a live mic caught Obama confiding with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev over the best timing for a missile defense deal.

In April 2012, allegations of misconduct by Secret Service personnel in Colombia drowned out Obama's participation in the Summit of the Americas, a conclave of more than 30 heads of government from North, South and Central America and the Caribbean.

## Feds drop plan to collect license tag data

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Homeland Security Department abruptly reversed course Wednesday and dropped plans to ask a private company to give the government access to a nationwide database of license plate tracking information.

Secretary Jeh Johnson directed that a contract proposal issued last week be canceled.

The proposal said Immigration and Customs Enforcement would plan to use the license plate data in pursuit of criminal immigrants and others sought by authorities.

Gillian Christensen, an ICE spokeswoman, said the contract solicitation was posted "without the awareness of ICE leadership."

"While we continue to support a range of technologies to help meet our law enforcement mission,

this solicitation will be reviewed to ensure the path forward appropriately meets our operational needs," Christensen said.

The department said Johnson has ordered a review of the proposal.

The contract notice came amid growing concerns about government surveillance of U.S. citizens but didn't address potential privacy consequences.

## NATION

# Cities brace for flooding amid respite from winter

By DON BABWIN  
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — As dozens of moms and nannies pushing strollers descended on Chicago's Lincoln Park to enjoy a rare sunny, mild day, shrinking mounds of snow and growing puddles signaled that one of the cruelest winters in memory is about to get miserable in a whole different way.

"Now we are going to start the flood season," said Don Gutzmer, a contractor who was at the park's zoo for a meeting. "If all the snow melts at once, the ground can't absorb it."

Weeks of subfreezing weather are giving way, at least briefly, to temperatures in the 40s and 50s, putting many Midwestern cities on guard for flooding, roof collapses and clogged storm drains. Some areas expected a double whammy: warm, springlike air combined with heavy rains that could compound the problem and turn the big melt into a muddy, damaging mess.

In Chicago, the National Weather Service issued an advisory Wednesday warning that ice and deep snow could clog the city's drainage system. Street crews raced to clear catch basins of debris.

Officials in suburban Will County prepared to siphon warm water from a nuclear power plant's cooling pond into the Kankakee River in hopes of melting ice that can jam the channel and push floodwaters over the banks.

At the same time, emergency management authorities warned people in low-lying areas to be ready to move to higher ground, even going door-to-door to ensure families were aware of the danger.

Landscaping companies' phones rang off the hook with calls from homeowners seeking teams to scoop snow onto dump trucks and haul it away before their basements flood.

"They're calling me to say, 'With this rain coming, where is that water and the snow going to go when it melts?'" said Joyce Schmiedekamp of Countryside Industries in suburban Chicago.

In Indiana, the weather service cautioned that melting snow piled as high as 18 inches will not be able to flow normally into rivers and streams because those channels are frozen. Between the snowmelt and the rain, some flooding would be unavoidable.

"A lot of bad things could happen tomorrow," said Marc Dahmer, a weather service meteorologist in Indianapolis.

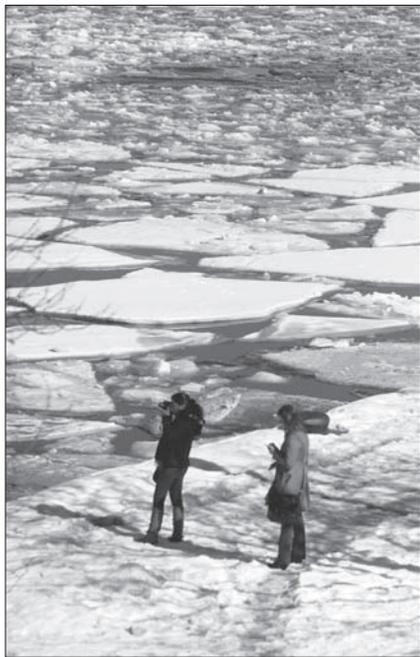
Parts of Michigan have gotten so much snow that authorities fret about more roof collapses like the one that injured two women Wednesday in the Grand Rapids area, which has received 101 inches this season. Other collapses have been reported around the state since January.

If rain adds weight to the snowpack, it "can exacerbate the situation that's there," said John Maples, a weather service meteorologist in Grand Rapids.

The respite won't last long. Temperatures were expected to drop below freezing again within days, threatening to turn all that water back into ice and creating treacherous driving conditions.

While it lasts, the thaw may also reveal a struggle for survival that has played out all winter close to the frozen ground. As the ice and snow recedes around rivers, lakes and ponds, it could reveal dead fish, turtles, frogs, toads and crayfish that didn't make it.

"Winterkill begins with distressed fish gasping for air at holes in the ice and often ends with large numbers of dead fish that float as the water warms in early spring," said Gary Whelan, of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.



KICHIRO SATO/AP

Visitors take pictures of the ice-filled Chicago River on Wednesday in downtown Chicago. As subfreezing weather gives way to temperatures in the 50s, cities are on guard for flooding.

## Homeland security issues a warning on shoe explosives

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has warned airlines that terrorists could try to hide explosives in shoes. It's the second time in less than three weeks that the government has issued a warning about possible attempts to smuggle explosives on a commercial jetliner.

Homeland Security said Wednesday it regularly shares relevant information with domestic and international partners, but it declined to discuss specifics of a warning sent to airlines.

"Our security apparatus includes a number of measures, both seen and unseen, informed by the latest intelligence, and as always DHS continues to adjust security measures to fit an ever evolving threat environment," the department said in a statement.

A U.S. intelligence official told The Associated Press that DHS released a notice to airlines reiterating that liquids, shoes and certain cosmetics were of concern. All of those are covered under existing Transportation Security Administration security policies.

The latest warning was focused on flights headed to the United

States from abroad.

The official said "something caused DHS concern, but it's a very low threshold to trigger a warning like this." The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the issue publicly.

Earlier this month, Homeland Security warned airlines with flights to Russia to be on the lookout for explosive devices possibly hidden inside toothpaste. The Transportation Security Administration then banned passengers from bringing any liquids in their carry-on luggage on nonstop flights from the U.S. to Russia. That warning became public just days before the opening ceremonies of the Winter Olympics in Sochi.

It is unclear if the latest warning, first reported Wednesday by NBC News, is related to the earlier threats to Russia-bound flights.

Air passengers in the United States have had to take off their shoes at airport security checkpoints since shortly after Richard Reid tried to ignite explosives hidden in his shoes on a Miami-bound flight in late 2001. Reid pleaded guilty to terrorist charges and is serving a life sentence.

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NATION

# Son of child killer charged in Ore. slaying

By STEVEN DUBOIS  
The Associated Press

CANBY, Ore. — His grandfather sits on California's death row, and his father avoided a death sentence by pleading guilty to killing two Oregon girls.

Now Francis Weaver, 31, is one of the men charged with murder in what Canby, Ore., police describe as a drug deal gone bad. Police allege Weaver and co-conspirators sought to steal drugs last weekend from a Grants Pass man whose car contained 15 pounds of marijuana. The victim, Edward Spangler, 43, was shot in the face and the shoulder.

Weaver and the other men, Michael A. Orren, 27, and Shannon Bettencourt, 32, were arraigned

Tuesday in an Oregon City court. A court clerk said they did not enter pleas and have yet to be assigned attorneys. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for next week.

Weaver's father, Ward Weaver III, was convicted of aggravated murder in 2004, two years after the bodies of Ashley Pond, 12, and Miranda Gaddis, 13, were found in his backyard. Before the discovery, the search for Pond and Gaddis riveted Oregon for months and put the missing girls on the cover of People magazine.

It was Francis Weaver, then 19, who finally ended the mystery by calling emergency dispatchers to report that his girlfriend accused Ward Weaver of raping her, and that his father had privately admitted to killing the girls.

In the early 1980s, Francis Weaver's grandfather, Ward Weaver Jr., was convicted of killing a man whose car had broken down and of kidnapping, raping and murdering the man's girlfriend, Barbara Leovy, 23. Her body was found buried beneath a deck at his home in Oreville, Calif.

Francis Weaver's mother, Maria Shaw, said Wednesday her son is not the biological son of Ward Weaver III. Asked who is the father, she said it was either a now-deceased Marine named Richard or a man who was in the Navy named Christopher.

"I don't know which one of those two is the real dad," she said. "At the time, I was raped by Ward and I wanted revenge. I didn't want to be with Ward. I just

wanted to get away from him."

Shaw, who eventually divorced Weaver in the 1990s, said her son had nothing to do with Spangler's death.

"He's not guilty," she said. "They want to (arrest) him so bad because they think he's Ward Weaver's son."

The Oregonian reported that exhaustive DNA investigations during the case in which Ward Weaver III was convicted brought to light Francis Weaver is not his biological son, though both men previously had believed he was. Regardless, Francis Weaver was raised by Ward Weaver and grew up calling him "Dad."

The investigation began shortly before 5 a.m. Sunday when Canby police officers were called to a

small park near the apartment where Shaw lives and Francis Weaver sometimes stays. Officers found Spangler's body next to a car that crashed into a tree.

Police documents obtained from the Clackamas County Jail said the men had been tracking Spangler for three hours in an attempt to steal the marijuana, with Weaver exchanging text messages with Orren. Minutes before the homicide, Orren was directed to a back parking lot at the apartment building, where he is suspected of meeting Spangler.

A probable-cause statement written by Detective Brett Ethington said Orren was identified as the shooter and the gun believed to be used in the killing has been recovered.

## Father says Pa. Craigslist killing suspect is a liar

The Associated Press

SUNBURY, Pa. — The father of a Pennsylvania woman who with her newlywed husband is charged with killing a man she met through Craigslist said he would support his daughter's execution if she is found guilty and even would hold the hand of the victim's widow.

Sonny Dean also told The Daily Item newspaper Wednesday that he believes his daughter, Miranda Barbour, 19, may have been involved in one other slaying besides the Nov. 11 fatal stabbing of Troy LaFerrara, 42, in Sunbury.

Police said LaFerrara met the young woman through her Craigslist ad, which offered companionship in exchange for money.

Investigators allege Miranda Barbour stabbed LaFerrara, of Port Trevorton, about 20 times in her parked car as her husband, Elytte Barbour, held a cord tight against LaFerrara's neck from the backseat, and then dumped his body in an alley.

Dean told the newspaper that his daughter was a heroin addict and is a liar and a manipulator, but he doesn't think she is a mass murderer. "Miranda lives in a fantasy world," he said.

Miranda Barbour told The Daily Item last Friday she killed fewer than 100 people but stopped counting at 22. She said she lured a man into an alley in Alaska and watched as the leader of a satanic cult to which she belonged shot the man before telling Barbour it was her turn.

"Believe very little of what Miranda says," said Dean, of Texas. "She has a long history of extreme manipulation and dishonesty."

It is possible she participated in a killing in Alaska, he said. He also did not dispute her claim of being a satanist.

"The reason I think that the Alaska incident is a possibility is that Miranda ran away from home at least two times that I remember, both for over a 48-hour period," he said. "Once was around the age of 13 and once was sometime the following year, when she was 14. I don't know what took place during either of those 48-hour periods."

Dean said he prays for peace and comfort each morning for LaFerrara's family, especially the victim's widow, Colleen LaFerrara.



GEORGE CLARK/AP

The Freedom Baptist Church entrance is blocked Thursday in Laurel, Miss., after a floor collapsed Wednesday evening, injuring 35 people.

## Floor collapses at Miss. church center, injuring 35

The Associated Press

LAUREL, Miss. — The second floor of an activity center at a rural Mississippi church collapsed during an evening youth service, sending about 70 people crashing down and injuring 35 of them, survivors and authorities said Thursday.

The injuries were not life-threatening, an official said.

Pastor Tommy Davis, at Freedom Baptist Church in Myrick, told The Chronicle in Laurel that the floor at the activity center collapsed as dozens of youths held a worship service Wednesday evening. Witnesses described an ominous-sounding rumble before the floor crashed down.

"In the middle of the student service, the floor — which is a second-story floor — gave way, causing about 70 students to fall," Davis said. "But it's got to be said that no one was seriously injured, no one was trapped. God's hand was certainly taking care of the kids who were in that building."

Survivors reported brief moments of panic before calm was restored.

Linda Cranford, a spokeswoman for the Jones County Fire Council in the region where the church is located, told The Chronicle that 35 people were hurt but none of the injuries was life-threatening. She said a 16-year-old girl with a head inju-

ry was taken to a hospital in Hattiesburg. She said 19 others were taken to a local hospital closer to the church.

Authorities said most of those hurt later were released. Witnesses described injuries including scrapes, cuts and possibly some broken bones. Several others were treated at the church grounds and didn't require further medical attention, reports said.

Cranford did not immediately answer calls from The Associated Press for comment early Thursday.

Students said the collapse came unexpectedly while the service was underway, starting with a rumble in the building. Tori Hodge, 18, told the newspaper there was an initial scene of panic before calm prevailed.

"We heard a huge rumble and the floor collapsed and people collapsed with it," she said. "Everybody heard it. The floor started crumbling and waving. People started falling through the ceiling, just like you'd see in a movie."

There was no immediate report on what caused the floor collapse.

Davis praised the leaders of the worship service for quick action in restoring calm. He said the students, in seventh to 12th grades, all were reunited with their parents afterward.

## Couple sent to jail for second child's death

By MARYCLAIRE DALE  
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — A U.S. couple who believed in faith-healing were sentenced Wednesday to 3½ to seven years in prison in the death of a second child who never saw a doctor despite being stricken with pneumonia.

Herbert and Catherine Schabile defied a court order to get medical care for their children after their 2-year-old son, Kent, died in 2009. Instead, they tried to comfort and pray over 8-month-old Brandon last year as he, too, died of treatable pneumonia.

"My religious beliefs are that you should pray, and not have to use medicine," Catherine Schabile, 44, told the judge. "But because it is against the law, then I never sentence you give me, I will accept." She added that her beliefs have since changed.

The Schabiles are third-generation members of an insular Pentecostal community, the First Century Gospel Church in Philadelphia, where they also taught at the church school. They have seven surviving children.

Judge Benjamin Lerner rejected defense claims that their religious beliefs "clashed" with the 2011 court order to get annual checkups and to call a doctor if a child became ill. The order came after a jury convicted them of involuntary manslaughter in Kent's death, and they were sentenced to 10 years of probation.

"April of 2013 was not Brandon's time to die," Lerner said, noting the violence committed throughout human history in the name of religion. "You've killed two of your children. ... Not God. Not your church. Not religious devotion. You."



C. Schabile



H. Schabile

## NATION



NOAH BERGER/AP

A worker passes lottery signs Thursday at Dixon Landing Chevron in Milpitas, Calif., where a winning Powerball ticket was sold.

## Ticket sold in Calif. wins \$425M Powerball jackpot

The Associated Press

MILPITAS, Calif. — The lone winning ticket for the \$425 million Powerball jackpot was sold at a convenience store in central California, but there was no immediate word on who may have won one of the largest lottery jackpots in U.S. history.

The winning numbers drawn Wednesday night were: 1, 17, 35, 49, 54 and a Powerball of 34.

California lottery officials said the ticket was sold at Dixon Landing Chevron in Milpitas, a city about 10 miles north of San Jose. The business will receive \$1 million for selling the winning ticket.

Rajwinder Singh, an employee at the Chevron store, said late Wednesday that he believed he was probably the person who sold the winning ticket.

"I've been here working from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.," he told The Associated Press. "I hope I'll find out soon."

## Facebook is betting \$19B on WhatsApp service purchase

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Facebook is placing a \$19 billion bet on reaching its next billion mobile users with the acquisition of WhatsApp, a popular messaging service that lets people send texts, photos and videos on their smartphones.

The deal is by far Facebook's largest and bigger than any that Google, Microsoft or Apple have done.

But it is likely to raise worries that Facebook and other technology companies are starting to become overzealous in their pursuit of promising new products and services, said Anthony Michael Sabino, a St. John's University business professor.

"I expect there to be a lot of skepticism about this deal," Sabino said. "People are going to look at this and say, 'Uh-oh, did they pay way too much for this?'"

The world's biggest social networking company is taking the

long view. WhatsApp has 450 million monthly users, 70 percent of whom use it every day. The service is adding a million new users per day.

There are 19 billion messages sent and 34 billion received via WhatsApp each day, in addition to 600 million photos and 100 million video messages.

At this rate, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg is confident the app will reach a billion users. Services that reach that milestone "are all incredibly valuable," Zuckerberg said in a statement.

Facebook said Wednesday that it's paying \$12 billion in stock and \$4 billion in cash for WhatsApp. In addition, the app's founders and employees — 55 in all — will be granted restricted stock worth \$3 billion that will vest over four years after the deal closes.

The transaction translates to roughly 11 percent of Facebook's market value.

# Guidelines to limit births by C-section urge waiting

By LAURAN NEERGAARD  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Show more patience in the delivery room. That's the prescription being given to the nation's obstetricians.

New guidelines say doctors should give otherwise healthy women more time to deliver their babies vaginally before assuming that labor has stalled. The recommendations are the latest in years of efforts to prevent unnecessary C-sections.

"Labor takes a little longer than we may have thought," said Dr. Aaron Caughey, who co-authored the guidelines for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

The recommendations were being published jointly Thursday by two groups of pregnancy specialists — the ACOG and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine — amid growing concern that C-sections are overused.

Nearly 1 in 3 women in the U.S. give birth by cesarean. C-sections can be life-saving for mother or baby. But they also can be done for convenience or fear of lawsuits, and the surgery can bring some serious health risks.

Having one cesarean greatly increases the chances that a next pregnancy will end in one, too.

One of the main reasons for a first-time C-section is labor that's progressing too slowly, the ACOG's analysis found.

How long should labor take? There's no clear-cut deadline, and every woman is different, said Caughey, obstetrics chairman at the Oregon Health and Sciences University.

"My patients ask this every day," he said. He tells them it can "run the gamut from six hours long, start to finish, to three and four days" at the other extreme.

Whether labor is too slow is assessed at different time points.

A 2012 study from the National Institutes of Health found that one particular stage takes up to 2½ hours longer now than it did in the 1960s, when many labor definitions were set. Partly that's because today's mothers-to-be tend to be older and to weigh more. But it's also because of some changes in obstetric practice, such as more use of painkilling epidurals that can slow labor.

So the obstetricians' group took a closer look. Among the recommendations for otherwise low-risk mothers and babies:

■ Don't order a C-section just because the first and longest phase of labor is prolonged. This so-called latent phase is when contractions are mild and far

apart, and the mother's cervix is barely dilated. Historically, doctors considered it stalled if it lasted longer than 20 hours for a first-time mom, or 14 hours for other mothers.

■ "Active labor" begins later than once thought, not until the cervix is dilated 6 centimeters. Active labor is when contractions become stronger and more frequent, and the cervix begins to dilate more rapidly until the woman eventually is ready to push.

Doctors once thought active labor began when the cervix was dilated 4 centimeters, but recent research shows that dilation remains pretty slow until reaching the new threshold.

That's an important change because many doctors won't admit women to the hospital until they're in active labor, unless they need more care for another reason.

■ If women aren't too tired, allow them to push at least two hours if they have delivered before, three hours if it's their first baby. They may push longer if they had an epidural as long as the doctor can see progress.

■ Forceps can offer a safe alternative to certain cesareans if used by an experienced, well-trained physician. Few physicians today undergo the training.

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# WORLD

## 2 Americans found dead on Maersk Alabama

A company spokesman said the Maersk Alabama has left port after authorities in the island nation of Seychelles completed their onboard investigation into the deaths of two Americans aboard the ship, featured the film "Captain Phillips."

The Americans were security officers found dead in a cabin Tuesday. The Navy said Thursday that one is a former Navy SEAL.

Virginia-based Maersk Line Limited has said the deaths were not related to their ship duties.

The Maersk Alabama became famous after a 2009 hijacking by Somali pirates that was dramatized in "Captain Phillips" starring Tom Hanks.

## German defense chief overhauling ministry

BERLIN — Germany's new defense chief has announced an overhaul of her ministry, citing serious mismanagement of arms projects.

Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen dismissed two senior officials Thursday and said she plans to bring in external advisers after concluding that there are serious problems with all major procurement programs.

Those include the aerial reconnaissance system ISIS, the military transport plane A400M and the Euro Hawk drone. Von der Leyen, who took over from Thomas de Maiziere in Chancellor Angela Merkel's new Cabinet, said the military needs a "fresh start" in planning arms projects.

## Radioactive water leaks at Japan nuclear plant

TOKYO — Highly radioactive water has overflowed from a storage tank at Japan's crippled nuclear power plant, but the operator said Thursday it did not reach the Pacific Ocean.

Tokyo Electric Power Co. said the leak involved partially treated water from early in the disaster at the plant, meaning it was more toxic than previous leaks. The cores of three reactors melted at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant in 2011 following a massive earthquake and tsunami, and radioactive water has been stored in more than 1,000 tanks.

## Mortar attack kills at least 22 in Iraq

BAGHDAD — A mortar attack struck a busy area in a mainly Shiite town south of Iraq's capital Thursday, killing at least 22 people and wounding more than 50.

The five mortar rounds slammed into a busy market, a residential building and a parking lot around 7 p.m. as people returned home from work and shopped in Musayib, officials said.

The attack appeared the rounds came from the nearby Sunni-dominated town of Jurf al-Sakr, though it wasn't immediately clear who fired them.

The officials gave the casualty toll and details on condition of any injured, but they were not authorized to release information to journalists.

From The Associated Press



MARKO DROBNIAKOVIC/AP

An anti-government protester mans a barricade on the outskirts of Independence Square in Kiev, Ukraine, on Thursday.

# Ukraine: EU votes to impose sanctions in wake of violence

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Protesters were also seen leading policemen with their hands held high around the sprawling protest camp in central Kiev. Ukraine's Interior ministry says 67 police were captured in all — it was not clear how. An opposition lawmaker said they were being held in Kiev's occupied city hall.

At least 101 people have died this week in the clashes in Kiev, a sharp reversal in three months of mostly peaceful protests. Now neither side appears willing to compromise or in control of the streets. The opposition is insisting on President Viktor Yanukovich's resignation and an early election while the embattled president is apparently prepared to fight until the end.

Thursday was the deadliest day yet at the sprawling protest camp on Kiev's Independence Square, also called the Maidan. Snipers were seen shooting at protesters there — and video footage showed at least one sniper wearing a Ukraine riot police uniform.

Musi, the protest doctor, told the AP that at least 70 protesters were killed Thursday and more than 500 were wounded in the clashes — and that the death toll is likely to rise.

In addition, three policemen were killed Thursday and 28 suffered gunshot wounds, Interior Ministry spokesman Serhiy Burakov told the AP.

There was no way to immediately verify any of the death tolls. Earlier in the day, an AP reporter saw the bodies of 21 protesters laid out near Kiev's protest camp.

Saying the U.S. was outraged



EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Activists evacuate a wounded protester during clashes with police in Independence Square, the epicenter of Ukraine's unrest, on Thursday.

by the violence, President Barack Obama issued a statement urging Yanukovich to withdraw his forces from downtown Kiev immediately. He also said Ukraine should respect the right of protest and that protesters must be peaceful.

In Brussels, the 28-nation European Union decided in an emergency meeting Thursday to impose sanctions against those behind the violence in Ukraine. The U.S. is considering whether to join the EU sanctions. A freeze on assets and travel bans could hurt the oligarchs who back Yanukovich.

As the violence exploded Thursday morning and heavy

smoke from burning barricades at the encampment belched into the sky, the foreign ministers of three EU countries — France, Germany and Poland — met with Yanukovich for five hours after speaking with the opposition leaders. The EU ministers then returned to speak again with opposition leaders.

In Moscow, President Vladimir Putin was sending former ombudsman Vladimir Lukin to Ukraine to act as a mediator.

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said Russia will "try to do our best" to fulfill its financial obligations to Ukraine, but indicated Moscow would hold back on further bailout installments until

the crisis is resolved.

"We need partners that are in good shape and a Ukrainian government that is legitimate and effective," he said.

At the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Ukrainian alpine skier Bogdana Matsotska, 24, said she will not take part in Friday's women's slalom due to the developments in Kiev.

"As a protest against lawless actions made toward protesters, the lack of responsibility from the side of the president and his lackey government, we refuse further performance at the 2014 Sochi Olympic Games," her father and coach, Oleg Matsotsky, wrote in a Facebook post.

## WORLD

# One-way ticket to ... everywhere

By **F RANK JORDANS**  
The Associated Press

BERLIN — Germans, once a nation of ardent automobile enthusiasts, are not buying cars as much as they used to. Instead, they're sharing them.

The country has become the world's biggest user of one-way car sharing plans, where people can find a vehicle using their smartphone, drive it across town and leave it there without having to return it to a central base.

The trend has been boosted by Germany's powerful auto industry, which first ignored the car sharing phenomenon, but is now jumping on board. Some companies are betting big on the idea, not just for short trips within cities, but also for longer ones between them.

It follows a culture shift in the country that invented the automobile, where cars were once commonly described as the Germans' "favorite child." Excellent public transport, high fuel prices and a strong environmental movement mean that for many Germans the car has become an expendable accessory, or at worst an expensive liability.

New vehicle registrations fell below 3 million last year, continuing a two-decade decline. Meanwhile, the average age of buyers rose above 52 for the first time, compared with an average age of 46 in the mid-1990s.

"The young buyers are dying off," said Ferdinand Dudenheoffer, who heads the University of Duisburg-Essen's Center for Automotive Research.

As a result, the auto industry has embraced car sharing as a means of reaching a younger generation for whom the idea of owning a vehicle is as outdated as their parents' record collection.

"I want to pay for things when I use them," said Martin Blan-

## As German car sales decrease, industry begins to put its money into car sharing

kenstein, a 35-year-old management consultant who uses several different car sharing companies.

For decades such services were station-based. Vehicles could only be picked up in certain places and had

**'Mercedes is doing something completely counter-intuitive for its own business model by offering people cars they don't need to own.'**

**Kurt Moeser**  
historian who specializes in transport at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

to be returned to the same location. But six years ago car sharing took a different turn, with the launch of the first one-way offers.

These flexible services have spread to major cities across Europe and North America thanks to the adoption of smartphones, and have really taken off in Germany, where

more than half of all the journeys were booked last year.

Using a mobile app, customers can find a

nearby car, book it at short notice, drive it across town and leave it there without having to return to the starting point.

Billing is by the minute. Twenty minutes of use will typically cost 4-6 euros (\$5.50-\$8.20) with fuel, insurance and parking included. All-day rates range from 39-59 euros for most flexible car sharing services.

On Tuesday, Daimler launched a new option for its Car2Go short-term rental service that allows customers to take one of its Mercedes-Benz B-class vehicles from Berlin to Hamburg, or vice versa, and leave it there.

The move marks a departure for Car2Go, which until now has only offered two-seater Smart cars for its 600,000 customers to zip around within 25 cities across Europe and North America.

Daimler is following in the tire tracks of DriveNow, a joint venture between its rival BMW and car rental firm SIXT, which began offering a similar service between Cologne and Duesseldorf last year.

"We're responding to requests from our customers, who say they occasionally need a bigger car that they can take outside the city boundaries," said Marcus Spickermann, the head of Daimler Mobility Services GmbH, which operates Car2Go.

Worldwide, over 8.5 million one-way journeys were booked last year. More than 4.5 million of those were in

Germany, and 2.2 million — more than a quarter of the global total — were in Berlin, according to Benno Bock of InnoZ, a transportation think tank.

The number of bookings per month reached 250,000 last year, compared with about 40,000 in Washington, DC, the highest figure in the United States.

Spickermann said Car2Go's new intercity service may be rolled out to the rest of Europe and North America in the coming years.

The move is a risky one. Some experts believe it could backfire on automakers by demonstrating how easy it is to live without a vehicle of one's own — and the insurance costs, repairs and parking headaches that come with it.

Blankenstein, who lives in Berlin, said recent fatherhood didn't change his mind about getting a car. "I ask myself, what do we really need as a family?"

Still, manufacturers may have no choice than to follow the trend, for now.

"Many of them don't know in which direction the market is heading, but they don't want to be on the wrong track when change happens," says Kurt Moeser, a historian who specializes in transport at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.

"Mercedes is doing something completely counter-intuitive for its own business model by offering people cars they don't need to own," he said. "This could be quite dangerous. On the other hand, once a trend becomes clear it might be too late to jump aboard."



## FAITH



SEBASTIAN SCHEINER/AP

Ultra-Orthodox Jewish men walk past a picture of the late religious spiritual leader of Israel's Sephardic Jews, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, at an Oct. 13 ceremony a week after his funeral in Jerusalem. The Spanish conservative government plans to make amends in weeks to come with a law that offers citizenship to Jews forced to flee Spain in 1492.

# Making amends

## Spanish government likely to offer citizenship to descendants of once-exiled Sephardic Jews

BY JORGE SAINZ  
AND ARON HELLER  
The Associated Press

MADRID—They were burned at the stake, forced to convert or chased into exile. Now Spain is moving to right a half-millennium-old “historic mistake” against its onetime flourishing Sephardic Jewish community. The European Union country is on the verge of offering citizenship to descendants of victims estimated to number in the millions.

The Spanish conservative government plans to make amends with a law expected to be passed within weeks or months in Parliament that offers citizenship to the descendants of legions of Jews forced to flee in 1492. Asked whether the new law amounted to an apology, Spanish Justice Minister Alberto Ruiz-Gallardon replied, “Without a doubt.”

“What the law will do, five centuries later, is make amends for a terrible historic mistake, one of the worst that Spaniards ever made,” Ruiz-Gallardon told The Associated Press in an interview. Descendants of Sephardic Jews will be considered “children of Spain,” he said.

The term “Sephardic” literally means “Spanish” in Hebrew, but the label has come also to apply to one of the two main variants of Jewish religious practice. The other — and globally dominant one — is “Ashkenazic,” which ap-

plies to Jews whose lineage, in recent times, is traced to northern and eastern Europe.

Because of mixing between the groups and other factors, there is no accepted figure for the global Sephardic population, but reasonable estimates would range between a fifth and a third of the world's roughly 13 million Jews. Hundreds of thousands live in France and already have EU passports. The largest community is in Israel, where almost half of the 6 million Jews are considered Sephardic.

It is not completely clear how much of a historical link Spain will require. Most of Israel's Sephardics hail from northern Africa and southern Europe, which were early ports of call after the expulsion from Spain, and so they may be able to easily show direct links. Other communities, from places like Iraq and Yemen, are considered Sephardic by religious practice yet may have trouble proving a connection to Spain.

Either way, interest already is running high.

Hundreds of Israelis claiming Sephardic ancestry have contacted the Spanish Embassy in Tel Aviv, begun researching their family histories and taken to the airwaves to discuss their newfound citizenship possibilities.

To some, the prospect of Spanish citizenship marks a significant dose of historic justice.

To others, it simply offers a Eu-



Alberto Ruiz-Gallardon  
Spanish Justice minister

ropean Union passport. That's a big deal in a country that is still technically at war with many of its neighbors and where prosperity is a relatively recent phenomenon.

Leon Amiras, who heads an association of immigrants to Israel from Latin countries, said his phone hasn't stopped ringing since the news emerged. “People from every corner are interested, from professors to doctors, engineers to plumbers and bus drivers,” he said. “Everyone is talking about this.”

The reform will allow dual nationality, enabling the newly minted Spaniards to retain their previous citizenship. Such an arrangement would give Sephardic Jews the same dual nationality privilege Spain currently grants only to Latin Americans.

Elsewhere in Europe, Germany offers citizenship to descendants of Jews forced to flee the Nazis. Israel, of course, offers automatic citizenship to Jews.

Previously, under a 1924 law,

**‘What the law will do, five centuries later, is make amends for a terrible historic mistake.’**

the government had discretionary powers to award Sephardic Jews nationality, but the new law is much more far-reaching: According to Ruiz-Gallardon, Spanish nationality to those who can prove ancestry will be a right the authorities must honor.

The nuts and bolts of the new law will be relatively simple, the government says. Applicants need only have their ancestry certified by a rabbi in any country and the Spanish Federation of Jewish Communities.

The greater the documentary evidence an applicant presents, the quicker the procedure will run, Ruiz-Gallardon said.

Applicants will have to provide details of their birth and family name or prove knowledge of Ladino, the Judeo-Spanish language considered to be the “Yiddish” of Sephardic Jews.

For centuries Sephardic Jews have maintained some of their gastronomic customs, an extensive oral tradition of popular

Spanish novels, and in some cases spoken Ladino, which is close enough to Spanish that it enables communication with Spanish speakers anywhere.

Given Israel's existential angst, many citizens have sought foreign passports in recent years for a backup plan for times of trouble. Israel is surrounded by hostile forces in Lebanon, Syria and Gaza and faces constant tensions with Iran as well.

Spanish King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella issued the Alhambra Decree, also known as the Edict of Expulsion, in March 1492, banishing Jews as part of a ruthless policy to unite Spain under the banner of Catholicism. The edict accuses the Spanish Jews — one of the great Jewish centers of learning from that era — of trying “to steal faithful Christians from our holy Catholic faith ... and subvert them to their own wicked belief and conviction.”

Ruiz-Gallardon has his own personal link to the issue. His great-grandfather, Jose Rojas Moreno, was the Spanish ambassador to Romania during World War II and is credited with helping to prevent deportations of Jews to concentration camps.

His actions helped evacuate 65 Jews to Spain and he also gave protection to the goods and estates of 200 other Jews, according to the International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation, which conducts Holocaust research.

WORLD

# Gitmo prisoner guilty; sentencing put off

BY PAULINE JELINEK  
The Associated Press

FORT MEADE, Md. — A Guantanamo Bay prisoner pleaded guilty Thursday to war crime charges in a pretrial deal aimed at limiting his sentence for helping plan the suicide bombing of an oil tanker off Yemen in 2002 that killed a crewman and wounded a dozen others.

A military judge accepted the plea deal and found Ahmed al-Darbi, of Saudi Arabia, guilty of the five charges against him, including terrorism, attacking civilians and hazarding a vessel for complicity in the al-Qaida attack on the French-flagged MV Limburg. Complete details of the deal were not immediately announced, but it said he would "cooperate" — meaning he's expected to testify against another Guantanamo Bay prisoner.

Al-Darbi, 39, is a relative by marriage of one of the hijackers who crashed a plane into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. He's been at the prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, since August 2002; the attack actually took place two months later. Prosecutors said he was an al-Qaida operative who attended the group's training camps and helped arrange the bombing by, among other things, buying small boats intended to be used to attack the tanker.

"Mr. al-Darbi was not present... did not actually physically take part in the attack, but he is guilty" of the crimes under U.S. law because he aided those who did, the presiding judge, Air Force Col. Mark L. Allred, said as he repeatedly explained the law to al-Darbi. Speaking to al-Darbi through an interpreter,

## Pakistani jets pound militant hideouts

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Pakistani air force jets bombed militant hideouts in the country's volatile northwest Thursday after government efforts to negotiate a peace deal with the Pakistani Taliban broke down earlier this week, officials said.

A Pakistani military official and two intelligence officers said 15 suspected militants were believed to have been killed in the airstrikes.

The airstrikes hit villages in the North Waziristan tribal region late Wednesday, a hub of militant activity that borders Afghanistan to the west, as well as the Khyber tribal region on Thursday morning. The 15 dead were killed in North Waziristan.

A security official said there were reports of militants also killed in Khyber but no detailed information.

The military official said a huge cache of arms and ammunition were also destroyed in the airstrikes in North Waziristan and explosive and a factory for making homemade bombs was hit in Khyber.

Allred said he couldn't accept the guilty pleas until he was sure the accused completely understood them. The judge spent nearly two hours going over the case — charge by charge — and questioning al-Darbi on them.

Flanked by his civilian and

military lawyers, al-Darbi wore a white dress shirt and a tie and repeatedly answered "yes, your honor," sometimes in English and sometimes in Arabic, to signify his understanding to Allred.

Allred said al-Darbi's sentencing would not be held for at least

3½ years, a move widely expected to give him time to testify against Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, who also faces terrorism charges in the tanker bombing and in the orchestration of the 2000 al-Qaida attack on the USS Cole in the Yemen port of Aden that killed 17

sailors and wounded 37.

Allred said the plea deal also means al-Darbi waived his rights to a trial and an appeal, that he won't sue the U.S. over his capture, prosecution and confinement and that he will drop any lawsuit he may have pending.

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5	10	Toyota Tacoma	\$ 23,125	\$ 19,995	\$ 3,130
6	08	Chevy Silverado LT	\$ 24,025	\$ 20,995	\$ 3,030
7	13	BMW 335i Sedan	\$ 46,025	\$ 42,995	\$ 3,030
8	12	BMW 335i Sedan	\$ 42,900	\$ 39,995	\$ 2,905
9	10	Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer	\$ 25,375	\$ 22,495	\$ 2,880
10	12	Ford Mustang	\$ 21,975	\$ 19,495	\$ 2,480
11	08	Ford Edge	\$ 16,650	\$ 14,495	\$ 2,155
12	10	Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer	\$ 25,125	\$ 22,995	\$ 2,130
13	11	Jeep Liberty	\$ 20,100	\$ 17,995	\$ 2,105
14	09	Ford F 150 XLT 4WD	\$ 28,100	\$ 25,995	\$ 2,105
15	11	BMW 535i Sedan	\$ 45,075	\$ 42,995	\$ 2,080
16	10	Ford Fusion Sport	\$ 18,075	\$ 15,995	\$ 2,080
17	10	Toyota 4Runner SR5 4WD	\$ 31,725	\$ 29,995	\$ 1,730
18	10	BMW M6 Convertible	\$ 61,525	\$ 59,995	\$ 1,530
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WORLD

# Together again

Tearful reunions between North, South Korean families begin for 1st time in more than 3 years

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**  
AND **FOSTER KLUG**  
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Their backs stooped, dozens of elderly North and South Koreans separated for six decades reunited Thursday, weeping and embracing in a rush of words and emotion. The reunions come during a rare period of detente between the rival Koreas and are all the more poignant because the participants will part again in a few days, likely forever.

About 80 South Koreans traveled through falling snow with their families to North Korea's Diamond Mountain resort to meet children, brothers, sisters, spouses and other relatives. Seoul had said about 180 North Koreans were expected.

South Korean TV showed old women in brightly-colored traditional hanbok dresses talking and hugging, families trading photographs of relatives who couldn't at-

tend or had died. Two men in suits and ties wiped away tears, grasped each other by the necks and pressed their foreheads together as cameras flashed. One old man was wheeled in on a stretcher, his head propped on a pillow, a blue blanket wrapped tightly around him.

Those meetings — the first in more than three years because of high tensions — are a vivid reminder that despite 60 years of animosity, misunderstanding, threats and occasional artillery exchanges, the world's most heavily armed border divides a single people.

For some families, aging and illness did not thwart the reunions but made them bittersweet.

"Sister, why can't you hear me?" North Korean Ri Jong Sil, 84, asked Lee Young-sil, 87, who has difficulty recognizing people because of Alzheimer's disease, according to South Korean media pool reports.

Millions of Koreans have been separated from loved ones by the tumult and bloodshed of



South Korean Park Yang-gon, left, and his North Korean brother, Park Yang Soo, get emotional during the Separated Family Reunion Meeting at Diamond Mountain resort in North Korea on Thursday.

AP photos

the three-year war that ended in 1953. During a previous period of inter-Korean rapprochement, about 22,000 Koreans had brief reunions — 18,000 in person and the others by video.

The reunions were arranged after impoverished North Korea began calling recently for better ties with South Korea, in what outside analysts say is an attempt to win badly needed foreign investment and aid.



South Korean Lee Young-sil, 87, right, meets with her North Korean sister, Ri Jong Sil, 84, in North Korea on Thursday.

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**THE NEW SANNO**

## WORLD

## Japan may review sex-slavery apology

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI  
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's government said Thursday it may re-examine a 20-year-old study that led to a landmark apology over forced prostitution during World War II, in a sign it is leaning toward a denial that officials were involved in organizing sex slavery.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, the official government spokesman, said it may decide to verify the accuracy of interviews with 16 South Korean women who said they were forced to serve as prostitutes for Japan's wartime military.

Although numbers vary, some historians say as many as 200,000 women from across Asia, most of them Koreans, were forced to serve as sex slaves, called "comfort women" in Japan, for frontline soldiers.

Japanese nationalists have long insisted that women in wartime brothels were voluntary prostitutes, not sex slaves, and that Japan has been unfairly criticized for a practice they say is common in any country at war.

The interviews, conducted by Japanese officials in 1993 at the request of South Korea's government as part of a broader investigation by Japan, were key to a

statement in which Japan apologized later that year.

A reversal of that apology would greatly worsen already-strained relations between Japan and South Korea.

The statement, issued by then-Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono, acknowledged that many women were forced into prostitution for Japan's wartime military, despite a lack of records clearly indicating direct government involvement.

"We would like to re-examine" the interviews, Suga said, adding that he would seek ways of doing so while taking into consideration that the contents of the interviews are classified information. Suga also suggested that a government-led team would review the overall study.

Abe has been criticized by South Korea and China for backpedaling from past Japanese apologies and acknowledgements of wartime atrocities.

Members of his nationalist government and many others who share their view have been frustrated by recent efforts by South Korea to enlist U.S. support in pressuring Japan to stick to its 1993 apology. They are stepping up efforts to discredit accounts by South Korean women who say they were sex slaves.



Former South Korean comfort woman Kil Un-ock, center, attends a protest rally in Seoul, South Korea, in May 2013. Japan may revisit its landmark apology over forced prostitution in World War II.

## 3 accused of roles at Auschwitz

The Associated Press

BERLIN — German prosecutors have arrested three elderly men on suspicion they served as guards at the Nazis' Auschwitz death camp.

Stuttgart prosecutors' spokeswoman Claudia Krauth said Thursday the three men, aged 88, 92 and 94, were all taken to a prison hospital where they will be held as the investigation continues. The men, whose names were not released, are all suspected of accessory to murder as guards at the death camp in Poland.

They are part of a group of some 30 suspected former Auschwitz guards that German federal prosecutors recommended charges against last September. State prosecutors have been responsible for investigating further and filing charges.

Krauth said her office received six cases total but there was not yet enough in the other three.

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WORLD



FAMILY OF JOHN SHORT/AP

This updated photo provided by John Short's family shows the Australian missionary in Hong Kong, Short, 75, has been arrested while on a tour of North Korea, his family said Wednesday.

# Family: Australian missionary held in North Korea

By KELVIN K. CHAN AND ROD MCGUIRK  
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Australia's prime minister on Thursday urged citizens abroad to obey the laws of foreign countries after an Australian missionary who carried Christian pamphlets was detained in North Korea.

John Short, 75, was questioned and then arrested in his Pyongyang hotel on Sunday, a day after he arrived in the North Korean capital, his family said. He has lived in Hong Kong for 50 years and has been arrested previously in China for evangelizing.

"He was carrying Korean literature on his person, and that could be the reason, but again I don't know," his wife, Karen, told The Associated Press.

While North Korea's constitution guarantees freedom of religion, in practice only sanctioned services are tolerated.

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott said his government would do its best to offer Short consular assistance.

"If you are in another country, be careful to obey their laws. If you're in trouble, the Australian government is there to do its best to help," Abbott said in Sydney.

Last year, American missionary Kenneth Bae was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor after being accused of committing hostile acts in North Korea.

Short has been arrested multiple times while evangelizing in mainland China, which he started visiting after the death of Mao Zedong in 1976, according to a biography on a Christian website, Gospel Attract. He was banned from entering China for nearly two years after his second arrest in 1996. Authorities later let him back in and he was arrested several more times for "speaking out about the brutality against Chinese Christians," said the site.

Short's wife said he was visiting

North Korea for the second time. His first trip was a year ago "so he knew what he was going into," she said. She said he wanted to be there "rubbing shoulders with people as much as possible."

"It's not an open country and it doesn't welcome Christians — yes, we realize that," his wife said. "But that doesn't mean we stand by and don't do anything because we care for the situation and we pray about it but sometimes you have to do more than talk."

Staff at Pyongyang's Yanggakdo Hotel said Short had stayed there until Tuesday.

North Korean officials are refusing to take the tour company's calls, the family statement said.

Short's Chinese traveling companion in North Korea, Wang Chong, said they first came to authorities' attention on the second day of their tour during a visit to a Buddhist temple. Wang, also a Christian, told Australian Broadcasting Corp. in Beijing that Short left a Christian pamphlet in the temple, which a local tour guide reported to security officials.

Officials later found Korean-language Christian pamphlets in Short's hotel room, Wang said.

The Chinese travel agency that booked the trip, BTG, said it had discussed Short with its North Korean counterpart since his detention.

"When we called the North Korean travel agency, they said he had admitted that he didn't go to North Korea only for tourism," BTG employee Han Weiping told ABC on Thursday.

Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said it has asked the Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang to confirm Short's wellbeing and to seek more information. Australia has no diplomatic representation in North Korea and is represented by the Swedish Embassy.

The North Korean government has not made any statements on the matter.

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Marijuana found in big rig's load of spinach

**AZ** FLAGSTAFF — All the green stuff in a tractor-trailer rig stopped in northern Arizona wasn't spinach.

Highway Patrol officers found 1,000 pounds of marijuana in the big rig carrying spinach after it was stopped on eastbound Interstate 40 in Flagstaff on Tuesday for an equipment violation.

The Arizona Daily Sun reported that officers took the truck to a Wal-Mart store to use its loading dock to remove the marijuana from the trailer.

The driver and another person were arrested and jailed on suspicion of various drug charges. Their identities were not released immediately.

The Sun reported that authorities are investigating where the marijuana shipment originated and where it was headed.

## Inmates recaptured after escaping jail

**GA** DAHLONEGA — Authorities have recaptured a north Georgia jail inmate who they say escaped by removing a toilet from a cell wall.

Lumpkin County Sheriff's Lt. Wesley Burnett said Larry Lavaghaun Farmer was apprehended late Wednesday.

Authorities said Farmer was one of two inmates who escaped Tuesday after a toilet was ripped from the wall of a cell at the Lumpkin County Detention Center. Sheriff's officials said the pair got through the hole left by the toilet, went to a mechanical area, broke a window and climbed outside.

Authorities said the other inmate, William Jeffrey Harris, turned himself in after he was injured trying to scale razor and barbed wire fences.

## Family with mini horse as service animal sues

**OH** BLUEASH — An Ohio city is violating federal housing law and protections for people with disabilities by refusing to let a girl keep a miniature horse as a service animal, her mother said in a lawsuit.

Ingrid Anderson and the advocacy group Housing Opportunities Made Equal, or HOME, filed the lawsuit Tuesday against the city of Blue Ash.

A medical center recommended the horse for Anderson's daughter, who has physical ailments. The Cincinnati Enquirer reported HOME executive director Elizabeth Brown said the girl uses the horse — which is named Ellie and is the size of a large dog — for support to walk in her yard and to pull herself up after falls.

Brown said Blue Ash officials characterized the horse as livestock and said it had to be removed. She said the group tried to work with the city and that the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Cincinnati was a last resort.

## Group upset by legal killing of young lions

**SD** RAPID CITY — A national mountain lion protection organization is out-

## THE CENSUS

# 180

The estimated number of bald eagles that have taken up residence at Michigan's biggest power plant this winter. The south-flying out-of-towners have been a common site at DTE Energy's massive plant along Lake Erie near Monroe, where they are drawn to the plant's warm water discharge and secluded perches that offer them easy access to gizzard shad, their food of choice. DTE Energy has set aside the land in the back of the plant for wildlife habitat preservation and is happy to host the birds.

"It's a fantastic sight," said Skiles Boyd, DTE Energy vice president for environmental management and resources. "You never get to see that kind of thing anywhere else in those kinds of numbers."



STEVE KOHLS, BRAINERO (MINN.) DISPATCH/AP

## Bad break

Gary Cook inspects the 2013 Tucker Sno-Cat Trail Groomer that he was driving Monday morning when it broke through the ice on Clark Lake in Nisswa, Minn. Cook was grooming a trail for snowmobilers to gain easy access to the lake. Efforts were underway to lift the 14,500-pound machine and remove it before the ice begins to freeze again.

arged that South Dakota hunters shot three young lions last week and had their kills deemed legal by the state.

Penny Maldonado, with the Wyoming-based Cougar Fund, told the Rapid City Journal that the killing of the 3-month-old, 4-month-old and 5-month-old lions is "tragic."

It's a misdemeanor for hunters to kill lion kittens that still have spots, or those that travel in pairs or groups.

State Game, Fish & Parks Regional Wildlife Manager John Kanta said the spotted coat that indicates youth can disappear at various times. He said no fines were issued to hunters who killed the young lions, after the animals were examined in a lab.

## Pizza manager caught urinating in sink fired

**WV** KERMIT — Health officials have temporarily shut down a southern West Virginia pizza restaurant after a district manager was caught on surveillance video urinating into a sink.

The Mingo County Health Department on Tuesday ordered the

Pizza Hut in Kermit to shut down. A department notice posted at the restaurant's door said conditions in the restaurant constituted a substantial public health hazard.

The video posted on YouTube and media websites shows the manager urinating in a metal sink in a food preparation area. The video is dated Jan. 29. Pizza Hut said the incident occurred after business hours.

Pizza Hut Corp. spokesman Doug Terferh issued a statement saying the company was "embarrassed by the actions of this individual."

The employee's name wasn't released.

## NSA T-shirt ruling called First Amendment victory

**MN** SAUK RAPIDS — Federal authorities have dropped an attempt to stop a Minnesota man from marketing merchandise poking fun at the National Security Agency for its surveillance of citizens, including T-shirts bearing the NSA's official seal and the slogan, "The only part of the government that actually listens."

"It's a victory for First Amendment rights," said Dan McCall, of Sauk Rapids, who operates LibertyManics.com. He sued the NSA and Department of Homeland Security last fall after they issued cease-and-desist orders.

The settlement was filed in federal court in Maryland on Tuesday. The NSA agreed to acknowledge that McCall's designs were intended as parody, and the NSA and DHS both agreed to formally retract their claims that his merchandise violated federal law. The government also agreed to pay him \$500 in court costs.

McCall agreed in return to drop his lawsuit, the St. Cloud Times reported Wednesday.

## Snow pusher finishes job despite shooting

**MI** PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP — A worker who was shot at while clearing snow at a Michigan apartment complex didn't let the attack prevent him from getting his job done.

Ben Clink told The Ann Arbor News that he pleaded with the man not to shoot again after a bullet shattered the corner of a windshield of a front-end loader. Clink

was using the vehicle to clear snow Tuesday at Valley Ranch apartments in Pittsfield Township, near Ann Arbor.

Bevan Wilson, 39, was arraigned Wednesday on attempted murder and other charges and ordered jailed on a \$45,000 bond. Clink wasn't injured.

Police said the man was upset after a Clink pushed snow near a parked vehicle. Clink said he had planned to move the pile of snow, but the man shot first.

## Cop accused of taking inappropriate photos

**NC** CHARLOTTE — A Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer is accused of secretly taking pictures of juvenile girls that captured parts of their underwear as they participated in the department's high school academy.

Officer Thomas E. Allen is charged with four counts of secretly using a photographic imaging device to view another's body or undergarments and four counts of possessing photographic images in violation of the peeping statute.

From wire reports



## Carnival cranking up

Many names, one big party

Europe Experience, Page 27; Europe travel, Page 30

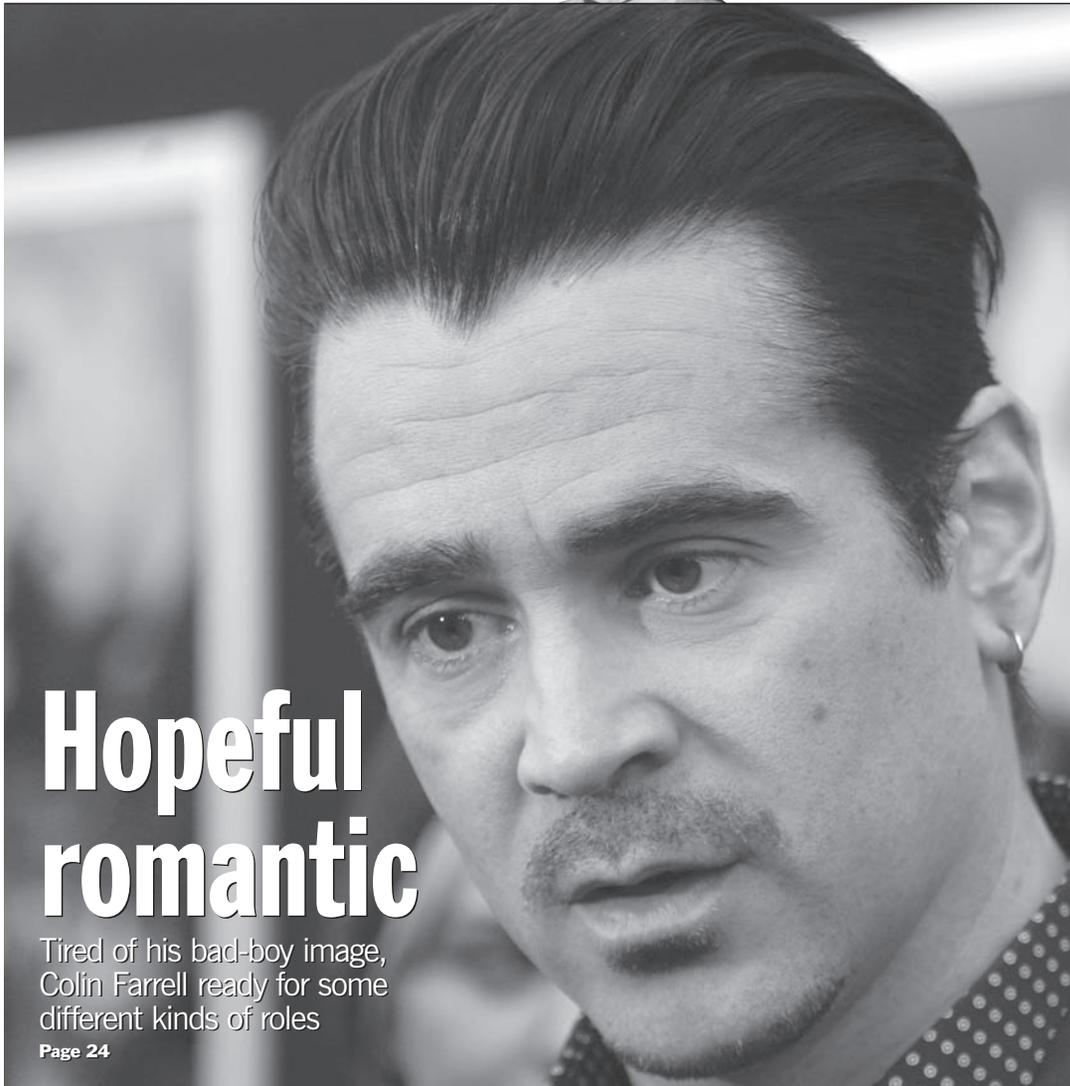
# WEEKEND



## French accent

Cambodian capital Phnom Penh goes its own way while retaining a colonial feel

Pacific travel, Page 34



# Hopeful romantic

Tired of his bad-boy image, Colin Farrell ready for some different kinds of roles

Page 24

# WEEKEND: GADGETS & CHARTS



SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT/AP

Asa Butterfield stars in the movie "Ender's Game." The distribution company Lionsgate Home Entertainment is promoting the movie's DVD release with an online tournament.

## Pro gamers to compete online in tournament inspired by film

By JOHN GAUDIOSI  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Hollywood has finally taken notice of the growing global eSports phenomenon. Lionsgate Home Entertainment, which recently launched "Ender's Game" on Blu-ray, DVD and Digital HD, is giving away \$20,000 to the best pro gamers through a series of StarCraft II PC gaming tournaments. The "Ender's Game" on Blu-ray Tournament is

a first-of-its-kind competition that's running throughout the month of February through partnerships with livestreaming companies Twitch and Major League Gaming (MLG).

"ESports is a great way to reach young males," said Anne Parducci, executive vice president of marketing for Lionsgate Home Entertainment. "It's a huge market. ... With the 'Ender's Game' program, we wanted to reach young males 15-34 for Blu-ray outreach. I can't think of a better way to promote 'Ender's Game.'"

Parducci noted that "Ender's Game," a film about a boy being groomed for a commanding role in an epic space battle, is perfectly suited to a StarCraft II competition led by the two gaming titans. StarCraft II, set in space, is a military science fiction real-time strategy online game that is the second most popular game in eSports today — behind Riot Games' "League of Legends."

Just as Ender rose above his fellow students to become Commander of the International Fleet in first the Orson Scott Card bestselling novel and then the movie starring Harrison Ford and Asa Butterfield, one StarCraft II player will rise above his competition to become the "Ender's Game" on Blu-ray Tournament Champion in the Finals — pocketing a \$10,000 grand prize.

"The skills used to develop battle leaders in 'Ender's Game' are drawn from real-world gaming, especially the types of skills used by premier tournament level players," Parducci said.

The United States-based tournament featured 32 of the best StarCraft II players and began with two qualifying rounds. The winners from each, in addition to winning cash prizes, advance to the "Ender's Game" on Blu-ray Tournament: Championship Round taking place Feb. 22 and airing on Twitch.

"Lionsgate understands that gamers are more than a niche, they are everyone," said Ben Goldhaber, director of content marketing at Twitch. "By leveraging Twitch's community of 45 million gamers, many of whom spend hours playing and watching sci fi-inspired games, creating an eSports event around 'Ender's Game' on our platform makes perfect sense."

This is the first tournament on Twitch to be sponsored by a major motion picture studio.

More on the competition at [ender.wellplayed.org](http://ender.wellplayed.org)  
To watch the final "Ender's Game" championship round, tune in to [switch.tv](http://switch.tv) online at 2 p.m. EST on Feb. 22.



ON THE COVER: Actor Colin Farrell takes on a romantic role in "Winter's Tale."

ANDY KROPA, INVISION/AP

## GADGET WATCH

### Mouse pad invites wrists to rest

By GREGG ELLMAN  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

The GoSmart RestPad is a furry computer accessory designed to sit on your desk.

Aside from the great feel, it helps prevent wrist pain associated with the many hours we spend looking at computer screens and mousing, which can result in repetitive stress injuries or carpal tunnel syndrome. It's a lot like every other mouse pad, but what makes it unique is a sheepskin rest pad for your wrist.

The pillow-soft feel gives you a comfortable resting place along with pressure relief for your wrist.

GoSmart testing found it "validated to relieve over twice as much pressure as other wrist rests, as tested with advanced tactile array sensors that measured the contact pressures underneath the wrist."

The white sheepskin is available with brown, camel or pink mouse pad colors and is attached with Velcro, making it easy to remove for cleaning.

Online: [justgosmart.com](http://justgosmart.com), \$19.95

The TYLT Capio universal car mount is the missing piece to truly make your phone hands-free.

The mount is compatible with just about any smartphone, and keeps the phone upright and steady on a dashboard or any flat surface in your car.

The Capio is built with patented technology to keep your phone in place. There are no clamps or brackets, which have been known to scratch phones.

The mount, shown at right, affixes to any flat surface including glass, metal or wood and even holds up vertically on a glove compartment. A ball joint neck allows it to be fully adjustable and positioned in most angles.

When the

TYLT/MCT



KENU/MCT

The Kenu Airframe is a portable universal smartphone mount that attaches easily to a car air vent.

Capio is removed from whatever surface it was on, there's no sign of it being left behind, such as sticky tape or scratches.

It measures 4.3-by-2.4-by-3.8 inches and weighs 2.5 ounces.

Online: [tylt.com](http://tylt.com), \$27

The Kenu Airframe is also used for keeping your smartphone hands-free while driving but instead of keeping it on a flat surface, it attaches to an air vent. A soft molded grip, is used to attach to the vent and its design won't leave any scratches when in use or taken on and off.

The expandable jaw holds just about any smartphone with a screen up to 4.8 inches. It also rotates for horizontal and vertical viewing. And it weighs less than an ounce — good for travel.

Online: [kenu.com](http://kenu.com); \$24.95

Felt Audio's Pulse mobile Bluetooth speaker is tiny — 3.2 inches long, 2.2 inches wide and .6 inches thick — and weighs just a few ounces.

Considering that it's pocket size, the sound is great. Its internal microphone works as a portable hands-free speakerphone.

It has a built-in clip on the back for attaching to a sun visor or to have it stand on a flat surface.

You'll get about 8 hours of use before a USB charge is needed. Online: [feltaudio.com](http://feltaudio.com), \$59.99



## ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 songs on the iTunes Store for Feb. 19:

1. "Happy" (from "Despicable Me 2"), Pharrell Williams
2. "Dark Horse," Katy Perry (feat. Juicy J)
3. "All of Me," John Legend
4. "Pompeii," Bastille
5. "The Man," Aloe Blacc
6. "Say Something," A Great Big World & Christina Aguilera
7. "Let Her Go," Passenger
8. "Team," Lorde
9. "Timber," Pitbull (feat. Ke\$ha)
10. "Let It Go," Idina Menzel

— Compiled by MCT

## SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify from Feb. 10 to Feb. 16:

1. Katy Perry, "Dark Horse"
2. Jason Derulo, "Talk Dirty" — feat. 2 Chainz
3. Bastille, "Pompeii"
4. A Great Big World, "Say Something"
5. Beyonce, "Drunk In Love"
6. Pitbull, "Timber"
7. Lorde, "Team"
8. OneRepublic, "Counting Stars"
9. Lorde, "Royals"
10. Passenger, "Let Her Go"

— Compiled by The Associated Press

## ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for Feb. 19:

1. "Dallas Buyers Club"
2. "Ender's Game"
3. "12 Years a Slave"
4. "Captain Phillips"
5. "The Counselor" (Unrated Extended Cut)
6. "Gravity"
7. "Now You See Me"
8. "Last Vegas"
9. "About Time"
10. "Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa" (Unrated)

— Compiled by MCT



## VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer Magazine ranks the top 10 downloadable games for February:

1. "The Last of Us: Left Behind," PS3
2. "Our Darker Purpose," PC
3. "The Banner Saga," PC
4. "Broken Age: Episode One," PC
5. "The Room 2," iOS
6. "OlliOlli," Vita
7. "Walking Dead: Season Two — Episode 1: All That Remains," PS3, 360, PC, iOS
8. "Doctor Luigi," Wii U
9. "Peggle 2," Xbox One
10. "Oulast," PC

— Compiled by MCT

## APPS

Top 5 new free apps for Feb. 19:

- ANDROID
1. Clumsy Bird
  2. Unroll Me
  3. Ironpants
  4. Beats Music
  5. LEGO City My City

Top 5 free apps for Feb. 19:

- APPLE
1. Splashy Fish — The Adventures of a Flappy Tiny Bird Fish
  2. Farm Heroes Saga
  3. City Bird — Flappy Flyer
  4. Mr. Peabody & Sherman
  5. NBC Sports Live Extra

— Compiled by MCT

## WEEKEND

## CHECK IT OUT

Events, entertainment and other ways to fill your free time



1

**'Game of Thrones'  
Season 3 on DVD**

The third season of this stunning, violent and wildly popular fantasy series is now available for obsessive re-watching. Episode 9, "The Rains of Castamere," demonstrates particularly well how freely the show is willing to turn upon its characters.

- More DVD releases on Page 39
- For a scene from "The Rains of Castamere," go to [tinyurl.com/nqlaa3j](http://tinyurl.com/nqlaa3j)

HBO

Peter Dinklage, left, and Sibel Kekilli are two of the stars of "Game of Thrones." Season 3 is now available on DVD. Season 4 comes to HBO on April 6.

2

**'The Amazing Race,'  
'The Voice' return to TV**

Fans of reality TV, rejoice: The Olympics are almost over, and your shows are about to roar back. Usher and Shakira take two of the spinning judge's chairs on "The Voice." "The Amazing Race" brings back 11 pairs of familiar faces in an "All-Stars" season as competitors chase a \$1 million prize.

- See "The Amazing Race" on Feb. 24, and "The Voice" Feb. 25 & 26, on AFN-Family



3

**'Lego Movie' bloopers:  
When things fall apart**

"The Lego Movie" has already charmed audiences far and wide with its constructive approach (HA!) and its all-ages appeal. Now Warner Bros. has released a bloopers reel. It's fake, of course — the movie's computer animated — but that only makes it funnier, right?

- See it at [tinyurl.com/legobloops](http://tinyurl.com/legobloops)



4

**See which flick we  
picked for best picture**

The Academy Awards show is almost upon us. Just two more weeks to see whatever movie nominees are playing near you or out on DVD, so you can smugly tell your friends exactly who should win what. Stars and Stripes staffers saw the nine nominees, and we've made our own call.

- Read our recaps, and see what we think should win, at [stripes.com/oscars2014](http://stripes.com/oscars2014)



## WEEKEND: MOVIES

# Shedding his bad-boy image

## Colin Farrell turns romantic in fantasy film 'Winter's Tale'

By AMY KAUFMAN  
Los Angeles Times

Colin Farrell wanted a cigarette, but he didn't have one on him. He was sitting poolside at the Roosevelt Hotel, which seemed like the kind of place where one would smoke. So he asked a pretty hostess if she had a pack; she did not.

"You want a cigarette?" asked an interloper standing nearby who had overheard the exchange.

A few minutes later, the stranger returned, cigarette in hand. He asked Farrell what movies the actor had coming up, adding that he was producing a few.

"Good luck with it, brother," Farrell replied. "Thanks for the smoke." He sat back down in a bungalow and sighed.

"See," he said, "you really can get anything." Well, sort of. Cigarettes and booze and drugs and girls and hotel rooms have all been at Farrell's disposal since he became famous, he says. But the actor, who kicked a years-long substance abuse problem in 2005, has had a more difficult time earning respect as a leading man in Hollywood. He's certainly been given plenty of chances: In the past decade, he's starred in a reboot of the sci-fi classic "Total Recall," a remake of the vampire comedy "Fright Night" and the swords-and-sandals epic "Alexander." None of them worked at the box office.

With his latest effort, "Winter's Tale," Farrell is trying his hand at playing a romantic hero.

Farrell, 37, has earned a reputation as a compelling actor with a surprisingly wide range. In December, he earned strong reviews for his supporting role as P.L. Travers' endearing alcoholic father in "Saving Mr. Banks." He has the looks for glitzy studio fare, but he often seems most at home in grittier independent films — "In Bruges," "The Way Back" — movies in which he has given some of his most well-regarded performances.

But even Farrell isn't sure where he fits into the movie business. His résumé of late, he admits, "paints a picture of a very confused actor who has no idea what the hell he's into." Here's what he does know: He doesn't want to do any more films with guns. Part of that might be because he has two young boys and he's begun to think about the effect violence in movies has on society. But he's also interested in telling different kinds of stories now — ones with fewer explosions.

"The scripts I'm drawn to now are ones that deal in a greater degree of emotional and psychological minutiae," he said.

"I just don't know that I want to be part of things that are superficially entertaining. ... Without getting too high and mighty about it at all, I have to have a greater level of justification if I'm going to do something that involves that kind of violence again."

He's not just saying that, either. In the weeks leading to production on "Saving Mr. Banks," director John Lee Hancock said, Farrell sent the filmmaker dozens of emails about his vision for the character.

"You don't often get letters from stuff, but he was writing this beautiful stuff about what the character meant to him," Hancock recalled. "He's such a soulful guy with this Irish poet's soul that I totally believed he could play a father a little girl would idolize."

That Farrell is now able to come off believably as a role model of sorts is somewhat of a feat, given his history as a tabloid mainstay. Before he shipped off to rehab nine years ago, he was known as the ultimate Hollywood bad boy. He spent two years living in the Chateau Marmont, when he "had more money than sense." He filmed a sex tape with a Playboy Playmate (which she eventually leaked) and showed up high on the set of "Miami Vice."

He's been clean for nearly a decade, but the stories trail him. Even though, as he put it, "the worst thing I've done since then is sneak a ... Subv. ... into the Arc-Cross Light (a Hollywood multiplex). And even that was only a 6-inch."



## 'Winter's Tale' a bit too chilly for its own good

By ROGER MOORE  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Mark Helprin's 30-year-old fantasy novel "Winter's Tale" saunters onto the screen as a lovely but slow and emotionally austere experience, a romantic weeper that shortchanges the romance and the tears.

They threw Oscar-winning screenwriter Akiva Goldsman ("A Beautiful Mind") and a cast including three Oscar winners at this exercise in magical realism, and yet Helprin's bulky, honored book leaves them pinned to the mat, its big themes seemingly diminished by the time the credits roll.

Colin Farrell stars as Peter, an orphan and a thief who grows up to be a second story man, which is how he meets the beautiful but sickly Beverly (Jessica Brown Findlay of "Downton Abbey"). She's dying of consumption, he's smitten. And as he's ridden this magical horse that has thrown Beverly into his path in 1916 New York, Peter figures he can save her.

The horse can fly, which is starting even to Peter, who knows the universe is a magical place and that people have magic in them, and that the horse has already saved him from his demon mentor, Pearly (Russell Crowe).

Pearly is a bloody lieutenant of a no less than Lucifer, whose identity I won't spoil. Every so often, Pearly's scared, unforgiving face splits into a Satanic scowl, all teeth and rage, and the blood will flow.

Peter might be just as doomed as his seemingly doomed new lady friend. Then again, in the opening scene, we've seen this early 20th century man walking the streets, confused and bearded, in 2014 Manhattan. Sometimes, "the universe reaches down and helps us find our destiny," and so it is with Peter. Perhaps Jennifer Connelly, a modern-day single-mom newspaper food editor, can help him puzzle it out.

Goldsman has rendered "Winter's Tale" into a tale of fine scenes with decent performances, but a story that probably won't please fans of the book and will leave those who don't know the book scratching their heads.

William Hurt is Beverly's newspaper editor father, and he and Farrell click in a sparkling and funny "what are your intentions?" scene that hinges on the confusing pronunciations of "claret," "filler" and "wallet."

Crowe is plenty menacing as the Devil's Disciple, but all the rules of this universe conspire to keep him from tracking his quarry to the ends of the wintry Earth.

Goldsman never lets the film lean on its effects, but the tone of the fantasy and the romance of it all evades him. "Winter's Tale" has no narrative drive and too little heart to come off.

"Winter's Tale" is rated PG-13 for violence and some sensuality. Running time: 118 minutes.

### New on base

"Winter's Tale" is playing at the following military facilities:

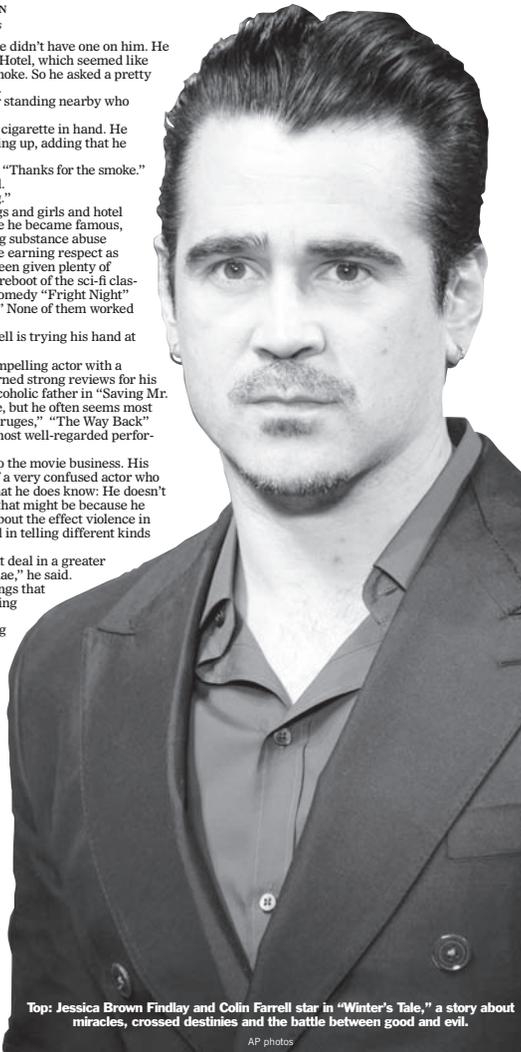
#### Europe

Mindenhall, Ansbach, Baumholder, Grafenwörth, Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Stuttgart, Vilsack, Wiesbaden, Aviano and Vicenza.

#### Pacific

Yokota, Zama, Foster, Futenma, Hansen, Kadena, Kinsler, Schwab, Courtney, Yongsan South Post No. 2, Casey, Henry, Kunsan and Osan.

Online: winterstalemovie.com



Top: Jessica Brown Findlay and Colin Farrell star in "Winter's Tale," a story about miracles, crossed destinies and the battle between good and evil.

AP photos



# WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES



"World of Tanks" is a massive team-based multiplayer online game dedicated to armored warfare in the mid-20th century. Photos courtesy of wargaming.net

## Clash of the TITANS

### 'World of Tanks': Free-to-play game done right

Overall grade: **B+**

BY MICHAEL S. DARNELL  
*Stars and Stripes*

**“W**orld of Tanks: Xbox 360 Edition” is the follow-up to the 2011 cult favorite that has a fairly sizable community active on the PC.

As you might have surmised, this version is for the Xbox 360, with all that Xbox Live has to offer to boost the experience — voice chat, quick matchmaking and a solid infrastructure that allowed me flawless, lag-free play, even on my woefully slow internet connection.

It is a free-to-play game, but while that moniker might bring to mind recent missteps like EA's "Dungeon Keeper," "WoT" holds world records for number

of players on a single server. You don't get that popular by cheating customers. This game is firmly in the "does free-to-play right" camp.

As players engage in matches, they earn "silver," as well as experience, which can be used to unlock

other tanks, tank upgrades and paint jobs that last seven to 30 days. That silver can't be turned into gold, though. Real-world money can buy gold, which will get you unlocks that you can't earn through gameplay, but they're mostly tanks that are on par with versions that are unlockable through gameplay. So folks who believe they can buy their way to victory here will be sadly mistaken.

When reviewing this game, I played half the time seeing how far I could go without spending a dime. The other half I used gold that we were provided for review purposes. By the time I hit a grind wall, I had a tank that was doing pretty well in combat. The more I played, the better the tanks I unlocked. It does take



Throw yourself into epic tank battles and go shoulder-to-shoulder with other steel cowboys to dominate the world with tank supremacy in "World of Tanks."

time to get to the best tier, and yes, you can buy your way there, if you choose to. However, my win ratio didn't magically go up because I bought a tank, and I was teamed with players with equal tanks that I could eventually unlock through play alone. The system isn't perfect, as some of the unlocks would take a ton of play to see, but, hey, the game is free and offers a full-fledged experience for zero dollars.

The game's philosophy is easy to discern from the first half of its name. "World of Tanks," in this case, means players can progress through a tiered set of 100 different World War II-era tanks, each with its own handling, speed, firepower and aiming mechanics. There are heavy, medium and light tanks, as well as artillery and tank-destroyer classes. Each vehicle has a different role. Some are made for assault, some are long-range fire and some are made to zip around the battlefield spotting enemies for the rest of the team, which nets them experience points. Each of them feels suitably tank-like, with ponderous turning speed and a heavy feel to the controls.

Tank combat here is fairly basic;

swinging your turret around and fire on the enemy before they do the same. There is some depth to battles, though. Firing at the front of a heavily armored opponent will do some damage, but hitting the broadside usually deals armor-piercing damage that takes off a larger chunk of health. In addition, hitting a tank's tread can immobilize an enemy, and taking out their gunner can decrease accuracy. It's not the most complex combat you'll find in a multiplayer shooter, but it's easy to pick-up and learn.

History buffs will get a kick out of playing with the selection of American, British or German tanks, some of which never saw battle, like the T92 or the British Tortoise.

I was partial to the faster-moving tanks — mostly because I am a terrible shot and gained more points by spotting enemies for my teammates than I ever did engaging in direct combat.

What's best about driving the tanks is the fact that you make your own lanes in combat. A tree is in your way? Drive over it. An enemy ducks behind a building to escape your righteous wrath? Blow up the wall. Not all objects on the

maps are destructible, which is sort of a shame, but there is enough carnage to be wrought to appease most.

The matches themselves aren't complicated. You choose your tank and roll into a battle that combines aspects of traditional deathmatch and capture-the-flag matches with up to 14 other players. The object is to either destroy the other team, or to capture the other team's flag by forging over their defenses and holding position on their base for a count of 100 (the count ticks down faster the more tanks there are holding the base).

The maps are spacious enough that when ends up being the most successful tactic is to charge the enemy's base and try to fend off their counterattacks.

Sadly, you can't choose the map you play on or the number of players in each match. Those are selected for you automatically. This makes a negligible difference in gameplay, and players might get a little sick of playing on the same couple of maps that seem to be in rotation more than the others. The best map is an expansive desert area that features rolling hills and a mostly destructible town that allow for mini ambushes, quick engagements and awesome cat-and-mouse games.

In the wake of free-to-play disasters like "Dungeon Keeper," it's refreshing to find an experience that doesn't feel cheap, either in gameplay or implementation of paywalls. "World of Tanks: 360 Edition" does a lot right, and very little wrong.

It's not the most complex game out there, but it is the very definition of "a great little game." It does exactly what the title suggests by giving players a world of tanks to play with, and engaging gameplay to keep them entertained.

**Bottom line:** B+ If you're looking for a great pick-up-and-play title that won't dig into your bank account, you're really not going to find much better than "World of Tanks."

**Platform:** Xbox 360

**Online:** worldoftanks.com

## WEEKEND

## Europe

## THE EUROPE EXPERIENCE



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

A member of a marching band participating in the Rose Monday carnival parade in Mainz, Germany, eyes the crowd lining the streets.

## Celebrate this:

## Carnival by many names

It's that season again: the season of folly and fun; of masks, parties and parades. It is the "fifth season," the Carnival season.

Call it Fasching, Karneval, Fastnacht or Carnevale. Celebrate it with the Dutch, the French or the Spanish. Celebrate it in Germany, Italy, Croatia, Belgium or Switzerland.

Whatever you call it, and wherever you celebrate it, from now until Ash Wednesday — and in some places longer — much of Europe is in the grip of this pre-Lenten festival.

Where its name and the celebration come from has long been debated.

The name possibly comes from the Latin *carne vale*, meaning "meat, farewell." The German Faschnacht (literally "fast night") refers to the night before fasting begins on Ash Wednesday.

Some trace carnival back to pagan customs of driving out the evil spirits of winter. Others say it is rooted in ancient Greek celebrations for the god of wine, Dionysus.

For Christians, it was a time to eat, drink and be merry before the stark days of Lent.

Today, it's a broad mix. For some, it's a last chance to whoop it up before fasting; for others it's just another reason to party. Find a listing of the season's events by country at [tinyurl.com/mv5qu2o](http://tinyurl.com/mv5qu2o).

## TOP TRAVEL PICKS

## Take to the rocks

If recent Olympics viewing has put you in an athletic frame of mind and eager to try lesser-known types of sports, here's a new event to consider: Skraping.

This sport could perhaps best be defined as trekking at speed across sharp rocks, passing through marked checkpoints. Often following a winding or treacherous course, Skraping is considered an extreme sport. A chance to try awaits the brave and the fit on the island of Pasman, along Croatia's Dalmatian Coast, on March 8.

Competitors in the Skraping-International Tkon-Island Pasman can choose among three distances: Ultra, about 40 kilometers; Light, about 20 kilometers; and Dir, about 10 kilometers. The race kicks off at 9 a.m., and participants must finish within a certain timeframe. Starting fees are 150 Croatian kuna (about \$26.75) for the Ultra, 130 kuna for the Light, and 100 kuna for the Dir.

The race, which has been staged every year or two since its inception in 2006, remains a relatively small affair, having attracted some 850 athletes from Croatia and Europe last year. Race organizers will accept no more than 900 registrations, and applications must be submitted online by no later than Feb. 28.



Karen Bradbury

See the Europe Traveler blog at [stripes.com/travel/europe-travel](http://stripes.com/travel/europe-travel)

The nearby city of Zadar offers international flight connections; alternately, a 49-seat shuttle bus will leave from the capital city of Zagreb at 3 p.m. Friday and return Sunday. See if this sport might be for you by visiting [skraping.hr](http://skraping.hr).

## Salsa in Switzerland

It might be cold outside, but the dance floors of the Zurich Kongresshaus will sizzle through Sunday, as the Salsafestival Switzerland storms into town.

This Latin dance party invites all fans of the dance, from pros to beginners, with a program that includes dancing, shows featuring some of the world's best performers, workshops and plenty of party time. Night owls will be in their element, with

afterparties stretching well into the next morning.

Friday's fun includes a party across seven dance floors, a salsa show and a live concert. Saturday gets going with more than 38 professional-led workshops, including one for beginners, followed by a highlight event, gala night. With a "dress to impress" dress code, guests can dance the Kizomba, Salsa Romantica and Bachata, or watch shows featuring top-shelf dancers in the venue's ballroom.

The afterparty kicks off at 4 a.m. Sunday, offering more workshops and shows, as well as the country's biggest Zumba party.

Tickets to all events are essential. Individual event prices begin at 28.20 Swiss francs (about \$31.50), which is the cost of entry to the party on Sunday night. Participation in Sunday's Zumba party costs 37.60 Swiss francs. A festival pass allowing entry to all parties, afterparties and workshops costs 300.95 Swiss francs. Learn more at [salsafestival.com](http://salsafestival.com).

## Samba in Germany

In northern Germany, it's the sound of a Brazilian beat that will stir the crowds as Bremen hosts what's billed as the country's largest samba carnival.

Festivities reach fever pitch a couple of weekends before

the rest of Germany succumbs to carnival mania, with some 35,000 spectators gathering annually to catch the riot of sound, movement and color found in the highlight event, the carnival parade on Saturday.

Visitors will take in the sight of more than 100 samba groups from Germany and abroad, their members clad in exotic costumes.

Fantastical masks and stilt walkers are also the order of the

day. The street carnival begins at noon at the market square, which is also the parade's starting point.

Beginning at 1:30 p.m., concerts take place across four open-air stages. The Globales Dorfest, a costume ball featuring the sounds of percussion, reggae, Afro Samba and other beats, takes place at the Kulturzentrum Schlachthof starting at 8 p.m.; entry costs 19 euros (about \$26). Plan at [tinyurl.com/p7nvqrj](http://tinyurl.com/p7nvqrj).



Courtesy of Salsafestival Switzerland

Zurich heats up through Sunday as Salsafestival Switzerland takes the town into its steamy embrace.



Looking for even more to do? For additional events, concerts and activities, go to [stripes.com/military-life](http://stripes.com/military-life)

## WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

## Europe

# A walk in the wild

## Commune with birds and animals at German nature reserve

By ERIC A. BROWN  
Stars and Stripes

Whether you're a nature buff or you just need a breather from the walking path you and Fido wear down daily, the largest protected wildlife and bird sanctuary within the German state of Hessen offers an enjoyable alternative in both winter and summer.

Roughly 10 miles southwest of Darmstadt, and a quick, 45-minute drive south of Wiesbaden, the Kühkopf-Knoblochsau nature reserve is more than just a great location to observe more than 250 species of plants and animals. It makes for a nice half-day adventure. Kids can run free on its 10 square miles of lowland trails, pastures, orchards and play areas.

The nature reserve is in reality two autonomous areas of floodplain, separated by a sluggish waterway. The waterway has always been there — but it has not always been sluggish. In fact, it was the channel where the "old Rhine" once flowed. In 1928, engineers devised a plan to create a puncture in the peninsula to reduce flooding and increase flow by straightening the river's radial curve. The old Rhine remained, separating the island of Kühkopf from its mainland northern



PHOTOS BY ERIC A. BROWN/STARS AND STRIPES

The trails at the reserve wind through peaceful, wooded land. In the winter, however, they can be wet and slippery.

neighbor Knoblochsau.

Both areas are home to 115 bird species, such as storks, woodpeckers and the black kite, which is the reserve's official bird.

Pay close attention to the reserve's regulations, which are posted at the trailheads, and enjoy nearly 40 miles of hiking and biking trails. If you are the adventurous type and own a non-motorized watercraft, catch a different perspective by navigat-

ing the perimeter of Kühkopf by canoe or kayak. Although motorboats are not allowed, human-powered watercraft can be launched near the sanctuary's free parking areas just outside the two walking bridge entrances in the nearby towns of Stockstadt and Erfelden.

The trails are well-marked and sit high enough above the surrounding wetland, but during this February visit I found them

slippery and muddy. From time to time, I imagined myself sliding down the side of the trail. I wouldn't expect the trails to be stroller-friendly until summer, when the ground has a chance to dry.

Bigger kids will find an open play area, swings, balance bar and a long zip line adjacent to large apple orchard areas for rumping and playing.

[brown.eric@stripes.com](mailto:brown.eric@stripes.com)



## ON THE QT

### DIRECTIONS

The reserve is easy to get to from the autobahn A5 exit 7 near Darmstadt. Once off the autobahn, take the B427 in the direction of Stockstadt. Drive two miles, turn right at L361 and take a right after two-thirds of a mile at K153. Follow the K153 for one mile toward Stockstadt city center. Turn right on Oberstrasse and follow that road for two miles, then turn left onto Rheinstrasse. The parking area will be on the right, just before the river and pedestrian bridge.

### TIMES

The reserve has no closing time, but for safety reasons, it's better to visit during daylight hours.

### COSTS

Entrance to the nature reserve is free. Free parking areas are located just outside the only two walking bridge entrances in the nearby towns of Stockstadt and Erfelden. The zip line and other play areas are free.

### FOOD

The reserve has a restaurant, Forsthaus Kühkopf, which is open from 11 a.m. Wednesday through Saturday; from 10 a.m. Sundays and holidays; closed Monday and Tuesday. Families on the go have several eating choices near the reserve, including a McDonald's with an outdoor castle playland about two-thirds of a mile away in Erfelden.

### INFORMATION

The Kühkopf-Knoblochsau website is [kuehkopf.de](http://kuehkopf.de), in German only. Free restrooms are available at the Erfelden parking area, but they weren't maintained during our visit. Visitors should bring along toiletries, especially for children.

— Eric A. Brown



The "old Rhine" River from one of the only two pedestrian bridges connecting the mainland to the nature reserve island of the Kühkopf-Knoblochsau nature reserve, seen above on right.



The Forsthaus Kühkopf offers guests a full menu or just hot tea or coffee. It's located in the heart of the reserve on the island of Kühkopf and easily accessible by marked trails.

## WEEKEND: FOOD &amp; DINING

## Europe

## After Hours: Italy

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

**H**orse meat is a common feature of Sicilian menus, and for good reason, I've decided.

Mine came grilled in a marinade of balsamic vinegar, olive oil and oregano, and it had a mild, gamey flavor that outweighed its sinewy texture. It was my third course at Trattoria Da Rinaldo, a homey restaurant in downtown Catania, Sicily, that specializes in traditional Sicilian and southern Italian dishes.

Located a block off Corso Italia, near the city's university, Da Rinaldo's style is classic family trattoria. Awning-covered doors lead into a warm interior of bright walls, patterned tablecloths and rustic stone columns.

The restaurant dates to 1972 and is run by Giuseppe Ardita, who took over from his father and still waits tables attentively. When I sat down on a recent evening, Ardita arrived promptly with baskets of bread and cured meats.

He directed me to the antipasto, or appetizer, buffet, which offered more than a dozen plates of grilled vegetables, olives and eggplant prepared in multiple styles. I ate lightly to save room for more courses, but what I tried had good flavor and tasted fresh. The artichokes in olive oil and herbs were a personal favorite.

For a first course, I ordered a penne in a tomato sauce with eggplant and garlic. This is reliable fare in Sicily, a traditional dish called *pasta alla norma*. Da Rinaldo's version was terrific.

The sweetness of the tomatoes was balanced by the meaty eggplant and sautéed slices of garlic, whose flavor had mellowed. Best of all, the dish was hot when it came out, something I've found to be rare in Italian restaurant pastas.

The antipasto and pasta alone could have made for a satisfying meal at Da Rinaldo. But the horse steak was what I'd come for, and it was worth it. Other menu options when I visited included pasta with pistachio sauce, another Sicilian favorite, and cuttlefish in black sauce.

I ordered a Sicilian red wine to go with the meal and finished with a small alcoholic digestif that tasted like cinnamon. The damage came to about 34 euros, or roughly \$46. I was charged half price for the



PHOTOS BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY/Stars and Stripes

With grilled vegetables, cured meats and olives, the antipasto, or appetizer, buffet at Trattoria Da Rinaldo in Catania, Sicily, offers a variety of items at a good price.



"Pasta alla norma," a traditional Sicilian pasta with tomatoes, eggplant and garlic, was hot and delicious at Trattoria Da Rinaldo.



The restaurant's horse steak — common in Sicilian cuisine — was grilled in a marinade of balsamic vinegar, olive oil and oregano.

antipasto buffet because I ate sparingly — a good price for the quality of the food as well as the service.

Getting to Da Rinaldo from the Navy base in Sigonella takes a little work, given the restaurant's location downtown, but I found street parking available and affordable on a weeknight. Nearby shops and bars offer options before and after a meal.

Ardita, the owner, understands only a little English, but he is patient and eager to help. The menu is simple and understandable, the atmosphere unpretentious and forgiving. Break out your elementary Italian, and you might muddle your way through

a great meal.  
beardsley.steven@stripes.com  
Twitter: @sjbeardsley

TRATTORIA  
DA RINALDO

Location: Via Giuseppe Simili 59, Catania

Directions: From Naval Air Station Sigonella, take highways SS417 and SS192 roughly 12 miles into Catania. Take a right at the traffic circle toward Centro and highway SP701. Follow SP701 as it turns into SS114 and continues into the city along the coast. At Piazza Europa, turn left onto Corso Italia. Look for parking after about 500 meters; the restaurant is one block south of Corso Italia at the corner of Giuseppe Simili and Via Alberta Mario.

Times: Open Tuesday-Sunday for lunch from noon to 4 p.m. and dinner from 7:30 p.m. to midnight.  
Menu: Traditional Sicilian and southern Italian dishes.  
Costs: The antipasti buffet costs 8 euros (about \$11); my penne dish and the horse steak were 8 euros each. A glass of Sicilian red wine was 5 euros. I found street parking on Corso della Provinciale, about two blocks to the north, and paid 2.50 euros for nearly four hours.  
Dress: This is a family-owned trattoria frequented by locals and regulars. Dress is casual.

More information: Phone: (+39)/(0)95 532312. No website. Takes reservations.

## Clementine cake: gluten free and delicious

By VIRGINIA LINN  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**S**omething intriguing popped up in "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," the charming Ben Stiller movie based on James Thurber's very short story in the New Yorker in 1939: a clementine cake.

The cake was a minor subplot, baked by his mother (Shirley MacLaine) for his birthday, but it popped up in scenes throughout the movie. I had never heard of clementine cake and had to try it. We couldn't find a recipe in our zillion cookbooks, but we found various versions on the Internet, all based on a recipe created by Nigella Lawson, the British celebrity chef.

The best part: It calls for ground almonds (same as almond flour or almond meal), so it's gluten free — and moist and delicious.

Preparation is simple.

You can leave it plain or top it with clementine slices, powdered sugar or glaze.

## CLEMENTINE CAKE

## Ingredients:

4 to 5 unpeeled clementines (about 1 pound total weight)

6 eggs  
1 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar

2½ cups of ground almonds  
1 heaping teaspoon baking powder

## Directions:

Put unpeeled clementines in a pot with cold water to cover, bring to a boil and cook for 2 hours.

Drain and, when cool, cut each clementine in half and remove the seeds.

Chop everything finely (skins, pit, fruit) in a blender or food processor.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Butter and line with parchment an 8-inch springform pan.

Beat eggs. Add sugar, almonds and baking powder. Mix well and add chopped clementines.

Pour cake mixture into prepared pan and bake for an hour, when a skewer comes out clean.

You might want to cover the cake with foil after 30 to 40 minutes or less to stop the top from browning too dark.

Remove from oven and leave to cool on a rack, but in the pan.

When the cake's cold, take it out of the pan.

The cake tastes even better after sitting for a day.

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

# City of masked mischief

## Mystery plays a leading role in annual Venice Carnevale

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY  
*Stars and Stripes*

On a Sunday morning the second day of Carnevale in Venice, the full *vaporetto* was as quiet as a church. The few passengers who spoke at all whispered unheard over the waterbus' motor as we plied the unusually serene canal. We penitents were on our way, as directed by the woman selling *vaporetto* tickets, to St. Mark's Square to watch a boat parade.

But we were going the wrong way.

After a 9-euro (\$12.60) cappuccino and a 40-minute wait spent scanning the canal for boats, I learned that the parade, by the Coordinamento Associazioni Remiere di Vogà alla Veneta, was to sail elsewhere, in the Cannaregio district, wherever that was.

I boarded another *vaporetto* and headed back the same way I'd come. By the time I arrived, the parade was over.

These things happen when traveling abroad, don't you find?

I consoled myself with the thought that I'd also missed the Zombie Walk on Saturday — the photos online are quite frightening — and that there were plenty more events before Venice's annual pre-Lenten festival full of concerts, contests, circuses, exhibitions parades, dinners and balls ends on March 4 that I might actually locate. Because most of them are in St. Mark's Square.

And really, any day in Venice is a carnival.

Right now, though, it's even trippier than usual. Throngs of tourists from all over stroll about as usual, looking in shops, gazing at architecture, eating pasta with squid ink, but they do it wearing masks and costumes.

There's quite the reason for



PHOTOS BY NANCY MONTGOMERY/Stars and Stripes

Venice is said to have more mask shops than grocery and butcher shops. During Carnevale, people don glitzy masks like these.

this, according to the Carnevale English website: "... to rediscover, through their costumes and through the masked city, the importance of fantasy, both popular and cultured, esoteric and didactic, and its relationship with humankind and the environment. A gateway between the East and the West, where myths — and fears — of overseas monstrous and surprising creatures were translated into

tales, paintings, decorations, to be exported to Europe along the canals and the roads scoured by merchants."

According to the British newspaper *The Telegraph*, "St. Mark's Square is the fulcrum of carnival activities, and that's where you'll find the most extraordinary costumes — many hoping for a chance in the best costume."

Best costumes and masks will be judged twice daily on stage at St. Mark's Square; the best of the best takes place on March 2.

This year, key carnival events will also take place inside the Arsenale, Venice's magnificent historic shipyard, with waterborne pageants, re-enactments, street artists and bands. Much of the entertainment is free. The balls and parties, on the other hand, can cost hundreds or thousands of euros. Considered the top of the heap is the annual Gran Ballo della Cavalcina, an extravaganza inside La Fenice opera house next month.

For some, the highlight of the entire event is the *Volo dell'Angelo*, or "Flight of the Angel." That's when, on Feb. 23, a beauty pageant winner will ride a zip wire from the campanile in St. Mark's Square.

For more information, visit [carnevale.venezia.it/?slang=en](http://carnevale.venezia.it/?slang=en).

[montgomery.nancy@stripes.com](mailto:montgomery.nancy@stripes.com)



Carnevale can be like a Halloween that lasts for two weeks.



Those who don't care to buy a mask for Carnevale can have one painted on, as this girl did on Feb. 16.

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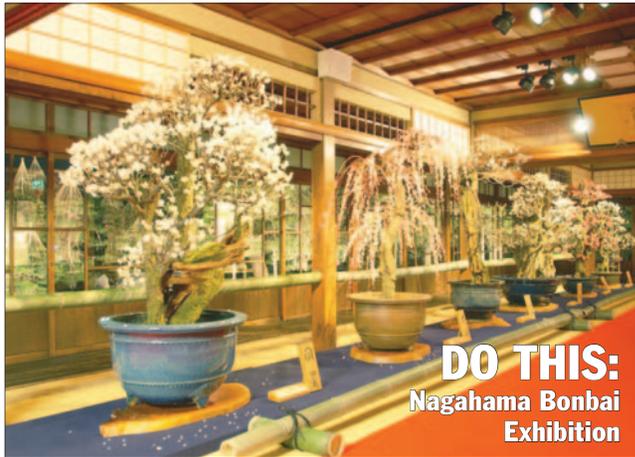
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WEEKEND



# THE PACIFIC EXPERIENCE



**DO THIS:**  
Nagahama Bonbai  
Exhibition

Norio Muroi/Stars and Stripes

At this event at Keiunkan in Shiga prefecture, Japan, now through March 10, see about 90 bonbai — Japanese apricot trees in bonsai style — on display and on sale. The trees are illuminated in the evenings until 8:30 p.m.



Koji SASAHARA/AP

A woman examines stone lanterns at Ueno Toshogu shrine in Tokyo on Feb. 18. Ueno is also one of Tokyo's most popular cherry blossom viewing spots.



## Hong Kong Disneyland turns profit again

Turning a page on years of losses, Hong Kong Disneyland said Feb. 17 it was profitable for a second straight year and plans to build a third hotel to help cater to rising numbers of visitors. The theme park more than doubled its profit to \$31 million in the year to September. Revenue climbed 15 percent to HK\$4.9 billion as visitors rose 10 percent to a high of 7.4 million.

The park had struggled after opening in 2005, with its poor performance blamed on its small size. But it became profitable in 2012 thanks to new attractions that drew more visitors, especially from mainland China.

Officials announced plans to build a 750-room resort-hotel that will cost HK\$4.3 billion and is expected to open by early 2017.

"Expansion plans are in place to sustain the momentum of growth and capture increasing demand especially in the light of growing tourism in the region," said Andrew Kam, the park's managing director.

The park is also building a new attraction based on the "Iron Man" movie franchise, which is wildly popular in mainland China. It's scheduled to open in late 2016.

From The Associated Press

## ON BASE

### Japan

**TOYOTA BIG AIR (Sapporo):** Feb. 22 & 23, noon; one of the world's biggest snowboarding straight-jump contests; Sapporo Dome; 2,000 yen Sat., 3,500 yen Sun., 4,000 yen/two-day ticket; Toyota Big Air 011-842-3473; www.toyota-bigair.jp

**TONGAYATO PARK BONSAI FESTIVAL (Tokyo):** Through Feb. 24, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; 30 bonsai, or dwarfed trees, of pines, plums, maples on display and on sale; 150 yen for adults, kids free; tinyurl.com/d28dmfz

**OJI INARI SHRINE KITE FESTIVAL (Tokyo):** Feb. 28, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; kites on sale along with food vendors.

**HINA MATSURI DOLL FESTIVAL OR GIRL'S FESTIVAL:** March 3; A time when people pray for the happiness and healthy growth of girls. Families with young daughters mark this day by setting up a display of dolls inside the house. The dolls wear costumes of the imperial court during the Heian Period (794-1192) and are placed on a tiered platform covered with red felt. The size of the dolls and number of steps vary, but usually the displays are of five or seven layers. Single-tiered decorations with one male and one female doll are also common.

### Okinawa

**YOMITAN YACHIMON POTTERY FESTIVAL:** Feb. 22 & 23, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; pottery produced in the past year by 50 local potters in Yomitani village are on display and on sale at Yomitani

Village Kyodo Hanbai Center, 30-minute ride from Okinawa Kita (north) I.C. on Okinawa Express.



**8TH JEJIMA HIBISCUS FESTIVAL:** Through Feb. 23, 10 a.m.; the island of Jejima, 5.5 miles off the coast of Motobu Peninsula, is home to a large hibiscus field where 1,000 varieties of hibiscus bloom; 30-minute ferry ride from Motobu Port of Okinawa.

**OKINAWA YAMBARU ADVENTURE RALLY IN HIGASHI-SO:** March 1 & 2; group and individual adventure challenges including trail running, trekking, mountain biking, sea kayaking, orienteering, river trekking and more in Higashi-son, 30-minute ride from Nago city.

### South Korea

**BYEOKKHOJI BOTANICAL GARDEN LIGHTING FESTIVAL 2014:** Through March 2, 5:30-9 p.m.; Byeokkhochi Botanical Garden in Faju-si, Gyeonggi-do; Online: tinyurl.com/mdqtd94

**BITNORIYA IN YEOSU (Jeollanam-do):** Through March 4; lights at Geobukseon Park, illuminations 5:30 p.m.; Online: img.yeosu.go.kr

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When will the cherry blossoms bloom in Japan?

For a map, visit tinyurl.com/jntosakura

# WEEKEND: TRAVEL

# Pacific

## WINTER ACTIVITIES

Events are as accurate as possible at press time. Since times or event schedules can change, please verify events before attending.

### On base: Japan

#### ATSUGI

**ITT Tours:** March 1, 4 a.m.-10 p.m., transportation to ski Hakkisan; March 2, 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Fujiten Snow Resort & Gotemba

dinner buffet; March 16, 4 a.m.-10 p.m., Hakuba Cortina ski trip, \$48 transportation only.

#### YOKOSUKA

**Tours:** March 8 & 22, Mount Fuji winter sightseeing

**Outdoor Recreation Center:** March 1, 1:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Hakuba Goryu

snowshoeing, \$180, sign up by Feb. 28; March 16-17, 3:30 a.m.-10 p.m., Yatsugatake overnight snow hike & ice climbing, \$320, sign up by March 13.

**Winter Sports:** Feb. 22, transportation to Aizu Bandai Ski Resort; Feb. 23, transportation to GrinPa, Yeti Resorts; March 1-2, Zao Onsen.

### CAMP ZAMA

**Outdoor Recreation Center and Leisure Travel Service:** Feb. 22, 4 a.m.-10:30 p.m., ski & snowboard at Madarao Kogen, Feb. 23, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., snowshoeing on Mount Fuji; March 8, 3 a.m.-11 p.m., transportation to ski & snowboard of Shigakogen.

### Off base: Japan

**SORA NIWA ICE PARK - GINZA (Tokyo):** Through March 2, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; ice skating rink on the roof of Matsuya Ginza Department Store; [www.matsuya.com/foreigner/en](http://www.matsuya.com/foreigner/en).

**AKASAKA SACAS ICE SKATING RINK (Tokyo):** Through March 2, noon-9 p.m. weekdays, 11 a.m. weekends; illuminations starting 4 p.m.

**TOWADAKO LAKE WINTER FESTIVAL 2014 (Aomori prefecture):** Through March 2, 3:9 p.m., 11 a.m.-9 p.m. weekends; Towadako Lake celebrates "Snow and Light Fantasia" with illuminated ships on the lake, food booths, live music and fireworks after 8 p.m. daily.

**FUJI-Q HIGHLAND ICE SKATING (Yamanashi prefecture):** Through March 30; three ice skating rinks; 5-6-1, Nishihara, Fuji-Yoshida city; [www.fuji.jp/en](http://www.fuji.jp/en).

**SAYAMA SKI & SNOWBOARD (Saitama prefecture):** Through April 6; indoor ski and snowboarding slope; 2167 Kami-yamaguchi, Tokorozawa city, Seibu Kyujo-mae Station, Seibu Line, 04-2922-1384.

### Off base: South Korea

**GANGHWA ICEFISH FESTIVAL (Incheon):** Through Feb. 23, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; featuring hands-on programs including icefish fishing, old-fashioned snow sledding, food booths and more at Hangecheon Fishing Site in Hwangcheong-ri.

**CHEONGPYEONG SLEDDING & ICEFISH FESTIVAL (Gyeonggi-do):** Through Feb. 23; featuring winter attractions; 30-minute ride from Seoul and Chuncheon to reach Gapsyeong.



Norio Muroi/Stars and Stripes

**Tokyo Midtown Ice Skating Rink is open now through March 9 and features illuminations at 5 p.m. For more: [tokyo-midtown.com](http://tokyo-midtown.com).**

### EVERLAND SNOW FESTIVAL (Yongin-si):

Through Feb. 28; featuring seasonal activities including a snow tubing course and run and live performances at Everland, Jeondae; [www.everland.com](http://www.everland.com). To see your events here: [SSPEDLibrary@stripes.com](mailto:SSPEDLibrary@stripes.com).



Looking for even more to do? For additional events, concerts and activities, go to [stripes.com/military-life](http://stripes.com/military-life)

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WEEKEND: TRAVEL

Pacific

# Phnom Penh's FRENCH ACCENT

For all its bustle, Cambodian capital retains some of its colonial character

By JOSEPH FREEMAN  
Special To The Washington Post

In November, as Cambodia's rainy season was coming to a close, my girlfriend and I looked at a new apartment in Phnom Penh's old French district. Located in the central part of the city near the U.S. Embassy, the building was advertised as the modern incarnation of the colonial-era *Hôtel Manolis*.

Now chopped up into apartments, the hotel provides a footnote to French literary and colonial history. In 1923, the writer and future French minister of cultural affairs André Malraux occupied a room there. Malraux was a young man, traveling with his wife, Clara, and a friend, when he was caught trying to spirit Cambodian antiquities out of the country.

Criminality, scandal, intrigue, the ghost of Malraux: What more could you want in a potential living space?

The French real estate agent, however, offered a better-known selling point when we met him for a walk-through. The area, he told us, had been featured in the 2002 Matt Dillon movie "City of Ghosts."

I've lived in Phnom Penh for

nearly two years and thought that I knew the city well. But when we climbed the staircase and opened the door to the flat, a much older model appeared. The apartment had slatted royal-blue shutters and tiled, dusty floors. There were no air conditioners: Ceiling fans pushed the hot air around. From the living room windows, whose many locks took about three minutes to open, small steps led down to a low-slung balcony.

Five minutes earlier, we'd been immersed in a bustling Phnom Penh. Here inside, past and present merged. We were being shown an apartment with French colonial roots by a transplanted Frenchman 60 years after King Norodom Sihanouk led the crusade for independence from France in 1953. Perhaps the

strangest thing was that there was nothing strange about it.

Despite the sprouting of skyscrapers, the arrival of mega malls, the rise of English as a dominant second language and the hurried urban development, Phnom Penh still retains a strong French feel. The French Chamber of Commerce has seen an uptick in small to medium enterprises. According to the French Embassy, the number of French citizens living in Cambodia has doubled in the past decade and grown at an average annual rate of 10 percent

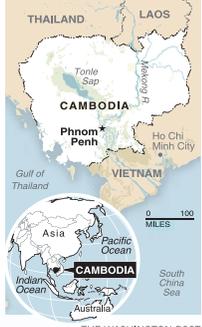
in the past three. France has one of the largest Cambodian diaspora communities outside the United States, largely because of the ref-

ugees who fled there to escape the terror of the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s. In recent years, many have been coming home.

In Phnom Penh, I've met a lot of French people without going out of my way to meet French people. Our landlord at the time we looked at the apartment was French. A skinny French guy had shown us another apartment weeks before. I eat at French restaurants, bars and cafes every week. Some of them, like the apartment, were in refurbished versions of buildings constructed during the French Protectorate, which started in 1863 and ended under Sihanouk 90 years later.

Although the protectorate was dismantled six decades ago, the French-Cambodian relationship seems to have continued in a less exploitative form, like the aftermath of a breakup where two people illogically remain friends. I remember what an advocate for the French business community said to me while leaving Van's Restaurant, which serves pricey but tasty French fare out of the former Indochina Bank building

**The French-Cambodian relationship seems to have continued in a less exploitative form, like the aftermath of a breakup where two people illogically remain friends.**



THE WASHINGTON POST

in Phnom Penh. Lamenting the modern development threatening to overtake the city's architectural past, he gestured to the leafy, elegant courtyard: "To me, this is Cambodia."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

**A colonial-era post office, restored and operating in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The grounds are also home to Cambodia's Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.**

JOSEPH FREEMAN/Special to The Washington Post



## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Pacific

## FROM PAGE 34

The French government and Sihanouk's distant forerunner, King Norodom, agreed to swap protection in exchange for trading rights in 1863. A few years later, the French persuaded the king to move the capital to where it is now.

In one of my favorite guidebooks ever written, "Strolling Around Phnom Penh," French scholar Jean-Michel Filippi makes a valuable observation. French rule endured for more than half the number of years that Phnom Penh has been Cambodia's modern capital. As such, French architectural and planning legacies abound.

Filippi's book, which is full of several self-guided walks in the city, offers one way to explore.

Acerbic and funny, he begins the first stroll of the French area by condemning a building as an "architectural absurdity" that's between a "hideous bunker and an architectural piece of nonsense which fulfills the function of a hotel."

He's good company.

But a friend had recommended seeing the colonial era through a preservationist group called Khmer Architecture Tours. Half of the three-hour excursion takes place on foot. In between stops, tour participants each hopped briefly into a "cyclo," or *cyclo-pousse*, the bicycle rickshaw that was invented, appropriately enough, by a Frenchman, Maurice Coupeaud, in 1937.

Tuk-tuks, motorbikes and taxis have pushed the cyclo to the edge of extinction as a form of transportation, which is probably for the best. Riding in a cyclo is very uncomfortable ethically, as

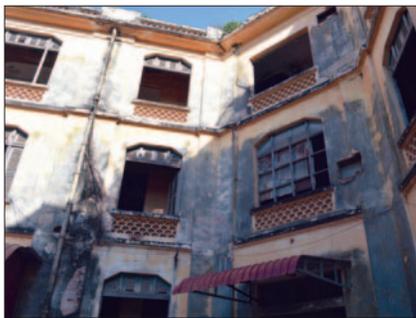
a human being is pedaling another human being around. But the shameful secret is that, for the passenger, it's very comfortable physically. There may not be a better way to see the French footprint than through the slow roll of the *cyclo-pousse*.

Our guide was a Cambodian architecture student from the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh. First, he took us to the surviving Post Office, which is across the street from Malraux's onetime hotel room. He led us to a wall where we gazed up at photos of old counters lost in the changing restorations of the place. The high ceilings, he pointed out, created a cooling effect necessary in the tropical heat. "Sometimes, I really

admire these colonial architects," he said.

We walked across the road into the aging French police commissariat, whose future is unknown. The cream-colored building on the corner is falling apart and seemingly uninhabitable, although I occasionally see lights on inside at night. During the day, people play volleyball in the courtyard.

Apart from a few notable exceptions — the National Museum, the Central Market, the National Library, parts of the Raffles Hotel Le Royal and sections of the Royal Palace grounds — most French structures around today were brought back to life to serve a different purpose, some hilariously different. One building site is now home to a branch of Cambodia's dominant coffee chain, Brown. I'm sure that the French developer behind a large colonial hotel on Phnom Penh's riverside would be delighted to know that it's now



This dilapidated building in Phnom Penh, a police station in colonial days, was featured in the movie "City of Ghosts."

a KFC. Other buildings have been put to use as government institutions, property developments and, in a win for cultural preservationists, UNESCO's Phnom Penh offices. Many have simply been left in disrepair or demolished to make way for more practical offerings, such as an office supply store.

The more visible and thriving aspects of the French scene in Phnom Penh are, not surprisingly, food and drink. There are so many good French restaurants and bars that singling out a handful is difficult, but a few stand out for their distinctively French ambience.

After the protectorate fizzled in 1953, the French didn't exactly leave. If anything, the community grew. Sihanouk, who called for independence and got it, was a Francophile among Francophiles. His preferences kept the relationship in good standing. "In Phnom Penh, the French seemed to be everywhere," Osborne writes in his book about the city.

But by the late 1960s, the French influence was on the decline. As commerce was nationalized, economic opportunities

dwindled. In 1970, Sihanouk was deposed while abroad, and Cambodia was increasingly drawn into the Vietnam War. The new government, egged on by one of the high-ranking officials behind the coup, Lon Nol, launched xenophobic campaigns against large ethnic groups in the country, including the Chinese and, most viciously, the Vietnamese. Buildings lost their royal names in an anti-royalist backlash.

In April 1975, the Khmer Rouge took over. Though some of the senior leaders in the radical communist movement had been educated in France, this didn't lead to an enlightened society. Nearly 2 million Cambodians perished from disease, overwork, starvation and execution.

Why a movement that targeted the educated classes, turned the country into a prison and eliminated markets and private property held off on demolishing the French buildings is still something of a mystery. During the architecture tour, I asked our guide for his theory. He dryly responded: "Maybe they didn't have time."

By early 1979, the Vietnamese military had ousted the Khmer Rouge. The occupation lasted for 10 years.

The French resurgence didn't really start until the early to mid-1990s. The 1991 Paris Peace Agreements and the ensuing United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia ushered in a wave of development money,

French nongovernmental organizations and French professionals.

Frédéric Amat, author of "Expatriates' Strange Lives in Cambodia," came as a journalist almost 20 years ago. He remembers the time well. Sihanouk, the French-speaking royal, came back from exile and reclaimed the throne. Cambodians living in France began to trickle back.

"When you arrived at the airport, the paper to fill was written in French and Khmer," he told me in an interview. "When you go to the hospitals, the forms were in French."

The community now stands at about 4,700, according to the embassy, a number that includes many Cambodians with dual citizenship. But while Amat says that "a huge number of French are coming every week, every month," he doesn't think that France exercises the political or cultural influence that it once did.

In December, my girlfriend and I signed a year's lease and moved into the apartment we'd looked at. A Cambodian family lives on the first floor; when I waved hello to the middle-aged couple, the man responded with "Bonjour."

An air conditioner was installed as part of the negotiations. Outside, contemporary Phnom Penh buildings. While I'm glad that I've found a bit of history, to me, the flat isn't Cambodia. I like the sounds of street-side restaurants coming to life in the morning, and I like giving directions to my colonial apartment by saying, "Go up the river and make a left at the street right before KFC."

The first night in the apartment, I reread "City of Ghosts." The film is about an American who pursues a former business associate in Phnom Penh, only to find himself entangled in a web of corruption.

It's rife with clichés, but I'd forgotten about the role played by the famous French actor Gerard Depardieu. He runs the hotel and cafe where Dillon's character sets up shop during his misadventure.

A Frenchman running a business in Phnom Penh well after the demise of colonial Cambodia. Now that's about right.

Freeman is a reporter and editor at the Phnom Penh Post in Cambodia.



PHOTOS BY JOSEPH FREEMAN/Special to The Washington Post

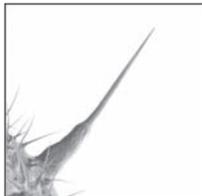
The exterior of the author's Phnom Penh apartment building, which was used as a hotel in French colonial times. The author greeted neighbors and a Cambodian man responded with "Bonjour."



The top of a French colonial-era church towers above a neighborhood street in Phnom Penh. Long out of use, the church has been filled with families, who live in cramped quarters.

# WEEKEND: MUSIC

## RECENT RELEASES



### Peter Gabriel

And I'll Scratch Yours (Real World)

In 2010, Peter Gabriel released an album of covers called "Scratch My Back," featuring his take on songs by Arcade Fire, Bon Iver, Lou Reed and others, and intended to follow it with an album of those artists covering his songs. It took nearly four years to gather what he needed to keep his promise, but much of "And I'll Scratch Yours" is certainly worth the wait.

Paul Simon's version of "Biko" is more tender than Gabriel's original, lamenting the death of anti-apartheid activist Stephen Biko with acoustic guitars and sweet string sections. Where Gabriel is defiant, Simon is more fragile and emotional. Reed turns the wistful "Solsbury Hill" into a stomping, snarling piece, filled with guitar roar.

Although some of the inventions don't quite match the originals, most of "And I'll Scratch Yours" keeps Gabriel's experimental spirit.

— Glenn Gamboa  
Newsday



### A Great Big World

Is There Anybody Out There? (Epic)

Considering how unexpected A Great Big World's breakthrough success with the wrenching ballad "Say Something" has been, it seems only fitting that the duo's debut, "Is There Anybody Out There?," is filled with even more surprises.

Ian Axel and Chad Vaccarino, who teamed up when they were both at NYU, shot to the top of the pop charts after their memorably performed "Say Something" with Christina Aguilera on "The Voice," the raw breakup song becoming even more poignant as a duet between Axel and Aguilera.

However, those looking to place A Great Big World into a small, acoustic balladeer box will be shocked by how eclectic "Is There Anybody Out There?" is musically and lyrically.

How this all fits together is probably a mystery to everyone but the band, but they approach it with such passion and joyfulness that you end up going along for the wild ride and enjoying it.

— Glenn Gamboa  
Newsday



### Bill Callahan

Have Fun With God (Drag City)

A companion to last year's acclaimed "Dream River," Bill Callahan's "Have Fun With God" is a remix record that reimagines the eight tracks as though channeled through Kingston, Jamaica. This is Bill Callahan in dub, bass-heavy, echoed examinations of "Dream River" songs that have been stripped of much of their structure to create something else altogether.

The practice was common in 1970s reggae, when artists such as Burning Spear and Peter Tosh offered both studio recordings and "versions" of the same song. The most influential producers, most notably King Tubby and Lee "Scratch" Perry, helped give birth to remix culture.

As a stand-alone entity, "Have Fun ..." is a mesmerizing, and utterly strange, listen. Though hardly essential for anyone but hardcore fans, it's a solid stab at the subgenre. Now if only he'd follow this with a Houston-style "chop and screw" rap album.

— Randall Roberts  
Los Angeles Times



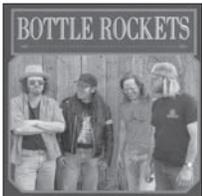
### Against Me!

Transgender Dysphoria Blues (Tantaly Treble)

Everything and nothing has changed on the new Against Me! album. The band still traffics in full-throttle and full-throated punk rock, deploying buzz-saw guitars and shout-along choruses for overt sociopolitical purposes. But on "Transgender Dysphoria Blues," the quartet has a new rhythm section and, in some ways, a new leader: the former Tom Gabel is now Laura Jane Grace, and most songs address her transformation in explicit, often profane language.

The vocals are still a gravelly bark, especially on the terrific title track. Grace and fellow guitarist James Bowman share anthemic riffs inspired by the Clash, Billy Bragg, and NOFX, but there's more of the Thermals and Gaslight Anthem here. The guitars have more gloss than grit, while the lyrics are unvarnished (and often unprintable). This fascinating, brief album flags a bit in its second half, but it's provocative throughout.

— Steve Klinge  
The Philadelphia Inquirer



### Bottle Rockets

Bottle Rockets/The Brooklyn Side (Bloodshot)

Falling between Lynyrd Skynyrd and Merle Haggard it is not a formula for popular success. But that too-rock-for-country, too-country-for-rock approach is part of the charm of the Bottle Rockets, who at their best tell sharp-witted stories of working-class life without a trace of condescension or irony.

The Missouri band was at its best on its two albums, from 1993 and 1995, back in print on this two-disc set. The debut established singer-guitarist Brian Henneman, a former roadie for Uncle Tupelo, as a refreshingly unaffected songwriter. It was a more plaintively devastating song than "Kerosene." With "The Brooklyn Side," the Bottle Rockets delivered on the promise of its predecessor, as grabbers like "Welfare Music" and "1,000 Dollar Car" highlighted a masterpiece. Each disc comes with numerous bonus tracks, including demos, outtakes and covers.

— Nick Cristiano  
The Philadelphia Inquirer



### Young the Giant

Mind Over Matter (Fueled by Ramen)

Young the Giant surprised the rock world with its smashes "Cough Syrup" and "My Body" in 2010, unusual anthems that connected with huge audiences. When it came time to follow up the successful debut, though, the California band froze for a bit. "Mind Over Matter" is their post-writer's-block effort, and it feels oddly unsure and confined. There's clearly some worry they're trying to shake off, especially in the single "It's About Time," where they discuss paralysis and lurch into Incubus territory. Oddly, they are actually at their poppiest on the dance-beat-driven "Paralysis," showing they learned how to make their disaster fears work for them.

— Glenn Gamboa  
Newsday



### Hurray for the Riff Raff

Small Town Heroes (ATO)

Roots-music lovers have a new heroine to discover in Alynda Lee Segarra. This Bronx-born folk singer of Puerto Rican descent ran away from home to ride the rails at 17 and wound up in New Orleans. Her collective, Hurray for the Riff Raff, has in Segarra a commanding front-woman who never overings and writes songs of startling intelligence and empathy that reintegrate the tried-and-true without ever seeming to try too hard.

"The Body Electric," a song with a title inspired by Walt Whitman that's a feminist corrective to the romanticized misogyny of murder ballads, is the one that'll get lots of attention. But this Americana coming-out party is rock-solid from start to finish.

— Dan DeLuca  
The Philadelphia Inquirer



### Little Mix

Salute (Syco/Columbia)

Little Mix arrived in the U.S. last year with surprising force, scoring the highest chart debut for a British girl group's first album. (Sorry, Spice Girls.) Might success have come too soon for these alums of the U.K. "X Factor"? Where the women put across an up-for-anthing spirit on their debut album, "DNA," here they sag under the weight of too many wind-swept piano ballads and booming productions seemingly modeled on Katy Perry's "Roar."

Flashes of the playful old Little Mix appear in the dubstep-laced "Move" and "Nothing Feels Like You." More typical of "Salute" is the dreary "These Four Walls," about "the feeling that the end has come." What a buzz kill.

— Mikael Wood  
Los Angeles Times



### Neil Finn

Dizzy Heights (Lester)

Neil Finn has written effortless pop songs since the '70s, in Split Enz and, especially, in Crowded House. He also has a penchant for working with family: brother Tim in Split Enz and the Finn Brothers; wife Sharon in the Pajama Club; and, on "Dizzy Heights," sons Liam (a successful singer-songwriter in his own right) and Elroy as well as his wife. "Dizzy Heights" steps away from the perfectly crafted guitar pop that has usually been Finn's specialty. At times, it's more abstract and experimental. Elsewhere, Finn tries his hand at blue-eyed soul. The latter works better than the former, but Finn sounds like he's working to stretch outside of what he does best.

— Steve Klinge  
The Philadelphia Inquirer



### Stephen Malkmus & The Jicks

Wig Out at Jagbags (Matador)

"Wig Out at Jagbags" is the first Jicks album since Stephen Malkmus reunited with his old Pavement buddies for a tour, and its emphasis on wit, wordplay and concision could be residual effects of revisiting his classic indie-rock songs from the '90s. The funny "Lariat" and catchy "The Janitor Revealed" possess Pavement's breezy charm, and the album is dense with great Malkmus quips. With its inside-basketball jokes (including the easy-listening, ironically groovy "J Smooch"), and its jabs at, among other things, hipster nostalgia for the Pavement era and Foxglen, "Wig Out at Jagbags" is Malkmus at his ironic, comic best.

— Steve Klinge  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

## WEEKEND: MUSIC



Singer-songwriter Robert Ellis shows his extensive range and offers something for everyone on his new album, "The Lights from the Chemical Plant."

Courtesy of New West Records

## Robert Ellis

The Lights from the Chemical Plant (New West)

Had things been different, Robert Ellis might be leading country music's long-predicted return to its roots. Alas, Ellis finds that role unappealing and has mostly turned his back on his classic country sound with a new album of singer-songwriter-influenced material, "The Lights from the Chemical Plant."

This album leans more on the influences of storytellers Paul Simon and Randy Newman than the Texas troubadours who have shown through on his last two albums. This allows Ellis to show off his profound songwriting skills in a different, no less appealing way. He's whimsical on "TV Song,"

poignant on "Chemical Plant," nails the melancholy barroom piano ballad "Bottle of Wine" and unfurls the racing sails on "Only Lies."

He even throws in a well-wrought cover of Simon's "Still Crazy After All These Years" for good measure.

All great moments, but the best come

when Ellis leans back toward his own roots. When the 25-year-old opens his mouth, we still hear the twang of southeastern Texas. And when he arranged his songs with veteran producer Jacques King, he usually pushed Will Van Horn's often towering pedal steel guitar to the front of the mix.

He addresses this directly on the album's most moving track, "Houston," a song written as he packed his things for Nashville, Tenn., during a recent move. "Oh, Houston, this is not goodbye/you will be living inside my heart ..." He finishes that song with a towering guitar solo, then shows you what he can really do on six string with the album's best cut, the honky-tonk hell-and-brimstone burner "Sing Along."

In the end, Ellis offers a little bit of something for everyone — not a claim many can make.

— Chris Talbott  
The Associated Press



Courtesy of Nasty Little Man

Daughters of visionary jazz musician Charlie Haden, the Haden Triplets, from left: Rachel, Petra and Tanya, recently released their self-titled debut album.

## The Haden Triplets

The Haden Triplets (Third Man Records)

What possible street cred could there be in a roots-country record sung by three New York-born, Los Angeles-reared sisters and produced by a guy who grew up in Santa Monica, Calif.? Plenty, when the singers are Petra, Tanya and Rachel Haden, the triplet daughters of jazz luminary Charlie Haden, and that producer happens to be Ry Cooder.

It's worth knowing that before the triplets' dad earned his stripes in the jazz world, Charlie spent many years performing country music with his family throughout the Midwest — a history he tapped in his 2008 album, "Rambling Boy," for which Tanya and Rachel were along for the musical ride.

So, no big surprise that his offspring ab-

sorbed a fondness for songs they tackle here such as the Carter Family's "Single Girl, Married Girl," the 1955 Kitty Wells hit "Making Believe" and the Louvin Brothers' existentially heartbreaking "When I Stop Dreaming." They're not utterly rooted in old-timey selections, however: They also take on Nick Lowe's sweet "Raining Raining."

Cooder's production is fittingly raw, putting no phony gloss on songs brimming with heart-on-sleeve honesty. Petra Haden has created a cottage industry with multitracked recordings showcasing the versatility of her own voice, but in tandem with her sisters, the vocal lines bring to bear the power of family harmony that's long been an important foundation of traditional country music. The Haden Triplets carry on that tradition marvelously.

— Randy Lewis  
Los Angeles Times



WEEKEND: BOOKS

# A tale of family, grief and faith

Missing woman, troubled soldier haunt Oates' latest novel, 'Carthage'

By AMANDA ST. AMAND  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

When a book begins by telling readers that a young woman, 19, has vanished into the deep woods, the expected outcome is rarely happy.

But in Joyce Carol Oates' newest book, "Carthage," perhaps the outcome is not quite so bleak. For the first half of the book, readers make their own assumptions about what has happened to Cressida Mayfield, the younger of Zeno Mayfield's two daughters, and whether she indeed met a gruesome fate at the hands of her sister's former fiancé.

Oates' book delves into a far more layered portrayal than merely a young woman's fate — the relationship between Cressida and her family and why the engagement of her sister,

Juliet, and a soldier, Brett, fell apart. Even when he comes home injured, including disfiguring facial scars, Juliet stands by him.

"On the Fourth of July, Juliet had returned home early — and alone — (the most gorgeous, gaudy fireworks had just begun exploding in the sky above Palisade Park) to inform her family that the engagement had ended. Her cheeks were tear-streaked. Her face had lost its luminosity and looked almost plain."

Although Juliet mourns the loss, it's not something she discusses with Cressida. In the Mayfield family, Juliet is the pretty one and Cressida is the smart (and somewhat strange) one. Their mother, Arlette, clearly prefers Juliet, while Zeno harbors a soft spot for Cressida.

So when Cressida disappears — and the family quickly learns she last was seen at a somewhat seedy bar with Brett — alle-

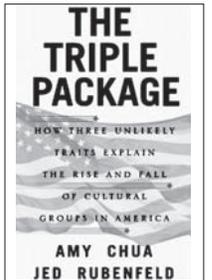
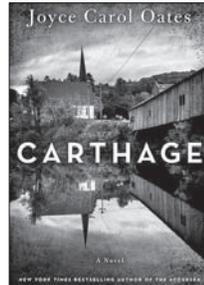
giances are formed among the family and the entire town.

Most of them have no problem believing that Brett harmed and possibly killed Cressida; others believe Cressida is to blame.

Oates delves into the minds of Zeno and Cressida, giving us a glimpse of why they think and act as they do. Arlette and Juliet are not as fully drawn, yet the author paints a scarily accurate picture of sibling rivalry and parental favoritism.

Brett might be the most compelling and mysterious figure for much of the tale. But once Oates takes us into his memories of what he endured during the war in Iraq, we understand a great deal more about his actions that help tear the Mayfield family apart.

Readers in search of a happy ending won't find it here, but they will find a well-told tale of family, grief and faith.



**The Triple Package**  
Amy Chua and Jed Rubenfeld

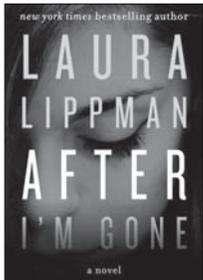
More than two centuries ago, our Founding Fathers declared that all human beings are born with the same inherent potential. Having the phrase "created equal" in our Declaration of Independence has been one the coolest things about being an American.

Now, married Yale law professors Amy Chua and Jed Rubenfeld have stepped forward to say that being "created equal" doesn't matter. Instead, their controversial new book argues that our cultural background largely determines our fate.

The luckiest Americans, they say, are born with "The Triple Package," a set of can-do values handed down to them by their families. Chua and Rubenfeld know that saying some of us are born to more ambitious cultures than others makes them sound "un-American," but they don't care. Chua's previous book, "The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother," with its portrayal of Asian-American mothers as control freaks, seems to have emboldened the author and her husband.

"The Triple Package" is a grim book. It will convince few and offend many, though one senses the authors believe themselves to be too special to care.

— Hector Tobar  
Los Angeles Times



**After I'm Gone**  
Laura Lippman

Few of us ever completely recover from the loss of a loved one. Life, of course, goes on and can be rich and fulfilling. But that loss never entirely disappears.

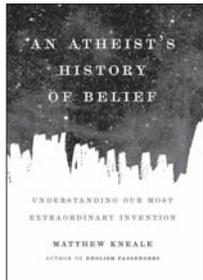
Laura Lippman explores how a disappearance affects a family for decades in the enthralling "After I'm Gone." Lippman tracks the history of five women united by the betrayal of one man. "After I'm Gone" is a quiet mystery — no car chases, barely a gun in sight — that derives its tension from the delicate balance that affects each woman.

"After I'm Gone" works well as a story of misplaced love, of consequences and the fragility of memory, as well as a solid private detective story. It also explores a history of women through the decades, from the late 1950s through 2012, wrapped around the rituals such as weddings, baby showers, bat mitzvahs that define and unite people, and sometimes pull them apart.

Lippman insightfully delves into each character, showing how each woman matures or falters through the years.

The tension-filled "After I'm Gone" succinctly examines the greatest mystery of all — crimes of the heart.

— Oline H. Cogdill  
Sun-Sentinel



**An Atheist's History of Belief**  
Matthew Kneale

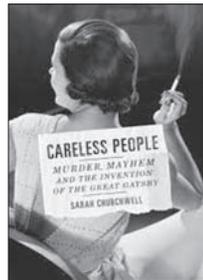
"As the son of a Manx Methodist atheist and a refugee German Jewish atheist," Matthew Kneale tells us in the first sentence of "An Atheist's History of Belief: Understanding Our Most Extraordinary Invention." "I have never been much of a believer." It's a great way to begin a book on faith, by staking out the territory of skepticism.

"From the earliest times," he reflects, "every religion has given people comfort by offering ways — so their followers believe — of keeping their worst nightmares at bay. ... As people's lifestyles have altered, so have the things they most fear. It is the changes in our fears, I would argue, that have caused our religious ideas to change."

Kneale frames faith as an evolving story we tell ourselves. Beginning 33,000 years ago, with the development of animal spirits and trance worship, he works his way up to contemporary movements such as Scientology and al-Qaida, for which spirituality masks a more secular set of ends.

Here Kneale delivers a fairly straightforward, if selective, history of religion, which he depicts as an inherently political force.

— David L. Ulin  
Los Angeles Times



**Careless People**  
Sarah Churchill

This zesty cocktail of history, biography and literary criticism so vividly captures the disordered existence of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald during the 18-month sojourn on Long Island that inspired his greatest novel, many readers will close her book astonished that Scott managed to write "The Great Gatsby" at all.

It's even more astonishing to realize that "Gatsby" was published in 1925 to mixed reviews, many dismissing it as a superficial melodrama. Sarah Churchill well helps us see how critics could have so spectacularly misjudged Fitzgerald's masterpiece by elucidating its links to various events forgotten today but well known to contemporary readers, including a double murder in New Jersey in September 1922.

Churchill doesn't claim that "Gatsby" was directly inspired by the deaths of Episcopal minister Edward W. Hall and his parishioner-lover, Eleanor Mills. Rather, she contends that the story of the Hall-Mills murders is the novel's "phantom double ... a nightmare version of grotesque reality, unrelieved by the consolations of art." There are many such murky statements in Churchill's book, which is stronger on atmosphere than intellectual rigor.

— Wendy Smith/Newsday



**The Martian**  
Andy Weir

In the near future, mankind has successfully landed manned missions on Mars without mishap. The Ares 3 team, the third to explore the surface, has equipment, shelter and supplies for a two-month stay on the Red Planet.

But a major windstorm changes their circumstances in a hurry in Andy Weir's debut novel, "The Martian," a story for readers who enjoy thrillers, science fiction, nonfiction or flat-out adventure.

The crew is forced to evacuate when dust begins to destroy their base camp. Mark Watney's pressure suit is torn by a piece of shrapnel, and the other crew members, assuming the worst, take off, leaving Watney behind. After the wind dies down and the dust settles, he regains consciousness and discovers that he's been abandoned — and the only person remaining on the planet.

After repairing his suit and the shelter, Watney realizes he must figure out how to survive so that he can be rescued by the crew of the next mission, which is scheduled to arrive in a few years.

Weir has created an authentic portrayal of the future of space travel, and Watney is the perfect character to follow as he struggles in an unknown and hostile environment.

— Jeff Ayers/AP

## WEEKEND: ENTERTAINMENT

## NEW ON DVD

“*Game of Thrones: The Complete Third Season*”: Even if this wasn’t one of the best series on television, it would be worth picking up this box set just to watch the “Red Wedding” episode. We won’t spoil it for those of you who haven’t seen it, but it’s safe to say that once you see it, you’ll never forget it. Among the many DVD extras are new looks at that infamous episode. But one episode doesn’t make for a great TV show. “*Game of Thrones*” has earned high praise for being a engaging and captivating story of battling families of the Seven Kingdoms based on the books by George R. R. Martin. Additional material includes multiple featurettes, extended and deleted scenes and audio commentaries.



HBO/AP

Peter Dinklage, left, Sibel Kekili and Sophie Turner star in “*Game of Thrones*.” The third season is available on DVD.

“*Nurse Jackie: Season 5*”: The highly praised “*Nurse Jackie*” is a triumph of acting for the Emmy-winning Edie Falco. From the drug-addicted medical professional to this season’s post-rehab aftermath, Falco has given pure acting life to the role. Falco masterfully navigates the character through this season as she goes from nurse to patient. It doesn’t hurt that she has a superb supporting cast. The DVD set includes all 10 episodes from the season as well as audio commentaries with the cast and crew, two behind-the-scenes featurettes, a gag reel and deleted scenes.

**Also available:**  
**“Hellbenders”:** Twisted tale of rebel ministers.  
**“Tom and Jerry: Mouse Trouble”:** New collection of 30 cartoons featuring cat and mouse antics.  
**“Balls to the Wall”:** Man is forced to moonlight as an exotic dancer.  
**“Bad Dreams”:** Sole survivor of a psycho-led mass suicide awakens from a 13-year coma.  
**“Darkman Collector’s Edition”:** The Blu-ray features cast interviews.  
**“Laughing to the Bank”:** Down-on-his-luck actor won’t take no for an answer.  
**“The Invoking”:** An inherited home comes with deadly problems.  
**“Fists of Legend”:** Reality TV show recruits street-fighting legends to a bloody battle.  
**“Battle of the Damned”:** You can pick your apocalypse — germ warfare, zombie assaults and/or deadly robots.  
**“Mortal Enemies”:** Two men are bound by choice, rather than blood.  
**“Terry Fator: Live in Concert”:** Ventriloquist and his army of puppets tackle everything from Broadway to Bieber.  
**“Property Wars”:** Buyers gamble on houses put up for auction in Phoenix.  
**“League of Super Evil”:** Volumes one and two of the animated series are available.  
 — Rick Bentley/The Fresno Bee

# 60 years an actor, Oscar nominee June Squibb takes a bow

By JAKE COYLE  
The Associated Press

June Squibb recently ducked into a Times Square office above the theaters she spent decades knocking about, taking any decent part she could get.

“We ran around,” she recalls. “We ate matinee days.”

After a lifetime of Broadway, regional theater, cabaret, musicals, summer stock and bit movie roles, Squibb is, at 84, an Oscar nominee. Her supporting actress nod came not for playing — as you might expect — a dignified elderly woman or regal historical figure, but for a prickly, foul-mouthed Midwestern matriarch who, in her most memorable scene, lifts her skirt up at a gravestone. In Alexander Payne’s “*Nebraska*,” her Kate Grant epitomizes heartland tenacity.

The accolades (she was most recently given the Virtuoso Award at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival) have brought Squibb more attention than she’s ever received in a career spanning 60 years, from playing the stripper Electra in “*Gypsy*” on Broadway in 1960 to a tough-talking secretary in “*Scent of a Woman*.”

If Squibb were to win the Academy Award, she’d be the oldest ever to win for acting. It’s a very welcome victory lap for a veteran used to working in near-anonymity. The actress Margo Martindale, Squibb’s friend and former Upper West Side neighbor of 30-plus years, says: “I tried to call her for three days, but, you know, she’s too busy!”



Get the latest on the Academy Awards at [stripes.com/oscars2014](http://stripes.com/oscars2014)

Squibb, who has Kate’s matter-of-factness but not her coarse frankness, has enjoyed the attention with a sincere but bemused gratitude.

“It’s not like I just all at once burst out acting,” she says. “I’ve been doing this for years. I’ve enjoyed the film work tremendously. So the fact that it comes in film, rather than in stage, I feel like I belong.”

Squibb grew up the daughter of an insurance salesman and a piano-playing mother in the small town of Vandalia, Ill. “It was never, ‘I want to be’ or ‘This is what I’ll do,’” she says. “It was ‘I am.’ That’s all I knew I was: ‘I’m an actress. I have no idea where it came from. None.’”

She worked primarily in musicals before making an abrupt shift to drama. She later made a similar move into movies. At 60, she landed the first three parts she auditioned for: Woody Allen’s “*Alice*,” “*Scent of a Woman*” and Martin Scorsese’s “*The Age of Innocence*.”

She credits her evolution as an actress entirely to her late second husband, Charles Kakatsakis, a well-known acting instructor who demanded realism.

“He used to scream in class: ‘Don’t act! Don’t act!’” says Squibb. “I would say, ‘Well, what do you do then?’ And he said, ‘Listen to what the other actors are

saying and if any of them talk to you, answer them back!’”

Squibb first heard about the “*Nebraska*” role from Martindale, who starred in Payne’s “*Paris je t’aime*” short film, and recommended the script to Squibb. Squibb had worked with Payne before, playing Jack Nicholson’s wife in “*About Schmidt*,” but the director didn’t initially think of her for “*Nebraska*.” He changed his mind after Squibb sent in an audition tape with two versions of Kate, one volatile and the other more controlled.

In the film, Kate starts as what seems a typically combative (albeit especially volatile) spouse to Bruce Dern’s Woody Grant, an aging alcoholic with senility setting in. Though much of the film revolves around Woody’s relationship with one of his two sons (Will Forte), Squibb provides, as she says, some “spice” to the melancholy tale, often recalling a youth when all the boys were trying to “get in my bloomers.”

They make for a portrait of marriage defined not by the high ideals of love but simply hanging together. One of the movie’s most tender moments comes when Kate calls Woody “you big idiot.”

“There are parts of her that I relate to,” says Squibb. “Her strength.”

Dern, also nominated for an Oscar, says all his co-star ever needed was “someone to manually turn on the faucet that is June Squibb.”

“Her cause is similar to mine, if you want to call them causes,” says the 77-year-old Dern. “Her journey. She’s had to work a long, long time with what comes down the road. Finally, a guy wrote a part for her.”

Retirement, never a thought before, is out of the question for both her and Dern. “This is wonderful,” she says. “We’re thrilled and proud of the film. But, really, both of us want to go on to another job.”

She plans to attend the Academy Awards with her son, Harry Kakatsakis, a filmmaker.

“It’s not like I just all at once burst out acting. I’ve been doing this for years.”

June Squibb

DAN HALLMAN, INVISION/AP



# WEEKEND: HEALTH & FITNESS

## Fuel with fruit

### Homemade energy bars give long-distance runners a boost

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**T**empting as it might be to cozy up on the couch and hibernate during winter, slacking off is not an option for marathon runners.

Some 30,000 runners from across the U.S. and beyond are expected to participate in the 2014 Dick's Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon and UPMC Health Plan Pittsburgh Half Marathon on May 4. And despite the snow and cold, the vast majority has already logged several of many planned training runs.

My daughter, Catherine, and I are already a month deep into our 16-week schedule, which includes grueling speed workouts and torturous hill repeats on top of early-morning long runs every Saturday, in any and all kinds of weather. (Single digit temps? That's what face masks and hand warmers are for.) It's fun, but it also means that until Mother's Day, I'm going to be sore, grumpy and not much fun during Friday night happy hours.

Not to mention hunger. Running, of course, burns calories — roughly 100 a mile at a moderate pace. Only problem is, you don't always feel like eating before you hit the track and trail, especially when you have to drag your body out of bed before dawn. Many runners, in fact, barely can choke down a handful of Cheerios with their coffee before a morning workout. Let alone a bowl of oatmeal, one of the most recommended pre-workout foods for a run of an hour or more.

Still, dashing out the door on an empty stomach is a mistake.

Eating before training has been shown to improve performance. And isn't that every marathoner's goal — to be able to perform?

Unless you're the type who eats before going to bed, you're going to wake up with a completely empty tank. (Remember, your body has been fasting for eight or more hours.) That could lead to fatigue or dizziness during your workout or worse, running out of energy completely before the big finish.

Do your body good, and you'll run strong.

The best pre-run breakfast consists mainly of carbohydrates, since they're quickly digested and are your body's preferred fuel source, says Heather Mangieri, a registered dietitian and spokeswoman for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics who works with endurance athletes. Aim for about 30 grams for runs longer than a hour or intense workouts. You also need a little protein to help reduce post-exercise muscle soreness.

One easy solution is a homemade energy bar. They're easy to make the night before, good for the body and require no thinking the morning of. Just grab and go.

The main benefit of a homemade bar as opposed to, say, a CLIF bar, notes Mangieri, is that you can adjust the ingredients based on individual taste and needs. Looking to cut a few calories? Simply omit the nuts or cut them into smaller portions. Not crazy about raisins? Substitute dried cranberries or blueberries or chop up a handful of dried apricots. Or heck, add all three.

How big a bar you'll want to eat depends on how much time until takeoff, the number of miles planned and how fast you're going to log them; the fuel required to run five or six miles is completely different from the amount needed to crank out 10 or 12 miles. If you plan on starting your run within an hour, opt for a smaller portion that weighs in at about 200 calories; if you have more time to digest, go for a larger-sized bar that will provide closer to 300 calories, Mangieri says.

My personal favorite was probably the blackberry breakfast bar, which combines

the perfect amount of crunch with gooey sweetness. But you can't go wrong with the simple cereal-and-fruit bars made with puffed rice and cashew butter that Mangieri suggests. It's crunchy, buttery, sweet and satisfying all at the same time, and only 220 calories. The DIY banana-oat energy bar I found in the new "Runner's World Cookbook" also is a winner, especially since it's a great way to use up those bananas you let ripen on the counter a day or two too long.



PHOTOS BY GRECHEN MCKAY, PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE/MCT

**How can something made with blackberries not be good? Crunchy with a gooey center, these breakfast bars are packed with immune-boosting vitamin C and antioxidants, which help fight inflammation.**

### SUPER-SIMPLE CEREAL-AND-FRUIT BAR

- 1 cup rice cereal (such as Rice Krispies)
  - 1 cup uncooked quick-cooking oats, whole or ground in a food processor
  - 3 tablespoons ground flaxseed
  - 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
  - ¼ cup chopped dried fruit
  - ½ cup chopped walnuts or almonds (or whatever nut you prefer)
  - ¼ cup brown rice syrup, honey or molasses
  - 2 tablespoons dark brown sugar
  - ½ cup nut butter (almond, cashew, peanut, etc.)
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 1 tablespoon honey, for drizzling
- In a large bowl, combine rice cereal, oats, flax seed, cinnamon, dried fruits and nuts. Mix well. (A large bowl is recommended because you will need extra room for when the other ingredients are added.)

In a small saucepan over medium-high heat, bring syrup and brown sugar to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in nut butter and vanilla.

Pour hot nut butter mixture into the bowl of dry ingredients, stirring well (mixture will be very stiff). Use a piece of wax paper to press the mixture into an 8-by-8-inch pan that has been sprayed with cooking spray. Let cool.

Drizzle 1 tablespoon honey over the top of the pressed, cooled mixture. Cut into 8 bars. Wrap each bar individually in plastic wrap and store in the refrigerator.

Makes 8 bars.  
Nutrition per bar: 220 calories, 30 grams carbs, 6 grams protein, 9 grams fat

Heather Mangieri, Nutrition Checkup (nutritioncheckup.com)

### BANANA-OAT ENERGY BARS

These high-carb bars are extremely filling, so you may want to portion them a bit smaller. I substituted pecans and raisins.

- ¾ cup chopped walnuts
  - 2 very overripe bananas
  - ½ cup vegetable oil
  - 1 cup unbleached cane sugar or granulated sugar
  - ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 1½ cups old-fashioned rolled oats
  - ¾ cup unbleached all-purpose flour (or replace up to ½ cup with whole-wheat flour)
  - ¾ teaspoon baking powder
  - ½ teaspoon salt
  - ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
  - ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
  - ¼ teaspoon baking soda
  - ¾ cup dried cranberries
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat an 8-by-8-inch baking pan with cooking spray.

Spread nuts on an ungreased baking sheet and toast in oven for 5 to 8 minutes, or until fragrant.

Meanwhile, mash bananas in a medium mixing bowl. Add oil, sugar and vanilla extract. Mix until smooth.

In large mixing bowl, combine oats, flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and baking soda. Add banana mixture and stir until just combined. Fold in the nuts and cranberries, being careful not to overmix.

Pour mixture into prepared pan and spread evenly. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until top is browned and a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out nearly clean. Allow to cool completely before cutting.

Makes 12 bars.  
Nutrition per bar: 303 calories, 41 grams carbs, 3 grams fiber, 4 grams protein, 15 grams total fat/2 grams saturated fat

"The Runner's World Cookbook: 150 Ultimate Recipes for Fueling Up and Slimming Down" (Rodale)

### BLACKBERRY BREAKFAST BARS

Crunchy on top and fruity in the middle, these easy breakfast bars are loaded with slow-release carbs and fiber. Blackberries also are high in immune-boosting vitamin C and antioxidants, which help fight inflammation. So go ahead, have another after your run!

- For filling:  
2 cups blackberries, defrosted if frozen  
2 tablespoons sugar  
2 tablespoons water  
Finely grated zest and juice of ½ lemon  
1 teaspoon cinnamon
- For bar:  
1 cup whole-wheat flour  
1 cup rolled oats  
½ cup packed light brown sugar  
1 teaspoon cinnamon, plus more for dusting  
¼ teaspoon baking soda  
1 stick (8 tablespoons) butter, melted

Put all filling ingredients in a large saucepan over medium heat and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for about 10 minutes, stirring regularly, until blackberries are breaking down and taking on a sauce-like appearance (it will be thin). Remove from heat and set aside.

Put flour, oats, brown sugar, cinnamon and baking soda into a medium bowl. Add butter and stir until well combined.

Press half the oat mixture into an even layer in a greased 8-inch square baking pan and place in a preheated oven, at 350 degrees, for 20 minutes.

Let cool slightly, then spread blackberry filling evenly over the crust. Sprinkle over remaining oat mixture; use your hands to gently press it into the filling.

Return to oven for another 20 minutes, until topping is golden. Let cool, then cut into 16 bars to serve.

Makes 16 bars.

"Eat Yourself to Energy: Ingredients & Recipes to Power You Through the Day" by Gill Paul (Hachette)

These delicious, easy-to-make cereal-and-fruit energy bars are made with puffed rice, oatmeal, dried fruit and cashew butter.

## WEEKEND: FAMILY



KIM HAIRSTON, THE BALTIMORE SUN/MCT

From left, Katie Boltz, Iris Zou, Abby Heuback and Taylor Liu, all seniors at Dulaney High School in Timonium, Md., participate in an Advance Placement biology class. While some parents and educators argue that it is important for students to take AP classes as a way to better prepare for college, others believe the added pressure can alter the nature of the high school experience and cause undue stress.

# Time to scale back?

## Parents, educators rethinking role of AP classes

By LIZ BOWIE  
The Baltimore Sun

If there is one thing Katie Boltz has mastered in high school, it is how to use every minute of her day efficiently. With five Advanced Placement classes, she doesn't text her friends or watch TV so she can focus on homework—but still only manages three or four hours of sleep some nights.

"Originally, I thought I would really like all of these classes," said the 17-year-old senior at Dulaney High School in Timonium, Md., adding that when she is overwhelmed, she questions the decision to take so many demanding classes at one time. "It is definitely a lot."

Boltz is one of a growing number of students in Maryland and throughout the nation juggling a full plate of college-level classes in high school. In the past decade, the number of students nationwide who take more than three AP exams a year has doubled, to about 175,000.

Designed a half-century ago to give a few thousand elite students a chance to skip introductory college classes, Advanced Placement is now the required portal to college for any ambitious teen.

But its widespread acceptance as a national gold standard has altered the nature of high school for students like Boltz, some critics say. They see an education system that rewards top students who take 10 to 12 AP classes during their high school careers — the equivalent of more than a year of college — but narrows the choice of classes they can take and creates undue stress.

The system is driven partly, they say, by colleges that use Advanced Placement — the number of classes

taken and exam scores earned — to rank applicants, and by savvy local school administrators who want to boost a school's national rankings. School districts routinely point to those rankings, giving principals an incentive to get more students to take the classes.

Now some parents, educators and even university admissions officers are rethinking the role of AP classes.

The admissions office for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is advising applicants that there is no benefit from taking more than five AP classes in high school. And a New York public high school has dumped the program in favor of what it sees as a better college preparatory curriculum.

"The relentless marketing effort by many principals to place a greater number of kids into a greater number of AP classes—all in a single semester, as early in a student's career as possible—is backfiring," said Mary Ellen Pease, a co-founder of Advocates for Better Course Choices in Baltimore County, Md., Public Schools.

Such protests represent a minority voice, and educators and parents say they have little influence over such a national juggernaut. Most education leaders across the nation have embraced the expansion of AP, seeing it as a way to raise achievement and provide educational equity to students in poorly performing schools.

But its ever-expanding use has meant that high-achieving students are loaded with the courses while some unprepared students at low-performing schools flounder and fail. A Baltimore Sun investigation last year showed that many students are given high grades in the AP

classes but then fail the exams.

But AP teachers say having a tough national exam that only 60 percent of test takers pass has pushed students and schools to a higher level of achievement.

Trevor Packer, who leads the AP program for the nonprofit College Board — with members that include more than 6,000 colleges, universities, school districts and education organizations — has concerns about students who take too many AP classes but doesn't think it's a widespread problem.

"I don't love the idea of students taking AP just so they can stand out in college admissions," he said. "I want students to take AP because they want to learn at a higher level and they are passionate about that subject. There is some harm happening there that we all want to acknowledge. I just don't think the data support that as a national concern right now."

However, Packer's organization encourages students to take the classes, handing out awards to graduates who have taken a high number of the exams and earned top scores.

Few across the nation question the value of encouraging well-prepared students to try AP classes. The vast majority of students — about 80 percent nationwide who take an AP course and the corresponding exam — take just one to three classes a year.

"When taught properly, the richness of Advanced Placement courses allows students to experience content at a depth normally unavailable to them in other high school courses," said Martin Stranathan, Boltz's AP biology teacher at Dulaney High School.

## SPOUSE CALLS

## A deployed airman's tips for marital bliss

An airman serving in Afghanistan sent in this column to commemorate his 20th wedding anniversary. He invites readers to take a look at what military life did to his marriage. He writes:

Arriving at our first operational duty assignment, I worked closely with a captain who insisted that the Air Force cost him his marriage. In the 19 years since, I continued to hear about marital problems caused by military life. As my wife, Terri, and I approach our "Big 2-0," I have been reflecting on our marriage and our lives. Like it or not, the military has been the catalyst to our relationship development, though it has not been without painful and difficult times. What we have is a true love story. I am spending my life with my best friend.

Since the first day of our marriage, Terri has always looked forward to our 20th anniversary, but as the official date approaches, I will miss it by 8,000 miles. I am once again away from her for 365 days, this time in beautiful Kabul.

How do I make up for my absence? This story is my gift: Happy 20th Anniversary, Terri Dawn Stricklin. I hope this shows how much I love you and how much our relationship means to me.

For anyone else reading this — military or civilian — the situations we experience may be out of our control, but our reactions are not. Here are some of the ways my wife and I choose to approach our marriage and the demands of military life.

**Marriage is not a two-way street:** A marriage is filled with twists, turns and detours, never a straight road. If yours is a two-way street, you are going a different direction than your spouse, when you should be on a one-way adventure. For any major choice driving a significant change in our future, we discuss our wishes and determine our direction.

**Marriage is not a 50/50 proposition:** Early in our marriage, I thought everything in the relationship should be 50/50. This mentality leads both sides down a dangerous path of scorekeeping. Don't turn a marriage into a math equation. For success, the union must be a 100/100 venture. You are devoting your life to one person "until death do you part." Do you really want half effort?

**Random acts of flowers:** The real reason I discovered this principle is because the Air Force sends me TDY about every year on my wife's birthday and most Valentine's Days, so on random days, I bring her flowers. I found these flowers mean more to my wife than flowers dictated by official holidays.

**Right elegant, wrong argue:** We stick to the issue and do not resort to insults and past issues. Because of the high-stress, high-risk environment of military life, we resolve fights before going to sleep. This way, we wake every day in love and never run the risk of having our last words be heated.

**Love's tide stronger flows:** A Roman poet proclaimed, "Always towards lovers, love's tide stronger flows." Although I hate being station away from my family, I get more quality talks with them when I am 8,000 miles away than most families do sitting on the same couch. We have to be intentional about our communication and align our schedules. Being apart actually brings us closer together.

**Flirt:** Say, "I love you, I need you, I want you," often. Win your spouse over every day.

**The honeymoon is never over:** Time apart is a challenge for military couples, but the reunions are amazing. Every time we reunite it feels like our honeymoon all over again. We get that feeling often, because we don't know how long a stolen moment will last before the Air Force separates us again.

**Brand recognition:** What began as our email address has evolved into the "StricklinSix" brand and represents our family. As we moved in and out of 14 houses in 19 years, we realized we were not just a family but a team. It is the result of 20 amazing years of marriage. Thank you, Terri, for being my wife, my life, and my best friend. I cannot wait to see what next 20 years bring.

Chris and his wife, Terri, have four children: Zachary, Bethany Shae, Aubree Lu and Andrew. Follow him on Twitter @ChrisStricklin or write to him at chris.stricklin@live.com. See the rest of his letter on Spouse Calls online.

Terri Barnes is a military wife and mother of three. Contact her at spousecalls@stripes.com or comment on Spouse Calls online at stripes.com/go/spousecalls.



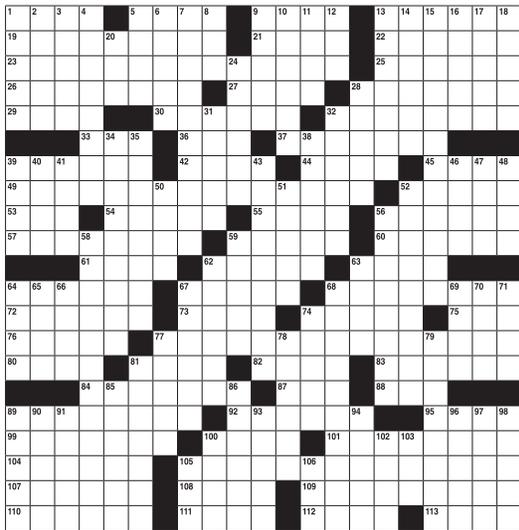
Terri Barnes

WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

PASSING GRADES By YAAKOV BENDAVID / Edited by Will Shortz

- ACROSS
1 Summer refreshers
5 Israel's Netanyahu, informally
9 Bowler and sailor
13 Tracking systems
19 Ports
21 Memphis deity
22 Actress Cuthbert of "24"
23 One who turned Cinderella's pumpkin into pumpkin cheesecake?
25 Drive away
26 Reference
27 New York's Jacob \_\_\_ Park
28 Crude coconut opener
29 Cherry part
30 Worth mentioning
32 Iglu and yoghurt, e.g.
33 Bad beginning?
36 \_\_\_ cycle
37 Dustin Hoffman title role
39 County or lake of Cooperstown, N.Y.
42 Dunking cookie
44 Be too syrupy
45 Liquor unit
49 Snorkeling bargain?
52 Hip-hop artist with the 2013 #1 album "Born Sinner"
53 Up to, shortly
54 French noodles?
55 What makes blue jeans blue
56 "She's got electric boots, a \_\_\_ suit" ("Bennie and the Jets" lyric)
57 Rust-causing agents
59 Vex
60 Stomachs
61 Fit to \_\_\_
62 Tin can plinker, maybe
63 Challenge for a speech coach
64 Oscar winner Leachman
67 Setting of "The Crucible"
68 Nappy fabric
72 Undeveloped
73 Elizabeth Taylor role of '63
74 Roman ruler before Caesar
75 Subj. of Snowden leaks
76 Dismantle on a ship
77 Transportation company that skimps on safety?
80 Conk
81 Wisecrack
82 Of the flock
83 Lawn care brand
84 Mythological monster
11 Draws
12 Old ads initials
13 Force under Stalin
14 Keys on a piano
15 Two things seen beside James Bond at a casino?
16 Popular ski spot
17 Butler of literature
18 Register ring-ups
20 Screenwriting guru Field
24 Call from a balcony
28 Massenet opera
31 Indoor balls
32 In a loathsome way
34 Starting trouble
35 Trust site
38 Director's cry
39 "The Simpsons" character, with a habit of calling things "gnarly"
40 Candy bar that comes two to a pack
41 Most arias
43 Insect repellent ingredient
46 Artery
47 "That's \_\_\_"
48 Bodies of eau
50 Little: Suffix
51 Per \_\_\_
52 Use for a résumé
56 Spammer enabler
58 "Oh, yeah? Let's see you hold your breath for two minutes" e.g.?
59 Bred? qualified
10 More wan
11 Draws
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58 "Oh, yeah? Let's see you hold your breath for two minutes" e.g.?
59 Bred? qualified



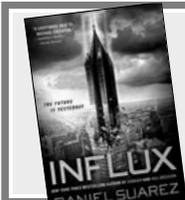
- 62 Like Bruce Willis, in his later movie roles
63 She "drank champagne and danced all night," in song
64 Crude weapon
65 46-Down division
66 Spanish alternative?
67 Checked (out)
68 Myocyte
69 Sweater, e.g.
70 " \_\_\_ it rich?" (Sondheim lyric)
71 Highlands refusals
74 Better at counting
77 Handles
78 Triangular sail
79 French contents
81 Altar no-shows
85 Gingerbread house visitor
86 Enrobe
89 Heap
90 Eucharist holder
91 TV access Gruff
93 Spotted scavenger
94 "Ditto"
96 "Take me \_\_\_"
97 Lifted
87 Hosiery brand
100 Kind of tissue
102 Coin grade
103 Repetitive behavior condition, for short
105 View from a boardwalk
106 Grammy Awards sizer

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## FACES

# Cinema siren

## Amber Heard heats up screens in '3 Days to Kill'

BY RICK BENTLEY  
The Fresno Bee

Director Joseph McGinty Nichol — better known as McG — had Rita Hayworth and Lana Turner in mind when putting together the character of Vivi Delay in "3 Days to Kill." He wanted the mysterious and masterful CIA agent to have the same on-screen sizzle.

He cast 27-year-old Amber Heard, whose parents probably weren't even born when Hayworth and Turner were burning up screens. Despite her youth, Heard was well aware of work by the likes of Hayworth and Turner in the 1940s and 1950s.

"Rita Hayworth in 'Gilda' is one of the most important and powerful pieces of work that influenced me as an actor," Heard says. "That was a time when they could tell stories where the female characters could be tough and didn't have to apologize for their sexuality."

"That's unusual in films in this day and age. Today women are either dressed in pants suits to show they are strong or have their boobs up to their chins to show they are sexual. What makes it so wrong is that we know in real life women don't behave that way. Women don't divide or compartmentalize aspects of their lives. Look at someone like Lauren Bacall, who was strong and feminine."

The appreciation of those performances is clear in Heard's "3 Days to Kill" turn as the government agent who lures Ethan, an assassin (Kevin Costner), out of retirement. Vivi smolders so much it could melt butter on popcorn, then turns so cold that she could freeze a soda. Heard embraces the character with such a passion that Vivi's biggest crime is all of the scene stealing she does.

Playing characters who are emotionally and sexually strong has become a trademark of the Texas native's career, from the short-lived TV series "Hidden Palms" and "The Playboy Club" to the films "Drive

Angry" and "Machete Kills."

"I try to play as broad a group of characters as possible, but the one thing I am always attracted to are confident characters. I look for the strength of a character, whether she's a teenage backwoods person or a bratty, spoiled rich kid hanging out at the swimming pool," Heard says.

In casting Heard, McG was looking for someone who could motivate Ethan to do what he must while also maintaining an aura of mystery around her. The director says, "Amber is a girl from Texas. She's an accomplished marksman. I think that you need to have life experience to be able to draw upon that to be a great actor, and she's lived a very, very interesting, uninhibited life."

As soon as she took on the role, Heard felt comfortable in Vivi's skin.

"Vivi is a true professional. She's tough and she's smart. She was born for this job. That's unique because not everyone can detach themselves, but she's found a niche role for herself. With Vivi, every decision is meticulously planned. She didn't just wake up in those heels one day," Heard says. "Vivi exists in the world that she made for herself and she makes her own rules and you can't ask for a better platform as an actor."

Amber Heard says she likes to play different kinds of characters. "[T]he one thing I am always attracted to are confident characters. I look for the strength of a character, whether she's a teenage backwoods person or a bratty, spoiled rich kid hanging out at the swimming pool," Heard says.

JOHN SHEARER, INVISION/AP



## Absent Bowie steals show at Brit Awards

David Bowie stole the show at Wednesday's Brit music awards in London without even showing up, while Arctic Monkeys took home two big trophies at British music's leading prize night.

The 67-year-old Bowie, who is enjoying a renaissance with his first album in a decade, "The Next Day," was named British male artist of the year.

The trophy was accepted by supermodel Kate Moss. She was sent, presenter Noel Gallagher joked, as New York-based Bowie's "representative on Earth."

The evening's biggest winner was rough-edged northern English rock band Arctic Monkeys, who won album of the year for "AM" and were named best British group for a third time.

Rock band Bastille was named British breakthrough act, and British single of the year went to drum 'n' bass quartet Rudimental for "Waiting All Night." Bruno Mars took the trophy for international male solo artist of the year.

Lorde was named best international female artist. Lorde — who also performed her Grammy Award-winning anthem "Royals" with an assist from British electronic duo Disclosure — said winning awards was so new to her that "my brain still feels like it's exploding every time it happens."

French electronic tricksters Daft Punk were named international group.

## Bonnaroo announces headliners for festival

The eclectic trio of Elton John, Kanye West and Jack White will headline this year's Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival.

Organizers announced the lineup for the June 12-15 festival Wednesday night.

Sir Elton will be attending his first Bonnaroo, while West will be making his first return after one of the most memorable appearances in 2008. That year, he made fans wait nearly two hours for his early-morning set, which didn't start until 4:30 a.m.

Other performers scheduled to appear include Frank Ocean, Lionel Richie, Vampire Weekend, The Avett Brothers, Lauryn Hill and Skrillex, who will host one of Bonnaroo's SuperJams. Tickets go on sale at noon Feb. 22 on the festival's website.

## Academy of Country Music will salute troops

The Academy of Country Music will pay tribute to members of the armed forces with its annual television special.

Merle Haggard, George Strait and Carrie Underwood are among the first performers to sign on to "ACM Presents: An All-Star Salute to the Troops." The two-hour special will air May 20 in the U.S.

Each year, the academy tapes a special a different theme on the day after its awards show, which will be held April 6 in Las Vegas.

Ticket sales for this year's show at the MGM Grand will be donated to the academy's charitable foundation ACM Lifting Lives.

From The Associated Press

## Coach not returning to 'The Voice'

The Associated Press

Cee Lo Green says he's quitting as a coach on "The Voice."

The singer-songwriter-actor announced on Wednesday "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" that he won't be coming back "at all."

He already was taking a break from the sixth season of the NBC talent competition, which begins airing in the U.S. on Monday.

Green told DeGeneres he plans to continue his relationship with NBC, with which he has a development deal. NBC confirmed Green's departure from the show and expressed hopes to work with him on future projects.

Green was one of the original coaches when "The Voice" premiered in 2011. He appeared in seasons one through three, as well as season five.

## NBC anchor: Sorry for snub

NBC News anchor Brian Williams had

a quick on-air response after Arsenio Hall needed him for excluding Hall from a video montage of late-night hosts: Oops.

"Arsenio is a late-night veteran and he took us to task on his show and he even urged his audience members to call our newsroom," Williams said on his "Nightly News" telecast Wednesday from the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

"So, in apologizing to Arsenio we just wanted to point out: At least you're in good company here," Williams continued, noting that the newscast last year left New Hampshire off a map and on Tuesday misspelled Philadelphia on-screen.

Hall's exclusion came during what he called NBC News' "Brady Bunch montage" showing clips of virtually every late-night TV host. The video was used on Monday's "Nightly News" segment on "The Tonight Show" debut of Jimmy Fallon, also on NBC. On Tuesday's syndicated "The Arsenio



Cee Lo Green

Hall Show," the host was smiling but clearly irked as he displayed the graphic and called out Williams and journalism in general.

## Lawyer files suit over portrayal

A lawyer who says he was defamed by his portrayal in "The Wolf of Wall Street" is asking for \$25 million in damages and the film removed from theaters. Andrew Greene says in a complaint filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in the Eastern District of New York against the filmmakers and Paramount Pictures that the toupee-wearing character Nicky "Rugrat" Koskoff played by actor P.J. Byrne in the film was modeled after Greene.

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Ernie Gates

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR/OPINION

## Impressed with reporter, GIs

I'm a Canadian officer serving at NATO HQ in Brussels and I read Stars and Stripes nearly every day. I just wanted to congratulate the paper and especially reporter Martin Kuz on the excellent article on the front page of the Feb. 18 edition ("Death Detachment: Transporting the fallen, fighting to keep emotions in check").

Kuz has covered with utter compassion yet clarity of description what is all our nation's utmost duty to our fallen. I hung on every word, and now have the highest admiration for the men and women charged with the sacred and very human duty of repatriation of remains.

Lt. Col. John McNair  
 Brussels

## War must end, not wind down

I am Lance Cpl. Phillip Vinnette's Gold Star mother. He was killed on Oct. 13, 2010, while serving in the Marines in Afghanistan.

Stars and Stripes' Feb. 14 front page included the article "Afghanistan releases

## Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity. To write us, please refer to the Reader letters information on this page.

65 prisoners: 'Dangerous insurgents' freed Thursday despite international objections." I was under the impression that the reason for having U.S. troops in Afghanistan is to capture and eliminate the Taliban, thus decreasing violence and demoralization acts against others, and eliminating the security threat to the American people.

If we knew we're leaving, it makes each additional death especially sad and cruel. How do you ask one of our troops to be the last one to die because of an arbitrary and pointless loss chosen withdrawal date? Why

are we still there?

Arab and Muslim societies need to start shaming suicide bombers and naming the bombers' actions "murder," not martyrdom. Congress has convinced the nation to ignore our presence in Afghanistan. How many young men and women will our government be responsible for killing before those in power finally say enough?

A statement from the U.S. Embassy in Kabul called the prisoner release "deeply regrettable" and said the Afghan government bears responsibility for the results of its decision. How dare our government support this decision by remaining in Afghanistan. I believe the greatest casualty is to be forgotten!

Please don't allow the death of my child to be "deeply regrettable." We need to end the policy of "hands off the poppy fields" that are funding the Taliban and al-Qaida. Our troops need to be given the support, tools and rules of engagement to end this war or our government needs to remove all American servicemembers from Afghanistan immediately.

Julie Vinnette

St. Charles, Mo.

# Ukraine might be site of Cold War's final episode

By GEORGE F. WILL

WASHINGTON  
 One hundred years ago this coming Aug. 4, the day Britain declared war on Germany, socialists in the German Reichstag voted for credits to finance the war. Marxists — including Lenin, who that day was in what now is Poland — were scandalized. Marx had preached that the proletariat has no fatherland, only a transnational class loyalty to proletarians everywhere. Lenin wrote Louis Fischer, Lenin's best biographer, "patriotism and nationalism, born of the 'subjectivism' Lenin so disliked, were ideological crimes in Soviet Russia."

These are history-shaping virtues in Ukraine today. Because the nation-state is the necessary framework for durable political liberty, nationalism is a necessary, although insufficient, impulse sustaining liberty. Marx, whose prophecies were perversely predictive because they were almost invariably wrong, predicted the end of nationalism. Economic forces, he said, would determine political and psychological realities. So capitalism, with its borders-leaping cosmopolitanism, would dilute to the point of disappearance all emotional attachments to nations. Ukraine's ferment is an emphatic, albeit redundant, refutation of Marxism.

Ukraine's ferment is an emphatic, albeit redundant, refutation of Marxism. The European Union hoped that the pooling of national sovereignties would extinguish the nationalism that, they think, ruined Europe's 20th century. They considered the resulting "democracy deficit" — the transfer of national parliaments' prerogative to a supranational body at a price well worth paying for tranquility.

Now comes turbulent Ukraine, incandescent with nationalism and eager to preserve its sovereignty by a closer relation with the EU.

Ukraine's president, Viktor Yanukovich, is resisting the popular desire for constitutionally limited government, and for a national existence more independent of Russian President Vladimir Putin's presence. Yanukovich wants to trade Ukraine's aspirations for Putin's billions.

Russia is ruled by a little, strutting Mussolini the Duce, like Putin, enjoyed being photographed with his chest bare and his biceps flexed. Putin is unreconciled to the "tragedy," as he calls it, of the Soviet Union's demise. It was within the Soviet apparatus of oppression that he honed the skills by which he governs — censorship, corruption, brutality, oppression, assassination.



SERGEI CHUZAKOV/AP

Anti-government activists reinforce the barricades in Kiev's Independence Square, the epicenter of Ukraine's current unrest, on Thursday.

Remember when President George W. Bush peered into Putin's eyes and got "a sense of his soul" as someone "very straightforward and trustworthy"? Remember when Putin fed the world the fable about rushing nukes from his burning dacha — the fire started when Putin was in a sauna — before the rescue of his cherished crucifix that had belonged to his sainted mother? Ukrainians, whose hard history has immunized them against the folly of wishful thinking, see in Putin's ferret face the cold eyes of a prison warden.

Ukraine, whose population (46 million) and size are approximately those of Spain, is a potential economic power. Russia remains what the Soviet Union was, a third-world country with first-world military technologies. Its hunter-gatherer economy — name a Russian consumer good other than vodka and caviar you might want — is based on extraction industries (oil, gas, minerals).

Putin's contempt for Barack Obama is palpable. Russia's robust support of Bashar Assad is one reason Assad has, according to the Obama administration's director of intelligence, "strengthened" his position in the period since Obama said Assad should "step aside." Russia has been less than helpful regarding U.S. attempts to halt Iran's nuclear weapons program. Where, exactly, has Obama's most advertised but never defined "reset" of relations with Russia been fruitful?

Yet Obama seems so fixated on it that he will not risk annoying Putin by voicing full-throated support for the Ukrainian protesters. Obama participated in waging seven months of war against Libya, a nation not threatening or otherwise important to the United States. Yet Joe Biden's Tuesday phone call to Yanukovich is, as of this writing, Obama's strongest response to the Ukraine crisis, which matters to the political trajectory of the European continent.

Europe, which for many centuries was a cockpit for many fighting faiths, is now politically vanilla. And as a military or diplomatic power, "Europe" remains more a geographical than a political term. Still, the pull of European political culture has not lost its power. And if Europe's historical amnesia is not complete, it should hear echoes of 1848 and 1989 in the voices of Ukrainians today.

The Soviet Union — "one of modern history's pivotal experiments," in the words of NBC's Olympics coverage — existed for seven miserable decades. Ukraine's agony is a reverberation of the protracted process of cleaning up after the "experiment." So, this is perhaps the final episode of the Cold War. Does America's unusually loquacious 44th president remember how the words of the 40th — "Tear down this wall!" — helped to win it?

George F. Will is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

### Connect dots to free Bergdahl (Boise) Idaho Statesman

We know from the ups and downs of the past 4½ years that anecdotal evidence and positive signals regarding Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl's release can circle back to the path of heartbreak and frustration for his Idaho family and the nation.

The news Tuesday that President Barack Obama and the State Department were attempting to update or "refresh" some kind of prisoner swap marks an important dot on the continuum that could lead to Bergdahl's ultimate release. For this we are optimistic and grateful.

Other dots include actions both in the U.S. and in the Afghanistan war zone, where Bergdahl was taken prisoner in 2009.

A film purportedly depicting Bergdahl a month ago seemed to be saying, yes, we still have him and we're, let's make a deal. Bergdahl's family and supporters have worked tirelessly to get his situation and plight before the American people.

The news Tuesday showed a recent shift in U.S. policy. Instead of releasing Taliban prisoners piecemeal in order to make a determination of a good-faith deal, the U.S. is more ready to release all five at the same time in exchange for Bergdahl.

That willingness to negotiate — and to realize the window of opportunity to seek Bergdahl's release may be closing as Americans begin to disengage in Afghanistan — might be the strongest dot of any that will connect a path to Bergdahl's ticket home to Idaho.

The most mystifying aspect of the recent Bergdahl activity is the publicity surfacing from what is usually a very hushed affair: flag-rank Pentagon press secretaries solemnly saying Bergdahl has "been gone too long" to military officers in the know sending YouTube messages through Sen. Jim Risch's office reassuring the Bergdahl family that everything is being done.

Yes, we should all err on the side of hope and prayer and success in this fragile moment. Dots are connecting in the direction that you would want them to go.

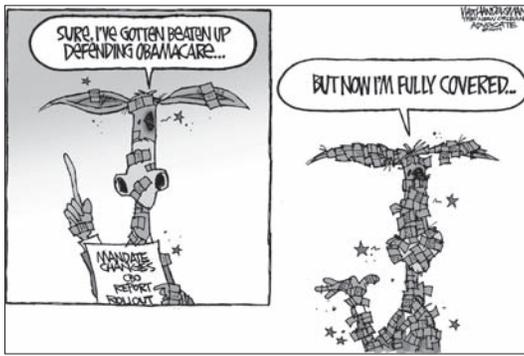
Godspeed to the process.

### Make it the world vs. N. Korea (Los Angeles Times)

It's one thing to know that third-generation strongman Kim Jong Un maintains an iron grip on North Korea's 25 million people. It's another thing to read the horrifying particulars of how his regime wields its control — through starvation, torture and repression — and the disappearance of tens of thousands of citizens into an extralegal prison labor-camp system.

The details are contained in a report compiled by an international team of investigators led by respected Australian jurist Robert Kaye, released this week by the United Nations' Human Rights Council. The report, based on more than 300 interviews with people who have left the country, accuses the regime of a wide range of crimes against humanity and recommends that the U.N. Security Council refer the matter to the International Criminal Court for prosecution.

The report paints a picture of a society characterized by "almost complete denial of the right to freedom of thought," in which the state "operates an all-encompassing indoctrination machine." ... Police routinely use violence "to create a climate of fear that pre-empts any challenge to the



current system of government." For those who don't get the message, the state uses torture, execution and the allocation of food to control people.

We have been skeptical of the Human Rights Council in the past. Among the issues: Some of the very nations whose human rights records should be investigated are members of the council. At this moment, that includes China, Ethiopia and Kazakhstan. But Kirby's report is clear-eyed in its assessment and principled in its recommendations. Significantly, the report castigates China for denying investigators access to North Korean refugees in its border region, and accuses it of complicity in the atrocities by returning some refugees to North Korea.

The question is, what will the rest of the world do about it? ... Much as Russia has shielded the Syrian government from Security Council actions, so too has China protected North Korea. It has the power to block a prosecution with its veto.

That doesn't absolve the international community of its responsibility to try to bring North Korea's oppressive leaders to justice. In fact, those efforts are overdue.

### Pampas and bad circumstance (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette)

Argentina, Latin America's largest economy after Brazil and Mexico, appears again to be in deep economic trouble.

Inflation is running at 55 percent. The peso lost most of its value in January. The government is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to approve postponement of the repayment of a \$1.3 billion installment on a loan, including two U.S. hedge funds, in order to avoid default.

Argentina has defaulted three times before on major loans, in 1982, 1989 and 2001. The question is why would anyone loan the country \$140 billion?

On top of all that, Argentinian President Cristina E. Fernandez de Kirchner, 61, has been in questionable health since suffering a brain injury last year, calling into question her ability to make decisions at a time of economic adversity. Presidential elections are scheduled for next year and she can't run, facing term limits.

So how did this situation occur? Argentina appears to have a deeply ingrained culture of economic irresponsibility. It spends money it doesn't have, borrows what it can to make up the difference and defaults when it feels it must.

Too bad the United States exhibits some of the same fiscal habits. ... The United States has high inflation, although everyone knows that the real cost of living is rising, not falling. It is also worth noting that America's debt to foreign lenders stands at nearly \$6 trillion, a third of it to China and Japan.

Argentina will probably get bailed out again. The rescue should be accompanied by harsh words about fiscal responsibility.

American politicians should be obliged to read those words also.

### Debt-limit vote: rare exception (San Antonio) Express News

Raising the nation's debt ceiling should be routine. This allows the federal government to pay its bills — obligations substantially imposed by Congress.

But this has become not so routine. Last week, the House majority's leadership needed the House minority to muster enough votes to accomplish even this boilerplate legislation. Then Republican leaders, because of recalcitrance in the GOP rank and file, had to provide the votes to allow a Senate floor vote on the legislation, which then passed 55-43.

That so much effort was required to accomplish what should be so routine says much about the dysfunctional state of Congress these days. But in this drama, some sanity emerged. Our hope is that it lasts.

House Speaker John Boehner prevented another useless display of brinkmanship by outwardly defying his own caucus, which secretly wanted to avoid another crisis but didn't want to take the heat for raising the debt ceiling.

The same dynamic existed in the Senate, where Texas's own John Cornyn joined Minority Leader Mitch McConnell to get past the 60 votes to clear a procedural hurdle to get the bill to the floor. ...

Both McConnell and Cornyn had to know they were helping primary election foes. ...

The GOP caucuses likely won't admit it, but Boehner, McConnell and Cornyn all took one for their team. And helped the nation.

But here's the biggest takeaway. Important legislation got approved in the House because the speaker allowed a floor vote. And it got approved in the Senate because a few Republicans flinched the bill onto the floor for a vote.

This has been rare. ... So, how many meaningful measures might now be law with the kind of straight-up votes that occurred here? Imagine: members of Congress running in this midterm election on accomplishment rather than obstruction.

### Can't go rogue on Obamacare (The Bowling Green, Ky.) Daily News

As the Republican-controlled U.S. House passed several bills that would have repealed the Affordable Care Act, liberal critics belittled these efforts by contending that Obamacare was "settled law" since it had been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

But how can we say it is "settled law" when our president's actions seem to reflect his belief that some of the law's very specific provisions are what he wants them to be as opposed to their clear meaning?

The most recent case in point was the administration's decision to delay until 2016

the requirement that employers with 50 to 99 full-time workers either provide health insurance or pay a financial penalty. ...

President Barack Obama's stated rationale for the extension was to ensure that midsize companies had sufficient time to comply with the law. His explanation raises two interesting questions. How long do you really need to comply with a law that was enacted in 2010? Is it fair for the president to be in the business of picking winners and losers? One group of employers has received a two-year delay while every one subject to the individual mandate got no such reprieve.

Obama's decision to ignore the clear intent of a law that defines his presidency seems more attuned to political calculation than about providing additional time for compliance.

The Affordable Care Act is expected to be front and center among issues in the 2014 midterm elections, but this does not justify doing an end run around the Constitution.

### No need to hide raw milk sales (The Portland) Oregonian

"Out of state" is often meant as an insult in Oregon, especially when applied to campaign contributions. But good things can come from distant places. The Virginia-based Institute for Justice demonstrated that last year by taking up the cause of Christine Anderson, who is prohibited by state law from advertising that which she may sell legally.

What is the thing upon which Oregon's famous free-speech protections do not smile? In the Land of the Ubiquitous Strip Club, you may not discuss raw milk, at least in a money-making sense. Though farmers who sell the small number of animals may sell their stories, they may not advertise it, even on their websites.

The rationale buried in this legal contradiction is easily understood and even well-intentioned. Lawmakers are reluctant to ban the sale of raw milk, which enjoys a limited but devoted following. Few, however, want to contribute to increase, given the potential for serious illness. There's a reason dairies pasteurize the stuff.

As well-intentioned as policymakers may be, the state has given raw milk producers a raw deal. Advertising for wine and beer is ubiquitous in Oregon and elsewhere despite the well-known effects of excessive alcohol consumption. The state itself enjoys a monopoly on hard liquor sales, and it's more than happy to promote and cash in on lottery games with which gambling addicts routinely ruin themselves. But when it comes to untreated cow juice, silence is the law.

Treating raw milk advertising in this fashion isn't merely inconsistent. It also may violate farmers' free speech rights, as Anderson argued in a lawsuit filed late last year.

Anderson, who owns Cast Iron Farm in McMinnville, was featured in a 2012 story in the *Wall Street Journal*. Reuter, a state inspector who read the article had questions about some of the practices it described. Frank Barcellos, of the Department of Agriculture's food safety program, told us last year. So the inspector investigated further, discovering in the process that the *Wall Street Journal* was not a legal on the farm's website. An inspection report ensued, as did a lawsuit, which Anderson filed with the assistance of the Institute for Justice.

Rather than putting up a fight, the state did the right thing and settled this month. ... In return for Anderson's commitment to the Department of Agriculture, Reuter, Director Katy Cobb instructed her staff not to enforce the ban on raw-milk advertising. The settlement also requires Cobb's department to ask lawmakers in 2015 to strike the ban from the lawbooks.

Following through on that commitment should be the most important of the controversial things the Legislature does next year.

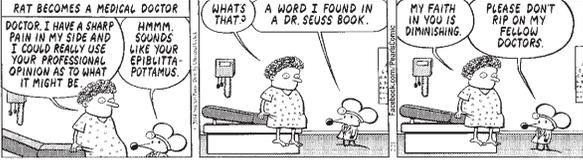
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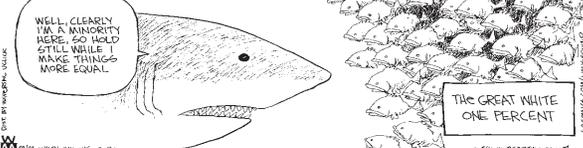
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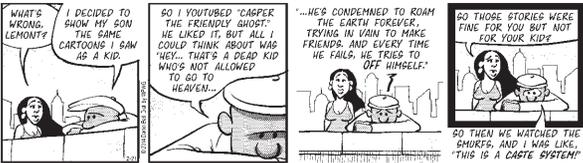
Pearls Before Swine



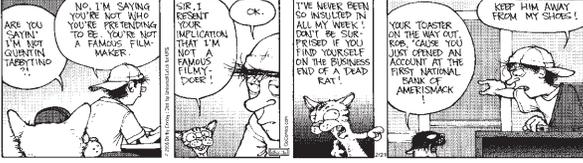
Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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44				45			46			
47		48				49			50	51
52			53				54			
55				56				57		

- ACROSS**
- 1 Have a cow?
  - 6 Jazz style
  - 9 Witty one
  - 12 Where the elated walk
  - 13 Mellow
  - 14 Hasten
  - 15 Island near Java
  - 16 Old foot soldier
  - 18 Vow
  - 20 Part
  - 21 — Zedong
  - 23 Buck's mate
  - 24 Semiprecious azure stone
  - 25 Hollywood clashers
  - 27 Bachelor party VIP
  - 29 Sarge, e.g.
  - 31 Song
  - 35 Sixth President
  - 37 Ivy League school
  - 38 Wilkes —, PA
  - 41 "— the rampsarts ..."
  - 43 Cover
  - 44 Curved molding
  - 45 Two-way
  - 47 Wet season
  - 49 Talent finder
  - 52 Lingerie buy
  - 53 Automaton, for short
  - 54 Oar fulcrum
  - 55 Bando of baseball
- DOWN**
- 1 Barracks bed
  - 2 Blackbird
  - 3 Spool
  - 4 Sounding instrument
  - 5 Went wrong
  - 6 Wincron critter
  - 7 Shrek is one
  - 8 Shell game item
  - 9 Jubilant shout
  - 11 Garlicy mayo
  - 12 Hand bits
  - 17 Music award
  - 19 Accepted doctrine
  - 21 Chaps
  - 22 Earlier
  - 24 Gehrig or Ferrigno
  - 26 Frightens
  - 28 Beginning
  - 30 Praise in verse
  - 32 Swell
  - 33 Student at
  - 37-Across
  - 34 Roulette bet
  - 36 Increases
  - 38 Flops on stage
  - 39 Old marketplace
  - 40 Kidney-related
  - 42 Out of practice
  - 45 1969 landing site
  - 46 Rue the run
  - 48 Kyoto cumberbund
  - 50 Last (Abbr.)
  - 51 Afternoon social

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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2-21 CRYPTOQUIP

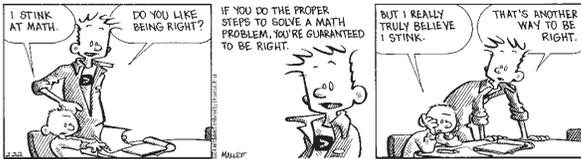
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"G U G X O R O X V A A V H."

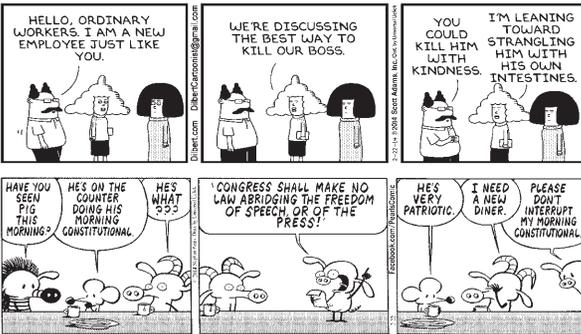
Yesterday's Cryptquip: WANTING A FEW SMALL CARPETS ON HER HARDWOOD FLOOR, THE OPERA SINGER PURCHASED SOME ARIA RUGS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: X equals H

Frazz



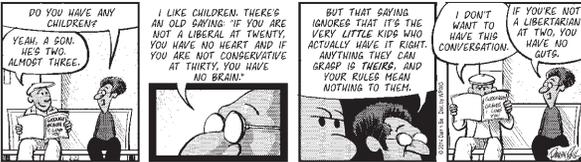
Pearls Before Swine



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										53		

ACROSS

- 1 Vends
- 6 Plant swelling
- 11 Decide not to participate
- 12 Ado
- 14 Twosome
- 15 State section
- 16 Cow's chaw
- 17 Wooden strips
- 19 Upper limit
- 20 Handled
- 22 Mainlander's memento
- 23 Conflagration
- 24 Put back to zero
- 26 Everlasting
- 28 — de mer
- 30 Sticky stuff
- 31 Lowered in rank
- 35 Ice —
- 39 Historic periods
- 40 Came together
- 42 "Portnoy's Complaint" writer
- 43 Grecian vessel
- 44 Clean software
- 46 Pi follower
- 47 Family member
- 49 One with a younger BF
- 51 To-do list entry
- 52 Take umbrage at
- 53 Denominations
- 54 Obliterate

DOWN

- 1 Mate
- 2 Chopin pieces
- 3 Prune
- 4 Calm before the storm
- 5 Pirate
- 6 Art done with acid
- 7 Twosomes
- 8 Ostrich's kin
- 9 Indiana city
- 10 Sacrifice sites
- 11 Happen
- 13 Works at the keyboard
- 18 Ball prop
- 21 Showroom samples
- 23 Bread ingredient
- 25 Tit for —
- 27 Elmer, to Bugs
- 29 Hall of Farmers
- 31 Low card
- 32 End of a Shakespeare title
- 33 Basic fertilizer
- 34 Society newcomer
- 36 Author Jorge Luis —
- 37 Refrigerant gas
- 38 Brief
- 41 "Filthy" dough
- 44 Power
- 45 Active one
- 48 Pouch
- 50 "Born in the —"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

2-22

CRYPTOQUIP

JRUJ MUZO DUC CTCLWFJWZ  
HY CDALAXP U YUXFO  
NEHFR, NTJ JRWO DWEW

TXUNMW JH LAX AJHX RWE.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FOLK SONG FROM WAY BACK ABOUT A SPRUCE GUY WHO WANTED A PERSONAL TAILOR: "IF I HAD A HEMMER."  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals T

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# That just happened.



# vaio tap 11

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

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Announcements 040

SCAM FADS

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- Beware of the common red flags.
- Some of the latest Scam fads:
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Events 041

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### Announcements 040

Anyone with a claim against the estate of the late Christopher Corneer should contact Mr. Dan Jin Yoon at DSN 721-7117 or their phone# usace.army.mil

### Autos for Sale - Korea 148

Dodge SKT Journey. Journey 3.0T 11/13 2013. Although not used and registered in 2013. Superior condition on both front and rear. No major accidents. Full OEM fabric Seat 010-8899-8975 Patriche 1122@gmail.com

### Autos for Sale - Korea 148

FIAT 500 GIUCCI 2012 \$16600.00 Top 5 Reasons to buy this car! 1. You may want to give a cousin to a Ferrari 2. Seat Italian like at the Romagna and great front economy 3. Ease of parking and handling 5. Fun to drive Italian Control. Tilt, Leather+Power, Steering, Anti-Lock Brakes, Dual Front Airbags, Side Airbags, Traction Control, Security System, Fog Lights, Heated Driver Side, Sunroof, Sunroof, 16" alloy, 16" 0-5000 rpm/98 lb-ft, 0-100 mph in 7.5 seconds, 9000 mi. Length/Width/Height: 13' 1" 1' 6" 5' 0" 4' 6" 3' 8" minam56@gmail.com

### Autos for Sale - Korea 148

Ford, E350 Super Duty Conversion VAN, 2008 \$19000.00 Rocky Ridge, Comerages VAN built from 2008 Ford E350XL Super Duty. It was used on 2008 VAN, captain's chairs, 18" LED TV in DVD player (DVD player w 300 movies on HD/PSS gave console connected) Wireless headphones JVC head unit w direct iPod docking station w remote cd/sonix back up speakers, Sony camera, Philips Intune, LED interior lights, upgrade HD Black Box Excellent condition w maintenance history 20m chrome wheels (bird only can be flat bed) \$19,000 CBC 010-8924-8332

### Autos for Sale - Korea 148

MINI Cooper S Countryman ALL4 2012 \$28500.00 All wheel drive, transmission, 4-CD Automatic, Transmission US Spec MP3, 26 City/31 Hwy Dimensions - Wheelbase (in): 102.4 Length Overall (in): 161.3 Width, Max w/mirrors (in): 70.4 Height Overall (in): 61.5 Storage 500W Racing Green color sun roof Side with dual tinted windows JCV gauges and carbon parts 0-1 0 2 3 0 4 6 3 8 minam56@gmail.com

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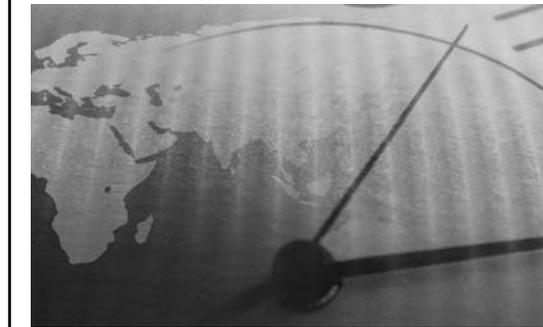
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NBA



HARRY E. WALKER/MCT

The Los Angeles Lakers traded point guard Steve Blake to the Golden State Warriors on Wednesday. The Lakers acquired reserve guards Kent Bazemore and MarShon Brooks in the deal.

Trade roundup

# Warriors acquire PG Blake; Kings ship Thornton to Nets

The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The Golden State Warriors have made another move in hopes of finding a reliable backup to point guard Stephen Curry.

The Warriors acquired Steve Blake from the Los Angeles Lakers for reserve guards Kent Bazemore and MarShon Brooks on Wednesday night, adding a veteran ball-handler to their beleaguered bench.

Word of the deal started to spread just before the Warriors played in Sacramento and the Lakers hosted Houston, with the players involved saying goodbye to teammates and coaches in their locker rooms. The Warriors went on to beat Sacramento 101-92, while the Rockets routed the Lakers 134-108.

Both teams confirmed the trade before halftime of their games.

“We think this just bolsters the bench and gives us some more options, some more weapons and a player when you give him the ball you know you can trust him,” Warriors general manager Bob Myers said. “We just think it was a chance to improve our roster and that was our justification.”

The trade gives Golden State a savvy veteran off the bench without sacrificing any of its core players or moving into the

league’s luxury tax.

The Warriors used a \$4 million trade exception they got in a deal with Denver that landed free agent Andre Iguodala last summer. The team is about \$400,000 under the luxury tax, Myers said.

Blake, who is making \$4 million in the final year of his contract, averaged 9.5 points and 7.6 assists while starting all 27 games he played for the injury-depleted Lakers this season.

Also:

■ The Brooklyn Nets acquired guard Marcus Thornton from the Sacramento Kings for Jason Terry and Reggie Evans on Wednesday, removing two little-used veterans from their aging roster and hoping a younger one can rediscover his scoring touch.

Terry came from Boston along with Kevin Garnett and Paul Pierce but has appeared in just 35 games after a knee injury, averaging 4.5 points on 36 percent shooting. Evans was a favorite of fans but not coach Jason Kidd, who used him in just 30 of their 51 games.

Evans made 56 starts last season and led the Nets with 11.1 rebounds per game, but lost his starting spot when the Nets acquired Garnett, and then fell behind rookie Mason Plumlee in Kidd’s rotation.

Thornton averaged 21.3 points in 23 games with the Kings in 2010-11 after being acquired in a midseason trade with New Orleans.

■ The Miami Heat have traded Roger Mason Jr. to the Sacramento Kings for a protected 2015 second-round draft pick and cash.

The move allowed Miami to open up another roster spot, while the Kings got an undisclosed amount of money. Mason, who averaged three points in 25 games for the Heat, is expected to be waived by Sacramento.

■ Two people familiar with the situation say the Charlotte Bobcats have acquired guards Luke Ridnour and Gary Neal from the Milwaukee Bucks in exchange for guard Ramon Sessions and forward Jeff Adrien.

The people spoke on the condition of anonymity Thursday because the trade has yet to be approved by the league.

The trade is expected to give Charlotte’s outside shooting a boost as it attempts to make a push for the NBA playoffs. Neal, a career 43 percent three-point shooter, should help a team that doesn’t have a true shooting guard.

Sessions was a valuable backup point guard for Charlotte but Ridnour should help to fill that void.

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SCOREBOARD

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Deals

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL American League BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Agreed to terms with RHP Ubaldo Jimenez on a four-year contract...

ATLANTA BRAVES - Signed general manager Frank White and manager Fred Gonzalez to contract extensions.

CINCINNATI REDS - Agreed to terms with RHP Homer Bailey on a six-year contract.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION NBA - Fined Phoenix P.J. Tucker \$50,000 for violating the league's anti-flopping rules...

BROOKLYN NETS - Traded G Jason Terry and F Reggie Evans to Sacramento Kings for Marcus Morris.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS - Acquired G Steve Blake from the Los Angeles Lakers for G Kent Bazemore and G MarShon Brooks.

FOOTBALL National Football League NFL - Suspended Washington TE Fred Davis indefinitely for violating the league's substance abuse policy.

ATLANTA FALCONS - Named Billy Devaney and Russ Bolton player personnel heads.

CHICAGO BEARS - Signed CB Derrick Brown to a one-year contract.

MIAMI DOLPHINS - Fired offensive line coach Jim Turner and head athletic trainer Steve O'Connell.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE DETROIT RED WINGS - Recalled F Casey Sheahan and D Adam Alquist from Grand Rapids (AHL).

LOS ANGELES KINGS - Recalled F Tyler Toffler, Linden Veer and Tanner Pearson from the Las Vegas Aces.

MINNESOTA WILD - Recalled D Jonathan Blum and F Jake Dowell from Iowa Wolves (ECHL).

NEW JERSEY DEVILS - Recalled D Tomi Vaisanen from Albany (AHL).

PHOENIX COYOTES - Recalled D Brandon Gormley from Grand Rapids (AHL).

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER CHIVAS USA - Signed AGustin Pelletier.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM - Announced F Casey Townsend as a member.

SEATTLE SOUNDERS - Waived F Will Bruze.

SPORTING KANSAS CITY - Traded F Anthony Taylor to New England for a 2015 first-round draft pick and allocation money.

College baseball

Wednesday's scores

Table with 3 columns: Team, Score, Opponent. Includes games like Albany (NV) 57, Binghamton 48; Boston College 62, Syracuse 59; etc.

College basketball

Wednesday's men's scores

Table with 3 columns: Team, Score, Opponent. Includes games like Albany (NY) 57, Binghamton 48; Boston College 62, Syracuse 59; etc.

Wednesday's women's scores

Table with 3 columns: Team, Score, Opponent. Includes games like Adelphi 84, St. Rose 75; Albany (NY) 86, Binghamton 35; etc.

Delray Beach International

Wednesday

Table with 3 columns: Player, Score, Opponent. Includes games like Sekou Bangoura and Valid Mirzadeh, United States, def. Eric Butorac, United States...

Tennis

Wednesday

Table with 3 columns: Player, Score, Opponent. Includes games like Pablo Andujar (Spain), Spain, def. Martin Klizan (Slovakia), Spain...

Women

First Round

Raluca Olaru, Romania, and Alexandra Panova, Russia, def. Monique Adamczak, Australia, and Sushilika Vost, Kazakhstan, 6-2, 7-6 (4).

Open 13

Wednesday

At Palais des Sports Marseille, France. Purse: \$50,000 (W750) Surface: Hard-Indoor. Singles First Round: Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, def. David Gauz, France, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1.

Quarterfinals

Goran Krecmanic, Alexander Satschko, Germany, def. Dustin Brown, Germany, and Austin Kruger, United States, 6-3, 6-2.

Dubai Championships

Wednesday

At Dubai Tennis Stadium, Dubai, U.A.E. Purse: \$2 million (Premier) Surface: Hard-Indoor. Singles First Round: Flavia Pennetta, Italy, def. Agnieszka Radwanska, Poland, 6-3, 6-2.

Men

First Round

Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, and Horacio Zeballos, Argentina, def. Marcelo Meligini and Joao Souza, Brazil, 6-4, 6-2.

Women

First Round

Flavia Pennetta, Italy, and Sara Errani (4), Italy, 5-7, 6-1, 6-2.

Doubles

First Round

Flavia Pennetta and Sand Stosur, Australia, def. Kveta Peschke, Czech Republic, and Katriona Srebotnik (3), Slovenia, 6-1, 1-6, 10-8.

AP spotlight

Feb. 21

1931 - The Cotton White Sox meet the New York Giants in the first major league night game. The exhibition game is played in Houston.

1952 - The Boston Red Sox and the Fort Wayne Pistons tip off at midnight in a "Milkman's Special" following an ice-flooding postponement of the game. The Coucy of the Celtics scores 24 points in the first 11 minutes of the game.

1952 - Dick Button performs the first triple jump in a figure skating competition.

1953 - In the longest game in college basketball history, the University of North Carolina, 88-81 in six overtimes.

1969 - The Boston Red Sox's rookie Willie Chamberlain sets an NBA record with his fourth 50-point game of the season, scoring 58 in a 129-127 victory over the New York Knicks.

1976 - New York's Red Holzman becomes the second NBA coach to lead the Auerbach, to win 500 games with a 102-98 victory over New Orleans.

1992 - Kristi Yamnitsky wins America's first Olympic gold medal in women's figure skating, defeating Katarina Witt of East Germany.

2003 - Michael Jordan becomes the first 40-year-old in NBA history to score 40 or more points in a game.

Washington Wizards '89-86 win over the New Jersey Nets.

Pr basketball

NBA Eastern Conference

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes Toronto 25, 27, 48.1; Brooklyn 22, 31, 41.5; etc.

Western Conference

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes Miami 38, 14, 73.1; Washington 26, 28, 48.1; etc.

Central Division

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes Indiana 33, 13, 72.9; Chicago 28, 25, 52.9; etc.

West Coast Division

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes San Antonio 40, 15, 72.7; Houston 37, 18, 67.6; etc.

Northwest Division

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Includes Oklahoma City 38, 16, 70.2; Portland 36, 16, 67.6; etc.

NHL Eastern Conference

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes Boston 57, 37, 12, 118, 142; Tampa Bay 58, 33, 20, 118, 148; etc.

Western Conference

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes St. Louis 57, 39, 12, 84, 196; Chicago 60, 35, 11, 184, 207; etc.

Atlantic Division

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes Boston 57, 37, 12, 118, 142; Tampa Bay 58, 33, 20, 118, 148; etc.

Metropolitan Division

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes Pittsburgh 58, 40, 15, 83, 186; San Jose 57, 38, 12, 112, 142; etc.

Central Division

Table with 3 columns: Team, W, L, OT, Pts, GF, GA. Includes St. Louis 57, 39, 12, 84, 196; Chicago 60, 35, 11, 184, 207; etc.

NHL Eastern Conference

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AP spotlight

Feb. 21

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Washington Wizards '89-86 win over the New Jersey Nets.

# NFL/HIGH SCHOOL

## Dolphins fire OL coach, trainer

By STEVEN WINE  
The Associated Press

MIAMI — The Miami Dolphins fired offensive line coach Jim Turner and longtime head athletic trainer Kevin O'Neill on Wednesday for their roles in the team's bullying scandal.

The moves were the first punitive steps taken by the Dolphins since a report on the NFL's investigation of the case was released last week.

Investigators found that guard Richie Incognito and two teammates engaged in persistent harassment directed at tackle Jonathan Martin, another offensive lineman and an assistant trainer. Martin left the team at midseason, and Incognito was suspended for the final eight games.

Turner didn't attempt to stop the harassment and even took part in some of the taunting of offensive lineman Andrew McDonald, a NFL report said. O'Neill expressed hostility toward the investigation and cut short an interview with those conducting it, according to the report.

O'Neill was fired shortly after he and other team officials arrived in Indianapolis for the league's annual scouting combine. Turner didn't make the trip.

In a news release announcing the firings, Dolphins owner Stephen Ross said the behavior described in the report was "against the core values of our organization."

"After receiving the report, I conducted my own internal review of the facts to determine the appropriate steps for our organization," Ross said. "Jim Turner and Kevin O'Neill are good people who care a great deal about their profession and the players whom they serve, but both exhibited poor judgment at times, which led

me to this conclusion."

Ross said he has been in contact with Martin and will meet with him and the two-year veteran. Martin has two seasons remaining on his contract with the Dolphins, but last month Ross said he didn't believe the tackle would play again for Miami. Incognito is now a free agent and will try to sign with another team.

Coach Joe Philbin made his first public comments since the report's release, saying the vulgar language and behavior outlined were disappointing and unacceptable, and adding that fundamental values of respect were violated.

"That ultimately rests on my shoulders and I will be accountable moving forward for making sure that we emphasize a team-first culture of respect toward one another," Philbin said.

The report found no evidence that Philbin was aware of abusive conduct within the team.

Several people interviewed told investigators Turner gave McDonald a male sex doll as a gag gift around Christmas 2012. Turner told investigators he didn't remember the incident, but investigators said they didn't believe him.

Martin told investigators O'Neill and other team employees saw an assistant trainer being humiliated and didn't intervene. O'Neill allegedly laughed at racial insults directed toward the assistant trainer.

O'Neill was the Dolphins' trainer for 18 years and has been in the NFL for 25 years. He and his Miami staff won national awards, including one last year from the National Athletic Trainers' Association.

Turner joined the Dolphins shortly after Philbin was hired as head coach two years ago.

## DODDS Europe basketball scoreboard

### Division I boys

**Thursday**  
**Pool play**  
Ramstein 51, Lakenheath 28  
Wiesbaden 55, Lakenheath 52;  
Ramstein, Wiesbaden reach semifinals.  
Vilseck 58, International School of  
Brussels 42  
Patch 51, ISB 33  
Vilseck 44, Kaiserslautern 41  
Kaiserslautern (2) vs. Patch (3), late

**Friday's schedule**  
**Pool play**  
**(Pool A)**  
Wiesbaden vs. Ramstein, 1 p.m.  
**(Pool B)**  
Kaiserslautern vs. ISB, 2:15 p.m.  
Patch vs. Vilseck, 3:30 p.m.  
**Semifinals**  
Ramstein vs. TBD, 5:30 p.m.  
Wiesbaden vs. TBD, 7:30 p.m.

### Division II boys

**Thursday**  
**Pool play**  
Vicenza 54, Marymount 14  
Black Forest Academy 45, Bahrain 24  
SHAPE 72, Alconbury 33  
American Overseas School of Rome  
63, Baumholder 36  
Hohenfels 41, Bitburg 37  
Naples 31, Rota 24  
Aviano 38, Ansbach 37, 3OT  
AFNORTH 38, Bamberg/Schweinfurt  
33

**Round of 16**  
Hohenfels 71, Aviano 49; Aviano eliminated.  
Bamberg/Schweinfurt 36, Bitburg 33;  
Bitburg eliminated.  
SHAPE 53, Bahrain 21; Bahrain eliminated.  
Naples 42, Ansbach 21; Ansbach eliminated.  
BFA 50, Baumholder 35; Baumholder eliminated.  
AFNORTH 33, Rota 14; Rota eliminated.  
AOSR 45, Marymount 55; Marymount eliminated.  
Vicenza 67, Alconbury 33; Alconbury eliminated.

**Friday's schedule**  
**Quarterfinals**  
Hohenfels vs. TBD, 9:15 a.m.  
Naples vs. TBD, 9:15 a.m.  
AOSR vs. Bamberg/Schweinfurt, 10:30 a.m.  
AFNORTH vs. SHAPE, 10:30 a.m.  
TBD, 4:30 p.m.  
TBD, 4:30 p.m.  
**Semifinals**  
TBD, 4:30 p.m.

### Division III boys

**Thursday**  
**Pool play**  
Brussels 34, Incirlik 29  
Incirlik 49, Lajes 18  
Brussels 54, Lajes 21  
Sigonella vs. Memuth Hill 19  
Memuth Hill 37, Ankara 20  
Sigonella 52, Ankara 20

**Friday's schedule**  
**Quarterfinals**  
Memuth Hill vs. Lajes, 9:15 a.m.  
Incirlik vs. Ankara, 9:15 a.m.  
**Semifinals**  
Sigonella vs. TBD, 1:30 p.m.  
Brussels vs. TBD, 1:30 p.m.

### Division I girls

**Thursday**  
**Pool play**  
Ramstein 43, Lakenheath 36  
Lakenheath 32, Kaiserslautern 30  
Vilseck 33, ISB 13  
Wiesbaden 33, Vilseck 28  
Rota 31, ISB 12  
Wiesbaden 40, Patch 27; Wiesbaden reaches semifinals



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Lakenheath's Nick Winkie is too late to stop Ramstein's Trevon Williams from scoring in Division I action at the DODDS Europe basketball championships in Wiesbaden, Germany, on Thursday.

**Friday's schedule**  
**Pool play**  
**(Pool A)**  
Kaiserslautern vs. Ramstein, 11:45 a.m.  
**(Pool B)**  
Wiesbaden vs. ISB, noon  
Patch vs. Vilseck, 1:30 p.m.  
Wiesbaden vs. TBD, 6 p.m.  
**Semifinals**  
Wiesbaden vs. TBD, 6 p.m.

27; Bamberg/Schweinfurt eliminated.  
SHAPE 39, AOSR 17; AOSR eliminated.  
Aviano 38, Bahrain 8; Bahrain eliminated.  
Naples 41, Baumholder 20; Baumholder eliminated.

**Friday's schedule**  
**Quarterfinals**  
SHAPE vs. Naples, 8 a.m.  
Ansbach vs. Black Forest Academy, 8 a.m.  
Hohenfels vs. Rota, 10:30 a.m.  
AFNORTH vs. Aviano, 10:30 a.m.  
TBD, 3 p.m.  
TBD, 3 p.m.  
**Semifinals**  
TBD, 3 p.m.

### Division II girls

**Thursday**  
**Pool play**  
Naples 29, Bahrain 16  
Bitburg 33, Ansbach 31  
Aviano 33, Baumholder 14  
Vicenza 42, Rota 36  
Hohenfels 34, Marymount 6  
SHAPE 29, Alconbury 9  
AFNORTH 41, Bamberg/Schweinfurt 35

**Round of 16**  
BFA 32, AOSR 12  
Ansbach 24, Vicenza 22; Vicenza eliminated.  
AFNORTH 23, Alconbury 5; Alconbury eliminated.  
Rota 34, Bitburg 30; Bitburg eliminated.  
BFA 49, Marymount 10; Marymount eliminated.  
Hohenfels 31, Bamberg/Schweinfurt

### Division III girls

**Thursday**  
**Pool play**  
Brussels 36, Incirlik 12  
Incirlik 31, Lajes 10  
Brussels 32, Lajes 2  
Sigonella 26, Memuth Hill 12  
Memuth Hill 24, Ankara 5  
Sigonella 47, Ankara 12

**Friday's schedule**  
**Quarterfinals**  
Memuth Hill vs. Lajes, 8 a.m.  
Ankara vs. Incirlik, 8 a.m.  
**Semifinals**  
Brussels vs. TBD, noon  
Sigonella vs. TBD, noon

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# HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC



ADAM FONDREN/Special to Stars and Stripes

Kubasaki's DeQuan Alderman tries to shoot while Faith Academy's Mark Lovatt gets a hand on the ball as Kubasaki's Nick Ashak and Tristan McElroy, left, and Faith's Nick Dalafu, right, watch during Thursday's championship game in the Far East tournament at Camp Foster, Okinawa.

# Sharp-shooting Vanguards sink Dragons in title game

By DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — It was just a matter of time.

Faith Academy's boys basketball team lived by the three-point goal all week during the Far East High School Division I Tournament, setting a single-game record with 15 on Tuesday.

But early in Thursday's final at Kubasaki, it appeared as if the Vanguards might die by the three. They hit only two in the first two periods and trailed by as many as eight points to the Dragons.

But Jason Ishak and Nick Dalafu each offered an indication just before halftime, hitting two threes to give Faith the lead for good 31-27.

Then senior T.J. Hardeman, named the tournament MVP, took over. He hit six threes and the Vanguards totaled 12 from long distance in the second half and Faith pulled away for a 77-52 victory and the fourth D-I title in school history.

"I knew T.J. was off for the first quarter, but we've never seen T.J. off for a whole game," Vanguards coach Robby Nichols said.

"We told them at halftime, it's going to come, it's going to fall in the second half. We just said keep shooting, keep working the offense. And where he's strong is his defense. And that leads to his offense."

Faith took control of the boards, took advantage of turnovers and hit a seemingly endless rain of baskets from downtown.

"All that practice I put in, all those hours shooting with my dad, I knew it was going to come," said

T.J. of his father Todd Hardeman, Faith Class of '82, who won a D-I title playing for his father, then-coach Tim Hardeman.

"I just had to trust my shot, my practice and that I'd get it going."

All told, Faith hit 12 second-half threes. Hardeman — with his father and grandfather in the audience — had 19 of his 22 points in the second half and hit six threes. Mark Lovatt had 12 of his 15 in the half and Dalafu finished with four threes and 23 points.

"What a performance," said coach Jon Fick, whose Dragons were trying for their third D-I title in four years and Pacific-record 12th overall.

"A buzz saw of threes," Fick said. "We faced the best team in the tournament tonight. Shooting is a huge deodorant. And their defensive and rebounding performances were equally outstanding. They just crushed us tonight."

Kareem Key's bucket sparked an 11-0 run for an 11-3 Kubasaki lead with 2:03 left in the first quarter. The Vanguards slowly chipped away, then the teams traded the lead five times in the second period before Ishak's three 1:27 before halftime put Faith ahead to stay 28-27.

The Vanguards have won eight Far East titles overall, including four Division I titles. But this will likely be the last one for Faith, now a member of a first-year 12-member conference of missionary schools, including former Far East tournament regulars Morrison Academy of Taiwan and Yongsan International-Seoul of Korea.

ornauer.dave@stripes.com

# Mustangs knock off Panthers, end 22-year championship drought

By JAMES KIMBER  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP ZAMA, Japan — Mission accomplished.

A year after coming up one agonizing game short of the championship, Mia Weinland and American School In Japan took the final step and ended a 22-year drought by capturing the Far East girls basketball title Thursday at Yano Fitness Center.

Weinland scored 22 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and Kate Latimore added 10 points as the Mustangs closed the deal, leading from start to finish and downing Kadena 57-37.

"We wanted to finish the job," Weinland, a junior, said of ASIJ's 45-32 loss in last year's D-I final to Kinnick. "We really didn't want that to happen again. We already had that with us. There's a lot of returners from last year. I'm so glad we won it this year."

It was the first D-I title for the Mustangs, who finished 20-2 this season, since beating Zama American in the 1992 final. Kadena, 15-11, was seeking its first D-I title since 2008.

ASIJ's only two losses came in its season-opening competition, the 44th Hong Kong International Tournament in November.

"Since (then), we've been very successful in executing our game plan," Mustangs coach Julie Rogers said, adding that ASIJ picked up some games with Japanese teams "and that really helped us defensively and in our transition game."

"Tonight, we just came out ready to play. I've got a deep bench. It's awesome to be able to be nine deep on a nine-person roster. I don't even have to coach the game, it seems."

Weinland — who had missed the Mustangs' season finale last week with the flu — showed no ill effect, taking control of the boards and the paint at both ends of the court. She had 10 of her rebounds in the first half as the Mustangs galloped to a 29-12 lead.

But turnovers threatened to rewrite the script early in the second half as Alicia Vaughan, who led the Panthers with 20 points, scored eight unanswered to open the third period, getting Kadena within nine.

The Mustangs settled down after that, leading 41-25 after



HANNAH MAY GREER HICKS/Special to Stars and Stripes

American School In Japan guard Joey Yamada drives against Kadena during Thursday's championship game in the Far East girls basketball tournament at Yano Fitness & Sports Center, Camp Zama, Japan. ASIJ won 57-37, ending a 22-year title drought.

three quarters. They led by as many as 25 in the fourth.

"It feels wonderful," Rogers said. "I have such a nice group of ladies to work with, very coachable, pulling for each other all the time. I couldn't ask them to give more than they have this year."

For Kadena, just reaching the championship was an achievement for a team that lost seven players and brought back just three from a team that finished third in the D-I tournament a season ago.

"We knew they had a huge height advantage," Kadena coach Willie Ware said. "We told them in order to beat them, we had to box them out. We didn't box them out. They had second, third, even fourth chances. It seemed like everything they put up went in, especially in the first half."

Still, reaching the final may have been a taste of what's to come for a Kadena team which Ware hopes will return its entire lineup next season. "We've got a young team, and for us to get to the championship, it gives us something to look forward to next year," he said.

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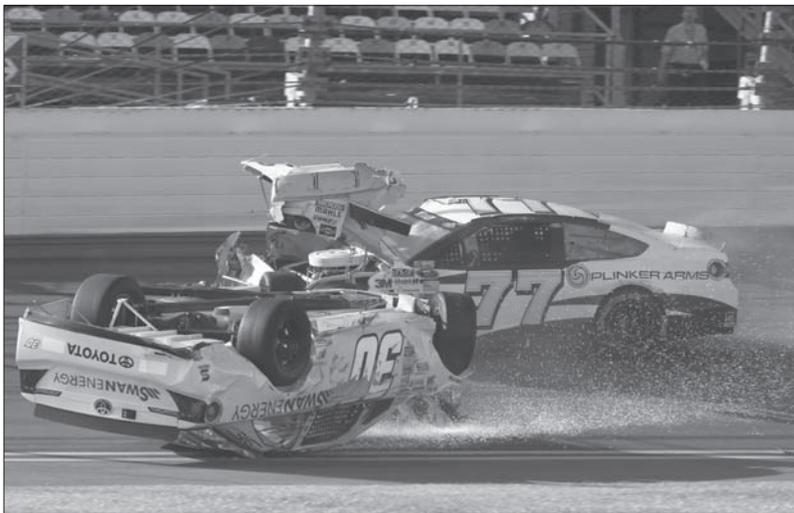
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## AUTO RACING



NIGEL COOK, NEWS-JOURNAL/AP

Rookie Parker Kligerman, left, slides on his roof Wednesday after crashing during practice for Sunday's Daytona 500.

### Five things to know about Daytona

# Crash brings flashback

## Kligerman's flip reminds fans of Nationwide wreck

By MARK LONG  
The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Five things to know about what's going on at Daytona International Speedway in advance of the season-opening Daytona 500 on Sunday:

**1 Crashing cars:** A seven-car accident in the first full practice of the Daytona 500 sent workers scrambling to repair a section of the grandstand fence and left teams hustling to get backup cars ready. The session ended early after rookie Parker Kligerman's airborne car damaged the fence. Kligerman's car ended up sliding on its roof halfway down the front stretch at Daytona International Speedway.

No one was injured, but the incident stirred memories of last year's last-lap crash in the Nationwide Series season opener. In that one, Kyle Larson's car destroyed a large section of the fence, sent debris into the stands and injured nearly 30 people. The stands were virtually empty during practice Wednesday. Joey Logano and Matt Kenseth started the melee when they got together coming out of turn 4 during a drafting session. Trevor Bayne, Paul Menard, Ryan Truex and Dave Blaney also were involved. All but Kenseth were forced to backup cars.

**2 Confusing qualifying:** No one really has Daytona 500 qualifying figured out. It's confusing, cryptic and often chaotic to say the least. But this much everyone knows: The higher you finish in Thursday night's dual qualifying races, the better your chances of making

"The Great American Race." With 49 drivers vying for 43 starting spots in the season opener, there will be plenty of disappointment following the prime-time event. Maybe the easiest way to look at it is to understand who has the toughest task. Michael McDowell, Cole Whitt, Dave Blaney and Morgan Shepherd must race their way into one of the 15 automatic spots from the qualifying race because they are so low in qualifying speed and owner points. "I think everyone struggles to perfectly understand how you get in this race, especially for the first time," said Kligerman, one of eight rookies vying for the 500.

**3 Busch reacts:** Taxicab boys? Puppies? Real race cars? IndyCar president of competition Derrick Walker used all of those phrases Tuesday while talking about NASCAR regular Kurt Busch possibly driving in the Indianapolis 500 this summer. Busch got a chance to react Wednesday, saying "the real cars are over in Europe and they've got F1 tagged to them." Busch's car owner, Gene Haas, is looking to potentially enter the Formula One Series. Walker created a stir at IndyCar media day in nearby Orlando when asked about helping Busch make the transition. "We have to help those little taxicab boys come out and race real cars." Walker was joking, but he didn't stop there. "We'll take those little puppies anytime they want to come up to (to Indy). Probably give them a thrill. They might not want to go back. (They'd say), 'Oh, this is what a real car feels like.'" Busch reiterated Wednesday that he still wants to drive in the Indy 500 and is working out the details of landing

a ride, but he has no plans to make a full-time switch. "It's just not an option. I'm a NASCAR guy, that's what my blood is, it's what flows every day."

**4 Deja vu:** Matt Kenseth and Joey Logano might want to avoid each other on the racetrack the rest of the week. Kenseth and Logano were involved in their second wreck in five days Wednesday, the second one coming while driving in a huge pack during Daytona 500 practice. They also got together in the exhibition Sprint Unlimited on Saturday night. "They're two separate things," said Logano, adding that he spoke to Kenseth about the first incident Wednesday morning. "I'm sure we'll talk about [the second one, too]," Logano said.

**5 Defending Danica:** Tony Stewart is Danica Patrick's teammate and boss. He's also one of her biggest supporters these days. Stewart came to Patrick's defense Wednesday during a taping of the Performance Racing Network's Fast Talk program outside Daytona International Speedway. Stewart told a live audience that Patrick should challenge seven-time NASCAR champion Richard Petty to a race. Petty criticized Patrick earlier this month, saying the only way the former IndyCar driver could win a NASCAR race is if "everybody else stayed home."

"I think that would settle it once and for all — maybe get him to shut up a little bit, too," Stewart said. "If he wants to race her, I'll make sure they have exactly the same setup in the car and give him the chance. He can drive one of my (number) 14 cars, I don't care."

# High hopes accompany Kurt Busch to new team

By DAN GELSTON  
The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Kevin Harvick popped in for what he thought was a quick hello with a bedridden Tony Stewart.

Roughly a week after Stewart broke his right leg in a sprint car crash, Harvick was surprised to find his new boss' bedroom had been turned into an unlikely boardroom. The entire Stewart-Haas organization had gathered to discuss the potential signing of Kurt Busch.

They wanted Harvick's input on adding a driver who hadn't exactly endeared himself in the past.

Baggage aside, Harvick knew as well as anyone that Busch was still as good as it gets as a wheelman.

They were all in on Busch. Former rivals, Busch and Harvick were now the new guys at a suddenly crowded SHR shop.

If Harvick's arrival, after a career spent driving for Richard Childress Racing, brought euphoria to the shop and a shot in the arm to the fan base, Busch's arrival was a bit of a curiosity.

Busch was covertly courted by co-owner Gene Haas, the often overlooked "H" in SHR, to round out a dream team of drivers that already included Stewart, a three-time Cup champion, and one of NASCAR's most popular stars in Danica Patrick.

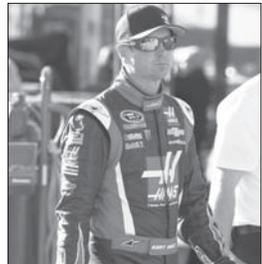
Busch's prodigious talent has never been doubted, with 24 career Cup wins and the 2004 championship etched on his resumé.

But his personality has cost him major rides, deep-pocketed sponsors, and turned him into a journeyman driver at only 35.

His 2014 ride with SHR is his fourth team in four seasons, though he revitalized his career and led single-car outfit Furniture Row Racing into a surprising Chase for the Sprint Cup championship berth last season. He finished 10th in the standings and silenced doubters that he'd ever return to a deep-funded organization.

Busch was on pretty good behavior, and says his teams learned, "I wasn't such a bad guy after all."

"It's funny, you work with people and the first thing they tell you was, 'Wow, I expected worse.' Perception is reality," Busch said. "I had to work on that. I couldn't continue to fight it. I was about producing results on the race track and putting on a good show."



TERRY RENNA/AP

Driver Kurt Busch joined Kevin Harvick in moving to the Stewart-Haas Racing team.





## OLYMPICS

# Russian shocks with skating gold

## Sotnikova gives country first ever women's title; Gold fourth for US

By BARRY WILNER  
The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia — Bursting from the shadow of her adored teammate, Adelina Sotnikova gave Russia its first gold medal in women's Olympic figure skating.

While much-heralded Julia Lipnitskaia was stumbling, the 17-year-old Sotnikova soared. When she won the free skate Thursday at the Sochi Games, she denied South Korea's Yuna Kim from defending her title and confirmed Russian command of

the sport once more.

"This is the happiest day in my life," Sotnikova said. "I simply stepped on the ice today and realized how much I like what I'm doing and skated really good."

The Russians have won three figure skating gold medals at these Olympics: team, pairs and women's.

Only this latest one was a surprise. A huge surprise.

Sotnikova, 2 years older than Lipnitskaia but far less accomplished, was considered a long shot against the likes of Kim, Italy's Carolina Kostner, who took bronze, Japan's Mao Asada and even Americans Grace Gold and Ashley Wagner.

But Sotnikova, nearly every more relaxed than seemingly any other competitor, won it all, giving Russia or the Soviet Union 27 Olympic gold medals. They own five men's golds, 13 in pairs, seven in ice dance, and took the first team event this year.

Sotnikova was in the media area when she was told she won. She ran waving her arms in the air before finding her coach and sharing a warm hug. When she got onto the podium for the flower ceremony, to raucous chants of "Ross-si-ya," she jumped up and done like, well, a teenager who had just had her Olympic dream come true.

"It's the Olympics. And it was a long way for me," she said. "To compete at the Olympic Games, I dreamed of any medal, but frankly speaking, I wanted a gold one." Lipnitskaia was fifth.



IVAN SEKRETAREV/AP

Adelina Sotnikova became the first Russian woman to win an Olympic gold medal in figure skating on Thursday, beating defending champion Yuna Kim in the free skate.

"I wanted to skate my best today but it didn't work," she said. "I've lost control over my jumps — tiredness and emotions."

Gold finished fourth, Wagner seventh and 15-year-old American Polina Edmonds ninth. Asada was third in the free skate after finishing 16th in Wednesday's short program and wound up sixth.

Sotnikova trailed Kim by just .28 going into Thursday, and she overcame that by winning the free skate 149.99 to Kim's 144.19. The final totals were 224.59 for Sotnikova, 219.11 for Kim and 216.73 for Kostner.

Skating last, Kim needed a repeat of her Vancouver performance to hold onto the gold. She began masterfully with a triple lutz-triple toe combination and hit four more triples. Because she had one less triple jump than Sotnikova, Kim's artistry couldn't make up the difference.

Of the three medalists, Kost-

ner went first to the sport's iconic musical piece "Bolero." While not as powerful or precise as Torvill and Dean's masterpiece at the Sarajevo Games 30 years ago, it was graceful and enchanting. From beginning to end, she owned the music — and by the finish, she owned much of the crowd, too.

She patted her heart when she was done, and her 142.61 was a season's best.

But it was not enough to beat Sotnikova, whose interpretation marks surpassed Kostner's if not Kim's. The Russian's routine was filled with action and pace, and she hit seven triple jumps, which turned out to be decisive. There wasn't much interaction with the music, but the energy sold the program.

That left only Kim with a shot at gold. She couldn't match the feat of Witt or Sonja Henie.

To chants of "Jul-i-a, Jul-i-a," Lipnitskaia took the ice first in the last group, knowing her chances

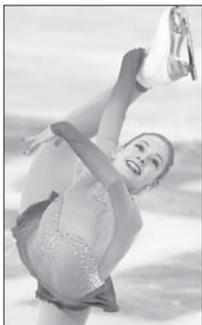
to win were ruined with her fall in the short program. Again she struggled in the second half of her routine to "Schindler's List," stepping out of one jump and falling on another. She showed little emotion when she finished, in direct contrast to when she helped Russia win the team gold.

With a slight frown, she left the ice, waved weakly to the crowd from the kiss-and-cry area, and wound up fifth, far below expectations.

Then again, Sotnikova made up for it for Russia.

One member of the judging panel, Yuri Balkov of Ukraine, served a one-year suspension after the 1998 Nagano Olympics, but was back on the ice dancing panel at the Salt Lake City Games.

AP Sports Writer Rachel Cohen, Associated Press Writer Leonid Chisov and freelance writer Marie Millikan contributed to this story.



DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

U.S. champion Grace Gold was the top-placing American in the competition, finishing fourth overall.

By RAF CASERT  
The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia — The International Skating Union is looking to make Olympic speedskating more exciting for fans, and it's considering things like mass start events and mixed team pursuit races.

Faced with hesitant sponsors, sometimes empty stands during the season, and monotonous races, ISU President Ottavio Cinquanta said he wants to broaden the sport's appeal.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Cinquanta says he seeks "to maintain the tradition of speedskating with two skaters in dedicated lanes, and to have a mass start in addition."

Mass start races would add intrigue, team tactics and a direct confrontation of skating styles in a long-distance event. It could also bring some of the push and shove elements of short track to the Olympic big oval — something likely to displease purists.

Having some of the biggest names in

the sport in the thick of a new event, going shoulder to shoulder, could only help raise the profile, Cinquanta said.

"My interest is to have the big names — Sven Kramer, Jan Blokhuijzen," he said of the 2014 Dutch stars.

The Netherlands dominated the 2014 speedskating program with four medal sweeps among its haul. In one event, Dutch women finished first to fourth.

Dutch team manager Arie Koops endorses the addition of a mass start, saying "It would be great. Spectacular."

Koops already envisages having semifinals where no nation can have more than one racer before the final, and where team tactics could play a part. "And it would also draw the inline skating fans in," he said. "It has something of short track too."

It's been done before. At the 1932 Lake Placid Games, eight racers set off in the 10,000 final, with the pace steadily picking up before resulting in a mad sprint for the finish, with the winner stumbling and crashing across the line.

Such a race could involve a mix of long-distance stars, marathon racers and skaters with an explosive finish to keep the crowd captivated for about 15 minutes.

Cinquanta is also considering a mixed team pursuit race, which would be a first for speedskating at the Olympics.

"Two men, two women together, giving the team leader the opportunity to set how racing goes," he said. It would become an extremely tactical race because of the differences in top speeds between the men and women.

"The composition of the team is very important and would be very spicy," Cinquanta said.

This is where Koops didn't really agree with the ISU president's line of thinking. Having athletes perform at anything less than their best, "you lose the essence of sports."

"I understand you want to have mixed events, but you should not do this in a pursuit because the speed differences are such that the men cannot go full out," he

said. Other options would be to have relay baton exchanges between men and women so everyone can go at top speed.

The ISU said it will review events and performances after the Olympics, especially in light of the Dutch domination.

Cinquanta said he plans to investigate why major speedskating nations like the United States, Canada and Norway fared so badly in Sochi.

"I believe that somebody is sleeping, is not working enough," he said.

Cinquanta acknowledges that domination by one nation is bad for the sport. He wants to provide federations financial incentives linked to performance.

He said his organization is "available to spend some money, to invest money — not to give money for free, like rain."

The ISU could set certain targets for federation and athletes, and if they meet them, they would be rewarded with help, Cinquanta said.

"I would not ask for the moon," he added.

# Speedskating ponders ways to add excitement

## OLYMPICS

## Scoreboard

Medal count				
At Sochi, Russia				
5 of 6 events Thursday				
Of 31 events				
Nation	G	S	B	Total
Norway	10	4	4	18
United States	8	4	5	17
Germany	8	4	3	15
Russia	7	4	4	15
Canada	6	9	4	19
Netherlands	6	2	2	10
Switzerland	6	3	2	11
Belarus	4	2	0	6
France	4	4	7	15
Poland	1	4	0	4
China	1	2	0	3
Sweden	1	2	0	3
Austria	2	2	0	4
Czech Republic	2	2	0	4
Slovenia	2	2	0	4
South Korea	1	3	2	5
Japan	1	3	3	7
Finland	1	2	3	6
Britain	1	2	3	6
Slovakia	0	0	1	1
Italy	0	2	6	8
Australia	0	1	2	3
Latvia	0	1	2	3
Croatia	0	1	1	2
Kazakhstan	0	1	1	2
Ukraine	0	0	1	1

Women's curling				
Wednesday, Feb. 19				
Semifinals				
Canada 6, Britain 1				
Sweden 7, Switzerland 5				
Thursday, Feb. 20				
Bronze Medal				
Britain 6, Switzerland 4				
Gold Medal				
Canada 6, Sweden 3				

## Nordic combined

Thursday	
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia	
Team	
K120 Jump	
1. Germany (Fabian Riessle, Bjorn Kirchenstein, Johannes Rydzek, Erich Zentgraf), 481.7, 0:00	
2. Austria (Lukas Klapfer, Christoph Bieler, Mario Stecher, Bernhard Gruber), 476.3, +0:07	
3. Norway (Magnus Hovdal Moan, Haavard Klemetsen, Magnus Krog, Joergen Graabak), 462.8, +0:25	
4. France (Maxime Laheurte, Sebastian Lacroix, Francois Brard, Jason Lamy Chappuis), 455.2, +0:35	
5. Czech Republic (Tomas Portyk, Tomas Slavik, Miroslav Dvorak, Tomas Porosil), 440.0, +0:56	
6. Japan (Akito Watabe, Yusuke Minato, Hiromaki Nagai, Yoshito Watabe), 433.3, +1:05	
7. Russia (Ernest Yahnin, Ilyay Nabev, Ivan Pavin, Evgeniy Klimov), 426.2, +1:14	
8. United States (Todd Lodwick, Taylor Fisher, Billy Demong, Bryan Fletcher), 397.6, +1:52	
9. Italy (Armin Bauer, Lukas Runggaldier, Samuel Costa, Alessandro Pittin), 383.3, +2:10	
10. Austria (Janne Rynneanen, Mikke Leinonen, Eetu Vaehaasoeyrnikki, Ilkka Herola), DNS	

45km Race	
1. Norway (Magnus Hovdal Moan, Haavard Klemetsen, Magnus Krog, Joergen Graabak), 46:48.5, 0:00	
2. Austria (Lukas Klapfer, Christoph Bieler, Bernhard Gruber, Mario Stecher), 47:09.9, +2:14	
3. Germany (Erich Frenzel, Bjorn Kirchenstein, Johannes Rydzek, Fabian Riessle), 47:45.8, +2:53	
4. Japan (Hideaki Naito, Yusuke Minato, Hiromaki Nagai, Yoshito Watabe), 47:25.6, +3:17	
5. United States (Bryan Fletcher, Todd Lodwick, Taylor Fletcher, Billy Demong), 47:43.1, +3:46	
6. France (Sebastian Lacroix, Francois Brard, Maxime Laheurte, Jason Lamy Chappuis), 47:51.3, +3:53	
7. Italy (Lukas Runggaldier, Armin Bauer, Samuel Costa, Alessandro Pittin), 47:54.7, +3:06.2	
8. Czech Republic (Pavel Churav, Tomas Slavik, Miroslav Dvorak, Tomas Porosil), 48:40.1, +5:11.6	
9. Russia (Ernest Yahnin, Ilyay Nabev, Ernest Yahnin, Ivan Pavin), 51:35.8, +4:47.3	

Total (Jump and 45km race in parentheses)	
1. Norway (Magnus Hovdal Moan, Haavard Klemetsen, Magnus Krog, Joergen Graabak), 93:46.3, +0:00	
2. Germany (Erich Frenzel, Bjorn Kirchenstein, Johannes Rydzek, Fabian Riessle), 91:48.1, +0:00	
3. Austria (Lukas Klapfer, Christoph Bieler, Bernhard Gruber, Mario Stecher), 92:47.6, +0:07	
4. France (Maxime Laheurte, Jason Lamy Chappuis, Francois Brard, Sebastian Lacroix), 92:56.3, +1:02.9	
5. Italy (Lukas Runggaldier, Armin Bauer, Samuel Costa, Alessandro Pittin), 92:56.3, +1:02.9	
6. United States (Bryan Fletcher, Todd Lodwick, Taylor Fletcher, Billy Demong), 93:39.7, +1:52	
7. Czech Republic (Pavel Churav, Tomas Slavik, Miroslav Dvorak, Tomas Porosil), 94:36.1, +2:22.6	
8. Italy (Lukas Runggaldier, Armin	

Bauer, Samuel Costa, Alessandro Pittin), 93:39.7, +2:10	
9. Russia (Ernest Yahnin, Ilyay Nabev, Ernest Yahnin, Ivan Pavin), 97:42.6, +1:14	
10. Japan (Akito Watabe, Yusuke Minato, Hiromaki Nagai, Yoshito Watabe), 97:42.6, +1:14	

Freestyle skiing				
Men's Cross				
Thursday				
At Krasnaya Polyana, Russia				
Quarterfinals				
Heat 1				
1. Armin Niederer, Switzerland (Q)				
2. Egor Korotkov, Russia (Q)				
3. Victor Gudimov, Norway/Sweden				
4. Jouni Pellinen, Finland				
Heat 2				
1. Jean Frederic Chapuis, France (Q)				
2. Jonathan Midol, France (Q)				
3. Andreas Schauer, Germany				
4. Andreas Matt, Austria				
Heat 3				
1. Brady Leman, Canada (Q)				
2. Arnaud Bovolenta, France (Q)				
3. John Eklund, Sweden				
NR. Thomas Fischer, Germany, DNF				
Heat 4				
1. Filip Flisar, Slovakia (Q)				
2. Florian Ertl, Germany (Q)				
3. Andreas Schauer, Germany				
4. Didrik Bastian Juell, Norway				

Semifinals				
1. Jean Frederic Chapuis, France (A)				
2. Jonathan Midol, France (A)				
3. Egor Korotkov, Russia (B)				
4. Armin Niederer, Switzerland (B)				
Heat 2				
1. Brady Leman, Canada (A)				
2. Arnaud Bovolenta, France (A)				
3. Florian Ertl, Germany (B)				
4. Filip Flisar, Slovakia				
Small Final				
1. Egor Korotkov, Russia				
2. Filip Flisar, Slovakia				
NR. Armin Niederer, Switzerland				
NR. Didrik Bastian Juell, Norway				

Big Final (Medal)				
1. Jean Frederic Chapuis, France				
2. Arnaud Bovolenta, France (A)				
3. Florian Ertl, Germany (B)				
4. Brady Leman, Canada (A)				

Women's halfpipe				
Final Ranking				
1. Maddie Bowman, Sochi Lake Tahoe, Calif., (85.80; 89.00) 89.00				
2. Marie Martinod, France, (84.80; 85.40) 85.40				
3. Ayano Onozuka, Japan, (79.00; 83.20) 83.20				
4. Virginie Faivre, Switzerland, (74.00; 78.00) 78.00				
5. Janina Kuzma, New Zealand, (77.00; 74.00) 77.00				
6. Brita Sigourney, Carmel, Calif., (78.00; 76.00) 76.00				
7. Rosalind Greenwood, Canada, (5.40; 74.20) 74.20				
8. Armin Bauer, Switzerland, (71.20; 16.00) 71.20				
9. Annalisa Drew, Andover, Mass., (66.30; 3.60) 66.30				
10. Amy Sheehan, Australia, (15.00; 40.50) 40.50				
11. Angeli Vanegas, Bellingham, Wash., (13.80; 29.60) 29.60				
NR. Anais Caradeux, France, DNS				

## Figure skating

Thursday	
At Sochi, Russia	
Final Ranking	
(Short and free skates in parentheses)	
1. Adelina Sotnikova, Russia (2, 74.64; 1, 149.95), 226.55	
2. Yuna Kim, South Korea (1, 74.92; 2, 174.91), 220.83	
3. Carolina Kostner, Italy (3, 74.12; 4, 142.61), 216.73	
4. Gracie Gold, Chicago (4, 68.63; 5, 136.90), 205.53	
5. Elizaveta Tuktamysheva, Russia (5, 65.23; 6, 135.34), 200.57	
6. Alisa Efendiev, Canada (16, 55.51; 3, 142.71), 198.22	
7. Ashley Wagner, Alexandria, Va. (6, 65.21; 7, 137.09)	
8. Akiko Suzuki, Japan (8, 60.97; 8, 125.29), 186.26	
9. Polina Edmunds, San Jose, Calif. (7, 61.04; 9, 122.21), 183.25	
10. Mea Bernice Meite, France (9, 58.63; 11, 115.90), 174.53	
11. Mao Asada, Switzerland, Italy (12, 57.02; 10, 116.31), 173.33	
12. Mariya Murakami, Japan (15, 55.60; 12, 117.60), 173.20	
13. Kaetlynn Osmond, China (13, 58.16; 13, 115.09), 173.25	
14. Li Zijun, Japan (11, 57.55; 14, 110.75), 168.30	
15. Zhang Xinxin, China (14, 55.80; 15, 116.41), 154.21	
16. Yura Hasejiri, South Korea (18, 54.37; 17, 95.11), 149.48	
17. Gabrielle Lameman, Canada (19, 52.61; 16, 95.83), 148.44	
18. Nathalie Weinzierl, Germany (10, 57.90; 19, 72.73), 147.63	
19. Elene Gedevanishvili, Georgia (17, 52.00; 20, 92.45), 147.45	
20. Brooklee Han, Australia (22, 49.32; 18, 94.52), 143.84	
21. Park So-yeon, South Korea (23, 49.14; 19, 93.83), 142.97	
22. Anna Lee, Czech Republic (20, 51.87; 23, 84.55), 136.42	
23. Anne Line Gjerskov, Norway (24, 48.56; 21, 87.86), 136.42	
24. Nicole Rajciova, Slovakia (21, 49.80; 24, 75.20), 125.00	

## Medals roundup

## Bowman captures first gold in women's halfpipe skiing

The Associated Press

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — This one was for Sarah.

Bruid spinning in the chilly mountain air, Maddie Bowman of the U.S. soared to the first-ever gold in women's Olympic halfpipe skiing, edging Marie Martinod of France in the final on a night the sport paid tribute to late Canadian freestyle skier icon Sarah Burke.

Burke, a leading advocate to have several events — including halfpipe — added to the Olympic program, died following a training accident in 2012. Her parents, Gordon Burke and Jan Phelan, watched as Bowman made history.

The 20-year-old from South Lake Tahoe, Calif., put together a pair of athletic runs in the finals. Stringing along dizzying series of spins and grabs, Bowman performed the two highest-scoring runs of the finals.

Her first one, an 85.80, put pressure on Martinod, who led qualifying. Bowman's second run was even better. She clasped the side of her helmet in disbelief then sat and waited to see if Martinod or American teammate Brita Sigourney could top her.

Nope.

Sigourney, who washed out in her first finals run, appeared ready to threaten Bowman before her backside skimmed the snow with only one jump off the 22-foot halfpipe left.

That left Martinod, who retired in 2007 but returned to the sport in 2012 at the urging of Burke. The 29-year-old Frenchwoman was one of the oldest performers in the 23-skiier field and her introduction included a series of out-takes with her young daughter.

Martinod was clean but not spectacular. Her 85.40 earned silver but didn't really come close to bumping Bowman from the top of the medal stand.

## Skicross

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — Just shy of an elegant and historic finish in a sport where both are in short supply, France's Jonathan Midol provided a comic reminder Thursday that in ski cross, order comes from chaos, not the other way around.

Seconds after countrymen Jean Frederic Chapuis and Arnaud Bovolenta grabbed gold and silver in the Olympic final, Midol was headed across the finish to join them when he washed out landing the final jump.

Gravity did the rest.

Instead of a picturesque moment with arms aloft in triumph after France's first-ever medals sweep in the Winter Olympics, Midol slid to bronze on his behind. Skis splayed. Poles flopped.



SERGI GUTS/AP

Maddie Bowman of the United States celebrates her gold medal in the women's ski halfpipe final, on the shoulders of David Wise, the men's half pipe gold medal winner, at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park on Thursday in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.

Midol laughed.

Skicross won. So did France. "I can't explain how it feels," Midol said. "We had a dream to make the podium with friends. The Olympic Games, three French on the podium is incredible."

And unprecedented.

France's last podium sweep in any Olympics came on men's vault during the 1924 Summer Games in Paris. Nine decades later in a sport barely out of its infancy, the bleu, blanc and rouge will drap across the medal stand once again.

## Nordic combined

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — After failing to win a medal at the Vancouver Olympics, the country that spawned Nordic combined more than 125 years ago made quite a comeback in Sochi.

Norway won its second gold medal in three days after taking Thursday's large hill team event. That gave the Scandinavian country its fourth medal of the games in three events.

Norwegians Joergen Graabak and Magnus Moan finished one-two in the large hill Tuesday while teammate Magnus Krog took the bronze in the normal hill.

"Tuesday was a great day for me, but this is better — standing on top with these friends and teammates," Graabak said inside the stadium at the RusSki Gorki Jumping Center after the venue's final event of these games.

"We had a bit of a rough patch in Vancouver ... to be able to take the gold and also three individual medals at these championships is unreal."

## Curling

SOCHI, Russia — Her gold medal-clinching race wasn't even halfway to the house when Canada skip Jennifer Jones put her hands to her face, soaked in the moment, then jumped up with her broom hoisted in the air.

Jones didn't need to see the end result. After a 16-year wait, Canada's women were Olympic curling champions.

"I thought, 'Wow, just wow,'" Jones said. "We did it, we did it. We are gold medalists."

Canada denied Sweden a third straight Olympic title with a tension-filled 6-3 victory at the Sochi Games on Thursday, completing an unbeaten campaign of 11 wins — an unprecedented achievement in the women's game.

## OLYMPICS

## American teen Shiffrin focusing on slalom



ALESSANDRO TROVATI/AP

American Mikaela Shiffrin, 18, will make her second attempt at a gold medal on Friday in the slalom.

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
The Associated Press

KRASNAYA POLYANA, Russia — Mikaela Shiffrin came to the Sochi Games hoping for two medals. Didn't matter one bit that she's only 18 or that she's at her first Olympics.

After a fifth-place finish in the giant slalom, the American gets to race Friday in her specialty, the slalom, which she has ruled for the past two years, including a world championship and World Cup title. She's won eight of the past 18 slaloms; no one else has won more than two in that span.

It's the last women's event on the Alpine hill at Rosa Khutor, and the second leg will be under the lights at night.

"I've been preparing for this for my entire life, really. Whether I knew it or not at the time, every single instance, every event that's happened to me — it's been preparation for this and preparation for whatever happens in my future," Shiffrin said. "I've always been really aware of that."

That's why Shiffrin was able to smile and even laugh and, at least publicly, brush aside whatever disappointment she might have felt when she wound up out of the medals in the giant slalom on Tuesday.

Asked that day which of her two GS runs she would like to redo, she replied: "I wouldn't redo any of them. I think this was supposed to happen."

In what way?

"I believed that I wasn't going to win my first World Cup slalom race until I was ready, because if I won it a minute sooner, then I wouldn't be able to continue to win," explained Shiffrin, who lives in Eagle-Vail, Colo.

"And I think it's the same for my first GS. I was really thinking that my first GS win would be at the Olympics, and that would be

such a cool thing to accomplish. But it's just something that I accept: I got fifth today," she said. "There are four girls who skied better than I did, and I'm really excited to analyze their skiing and analyze mine."

The GS winner was Tina Maze of Slovenia, who also took gold in the downhill, and can become only the second woman in Olympic history with three titles at a single Winter Games. Janica Kostelic of Croatia did it at the 2006 Turin Olympics.

Maze pushed Shiffrin during the 2012-13 World Cup season for the slalom title. It came down to the last race, when Shiffrin took first place and Maze was third.

"Now she's done GS, so will probably be more relaxed for slalom," Maze said about Shiffrin. "She's a great athlete. She has a great team around her. They are working really good. For that age, she's great, amazing."

Others to watch Friday include the defending champion, Maria Hoefl-Riesch of Germany, Marlies Schild of Austria, and Frida Hansdotter of Sweden, who won the most recent World Cup slalom on Feb. 2 in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia, and is second, behind Shiffrin, in the season standings.

Hansdotter also was the slalom bronze medalist at last year's world championships, where Shiffrin became the youngest woman to win a world title since 1985.

If it comes down to Shiffrin vs. Schild on Friday, the president of the Austrian ski federation, Peter Schroecksnadel, thinks the difference could depend on the snow conditions.

"If it's softer snow like [it's been], I think Shiffrin has the advantage, because Marlies likes skiing on hard ice," Schroecksnadel said. "Shiffrin is a very smooth skier. I think she has very good chances to win the slalom."

## After 2 medals, US women's bobsled looks to 2018

By TIM REYNOLDS  
The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia — Elana Meyers and Jamie Greubel have weddings to plan. Lauryn Williams has a life to start. Aja Evans is ready to make a run at the Rio Janeiro Games.

Even after winning Olympic medals, it didn't take long for U.S. women's bobsleders to turn toward the future.

The foursome of medalists sat side-by-side for possibly one of the final times Thursday, a day after American sleds grabbed silver and bronze at the Sochi Games. Meyers and Williams were one-tenth of a second off the time that would have won them gold; Greubel and Evans were a full second off the winning pace, but well ahead of all other challengers for bronze.

"We are, truly, a team to beat," Meyers said.

The trick now is finding a way to stay in that category. And really, that shouldn't be too difficult.

All three Olympic team drivers — Meyers, Greubel and Jazmine Fenlator — plan to be back, and with the Americans still

figuring out how to squeeze all the possible speed from their new BMW-made sleds, each figures to be better. Plus, it's almost certain that some pushers in the U.S. pipeline will enroll in driving school at Lake Placid, N.Y., next month.

What's unclear is who will be pushing sleds in the next World Cup season.

Lolo Jones said earlier in these Olympics that while she's still very much planning to go back to her life as a hurdler with an eye on the Rio Games, she could easily see herself resuming her brakeman duties next winter. That would suggest there's at least a chance she sticks around for four more years.

Williams is likely gone, since she was ready to start a "real" life as a certified financial planner last year when she retired from competitive track and field after three Olympics and two medals there. And now that she's one of five people to medal in different sports at the Summer and Winter Games, there wouldn't figure to be much left for her to chase.

"The last six months have been amazing," Williams said of her brief and meteoric time in bobsledding. "And to have a

silver and gold, 2004 and 2014, it's a dream come true — even though I didn't even get the opportunity to dream it. Life is always taking me by surprise."

Evans didn't know how much she would enjoy bobsledding when she tried it two years ago. Now she's an Olympic medalist, and may follow in Jones' path of trying to be a track and field athlete as well as a bobsledder.

Evans plans to relocate to the West coast soon, set to resume training as a thrower in field events, just as she was in college. That could mean she takes a break from sliding, though she still is planning to vie for a spot on the 2018 Olympic team, and that quest would not be thwarted if the winds up missing a season of pushing.

"When we were finishing our race and everything was settling, I was like, 'So when does track practice start?' I'm serious about it and I'm really excited about it," Evans said. "This is a good opportunity for me. I feel like I have enough time to advance and take my time and get on that elite level in track and field. I'm so much stronger mentally and physically."

That leaves the drivers, who helped the

U.S. make history with two medals.

Meyers is getting married this year, and Greubel plans to do the same. Meyers has made tons of sacrifices to get ready for her nuptials, and is planning a simple day with family and friends — and in at least one case, opponents. Canada's Kaitie Humphries, who edged Meyers for the gold medal, is on the guest list.

"I am going to make sure she has lots of cake," said Meyers, who has the dress and the cake picked out and will appear on a reality show later this year in the runup to the wedding.

Greubel thinks the sky is the limit for the Americans now. Most of the other drivers the U.S. raced against at the Sochi Games have far more experience. In some cases, certain drivers on the circuit this year have more years of experience than all three U.S. pilots combined.

"I really think we should be proud of what we've accomplished in such little time," Greubel said. "To be able to win these Olympic medals against women who have been driving for two quads, three quads, I think it's something we should be proud of."

## OLYMPICS

## Canada tops US for gold

By JIMMY GOLEN  
The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia — Marie-Philip Poulin scored twice for the second straight Olympic gold medal game and Canada beat the United States 3-2 in overtime on Thursday for its fourth consecutive title.

Canada trailed 2-0 before Brienne Jenner and Poulin scored in the final 3:26 of regulation, and Poulin had the game-winner with a power play goal at 8:10 of overtime.

Shannon Szabados made 27 saves for Canada, which has won 20 straight in the Winter Games since the Nagano final in 1998. That was the only gold medal for the United States, which has lost in the Olympic final to Canada three times since then.

Jessy Vetter made 28 saves for the Americans. Meghan Duggan and Alex Carpenter scored for the U.S.

Vetter, the loser in the Vancouver final, had a shutout until Jenner's seemingly harmless shot deflected off a defender's knee and into the net. With the goalie pulled for an extra skater, U.S. forward Kelli Stack sent the puck the length of the ice before it clanged off the post and landed harmlessly in front of the goal. It was still a one-goal game, but not for long.

With Szabados still off, Poulin scored just 54.6 seconds before the end of regulation.

After six tense minutes of overtime, the U.S. picked up a power play when Catherine Ward was sent off for cross-checking. But five seconds later, Jocelyne Lamouroux was called for slashing for swiping at the goalie's pads after a save. And during a bad player change by the Americans, five-time Olympian Hayley Wickenheiser got free on a breakaway before she was bumped from behind by Hilary Knight and sent sprawling.

It could have been called a penalty shot. It could have been no call.

But Knight was sent to the penalty box for cross-checking. With the 4-on-3 advantage, the Canadians worked the puck around and over to Poulin, who knocked it into the open net and set off the celebration on the bench and among the Maple Leaf-waving fans.



MATT SLOCUM/AP

Switzerland's Sarah Forster slides on the ice Thursday while celebrating her team's 4-3 win over Sweden in the women's bronze medal hockey game in Sochi, Russia. It was Switzerland's first-ever medal in women's hockey.

# A first for Swiss hockey

## Women claim bronze, first-ever medal

By JIMMY GOLEN  
The Associated Press



MATT SLOCUM/AP

Sweden's Emma Nordin, left, and Anna Borgqvist react to their team's 4-3 loss to Switzerland in bronze medal game.

SOCHI, Russia — The losing didn't bother the Swiss women's hockey team, even as it was slopping through the round-robin without a victory and finishing last in its group.

Sure, the 9-0 loss to the United States hurt. But a 5-0 victory by Canada was the closest Switzerland had ever come to the three-time defending Olympic champions, and a playoff victory over Russia put the Swiss in the semifinals. When they lost just 3-1 to Canada in the semifinals, they felt like they were ready to claim their first women's hockey medal in the country's Olympic history.

They were.

"We didn't care about the color of a

medal," said Florence Schelling, who stopped 28 shots to help Switzerland beat Sweden 4-3 in the bronze medal game on Thursday. "A medal is a medal."

Jessica Lutz broke a third-period tie with 6:17 to play as Switzerland rallied from a two-goal deficit with four straight third-period goals to earn just its second victory of the Sochi Games. Sara Benz and Phoebe Stanz scored to help Switzerland tie the game, and Aline Muller scored a 175-foot empty-netter with 67 seconds left that turned out to be the difference.

Valentina Wallner stopped 22 shots for Sweden. Michelle Lowenheilm scored in the first period, and Erica Uden Johansson made it 2-0 with 62 seconds left in the second period on a long, fluttering goal that Schelling allowed to tip off the webbing of her glove.

## Semis: This time, Crosby's NHL coach will be behind bench for Americans

### FROM BACK PAGE

Bylsma watched that game from a restaurant in Pittsburgh. Now, the Penguins coach will be behind the U.S. bench hoping Crosby, one of his players in the NHL, doesn't help the Canadians win two consecutive Olympic gold medals.

"I don't recall any conversations between Sid and I about the possibility of facing each other," Bylsma said. "We talked a little bit about the Olympic experience and I know prior to leaving we wished each other luck."

The U.S. might be peaking at the right time to improve its chances to win Olympic hockey gold for the first time since the "Miracle on Ice," in 1980.

If the U.S. wins two more games, anyone

who has been watching them play won't be surprised.

"This is a team that has put up a spectacular performance," Czech Republic coach Alois Hadamczik said after Wednesday's quarterfinal.

It wasn't the first time in Sochi. The U.S. has been tested only once, in an eight-round shootout against the host Russians in the preliminary round. The Americans crushed the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia by a combined score of 17-4.

Phil Kessel leads the Americans with five goals and eight points in the tournament.

The U.S. shaped its roster with players who skate fast, hit hard, share the puck and score.

"It starts off the ice," U.S. forward Max Pacioretty said. "Everyone on this team realizes you have to play for the team and check your ego at the door. All of us are the top players on our team back home and you come here and you're asked to play different roles."

"You see everyone in the room, willing to go to the dirty areas, block shots, make hits. It's nice to see when you see a guy like Patty Kane backchecking as hard as he can across the ice. It kind of puts things in perspective."

The Swedes might've been fortunate if they ended up playing the Russians rather than the fired-up Finns.

Top-seeded Sweden won the first of four quarterfinal games on Wednesday,

dominating Slovenia 5-0. After the game, Sweden coach Par Martts predicted Russia would beat Finland later in the day. He was wrong — the Finns eliminated Russia with a 3-1 victory — and might regret what he said to a room full of reporters.

The remaining teams have had a lot of success since the Nagano Games in 1998, the first with NHL players.

Canada, which barely beat Latvia 2-1 to advance to these semifinals, won gold in 2010 and 2002. The Swedes were the top team at the Turin Games eight years ago. The Americans earned silver twice in the past three Olympics, losing to Canada each time. Finland is the only nation with three medals in the Olympic era with the best hockey players in the world.

## SPORTS



Dolphins fire 2  
for roles in bullying

NFL, Page 55

## WINTER OLYMPICS

# Grand finale?

Going into Friday's pair of potentially super semifinals, NHL not committed to 2018

By LARRY LAGE  
The Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia — If this is it for NHL players at the Olympics, it's a good way to go out.

The United States will face Canada in a rematch of the 2010 gold-medal game, and rivals Sweden and Finland will meet in the Sochi Games hockey semifinals on Friday.

The NHL and the NHL Players' Association have refused to commit to going to South Korea in 2018, leaving open the possibility that the best hockey players in the world might not play in the Olympics after Sunday's finale.

In the meantime, the stage is set potentially for a pair of fantastic games at the Bolshoy Ice Dome.

The Americans have easily been the best team on ice so far, scoring the most goals (20) in three routs and a closely contested 3-2 shootout victory over the host Russians.

U.S. coach Dan Bylsma doesn't expect that trend to continue the rest of the way.

"This is a one-game tournament," he said Wednesday after a 5-2 win over the Czech Republic in the quarterfinals. "And, it usually comes down to a one-goal game."

Canada's Sidney Crosby scored the game-winning goal in overtime to beat the Americans four years ago.

SEE SEMIS ON PAGE 63

**U.S. forward Phil Kessel is the leading scorer in the tournament with five goals and eight points in four games.**

Petr David Josef/AP

Sweden vs. Finland  
AFN-Sports

12:30 p.m. Friday CET; 8:30 p.m. JKT

United States vs. Canada  
AFN-Sports

6 p.m. Friday CET; 2 a.m. Saturday JKT



U.S. women fall to Canada in final

Page 63

sochi.ru  
2014

## Inside:

- Undeterred by fifth-place finish in GS, American teen Shiffrin is focused on slalom, Page 62
- Medal-winning bobsledders already looking to 2018, Page 62
- Olympics scoreboard, Page 61
- Russian Sotnikova scores upset in figure skating, Page 60

Pacific, Europe high school basketball tournament results

Pages 55-56



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