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Army downsizing hits young officers

Soldiers who bolstered ranks post-9/11 no longer needed as Pentagon eyes cutbacks

By **LOLITA C. BALDOR**
The Associated Press

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — After the 9/11 attacks, tens of thousands of young men and women joined the military, heading for the rugged mountains of Afghanistan and dusty deserts of Iraq.

Many of them now are officers in the Army with multiple combat deployments under their belts. But as the wars wind down and Pentagon budgets shrink, a lot of them are being told they have to leave.

It's painful and frustrating. In quiet conversations at Fort Bragg in North Carolina

3,000

The number of officers the Army has to cut by the end of October 2015 — nearly 10 percent of the overall planned decrease. Of those, nearly 1,500 are captains, 550 are majors.

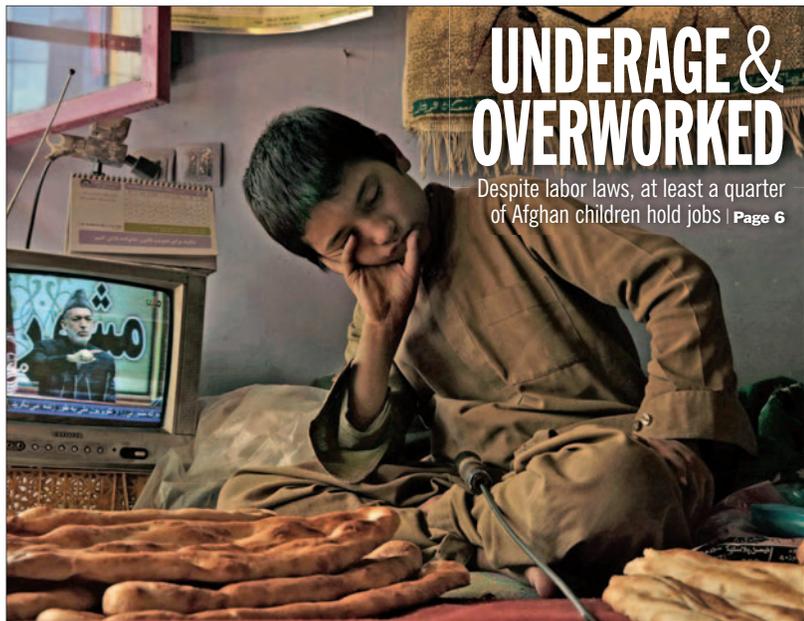
and Fort Eustis in Virginia, captains talk about their new worries after 15-month deployments in which they battled insurgents and saw roadside bombs kill and maim their comrades. They nervously wait as their

fates rest in the hands of evaluation boards that may spend only a few minutes reading through service records before making decisions that could end careers.

During the peak war years, the Army grew to about 570,000, as commanders worked to fill combat brigades and support units to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan. Thousands of newly minted officers came in during 2006-08.

Already down to about 522,000, the Army must shrink to 490,000 by October 2015, and then to 450,000 two years later.

SEE OFFICERS ON PAGE 2



UNDERAGE & OVERWORKED

Despite labor laws, at least a quarter of Afghan children hold jobs | Page 6

CAROLYN COLE, LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

Sani Rahimi pauses during his work as President Hamid Karzai speaks on the television. Rahimi, 13, lives and works in a bread bakery in Kabul where he earns about \$3 per day to help support his family, who live in a northern province in Afghanistan.

US steps up drone strikes against militants in Yemen

By **KEN DILANIAN**
Tribune Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Prompted in part by a video in which al-Qaida leaders taunted the United States, the CIA launched lethal drone strikes in Yemen that marked an es-

calation in the Obama administration's shadow war against the terrorist network's most powerful franchise.

Yemeni officials, who said their counterterrorism forces carried out ground raids in conjunction with the airstrikes, re-

ported Monday that the assaults on alleged training camps and vehicles had killed 55 militants, including some foreigners, and at least three civilians.

The majority of the deaths were said to be from the airstrikes, an unusually high toll

for what U.S. officials normally describe as targeted killings. They also show that Yemen has replaced Pakistan as the focus of America's drone attacks, with a total of 13 so far this year, compared with none in Pakistan.

SEE YEMEN ON PAGE 3

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I would rather just go to school. But my family needs the money, and I'm the oldest."

— Abdul Rafi, 9, who like many Afghan children works long hours to support his family

See story on Page 6

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MILITARY

Officers: Up to 3,000 will have to leave by Oct. 2015

FROM FRONT PAGE

If automatic budget cuts to resume, the Army will have to get down to 420,000 — a size service leaders say may not allow them to wage even one major, prolonged military campaign.

While a lot of the reduction can come from voluntary retirements, resignations and decreased enlistments, Army commanders will have to force as many as 3,000 officers — nearly 10 percent of the planned decrease — to leave by the end of October 2015. Of those, nearly 1,500 are captains, 550 are majors.

Behind some of those big num-

bers are soldiers in their late 20s who will be forced out of their military careers long before retirement age and into the still-struggling American job market. They would leave with honorable discharges, but without 20 years in the service they would not be eligible for retirement benefits.

"The captains are a problem," Gen. Ray Odierno, the Army chief of staff, said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "Because when we increased the size of the Army, we recruited heavily in certain year groups. So as we draw the Army down, those are overstrength."

The military has been through this before. In the years after Vietnam and during the 1990s as the Cold War thawed, the Pentagon pushed thousands of servicemembers out the door, creating what some felt was a hollow military that lacked the soldiers, training and equipment needed to fight and win.

This time, Army leaders argue they're trying to do it right. They're not asking for volunteers because too many good people leave. So they are combing through files, looking for soldiers with disciplinary or other problems in their annual evaluations

— known as efficiency reports — to weed out lower-performing officers.

Capt. Fred Janoe, a battery commander with the 18th Fires Brigade at Fort Bragg, said the process may create a short-term decline in morale but will be positive in the long term.

"You keep your best performers and as an organization you're able to do more with less," Janoe said. Sometimes, he said, "you see guys who just barely get by. I don't wish for anything bad to happen to them."

But he added, "I grew up on a cattle ranch, and sometimes you cull the herd a little bit."

USS Bush stops in Bahrain for recreational visit

From staff reports

MANAMA, Bahrain — The aircraft carrier USS Bush arrived here Tuesday for a scheduled recreational port visit.

Bahrain is the first Middle East port visit for the more than 5,000 sailors aboard the Norfolk, Va.-based carrier, which is in its third month of a nine-month deployment to the U.S. 6th Fleet and

5th Fleet areas of responsibility.

"The port visit will give sailors and Marines the opportunity for some much-deserved time off the ship and allow them to experience all that Bahrain has to offer," said Lt. Joe Hontz, U.S. 5th Fleet spokesman.

The crew's last port visit, in Antalya, Turkey, was more than a month ago.

While in Bahrain, the crew will

have the opportunity to participate in various Morale, Welfare and Recreation-sponsored events and cultural tours, officials said.

The Bush relieved the USS Truman in the Middle East last month after being delayed several days in the Mediterranean to reassure European allies amid tension over Russia's annexation of Crimea. The carrier is tasked with supporting maritime securi-

ty operations in the Middle East.

It is only the second deployment for the Navy's newest Nimitz-class, nuclear-powered aircraft carrier named after the 41st U.S. president — the last of the Nimitz series.

The USS Philippine Sea, part of the Bush carrier strike group, is also in the midst of a port visit in Bahrain.

U.S. fighter pilots' YouTube video attracts lots of hits

By ERIK SLAVIN Stars and Stripes

YOKOHAMA, Japan — A high-definition video of U.S. Navy fighter pilots swooping between snowy mountains and skimming the western Pacific Ocean has gained more than 135,000 online hits since being posted on YouTube four days ago.

The VFA-27 Royal Maces, based at Naval Air Facility Atsugi in Japan, shot the footage from their cockpits while flying F/A18-E aircraft at various locations in the Pacific theater.

Much of the footage comes from recent patrols while deployed with the aircraft carrier USS Washington, said pilot Lt. Kyle Matson. Footage includes trips along the Australian coast and

To view the 5-minute video and take a vicarious ride, go to: stripes.com/go/flightvideo



various parts of Japan. Some of the most dramatic footage shows the aircraft maneuvering its way through the Japanese Alps.

"It's a low-level route we fly all the time — it just happened to be a pretty day," Matson said.

The Royal Maces have received accolades for past videos, but never anything like the viral response of the past four days, squadron commanding officer Cmdr. Spencer Abbot said.

"The videos are a very effective means for us to communicate back with our families and sailors about the end product of all their hard work," Abbot said.

The five-minute video is a



VFA-27 Royal Maces YouTube Channel

A U.S. Navy fighter pilot soars in this screen grab from the Royal Maces video that has become popular with viewers.

teaser for a 27-minute show the squadron will unveil at NAF Atsugi's Spring Festival on May 3, which is open to the public.

The full video will include more low-level flying, carrier operations and footage from the squadron's work in the Philippines

while aiding the recovery efforts following Typhoon Haiyan.

The video was assembled by Lt. David Tarr, with help from other pilots in the squadron who purchased and mounted their own cameras.

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MIDEAST

Taliban official released by UAE

Former finance minister returns to Kabul to assist Afghan negotiations

By **SAYED SALLAHUDDIN**
The Washington Post

KABUL — A senior Taliban leader has been freed by the United Arab Emirates and has returned to Afghanistan to help jump-start President Hamid Karzai's efforts to reach a negotiated settlement with the militant group, officials said Monday.

Agha Jan Motasim, the Taliban's former finance minister, was detained by UAE officials about a month ago for unknown reasons. At the time, Motasim was talking to Afghan government officials about how best to reach a peace deal with the Taliban.

Karzai condemned the spokesman that "secret enemies of peace in Afghanistan" were "sabotaging" the peace process.

Motasim was released over the weekend after Karzai reached out to the UAE leaders, officials said. Citing concern for Motasim's safety, the officials declined to provide further details about his release except to say that he is now in Kabul.

Karzai believes that Motasim, who is Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar's son-in-law, may be able to work with members of the Afghan High Peace Council to engage in high-level discussions with Taliban fighters.

Karzai, who is leaving office this year after two terms as president, thinks a negotiated settlement is the only way to end years of bloodshed as the U.S.-led coalition in Afghanistan withdraws. Such a deal could help Karzai bolster his legacy, which is clouded by allegations of corruption and erratic behavior.

Still, U.S. officials and many observers are skeptical that any

lasting peace deal with the Taliban can be reached.

In recent weeks, U.S. officials have privately questioned Motasim's standing within the Taliban organization, saying his influence has waned considerably over the years.

Widely regarded as a moderate, Motasim sought refuge in Turkey after he was seriously wounded in a 2010 assassination attempt in Karachi. In Turkey, he began giving news media interviews in which he stressed the need for reconciliation between the Afghan government and Taliban leaders.

Last year, he traveled to the UAE to work with High Peace Council members on preliminary discussions about who best could set up a formal dialogue between Karzai's government and Taliban commanders.

That process has been hobbled by numerous setbacks.

In June, planned peace talks in Doha, Qatar, did not occur because of a dispute about a Taliban banner that was referred to as "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan," the group's name when the Taliban ruled the country before the U.S.-backed invasion in 2001.

In February, Abdul Raqeeb, the former minister of Refugees for the Taliban, was assassinated in Quetta in Pakistan after he had traveled to the UAE to meet with peace council members. The attack deepened Karzai's suspicions that Pakistan is trying to undermine his peace effort.

Further complicating the peace process, Afghan Taliban commanders believed to be most active in the group's day-to-day operations have shown little interest in a negotiated peace agreement.



HANI MOHAMMED/AP

Al-Qaida suspects await hearing

Suspected al-Qaida militants Farhan al-Saadi, second left, and Sami Dayan, right, stand behind bars during their hearing session at a state security court in Sanaa, Yemen, on Tuesday. They are accused of plotting the assassination of Maj. Gen. Saleh Ali al-Qutoni, who was killed by a suicide bomb attack on June 18, 2012, in the southern port city of Aden.

Afghan campaign worker slain outside home

By **AMIR SHAH**
The Associated Press

KABUL — A prominent campaign worker in Afghanistan's presidential election was shot dead outside his home in the country's east, officials said Tuesday. The Taliban denied they were involved in the killing.

Campaign worker Esmatullah, who like many Afghan men uses only one name, was returning home from visiting a friend Monday afternoon when unknown gunmen opened fire outside his house in Logar province, provincial spokesman Din Mohammad Darwish said.

Esmatullah — known as Commander Tor for his role in the struggle against the 1990s Soviet occupation — was killed instantly,

while his two bodyguards were wounded, Darwish said.

Esmatullah worked as an election observer for presidential candidate Abdul Rab Sallou Sayyaf, a prominent Islamic cleric who is currently running fourth in the race for the top post, according to the partial results that have been released.

A spokesman for Sayyaf's campaign, Mohammad Fahim Kadmani, confirmed that Esmatullah was an election observer and blamed the Taliban for his death.

The Taliban spokesman, Zabullah Mujahid, denied involvement. He told The Associated Press by telephone Tuesday that the insurgents would not target Esmatullah because of his high status as a former mujahadeen fighter against the Soviets.

"We respect him. He was a good man," Mujahid said.

The Taliban have unleashed a wave of attacks during the election to replace President Hamid Karzai, who under Afghan law cannot serve a third term.

Candidates, campaign workers and government offices have all been targeted with bombings and armed attacks, although the insurgents failed to disrupt election day, which saw some 7 million Afghans turn out to cast votes.

Preliminary results of the vote are due Thursday, though it is likely that a second round — a runoff between former foreign minister Abdullah Abdullah and former finance minister Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai — will be necessary, dragging out the entire election process until at least June.

Yemen: CIA, Yemeni officials are silent on any US role in drone strikes on training camp

FROM FRONT PAGE

U.S. officials said they have no evidence that the latest attacks had killed the top American target in Yemen, master bomb maker Ibrahim Hassan Asiri, or Nasser Wahayshi, who is the head of al-Qaida's Yemeni franchise and the network's second-ranking leader.

Washington considers the Yemeni organization, known as al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, a serious threat because it has reportedly launched sophisticated plots with innovative bombs designed by Asiri against Americans or U.S. targets.

Wahayshi, a former aide to Osama bin Laden, surprised U.S. intelligence and counterterrorism officials when he appeared in a provocative video reminiscent of pre-Sept. 11 terrorist videos that was featured on militant websites in the last three weeks.

“The operation delivers a strong message to the criminal and terror operatives that the armed forces and security personnel are ready to foil and thwart terrorist acts in any time and place.”

Yemeni President **Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi**

He exhorted dozens of apparent followers at an open-air gathering in southern Yemen's Abyan province, the area targeted by two of the weekend drone strikes. "We must overthrow the leaders of infidelity and remove the cross and its holder, America," Wahayshi said.

The video showed the group celebrating the escape in February of two dozen militants from a prison in Yemen's capital, Sanaa. Fighters were shown marching in

the open, delivering speeches and firing celebratory gunfire. Most of the faces were digitally blurred.

Wahayshi, a Yemeni, was bin Laden's secretary in Afghanistan in the 1990s when al-Qaida was still relatively unknown. He later was jailed in Yemen but participated in a prison break in 2006 by several men who later founded al-Qaida's local affiliate.

In March, CIA Director John Brennan said Wahayshi had been elevated to al-Qai-

da's No. 2 commander, a potential successor to leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, who is believed to be in Pakistan.

The CIA on Monday declined to comment on the drone strikes, referring questions to Yemeni officials, whose accounts were silent on the American role.

The CIA and the military's Joint Special Operations Command have launched drone attacks against targets in Yemen since 2009. The command was ordered to halt its strikes after Yemen's government complained that an attack hit a wedding party in December and killed a dozen civilians.

"The operation delivers a strong message to the criminal and terror operatives that the armed forces and security personnel are ready to foil and thwart terrorist acts in any time and place," President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi said, according to the statement.

MILITARY



GERRY BROOME/AP

First Lt. Kelly Requa watches over soldiers during certification in February at Fort Bragg, N.C. The U.S. military is moving toward opening all combat jobs to women.

First wave of female lieutenants working in Army artillery platoons

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
The Associated Press

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Under a canopy of trees on the edge of a large field, soldiers from Bravo Battery are lying in a circle as they pore over targeting charts. Nearby, others are preparing the howitzers as helicopters swoop overhead. At the edge of the circle, the platoon leader watches as the field artillerymen go through their training exercise.

No one seems to notice the small knot of hair at the base of the lieutenant's helmet, or that 1st Lt. Kelly Requa is the only woman on the field at Campbell's Crossroads on the sprawling grounds of Fort Bragg.

By January 2016, the U.S. military must open all combat jobs to women or explain why any must remain closed. The Army in November officially began assigning female officers to lead artillery platoons and plans to open other jobs, including those of crewmembers within the field artillery units.

The integration comes as the military struggles with an increase in reports of sexual harassment and assault and as Congress battles with the Pentagon over how those cases are prosecuted.

Some of those concerns were reflected in how senior commanders are preparing the men as women arrive — and what the men say concerns them, from whether women can keep up to whether the men's salty language will be too offensive.

At the base near Fayetteville,

N.C., Requa is one of at least eight female lieutenants who were brought into the 3rd Battalion of the 321st Field Artillery Regiment beginning late last year to lead the field artillery units. For now, she's the only woman in her platoon. Later this spring, women will begin serving as crewmembers — soldiers who actually position the 4,000-pound cannons, zero in on targets and fire the rounds.

For the women, the integration means more pressure and scrutiny. For the men, it means more training in sexual assault awareness and prevention and more lectures on respect, team building and moral character.

"From a leadership perspective, the biggest concern that we discussed was possible misconduct," said Lt. Col. Christopher Valeriano, the 3rd Battalion's commander. "Introducing females into an all-male unit, at least for the initial piece of it, could lead to a spike in misconduct."

Commanders were worried about sexual harassment and assault incidents, he said, as well as inappropriate consensual relationships as they moved women into the small artillery units. He

said platoon members on deployment can be on duty for 24 hours straight, crowded together in the cab of a rocket launcher the size of a large truck cab.

So far, he hasn't seen any problems. It's been "pretty impressive to see the women coming in and running circles around the men," he said.

"Most of my female lieutenants outrun my male lieutenants," he said. "On overall strength, the males are stronger. But the females — endurance-wise and running — really made these guys take their game up a notch."

Valeriano and other commanders met with the platoons before the women arrived to talk about team building and good moral character and let the men air any concerns.

"We had to sit them down as a pre-emptive strike to make sure they were prepared for this," Valeriano said. "They knew it was coming. It was just new to the overall artillery community. Some hadn't had women in their units ... so at the tactical level where these guys are operating and conducting fire missions, they don't see women normally. Now they're being led

by a bunch of women."

Col. Trevor Bredenkamp, commander of the 82nd Airborne Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team, said he had lunch to discuss the situation with his battalion commanders and talked to other officers across the 4,400-member brigade.

He met with all the unit's female soldiers to make sure they heard directly from him that he will not tolerate sexual harassment. And he said he routinely gets together with new soldiers in the brigade to talk about the importance of being a team and treating others with dignity and respect.

"When I jump out of an airplane in the middle of the night and I land next to somebody else, I've got to trust them," he said. "It doesn't matter what gender they are."

While men largely said they were unconcerned about the integration of women into their unit, commanders said some initially weren't too thrilled. Army leaders are watching to see whether Requa and the other women can fit in, keep up and lead.

Capt. Fred Janice is in charge of Bravo Battery, roughly 100 people,

including two platoons — Requa's and one other — and some support personnel. Before Requa joined the unit, there was a lot of talk about "is she going to be able to keep up?"

"She doesn't know anything about cannons. But when she got there, she was very impressive. So none of that was really talked about anymore," Janice said.

Men also worried about job standards being lowered to allow women to qualify. They wondered about favoritism and whether the men would automatically help the women, who might be smaller. And they fretted about swearing in front of the women.

"For us, it's been a pretty OK transition. A lot of combat soldiers use a lot of foul language, especially with young soldiers. And that's changed, for now," Sgt. Antuan Campbell said with a laugh. "I wouldn't say 'don't swear,' just 'watch what you say.'"

Commanders also said younger soldiers, particularly those who fought in Iraq and Afghanistan, are more accustomed to working with women. The greater adjustment may be among older enlisted and noncommissioned officers who have long served in men-only artillery, infantry and armor units.

Requa, who just returned from Afghanistan, said there haven't been any problems so far.

"They're bigger than me," she said of the men. "My main goal is just keeping up — meeting the standards. So in PT (physical training), I keep up with the guys no problem. It seems to work out."

“On overall strength, the males are stronger. But the females — endurance-wise and running — really made these guys take their game up a notch.”

Lt. Col. Christopher Valeriano
commander, 3rd Battalion of the 321st Field Artillery Regiment

PACIFIC

Celebrating a tradition of protest on Okinawa

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND CHYOMI SUMIDA
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — It seems as though a lifetime has passed since Takekiyo Toguchi and his wife, Chikako, began protesting the move of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to Camp Schwab in Okinawa's north.

It began shortly after the isolated Marine Corps base was named a candidate site for a new military runway that would replace Futenma air operations in 1996.

At the time, Takekiyo was in his early 40s; Chikako, her mid-30s.

In the time that has passed, they have counted the years by shouting slogans, collecting signatures and sitting in at the Henoko fishing port to protest construction of the V-shaped airfield that will one day extend into Oura Bay, on the coast just north of Henoko. They also raised three children in nearby Sedake.

The protests have taken on a sense of urgency as of late after Okinawa Gov. Hirokazu Nakaima approved landfill permits for the airfield in December. The protesters say the bay is home to a diverse marine ecosystem.

The Toguchis joined approximately 300 other protesters from across Japan on Saturday as they commemorated the 10-year anniversary of the first sit-in with a flotilla of boats and kayaks that passed the base at sea, holding signs, chanting and playing anti-war music from the 1960s. Their son Takeryu, 16, was by their side.

"We decided at the time that we would do everything we could to protect the sea and the rich natural environment for our son because this is the place where he will grow up and possibly live all his life," Takekiyo, 57, said while the protesters faced the sea, chanting, fists raised in the air. "The idea to build a new military airfield comes from those who have never seen the ocean here. We are not demanding to close the existing base (Camp Schwab). We are asking not to add new military facilities."

The Council Against Off-shore Military Base sit-in was started by a group of local elders in 2004. The protest featured 70 to 80 people per day in the early days but wanted to about 25 in recent years, according to organizers. However, after Nakaima approved the landfill work, it has grown back to 50 people per day and shows no signs of slowing.

"There is a new generation, like Takeryu, whose early lives have been defined by the small but substantial movement. There were countless days when he wanted to play with friends or watch television, but his parents brought him to protest events instead.

"When I was younger, I was sometimes reluctant to join a rally with my parents," he said. "I am proud of them and now I feel a responsibility to protect the natural environment here because this is where I was born and where I will live."

He said his friends now under-



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW M. BURKE/Stars and Stripes

A boy plays in front of the fence marking the start of Marine Corps base Camp Schwab in northern Okinawa. Saturday marked the 10th year of a sit-in to protest the building of a runway into Oura Bay that will replace flight operations at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.



Members of the Toguchi family — from left, Chikako, Takeryu and Takekiyo. Takeryu, 16, has pledged to continue protesting for his parents, who have been opposing the runway since his birth.

stand and support him the more the issue becomes public.

"People here, like our parents, have continued their nonviolent struggles for the past 17 years to stop the runway construction," he said. "People on the other side of the fence are not our target at all. The individual servicemembers are human beings just like us. Where we stand separates us. What causes this is the power, power that attempts to build a military base. We are fighting against this power."

The protest movement in Japan has latched on to various issues over the years, from attempting to block the deployment of the MV-22 Osprey to closing MCAS Futenma, both because of safety concerns, and also blocking the move of Futenma air operations

to the remote Schwab, owing to environmental concerns.

The citizenry has also been very vocal in criticizing misbehavior perpetrated by U.S. servicemembers, which has led to strict curfews and alcohol consumption restrictions.

The protesters said that all of those concerns are rooted in a desire to see a smaller U.S. presence on the island.

"Seeing troops having been deployed to Iraq from Camp Schwab made me realize that military bases are connected to war," protest organizer Takako Shinohara, 50, said as she presided over the protest tent that overlooks the waters where the new runway is planned. "We will never give up because we know that it is the only way to win the fight."

Shinohara said the protest activities have spread over the years to the mainland, from Hokkaido to Kyushu, including those who stage regular rallies in front of the national Diet in Tokyo, Osaka, Niigata and Saitama prefectures.

Marine Corps officials said they value their relationships with members of the community but expect Japanese law enforcement officials to uphold the law and not allow protesters to go too far.

"Our most valuable relationships are with our community

neighbors — we consistently do our utmost to keep our community safe, and we will continue to do so as the Marine Corps operates and conducts routine training in Okinawa," Marine Corps officials said in a statement.

"While we support individual freedom of speech and peaceful public assembly, we look to the Government of Japan law enforcement officials to take necessary measures should anyone interfere with installation access or violate the laws of Japan."

As little children played in the sand next to Schwab's fence topped with barbed wire, Takeryu vowed to carry the protest torch for the next generation.

"I hope our fight is over soon so that I don't have to take after [my parents], but if I have to, I will follow their footsteps and continue to fight," he said.

"When I grow up, I will certainly tell this to my kids."

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MIDEAST

Many Afghan kids working to support families

By DAVID ZUCCHINO
Los Angeles Times

KABUL—Sami Rahimi sleeps fitfully on a bread rack above the cold concrete floor of a bakery. He rises at 5 a.m., sweeps up, washes in a pan of chilly water, then prays.

Before the sun has risen, Sami is pushing a dented wheelbarrow through the dim streets, at 13 still a tiny figure among the vegetable hawkers and butchers slicing bloody flanks of sheep from carcasses hung on hooks. He gathers water from a public well and takes it back to the bakery.

By 6 a.m., the gas-fired stone kiln is glowing a fiery red. Dough is flung against its curved walls to bake into the flat loaves known as khasha and the round loaves called kamachi. The sweet aroma of fresh bread wafts through the cramped storehouse.

Sami sweeps a platform where hot flatbread is stacked for sale. He then sits cross-legged to begin the long hours of selling each loaf for 10 afghanis, about 20 cents, to customers who thrust worn bills through a window that he opens and closes with a long metal hook.

Working until dark six days a week, Sami earns about \$80 a month, enough to support his entire family: a disabled father and his mother, three brothers and two sisters.

Sami has been at the bakery since he was 10, when he rode a bus here from the northern countryside to assist his uncle, Yar Mohammed, the bakery owner, who himself began at age 8.

"I'm happy I can support my family, but I would rather go to school and be an educated person," Sami said. He shrugs as he flips over a steaming loaf with his hook, a weary gesture that makes him seem old and careworn. He is the only person in his family with a passport.

The work bores him, and he stares out the smeared glass window daydreaming of a better future: graduating from a university and becoming a teacher or engineer, a learned man, a barely literate little boy peddling bread.

Focusing on survival

Child labor is endemic in Afghanistan, despite vaguely written laws that prohibit children under 18 from working full time. The regulations, adopted in 2007 and last revised in 2012, allow those 14 and older to serve as apprentices, and those 15 to 18 to perform "light work." They prohibit children younger than 18 from working in "especially hazardous or dangerous to their health."

But the laws are widely ignored because of resistance from employers and from families who need the income, said Sami Hashemi, a child-protection specialist for UNICEF in Afghanistan.

Children as young as 6 work in brick making, carpet weaving, construction, mining and farming. Others resort to begging, collecting garbage or selling trinkets on the street.

Families scramble for any job

to survive. "They must focus on today, not on a future for their children," Hashemi said.

Aid groups that have poured billions of dollars into Afghanistan since 2001 are unsure how many children work. The best estimate is nearly 2 million between the ages of 6 and 17, or at least 25 percent of Afghan children, Hashemi said. The numbers are rising as growth in mining and construction, fueled by international assistance dollars, has lured more underage workers.

In a U.S. Labor Department report last year, the word "unavailable" is listed in a chart on the numbers of Afghan working children. The report describes sexual abuse of children who herd livestock.

'I'm happy I can support my family, but I would rather go to school and be an educated person.'

Sami Rahimi
Afghan boy, 13

And it tells of children maimed or killed in construction jobs and forced to work in extreme cold or heat, carry heavy loads, smuggle narcotics or serve as soldiers.

"Research does not show any laws to prohibit child commercial sexual exploitation, pornography and use of children in illicit activities," the report says. "There do not appear to be any mechanisms to reach children involved in the worst forms of child labor in the informal sector."

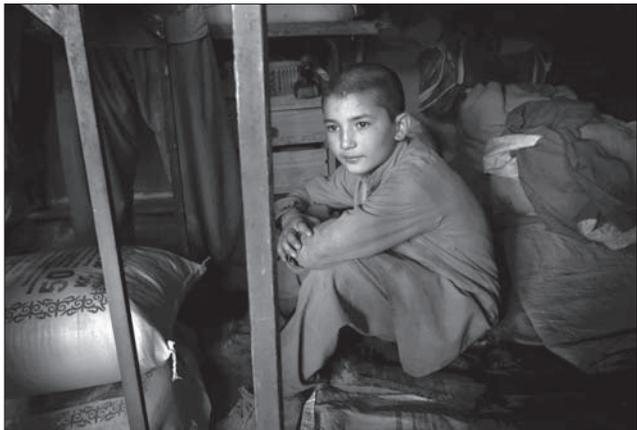
Asked whether it was frustrating for a child-protection specialist to see youngsters performing punishing or dangerous jobs, Hashemi replied, "Any human being, when he sees kids with a right to education and recreation working under these conditions, will be frustrated."

Abdul Rafi

On the chaotic streets of Kabul, skinny kids dart among the vehicles in traffic. They tap at windshields and beg for money. They pester drivers to buy chewing gum, candy, maps, matches, scarves, toilet paper. They collect trash to burn for fuel or pick through garbage heaps for rotting fruit or half-eaten kebabs.

At the downtown taxi ranks, drivers pay small boys about 10 cents for each fare they enlist. They are a manic and aggressive lot, competing and cajoling and jabbering. Sometimes they half-drag, half-shove fares into taxis already jammed with men whose knees are folded to their chests. They are more gentle with the burqa-clad women, helping them into open taxi trunks.

Abdul Rafi's voice emerges from his scrawny body as a croak. He's only 9, but he has the coarse rasp of a lifelong smoker. He said he wore out his voice screaming at fares, an endeavor he began at age 6.



PHOTOS BY CAROLYN COLE/Los Angeles Times

Sami Rahimi sits on his sleeping platform where baking supplies are also kept.



Left: Abdul Rafi, 9, has been working since he was 6. He earns \$6 a week and hopes to become an engineer. Right: Brothers Hekmat, 12, left, and Qudratulla, 9, work in a metal shop in Kabul.



Abdul is the oldest of three brothers, and it has fallen to him to find work in this country whose traditions require that elder sons support their families. He is up every day at 5 a.m. for morning prayers. Then he hustles to the taxi rank amid a cacophony of donkey carts, creaky old Toyotas, Afghan military vehicles brimming with gunmen and black SUVs ferrying warlords. Most days, he barely earns \$3.

"I would rather just go to school," Abdul said, his eyes scanning the street for fares. "But my family needs the money, and I'm the oldest."

He wants to be a soldier one day—a literate soldier. He takes off four hours for class on school days, then hustles back to catch the late-afternoon rush hour.

He's still shouting for fares at dusk, until the shrill call from the muezzin signals evening prayers, and Abdul is off, lurching and weaving through traffic like a drunk, just another working stiff on his way home.

Hekmat

Across Kabul, in a warren of muddy dirt pathways at the edge

of the teeming Ali Reza Khan metal market, Hekmat, 12, raises his hammer and slams it down on a sheet of metal. There is a sharp clang, clang, clang as the boy pounds the soft metal into shape. He has the sure stroke and effortless timing of a jazz drummer.

The metal will become a decorative cake tray in Hekmat's swift and nimble hands. All around him, boys and men beat a steady ding, ding, ding to pound out tea containers, ladies and cookstoves.

Hekmat is small and slender, with hands stained gray from four years of pounding metal. He began when his father, a garbage picker, arranged the job through the shop

owner, a family friend.

Hekmat earns \$6 a week for part-time work that helps support his parents and three younger brothers. He takes off from noon to 3 p.m. to attend school. He wears clean school clothes under a wool coat, stained trousers and tattered sneakers.

"I like doing this job," he said, still pounding as he spoke in a light, childish voice. "It's fun to make things."

He intends to keep at it until he graduates from high school. He hopes to become an engineer.

"That will be a much better job than this one, so then I'll quit," he said.

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Hekmat

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NATION

Former Justice Stevens: Amend the Constitution

BY MARK SHERMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In the aftermath of the Connecticut school shootings that left 20 first-graders and six educators dead, retired Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens began thinking about ways to prevent a repeat.

The result is his new book — his second since retiring from the court at age 90 — in which he calls for six changes to the Constitution, of which two are directly related to guns. Others would abolish the death penalty, make it easier to limit spending on elections and rein in partisan drawing of electoral districts.

His proposed amendments generally would overrule major Supreme Court decisions with which he disagrees, including ones on guns and campaign finance in which he dissented.

The book, "Six Amendments: How and Why We Should Change the Constitution," was being published Tuesday by Little, Brown and Co., two days after Stevens' 94th birthday.

Stevens said in an interview with The Associated Press that the Newtown, Conn., shootings in December 2012 made him think about doing "whatever we could to prevent such a thing from happening again."

He said he was bothered by press reports about gaps in the federal government database for checking the background of prospective gun buyers. Those gaps exist because the Supreme Court has ruled that states could not be forced to participate in the background check system. Stevens dissented from the court's 5-4 ruling in *Printz v. United States*.

One amendment would allow Congress to force state participation in gun checks, while a second would change the Second Amendment to permit gun



Former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens has written a new book in which he calls for changes to the U.S. Constitution.

control. Stevens was on the losing end of another 5-4 decision in 2008 in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, in which the court declared for the first time that Americans have a right to own a gun for self-defense.

He acknowledged that his proposed change would allow Congress to do something unthinkable in today's environment: ban gun ownership altogether. "I think the chance of changing the Second Amendment is pretty remote," Stevens said. "The purpose is to cause further reflection over a period of time because it seems to me with ample time and ample reflection, people in the United States would come to the same conclusion that people in other countries have."

Officials weighing change in deportations

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Tens of thousands of immigrants who are in the U.S. illegally but don't have serious criminal records could be shielded from deportation under a policy change being weighed by senior American officials.

The change, if adopted following a review ordered by President Barack Obama, could limit removals of people who have little or no criminal record but have committed repeat immigration violations such as re-entering the country illegally after having been deported, or failing to comply with a deportation order.

The possible move, confirmed by two people with knowledge of the review, would fall short of the sweeping changes sought by activists.

They want Obama to expand a 2-year-old program that grants work permits to certain immigrants brought here illegally as

children to include other groups, such as the parents of any children born in the U.S.

John Sandweg, who until February served as acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, said he had promoted the policy change for immigrants without serious criminal records before his departure and said it was being weighed by Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson.

An immigration advocate who has discussed the review with the administration also confirmed the change was under consideration. The advocate spoke on condition of anonymity because the proceedings are confidential.

"Any report of specific considerations at this time would be premature," Clark Stevens, a spokesman for the Homeland Security Department, said Monday.

Stevens said Johnson "has undergone a very rigorous and inclusive process to best inform the

review," including seeking input from people within DHS as well as lawmakers of both parties and other stakeholders.

The approach outlined by Sandweg and the immigration advocate would change the existing priority categories that now include immigrants who have re-entered the country after having been deported previously, and those who are fugitives from immigration proceedings. Such people would be taken off the priority list.

The remaining priority categories focus on recent border-crossers and immigrants who pose a danger to national security or public safety or who have been convicted of crimes. Some of those categories might also be refined or changed, and others could be added.

"The time had come to focus ICE's efforts exclusively on public safety and national security," Sandweg said.

Teen stowaway draws concerns about security

BY OSKAR GARCIA AND JUSTIN PRITCHARD
The Associated Press

KAHALUI, Hawaii — Surveillance cameras at San Jose International Airport successfully captured the teenager on the tarmac, climbing up the landing gear of a jet. But in the end, the cameras failed because no one noticed the security breach until the plane — and the boy — landed in Hawaii.

Although the 15-year-old apparently wanted nothing more than to run away, his success in slipping past layers of security early Sunday morning made it clear that a determined person can still get into a supposedly safe area and sneak onto a plane.

Video surveillance can help catch trespassers. Some airports use not just human eyes watching video screens, but also technology that can be programmed to sound an alert when a camera captures something potentially suspicious. But just because something is caught on camera doesn't mean it will make an impression.

Despite great promise, "sometimes the actual results are quite underwhelming when it gets to the real world, where people are fatigued, people are preoccupied," said Richard Bloom, an airport security expert at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona. "There's no way to guarantee security, even if you had one person per video screen."

There were no obvious efforts Monday to increase security or the police presence at airports in San

Jose or Maui. In San Jose, airport officials said they were reviewing how the boy slipped through security that includes video surveillance, German shepherds and Segway-riding police officers.

While each of those measures can work for certain situations, "the problem is that each layer has its own error factor," Bloom said.

Nobody monitoring security cameras throughout the 1,050-acre airport saw anyone approaching the Boeing 767 until they reviewed the footage after the boy was discovered in Hawaii, San Jose airport spokeswoman Rosemary Barnes said. The airport, in the heart of Silicon Valley, is surrounded by fences, although many sections do not have barbed wire and could easily be scaled.

Barnes said the boy went onto the tarmac when it was still dark. The flight took off about 8 a.m. PDT, about 90 minutes after sunrise.

The boy was knocked out most of the 5½-hour flight and didn't regain consciousness until an hour after the plane landed in Hawaii, FBI spokesman Tom Simon said. When he came to, he climbed out of the wheel well and was immediately seen by Maui airport personnel, Simon said.

Surveillance video at Kahului Airport showed the boy getting out of the wheel well after landing, transportation officials in Hawaii said. The video was not released because of the ongoing investigation.

The boy was not charged with a crime, Simon said.

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NATION

Grieving borrowers must repay student loans

By **KIMBERLY HEFLING**
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Some student loan borrowers who had a parent or grandparent co-sign the note are finding that they must immediately pay the loan in full if the relative dies.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau says lenders have clauses in their contract that explain that could happen, but many borrowers are not aware of them.

The agency's ombudsman, Rohit Chopra, said complaints related to the issue are growing more common because the practice is catching so many consumers by surprise. Some borrowers told to pay back the loan in full have been making timely

payments, Chopra said.

While it's unclear how prevalent it is, Chopra said it appears to be the practice among many private student loan lenders. It has affected borrowers not just when the co-signer has died but when the co-signer has declared bankruptcy.

"We do have some concerns that with an aging population and with very long terms on certain private student loans, that this could actually increase over time," Chopra said.

The issue doesn't affect federal student loans, which are more commonly issued than private student loans. In the private loan industry, 90 percent of loans were co-signed in 2011, and having a co-signer can often lead to a lower interest rate, a report

released Tuesday by the bureau said. Before the financial meltdown of 2009, private loans were more commonly issued, but many borrowers still owe money on them. They generally have higher interest rates than federal loans.

In response, Richard Hunt, president and CEO of the Consumer Bankers Association, said in a statement that its members work with their customers "carefully and compassionately" and it is common practice for the lenders to release co-signers from loan obligations.

"We are not aware of lenders accelerating the payment of a loan in good standing upon the death or permanent disability of a co-signer as a typical practice and believe it to be a rare occurrence," Hunt said.

Chopra, however, said even as many financial companies advertise the ability to release a co-signer from a loan, they make it complicated to do so.

He didn't specify the number of complaints the agency received.

The report said the practice might occur because some lenders rely on third parties that automatically trigger a default "regardless of individual circumstances."

"While these acceleration options may have a legitimate business purposes, it seems that private student lenders and servicers may not always be acting in their own self-interest by accelerating balances and placing loans in default," the report said.

Navajo Nation's lawmakers pushing for tax on junk food

By **FELICIA FONSECA**
The Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — Facing a high prevalence of diabetes, many American Indian tribes are returning to their roots with community and home gardens, cooking classes that incorporate traditional foods and running programs to encourage healthy lifestyles.

The latest effort on the Navajo

Nation, the country's largest reservation, is to use the tax system to push people to ditch junk food.

Navajo President Ben Shelly earlier this year vetoed measures to enact a 2 percent sales tax on chips, cookies and sodas and to eliminate the tax on fresh fruit and vegetables.

This week, tribal lawmakers have a chance to resurrect the proposals, and supporters are optimistic they'll be among the first

in the country to succeed.

Elected officials across the country have taken aim at sugary drinks with proposed bans, size limits, tax increases and warning labels, though their efforts have yet to gain widespread traction. In Mexico, lawmakers approved a junk food tax and a tax on soft drinks last year as part of that government's campaign to fight obesity.

Shelly said he supports the in-

tent of the proposals on the Navajo Nation but questioned how the higher tax on snacks high in fat, sugar and salt would be enacted and regulated.

Supporters of the tax say it is another tool in their fight for the health of the people.

"If we can encourage our people to make healthier choices and work on the prevention side, we increase the life span of our children, we improve their quality

of life," said professional golfer Notah Begay III, who is among supporters.

American Indians and Alaska Natives as a whole have the highest age-adjusted prevalence of diabetes among U.S. racial and ethnic groups, according to the American Diabetes Association. The disease was the fourth-leading cause of death in the Navajo area from 2003 to 2005, according to the Indian Health Service.

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- Okj-glee/オキグリー(Hip Hop Dance)

Sunday April 27th 4/27(日)

- Hawaiian Dance/ハワイダンダンス
- Magic Show/マジックショー
- Taiko/太鼓
- Turva/Tarva (Belly Dance)
- Kachimba/カチンバ(Salsa)

***Dragon Boat Race**

***Riff Raft Regatta**

***3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**

***One Pitch Softball*Kiddy Land**

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WORLD

Grief grows as ferry victims are located

BY GILLIAN WONG
AND HYUNG-JIN KIM
The Associated Press



AHN YUNG-JOON/AP

The red sun sets as searchers and divers look for bodies of passengers believed to have been trapped in the sunken ferry Sewol off the southern coast near Jindo, south of Seoul, South Korea, on Tuesday.

JINDO, South Korea — For a moment there is silence in the tent where bodies from the ferry disaster are brought for identification. Then the anguished cries begin.

The families who line up here to view the decomposing bodies have not known for nearly a week whether they should grieve or not. Now that they know, they sound like they're being torn apart.

"How do I live without you? How will your mother live without you?" a woman cried out Tuesday.

She was with a woman who emerged from the tent crying and fell into a chair where relatives tried to comfort her. One stood above her and cradled her head in her hands, stroking her face.

"Bring back my daughter!" the woman cried, calling out her child's name in agony. A man rushed over, lifted her on his back and carried her away.

The confirmed death toll from the April 16 disaster off South Korea's southern coast reached 113 on Tuesday, officials said, and about 190 people were still missing. Four crewmembers accused of abandoning the ship and failing to protect the passengers

were arrested, three days after warrants were issued for the captain and two other crew.

The victims are overwhelming: 193 students of a single high school in Ansan, near Seoul. More than three-quarters of the 323 students are dead or missing, while

nearly two-thirds of the other 153 people on board the ferry Sewol survived.

The number of corpses recovered has risen sharply since the weekend, when divers battling strong currents and low visibility were finally able to enter the sub-

merged vessel.

Emergency task force spokesman Koh Myung-seok said bodies have mostly been found on the third and fourth floors of the ferry, where many passengers seemed to have gathered. Many students were housed in cabins

on the fourth floor, near the stern of the ship, Koh said.

The bodies are being taken in ambulances to two tents: one for men and boys, the other for women and girls. Families listen quietly outside as an official briefs them, then line up and file in. Only relatives are allowed inside.

Bodies are being identified visually, but family members have been providing DNA samples.

Twenty-two of the 29 members of the ferry's crew survived.

The captain, Lee Joon-seok, and two crewmembers were arrested Saturday on suspicion of negligence and abandoning people in need. Prosecutor Yang Jung-jin said a court issued arrest warrants Tuesday for four other crewmembers authorities had detained a day earlier. Two additional crewmembers were detained Tuesday.

The captain has said he waited to issue an evacuation order because the current was strong, the water was cold and passengers could have drifted away before help arrived. But maritime experts said he could have ordered passengers to the deck — where they would have had a greater chance of survival — without telling them to abandon ship.

Killers target kids, elderly in S. Sudan

The Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Gunmen who targeted both children and the elderly left "piles and piles" of bodies — many of those in a mosque — in a provincial capital in South Sudan, the U.N.'s top humanitarian official in the country said Tuesday.

Toby Langer told The Associated Press in a phone interview that the ethnically targeted killings are "quite possibly a game-changer" for a conflict that has been raging since mid-December and that has exposed longstanding ethnic hostilities. There was also a disturbing echo of Rwanda, which is marking the 20th anniversary this month of its genocide that killed 1 million people.

"It's the first time we're aware of that a local radio station was broadcasting hate messages encouraging people to engage in atrocities," said Langer, who was in Bentiu on Sunday and Monday. "And that really accelerates South Sudan's descent into an even more difficult situation from which it needs to extract itself."

U.N. human rights investigators said Monday that hundreds of civilians were killed last week because of their ethnicity after rebel forces seized Bentiu, the capital of oil-producing Unity state. Those forces are Nuer, the same ethnic group that former Vice President Riek Machar, now a rebel leader, comes from.



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UKRAINE UNREST

Biden has tough talk for Moscow in Kiev

By NEDRA PICKLER
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Vice President Joe Biden warned Russia on Tuesday that “it’s time to stop talking and start acting” to reduce tension in Ukraine, offering a show of support for the besieged nation as an international agreement aimed at stemming its ongoing crisis appeared in doubt.

Standing alongside acting Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Biden called on Moscow to encourage pro-Russia separatists in eastern Ukraine to vacate government buildings and checkpoints, accept amnesty and “address their grievances politically.”

Biden said Russia needs to act “without delay,” adding, “We will not allow this to become an open-ended process.”

Yatsenyuk was harsher in his characterization of Russia. “No country should be able to behave like an armed bandit,” he said. “Russia should stick to its international commitments and obligations. They should not be behave as gangsters in the modern century.”

The U.S. has warned that it will quickly order new economic sanctions on Russian officials and entities if Moscow doesn’t follow through on the provisions in last week’s accord.

Moscow has rejected charges that it was behind the troubles in eastern Ukraine and that it has failed to live up to the Geneva agreement. Officials there have decried “ultimatums” from the West.

“Before putting forth ultimatums to us, demanding fulfillment of something within two-three days or otherwise be threatened with sanctions, we would urgently call on our American partners to fully recognize responsibility for those whom they brought to power and whom they are trying to shield, closing their eyes to the outrages created by this regime and by the fighters on whom this regime leans,” Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said.

Biden also announced the United States will provide an additional \$50 million to help Ukraine’s beleaguered government with political and economic reforms.

The money includes \$11 million to help conduct the May 25

presidential election, including voter education, administration and oversight.

It also will help fund expert teams from U.S. government agencies to help Ukraine reduce its reliance on energy supplies from Russia. Other technical advisers will help fight corruption.

The White House also announced \$5 million in nonlethal military assistance for the Ukrainian armed forces, including bomb-disposal equipment, communications gear and vehicles.

In the most high-level visit of a U.S. official since the crisis erupted, Biden met privately with Yatsenyuk and acting Ukrainian President Oleksandr Turchynov. He also met with democracy activists and spoke to TV cameras to tell the people of eastern Ukraine he had urged the nation’s leaders to keep reaching out to them.

Biden paid tribute to the protest movement by visiting St. Michael’s Golden-Domed Monastery, perched on a hill a few blocks from Kiev’s Independence Square, that was the site of massive demonstrations against then-President Viktor Yanukovich. The monks provided refuge to



SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/AP

Vice President Joe Biden walks past the barricades Tuesday on Mykhailivska square in Kiev, Ukraine.

protesters fleeing riot police and served as a field hospital to treat demonstrators who were shot in the square. Some died from their wounds beneath the monastery’s high, blue bell tower.

Biden spoke to nine Ukrainians in a hearing room with gilded moldings at the parliament, or Rada, as the media looked on. The group included three candidates running for president in the

May 25 election.

Biden’s visit comes at a critical time, days after a tenuous international agreement was reached to de-escalate violence in eastern Ukraine, where pro-Russia insurgents oppose the government in Kiev.

He told the lawmakers a priority for the U.S. is to help them become independent from Russian energy supplies.

Vicenza-based paratroops deploying to Poland, Baltics

By JON HARPER
AND JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

The U.S. is deploying 600 troops to Poland and the Baltic states to participate in joint infantry training exercises, Defense officials announced Tuesday, part of an effort to reassure allies in the former Soviet sphere of influence concerned about Russia’s newly aggressive posture.

Four companies from the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, based in Vicenza, Italy, will be dispatched — one to Poland, one to Latvia, one to Lithuania and one to Estonia. About 150 paratroops will arrive in Poland on Wednesday, and the rest of the 600 will be in place in the Baltic States by Monday, Pentagon Press Secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby and European Command officials said.

“This will be the first in a series of rotational deployments for training exercises that will continue throughout the rest of the year and possibly beyond, according to Kirby.

“The message is to the people of Poland, Lithuania and Estonia, that the United States takes seriously our obligations” under Article 5, Kirby said. That article of NATO’s founding treaty regards any attack against a member state as an act of aggression against the entire alliance. “If there’s a message to Moscow, it is that...we take our obligations very, very seriously on the continent of Europe.”

Since Russia’s annexation of Ukraine’s Crimea peninsula, allies in eastern Europe have watched events unfold with concern. Moscow has since massed about 40,000 troops and other military assets along Ukraine’s eastern border. In the midst of ongoing political unrest in Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin has said he reserves the right to use military force to protect ethnic Russians in other countries.

In recent weeks, the U.S. bolstered its presence in the region, including adding rotations of F-16s in Poland for training missions and bolstering air policing over the Baltics. NATO surveillance aircraft also has been deployed to Poland and Romania to monitor events in Ukraine.

Poland has sought a more robust presence of U.S. and NATO forces in the country, with the country’s Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski urging NATO to station 10,000 troops in Poland.

EUCOM said in a news release the U.S. is increasing land force activities in the region “at the request of the host nations.”

“These events are in addition to previously scheduled multinational land force military exercises and are aimed at assuring our regional allies of the United States’ unwavering commitment to NATO,” EUCOM said.

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GENO BRILLOER/AP

Crewmembers stand on the bridge of the Norwegian minesweeper Otrra as they set sail from Kiel, Germany, Tuesday with Dutch mine-hunter Makkum, background, and three other ships. The warships are deploying to the Baltic Sea to enhance maritime security and readiness in the region.

5 NATO ships bound for Baltic Sea

The Associated Press

KIEL, Germany — Five NATO mine-hunting ships set off Tuesday on a deployment in the Baltic Sea, part of the alliance’s efforts to strengthen its presence in Europe’s ex-communist east as members there worry about Russia’s intentions in Ukraine.

The ships — a minesweeper and a support ship from Norway and one mine-hunter each from the Netherlands, Belgium and

Estonia — left the German port of Kiel for an exercise that will continue under Norwegian command until the end of May. Germany will then take command of the deployment.

The ships will visit several Baltic ports and also participate in previously scheduled operations to dispose of ordnance from the two world wars.

NATO said last week it was strengthening its military footprint along its eastern border.

During a visit Tuesday to the Czech capital, Prague, Canada’s foreign minister stressed his country’s support for NATO’s eastern members.

“We will stand with you in the face of aggression,” John Baird said after meeting his Czech counterpart.

Last week, Canada announced it would contribute six CF-18 jet fighters to a NATO air-policing mission to be based in Poland.

STARS AND STRIPES

OPINION

Legalizing pot doesn't make it safe

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Ernie Gates

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Marijuana has now been legalized or decriminalized in 17 states and the District of Columbia, with Maryland joining the list just last week. Not to harsh anyone's mellow, but it may be an appropriate time to bring back another useful verb to associate with marijuana use: stigmatize. The drive toward legalization will be hard to stop. Most Americans favor it, and ballot measures to loosen rules on marijuana use could come to a vote this year in at least five states. Twenty-one states already allow marijuana for medical use.

What's unhealthy about this trend is that it coincides with a declining awareness of marijuana's dangers — especially among young people. Less than 40 percent of high school seniors think marijuana use poses a great risk, down from 55 percent in 2003. Cigarettes are dangerous, more and more adolescents have come to realize, but they don't believe marijuana is.

That they could be so wrong about a drug that more than a third have used makes it clear: In their drive to roll back laws against marijuana, and for the revenue that undoing prohibition would raise, states are inadvertently stoking a serious public health problem.

Marijuana poses the greatest threat to the still-developing brains of teenagers. Steady use can bring lasting impairments in memory, intellectual functioning and emotion control. Marijuana use has been linked to depression, anxiety, even psychosis. Smoking pot once a week or more appears to actually change the size and shape of certain brain regions in young people.

Dependence is a special problem, not limited to adolescents but more prevalent among them. One in 6 teenagers become addicted to marijuana, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (the comparable figure for adults is 1 in 11). With dependence comes every sort of social trouble: isolation, failure at school and work, often profound unhappiness.

There are other effects, equally disturbing. Smoking pot is bad for the lungs. It slows reaction time (fatal car accidents involving drivers testing positive for mari-



BRENNAN LINSLEY/AP

Partygoers smoke pot at the annual 420 marijuana festival in Denver on Sunday. Both Colorado and Washington have legalized marijuana for adults.

juauna tripled in the U.S. from 1999 to 2010). Pot use during pregnancy can harm the fetal brain.

When marijuana use was illegal, fears about these effects were circumscribed. Legalization both eliminates the possibility of penalty, encouraging many more people to try marijuana, and lowers the price, making it easier for everyday users to keep their habit going.

Both Colorado and Washington, the two states that have legalized marijuana for adults, have rules to keep minors away from it. Sales to them are punishable by steep fines and jail terms. Grown-ups aren't allowed to use marijuana in public view. And there are various limits on advertising. Nevertheless, more teenagers in these states are expected to use marijuana than did before it was legalized.

Such restrictions are essential, but they do nothing to educate kids or their parents about the risks marijuana poses to still-growing brains, or to inform adult users about the dangers of overuse. The states

should direct tax revenue from marijuana sales toward public education campaigns, as Gov. John Hickenlooper wants to do in Colorado. Hickenlooper would also spend some of the money on research into marijuana's effects on pregnant women.

Colorado collected \$2 million in January alone. As with all sin taxes, states will have to balance the competing goals of raising revenue and affecting behavior. It is not hypocritical to use money from taxing a product to discourage its use; states do it now with cigarettes and alcohol, for example.

People argue marijuana is no worse than alcohol, which has been legal for decades, and that it has medical uses in treating pain and nausea. But those facts do nothing to lessen marijuana's risks; they only boost the misimpression that the drug is nothing for anyone to worry about.

Marijuana, like alcohol, must be used and sold responsibly. As states make it easier for the public to get marijuana, they are obligated to protect the public from its harms.

Book demonstrates markets are not rigged

By HOLLY A. BELL

Perched atop the New York Times best-seller list for hardcover non-fiction, a new book is igniting a firestorm of debate. Michael Lewis' "Flash Boys: A Wall Street Revolt" explores the relatively obscure phenomenon known as high-frequency trading, leading some to believe that the markets are rigged. But markets are not rigged, and Lewis' book itself actually demonstrates why. Despite widespread media attention, average investors should not be concerned about the HFT hubbub.

The first thing to understand about HFT is that it occurs primarily between large firms and does not compete directly with individual investors. It is within these large firms that Lewis' book is set. He tells his readers how HFT and the computer programs behind it — called algorithms — are much better at finding trading opportunities than human traders. That should come as no surprise; computers make most of the things we do faster and more efficient. Financial markets are no exception, and it would be a mistake to ignore the potential economic benefits that HFT can provide.

Lewis goes on to recount the story of Brad Katsuyama, a former Royal Bank of

Canada trader, who became frustrated by his inability to beat high-frequency traders to a particular stock price. He developed his own algorithm to resolve this problem, which timed his orders in such a way that he could purchase the stock before the faster high-frequency trader did. Katsuyama accomplished this by slowing down the speed of his trades and changing the way they were routed through the various exchanges.

While the actual process is complicated and difficult for most people to understand, the fact that Katsuyama was able to do it at all demonstrates that markets are not rigged. If they were, no one would be able to create an algorithm that could effectively compete with a high-frequency trader. In other words, markets are simply competitive, and traders just need to find the right strategies to compete.

A second indication that financial markets are not rigged is that Katsuyama was able to establish a competing trading venue — IEX — that has its own set of trading rules designed to take away any speed advantage HFT's might have on other venues. By creating IEX, Katsuyama found an additional opportunity to compete, again indicating markets are not fixed.

So, if markets are not "rigged" as Lewis suggests, why should HFT competition

worren the average investor? It shouldn't. HFT's are only responsible for about 48.5 percent of daily trading volume, so the majority of trading volume is, in part, controlled by individuals like you.

While markets have gotten faster and more competitive between large investment firms, they aren't trying to compete with people sitting at their kitchen table, buying and selling stock through their online trading account. The reason you can make a stock trade for less than \$10 is because the competition created by HFT drives transaction costs down. Most investors continue to buy and hold long-term mutual funds in retirement accounts, and there is no reason to change that strategy. The microsecond activity of high-frequency traders won't harm your long-term investments. In fact, HFT helps you by ensuring there is a buyer available when you are ready to sell.

It is easy to understand how people could be lulled into believing markets are rigged. Someone always seems to have more or better information about investments than you, and markets are prone to ups and downs. However, for individual investors in a competitive market, HFT will have very little impact on your bottom line.

Holly A. Bell is associate professor of business and economics at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

OPINION

4 years after spill, BP still delaying justice

BY DAVID YARNOLD

Four years after the largest offshore oil disaster in U.S. history, scientists are still trying to come to terms with the toll that the Deepwater Horizon tragedy wreaked on the birds, sea life, waters and habitats of the Gulf of Mexico. Multitudes of creatures and habitats were wiped out — and continue to suffer — but outrageously, environmental restoration has barely even begun.

And BP — having already pleaded guilty to criminal negligence — is hard at work delaying justice.

BP's strategy is clear: Postpone the inevitable payments for their environmental negligence and instead try to convince you that they're being fleeced by two-bit Louisiana shysters. You've seen those full-page ads, right?

This is a cynical calculation about the time value of money — an \$18 billion judgment against BP that happens two years from now is cheaper than \$18 billion if it were awarded today. BP has nothing but contempt for the judge and the court in New Orleans. The U.S. District Court Judge Carl Barbier has called BP's continuous attacks on his rulings "deeply disappointing."

Instead of trying to fix what it broke, BP is spending the fourth anniversary of the spill — which killed 11 men — pulling every legal trick it can to drag out the court proceedings that will determine how much the foreign oil giant has to pay to repair the environmental harm it caused. BP's lawyers have played a major role in delaying the final phase of federal court hearings in New Orleans until 2015 — a full two years from the time the trial began, and nearly five years from the time of the explosion.

That is not only shameful, it vividly demonstrates the company's utter disregard for the urgency of making reparations to the damaged environment and the birds, wildlife, sea creatures and people that depend on it.

The Deepwater Horizon oil disaster is the largest violation of the Clean Water Act in the history of the nation: An estimated 170 million gallons of oil seeped into the Gulf of Mexico. That's roughly 15 times the amount dumped into Alaska's Prince William Sound when the Exxon Valdez



EMILY MICHOT, MIAMI HERALD/MCT

A sign advertises the services of an attorney in cases against BP in Golden Meadows, La.

slammed into a reef 25 years ago — another toxic anniversary.

In the aftermath of the spill, Congress acted expeditiously to establish the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council — made up of representatives of five states and six federal agencies — to distribute and oversee the BP Clean Water Act penalty funds in the five Gulf states. But now BP has tied the council's hands.

The groundwork has been laid for one of the most significant environmental restoration efforts in modern times. The most ambitious restoration plans cannot begin until BP is held accountable and pays under the Clean Water Act, which was created to penalize negligent companies for precisely the kind of disaster as the Deepwater Ho-

rizon spill.

Audubon biologist Melanie Driscoll recently told veteran Louisiana reporter Bob Marshall that the death toll for birds — let alone the ongoing effects — is still poorly understood, but that the number could be in the six figures. American white pelicans have carried BP's oil and Corexit oil dispersant on their feathers all the way to Minnesota, where it contaminated their eggs. Marine biologists are alarmed too. Meanwhile, oil keeps washing ashore on some stretches of coast. Environmental restoration at a massive scale must get started as quickly as possible.

BP has agreed to pay reparations to the families of the men who died in the explosion, it has paid off some businesses and in-

dividuals for some of their economic loss, and it paid for the immediate cleanup of the visible oil spilled, as it was required to do under U.S. law. It has pleaded guilty to 14 criminal counts ranging from lying to felony manslaughter. But BP has not contributed a dime for the largest violation ever of the Clean Water Act, the minimum most vital to environmental reparations.

The Justice Department has to press on in the face of BP's callous and cynical machinations. Nothing less than full accountability under the law — and as quickly as possible — will qualify as anything close to justice for what BP did.

David Yarnold is the president and CEO of the National Audubon Society.

Mercury and mislabeling and bycatch, oh my!

BY PAULA MOORE

Two consumer advocacy groups recently filed a lawsuit with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, demanding that the agency require labels on packaged fish as well as signs in supermarkets to inform consumers about mercury risks. The FDA has long advised pregnant women, children and other vulnerable populations to avoid or limit consumption of fish species whose flesh is known to be high in mercury — swordfish and tilefish, for example — and the groups maintain that better labeling will help consumers reduce their risk of mercury exposure.

That's all well and good, but as an Oceana study released last year showed, if you eat fish, it's next to impossible to know what — or rather who — is on your plate. More than 90 percent of the nation's seafood is imported, and it's rife with mislabeling. That's why lawmakers at both the federal and state levels are now scrambling to pass laws to combat seafood fraud. So what's a wary consumer to do? Trust the seafood in-

dustry and elected officials to fix the problem — or just stop eating fish? Here's why I think we should choose the latter.

Let's start with that study by Oceana. As the group reported last year, one-third of the more than 1,200 fish samples that it purchased from restaurants and supermarkets nationwide and DNA-tested were mislabeled.

The group found that "white tuna" is more often referred, a species that has been called the "Ex-Lax fish" because eating it can result in severe gastrointestinal distress. And premium red snapper is almost never red snapper. In fact, alarmingly, both red snapper and halibut are often swapped with tilefish — one of the more-contaminated species that pregnant women have been warned never to eat.

Referring to Oceana's study, comedian Bill Maher quipped, "I hate to break it to you haute cuisiniers, but did you know that your Chilean sea bass is neither Chilean, nor bass, nor from the sea? It's koi from the pond out front."

If that's not enough to make you forgo

your fish sticks, consider this: A new Oceana report released in March revealed that indiscriminate fishing practices, such as the use of longlines and trawls — which can be as wide as football fields — needlessly kill hundreds of thousands of whales, dolphins, sharks, sea turtles, sea birds and fish (or 2 billion pounds of "bycatch") in U.S. fisheries every year.

But here's my main beef with eating fish: They are not swimming vegetables. Studies have shown that fish are smart animals who form complex social relationships and "talk" to one another underwater — even to other species. When prey fish slip into cracks in a coral reef, for example, coral groupers wait until a moray eel or a Napoleon wrasse shows up. Then they point their nose toward the concealed fish and shake their body from side to side — a form of fish sign language — and the obliging eel or wrasse flushes out the hapless prey. Fish also use tools. The orange-dotted tukfish, a type of wrasse, was filmed smashing a clam on a rock until the shell cracked open.

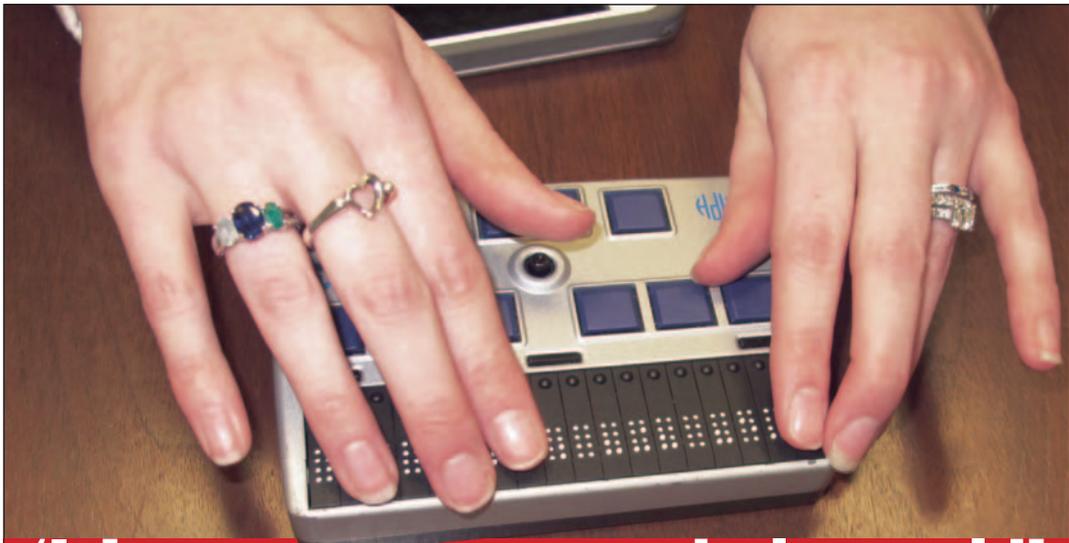
And they can feel pain. When fish are dragged out of their ocean homes, their gills collapse, their eyes bulge out of their heads and their swim bladders burst because of the sudden pressure change. Farmed fish are crammed into filthy, extremely crowded enclosures, and many suffer from diseases and damaged fins. And in many cases, fish are caught in the wild to feed the fish on fish farms — so much for "sustainability."

Many people say that they eat fish because it's a lean, "healthy" protein. I have one word for them: beans. A study released in April found that eating just 3/4 cup of beans or lentils per day can reduce a person's low-density lipoprotein, or LDL — the so-called "bad cholesterol" — by 5 percent. Kidney beans and pinto beans are even good sources of omega-3s.

But best of all, when you choose a tasty bean taco instead of a fish taco, no one gets hurt.

Paula Moore is a senior writer for the PETA Foundation.

WIRED WORLD



'It's opened up my whole world'

PHOTOS BY FRANK ELTMAN/AP

Megan Dauschi, an instructor at the Helen Keller National Center, demonstrates the use of a Braille reader that helps blind clients access the Internet, in Sands Point, N.Y., in March.

High-tech items giving deaf-blind online access

By FRANK ELTMAN
The Associated Press

SANDS POINT, N.Y. — Tanisha Verdejo loves to surf the Internet for shopping deals. She chats on Facebook, learns about new recipes and enjoys sending emails to friends and family.

Verdejo, 40, who can't see or hear, could do none of that a year ago.

The New Yorker lives in a group home in suburban Long Island. The center, along with the thousands of people with combined hearing and vision loss to have benefited from a pilot program called iCanConnect. The initiative provides low-income deaf-blind individuals with the most up-to-date telecommunications devices for free and special training to use them.

"For me, it's opened up my whole world," Verdejo said through a sign language interpreter at the Helen Keller National Center in suburban Long Island. The center, along with the Boston-based Perkins School for the Blind, is working with state agencies and others around the country to distribute items like refreshable Braille displays, amplified telephones and computer programs that allow for large-print displays for those who may be vision-impaired but not entirely blind.

Much of the equipment is compatible with Apple devices such as the iPhone and the iPad and connect via Bluetooth.

"Modern technology has rapidly progressed, and we are available to provide individuals with combined vision and hearing loss the best technology and telecommunications tools for their individual needs," said Thomas J. Edwards, president of Helen

'I'm able now to access anything I want. I'm just so thrilled and happy that I'm able to communicate with the world.'

Tanisha Verdejo

Keller Services for the Blind, which has 11 regional offices around the country.

For Verdejo and others, the changes have been dramatic.

"I'm able now to access anything I want," Verdejo said. "I mean, I have all these apps here and can see anything now. I see it through my Braille device. I'm just so thrilled and happy that I'm able to communicate with the world."

Established by the Federal Communications Commission, the pilot program allocates \$10 million annually for low-income deaf-blind people to get the equipment. The program, which is in the second year of a three-year study, is open to individuals earning less than \$44,680 annually, with income limits slightly higher in Hawaii and Alaska.

An estimated 2,000 people have been served by the program in its first 18 months, said Betsy McGinnity, a Perkins spokeswoman. She said the program has received positive feedback and that she was confident it could be extended beyond the three-year study period.

Dr. Christian Vogler, director of the Technology Access Program at Gallaudet University in Washington, said because the deaf-blind population is relatively small

— about 100,000 in the U.S., according to one estimate — the high-technology devices are very expensive to produce. Some refreshable Braille displays — hand-held electronic devices that employ a network of tiny pins that pop up and down through holes, scrolling letters that a blind person can read — can cost as much as \$6,000.

Software that enlarges text on computer screens can sometimes cost \$800 to \$1,000.

"There's not a lot of profit for these companies; the equipment is very expensive and most can't afford it," Vogler said.

Other devices include amplifiers that assist those with limited hearing loss to know when a telephone is ringing or computer programs that accent certain colors that may assist the vision-impaired.

Applicants for the technology go through a rigorous screening process to determine what specific devices could benefit them best, said Ryan Odland, the New York coordinator of the distribution program for the Helen Keller National Center. Once accepted, they are trained in the proper ways to use the equipment; the training is tailored to each individual.

He said there is no financial cap on what any individual may receive. "It's based on their specific needs," Odland said.



Tanisha Verdejo, a client at the Helen Keller National Center, demonstrates the use of a specially designed keyboard that helps blind clients access the Internet.

Although many of those eligible for the devices are known to officials at the Keller and Perkins facilities, the organizations are reaching out to others who may not be clients of either.

"We want to get the word out to seniors who are experiencing age-related vision and hearing issues," said Sue Ruzenski, acting executive director at the Helen Keller center. "And there are other groups of people that we may not always interact with that may be eligible for services."

Ruzenski said a \$10 million annual allocation may not seem like much, but added, "We looked at it as a huge breakthrough for the deaf-blind community."

FACES

'A VERY REAL MAGIC'



WADE PRAVE, INVISION/AP

Songwriting has gotten harder, not easier, with time, says Tom Petty, who will be honored by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers on Wednesday.

Tom Petty reflects on 40 years of songwriting

BY SANDY COHEN
The Associated Press

Forty years of practice has made songwriting harder, not easier, for Tom Petty.

"As life goes by, you get a little more carefree or distracted by other things and you have to really police yourself — I do — into sitting down and doing something that pleases me," the 63-year-old rocker said. "Plus, I'm trying to do things that I haven't done before and not go over the same ground."

The writer behind such hits as "American Girl," "Mary Jane's Last Dance" and "I Need to Know" will accept the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' Founders Award on Wednesday in Los Angeles. Previous honorees include Stevie Wonder, Neil Young, Joni Mitchell and Billy Joel.

"It's very nice to get an award for songwriting," Petty said. "I'm duly impressed."

His process is much the same as it's always been: Sit down with the guitar and see what comes. When inspiration strikes, "It's a very real magic," he said.

So magical, in fact, that he hesitates to exam-

ine it too closely.

"It's really hard to explain because I don't really understand it myself," he said. "I know that when we have time booked, like when we set aside time to make a record, that's when I usually get pretty — I guess I get on the job as far as making sure I have enough songs, you know."

He sits and plays, recording bits here and there. The next day, he listens to what he did and either develops or scraps it.

Touring takes him out of the songwriting groove: "It takes me a few months after a tour to get back into the headspace to write songs."

Petty and his band just finished their latest album, "Hypnotic Eye," set for release this summer. That allowed time for him to check out Jimmy Fallon's recent duet — as Petty — with Stevie Nicks.

"I was amazed by how well they did the Heartbreakers," he said. "It was brilliant. Very funny."

Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers also signed on as the headliner of the Outside Lands music festival in San Francisco this August, along with Kanye West.

"The musicians haven't yet met, but Petty said, "Everybody loves Kanye West, right?"

Actress Palmer signs to become youngest host of TV talk show

From wire reports

Keke Palmer legally cannot buy beer. But she can host a daily talk show.

The 20-year-old actress who has appeared in "Akeelah and the Bee," "The Longshots" and was featured in the title role of Nickelodeon's "True Jackson, VP," has been signed to host a new daily talk show being produced by BET Networks and Telepictures that is scheduled to debut in July.

The series establishes Palmer as the youngest TV talk show host ever.

The show, which has the working title of "The Keke Palmer Project," will "target millennials by covering a variety of topics, including fashion, social media, pop culture, sex and more," according to a news release.

Celebrity interviews, "on the street" bits and undercover segments will be part of the mix for the series, which is being touted as a natural progression from Palmer's deep identification with fans via social media.

"I like to read quotes that touch on how I am feeling," Palmer said in a statement. "If I am dealing with confusion, I will read quotes about clarity and peace of mind. I started posting these quotes on my Twitter page and the fans responded so positively! I realized that many of them are dealing with similar issues, and the quotes helped to open up a genuine dialogue between us."

More allegations of sexual abuse

A man who has accused "X-Men" director Bryan Singer of sexually abusing him when he was a teen sued three more entertainment industry figures Monday, claiming they also molested him.

The allegations in the latest lawsuits filed by Michael Egan III are substantially similar to his legal action against Singer. That suit accuses the director of abusing him between the ages of 15 and 17 in Los Angeles and Hawaii.

Monday's lawsuits were filed in federal court in Hawaii against former Fox television executive Garth Ancier, theater producer Gary Wayne Goddard, and David A. Neuman, a former television executive with Current TV and Disney.

Alan Grodin, an attorney for Goddard, said the executive was out of the country and had not seen the lawsuit. Ancier did not respond to phone and email messages. Neuman could not be reached for comment.

Singer's attorney, Marty Singer, has denied the director abused Egan, calling the allegations defamatory. He has said the director was not in Hawaii when Egan says he was abused and was instead working on production for the first "X-Men" film.

None of the men has been crim-



OLIVER DOULIERY, ARACA PRESS/MCT

Keke Palmer, 20, will launch a daily talk show targeting millennials in July on BET.

inally charged, and the statute of limitations for such charges has passed.

Zadan, Meron return as Oscars producers

The film academy announced Monday that Craig Zadan and Neil Meron will return to produce the 87th annual Academy Awards. The duo was responsible for the 2013 show hosted by Seth MacFarlane and this year's telecast starring Ellen DeGeneres.

Academy chief Dawn Hudson said Zadan and Meron "are masters at tapping into the zeitgeist." This year's show set social media records when DeGeneres' star-studded selfie became the most re-tweeted image ever.

The Oscars will be held Feb. 22, 2015, at Hollywood's Dolby Theatre.

Other news

■ Singer Chris Brown's trial on an assault charge in Washington, D.C., which had been set for Monday, has been postponed until Wednesday. A judge delayed it while attorneys work out issues over testimony from Brown's bodyguard, who was convicted of assault in a separate trial.

■ Pharrell, Drake and Blake Shelton are among the A-listers set to perform at the first iHeartRadio Music Awards. Clear Channel announced Monday that Kendrick Lamar, Shakira, Ed Sheeran and Arcade Fire will also take the stage at the May 1 awards show in Los Angeles.

■ The family of David Foster Wallace is objecting to the upcoming film "The End of the Tour," based on David Lipsky's 2010 book that recounts accompanying Wallace on a book tour. Wallace's estate said in a release Monday that it has no connection to the film and doesn't endorse it.

■ MGM Resorts International has announced plans to build a 33-acre open-air music venue on the Las Vegas Strip to host a four-day Rock in Rio USA festival beginning next year.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

School sued over 'under God' in pledge

NJ FREEHOLD — A family is suing a New Jersey school district, contending that the phrase "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance is discriminatory toward atheist children.

The lawsuit against the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District was filed in state court last month and announced Monday by the American Humanist Association. The group says the phrase, added in 1954, "marginalizes atheist and humanist kids as something less than ideal patriots."

The anonymous plaintiffs say those two words violate the state constitution. According to the suit, the humanist group complained to school officials in February, but the district would not change the pledge.

The group is awaiting a ruling from a court on a similar case in Massachusetts.

Facing eviction, smoker, 89, plans to move

OH MILFORD — An 89-year-old woman is preparing to move out of her home of the last 10 years because it has gone smoke-free and she won't give up cigarettes.

Beulah "Billie" Tombs faces eviction after her apartment building's management deemed her noncompliant with its new smoke-free policy. A smoker for about seven decades, she doesn't think she should have to quit to stay in her home.

"This is my home, and I think you do can do whatever you want to in your home," she said.

The management of the low-income senior apartments where she lives announced the smoke-free policy more than a year ago. Residents were allowed one year of smoking with some conditions.

A neighbor, Shirley Day, said she doesn't like the smell of smoking. "I wish she would quit," Day said of Tombs. "I like her, but I love the policy."

Indian man's skull turned over to tribe

MI SUTTONSBAYTOWNSHIP — A skull that was passed down through generations of a northern Michigan family has been turned over to an Indian group.

Leelanau County Sheriff Mike Burkovich said the family doesn't want its name known. He said the family gave the skull to his office in Sutton's Bay Township.

Burkovich said the skull had been in the family for years and that, according to family lore, a family member bought it from an Indian on Beaver Island.

The sheriff said a Michigan State University lab determined the skull was from an Indian man from the 1800s.

Burkovich said he gave the skull to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, which performed a repatriation ceremony Friday.

THE CENSUS

\$47M

The amount of money aerospace giant Boeing Co. will pay to hundreds of current and former Southern California employees owed back pay and benefits, a union announced Friday. A grievance claimed the company violated contracts with workers. Individual amounts range from a few dollars to about \$400,000, with an average of nearly \$100,000 per employee.



GARY COSBY JR., THE DECATUR (ALA.) DAILY/OP

Governor as ringmaster

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley visits Walter Jackson Elementary School in Decatur, Ala., on Monday. Kindergartners watched as the governor donned a ringmaster's hat during the dress rehearsal for their upcoming school play.

Firefighting sheep returned to Carson City

NV CARSON CITY — Carson City is welcoming what's become an annual spring contingent of four-legged firefighters.

Sheep released last week in the hills on the city's west side are munching on cheat grass and other emerging vegetation to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires this summer.

It's become a familiar sight in Nevada's capital city since 2006.

About 750 sheep will graze along the city's urban interface from south Carson City north to Western Nevada College. The Carson City Fire Department hauls water for the animals.

City officials say the arrangement benefits the animals and residents alike. The sheep get to eat, and they reduce the abundance of invasive weeds that dry out in the summer and provide more fuel for fires.

Man charged in Kansas City highway shootings

MO KANSAS CITY — After nearly a month

of reports of gunshots being fired at vehicles and more than 100 tips, authorities announced charges Friday against a Kansas City-area man suspected in connection with about a dozen highway shootings that wounded three people.

Jackson County prosecutor Jean Peters Baker said at a news conference that Mohammed Whitaker, 27, of Grandview, has been charged with 18 felony counts and was being held on \$1 million cash bail.

Baker said Whitaker, who had been under surveillance by police for about a week before his arrest, was charged with two counts of shooting into a motor vehicle and injuring a person, seven counts of shooting into a motor vehicle and nine counts of armed criminal action.

6 more earthquakes strike central Idaho

ID CHALLIS — Six more earthquakes have occurred near the central Idaho town of Challis.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the tremors started about 1 p.m. Monday and ranged from 2.5 to 4.6 in magnitude.

Three of the quakes took place within a 40-minute span starting about 9:12 p.m. Monday.

The quakes ranged from 6 to 15 miles northwest of Challis in lightly populated Custer County.

The quakes near Challis follow a magnitude-4.9 shaking on Sunday and a magnitude-4.1 quake on Thursday.

After attack, officials kill 5 bears in Florida

FL LAKE MARY — Florida wildlife officials have killed five bears after an attack on a woman in a suburban subdivision.

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers said they shot one bear and euthanized four others Sunday night.

Terry Frana, 45, was attacked by a large bear in her driveway Saturday. Frana's husband told WFTV that the bear had his wife's head in her mouth and dragged her about 4 feet toward a wooded area.

He said she managed to escape from the bear's jaw, and then ran inside the house, where she collapsed.

She was treated at a hospital and released.

Officials said the bear that was shot was aggressive and didn't react to them as a bear normally would.

Experts say this is the time of the year when bears leave their winter dens.

California farmers to get more water

CA FRESNO — Drought-stricken California farmers and cities are set to get more water as state and federal officials ease cutbacks due to recent rain and snow, officials announced Friday.

The Department of Water Resources said it is increasing water allotments from the State Water Project from zero to 5 percent of what water districts have requested. The State Water Project supplies water to 29 public agencies serving more than 25 million Californians and irrigates nearly a million acres of farmland.

Also, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation said it will supply 75 percent of the water requested by water agencies in the Sacramento Valley, up from the current 40 percent.

From wire reports

WORLD

“Who needs this canonization?”

No John Paul fever in Poland as canonization nears

By **MONIKA SCISLOWSKA**
The Associated Press

WADOWICE, Poland — His death triggered a massive outpouring of grief in Poland. His beatification, an explosion of pride and jubilation. But days before John Paul II is to be declared a saint, many of his countrymen are greeting the landmark with little more than a shrug.

One reason is that John Paul has already long been a saint in Polish hearts — so making it official with Vatican pageantry is just a bit of icing on the cake. But it's also clear that less than a decade since his death, the enthusiasm that Poles accord their great countryman seems to be dissipating, just as memories of him fade and a new generation comes of age in this young EU country that is moving toward a more secular outlook.

Only a few hundred people turned out in Warsaw's main square for prayers before the pope's relics on April 2, the ninth anniversary of his death. And there is little talk in Polish media of the April 27 saint-making ceremony at the Vatican. It all contrasts sharply with the pontiff's 2011 beatification, which was

preceded by months of media frenzy and church preparations across Poland.

“Who needs this canonization?” said Andrzej Grendys, stressing that he is Catholic but does not go to church. “We all know that he was a very good and decent man with a great heart and mind. That is most important and needs no official confirmation.”

And many say the country has already completed its emotional reckoning with John Paul's life and death.

“We have discharged our emotions in spontaneous outpourings at John Paul's beatification and death,” said Artur Sporniak of the Tygodnik Powszechny Catholic weekly. “That was a unique, mass experience of being a closely-knit community.”

Even in Rome, preparations for the canonization are much more subdued than when John Paul was beatified. The Vatican is expected to draw fewer people than the 1.5 million who saw the beatification Mass, and church officials readily acknowledge that this will be a “Francis-style” ceremony: no frills and low-cost.

Much of Poland's religious fervor went into preparations for Easter, an important holiday in



CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/AP

An unusually empty main square is seen in downtown Warsaw, Poland, earlier this month during observances marking nine years since the death of much-loved Polish-born Pope John Paul II.

Poland, just days before the canonization. Moreover, some of the Church's traditional appeal and authority were recently tarnished by reports of sex abuse of children by priests, some of whom have been indicted and handed prison terms. Feeling that burden — and apparently inspired by Francis — Poland's church has adopted a low-key approach to the canonization.

John Paul's death in 2005 brought millions of mourners, including some 1.5 million Poles, to the funeral in Rome. Six years later, huge crowds gathered again at the Vatican — and across Poland — to observe the beatification. But a similar exodus of Polish pilgrims is not expected for the canonization.

The economic crisis and high unemployment of some 13 percent has played a role in denting

plans to travel to the saint-making ceremony.

“I think that people in Poland are now very much focused on the mundane, they are trying to make ends meet and that's very challenging,” said Agnieszka Lelinska, an accountant in Warsaw. John Paul's successor, Pope Benedict XVI, bowed to calls at John Paul's funeral of “Santo Subito” — Sainthood Now — and opened the process only weeks after the pontiff's death, waiving the traditional five-year waiting period.

Pope Francis made a concession to Poles when he moved the Dec. 8, 2013, canonization date, to April 27, 2014, — after John Paul's personal secretary, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz warned that icy December roads in Poland could be dangerous for pilgrims traveling to Rome.

April 27 is Divine Mercy Sunday, a religious holiday established by John Paul II. He was beatified on the holiday in 2011.

Against the generally subdued mood, many Poles are still rejoicing in John Paul's elevation. Some are marking the occasion by walking, running or biking to the Rome observances, which will be attended by Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski and his predecessors, Lech Walesa and Aleksander Kwasniewski.

In Wadowice, Jack Waga, who was arranging flower pots in honor of the canonization, said the pope — while Cardinal Karol Wojtyla — led his Catholic confirmation ceremony.

“It is an extraordinary thing for me that in my lifetime I met a man who will be declared a saint,” he said.

Syrian rebels making a last stand for Homs

The Associated Press

BEIRUT — Weakened Syrian rebels are making their last desperate stand in Homs, as forces loyal to President Bashar Assad launch their harshest assault yet to expel them from the central city, once known as the capital of the revolution.

Some among the hundreds of rebels remaining in the city talk of surrender, according to opposition activists there. Others have lashed back against the siege with suicide car bombings in districts under government control.

Some fighters are turning on comrades they suspect want to desert, pushing them into battle. “We expect Homs to fall,” said Thaeer Khalidiya, an activist.

“We expect Homs to fall,” said an activist who uses the name Thaeer Khalidiya in an online interview with The Associated Press. “In the next few days, it could be under the regime's control.”

The fight for Homs underscores Assad's determination to rout rebels ahead of presidential

elections now set for June 3, aiming to scatter fighters back north toward their supply lines on the Turkish borders.

Assad's forces are building on gains elsewhere — they have been able to almost clear rebels from a broad swath of territory south of Homs between the capital, Damascus, and the Lebanese border, breaking important rebel supply lines there.

Rebels have also capitulated in several towns around Damascus after blockades that caused widespread hunger and suffering.

If Assad's forces take Homs, it would be a major boost as he prepares for the upcoming election, fueling the image his government has sought to promote that he is capable of eventually winning the relentless conflict.

The war is now in its fourth year, with more than 150,000 people killed and a third of Syria's population driven from their homes. Assad is expected to easily win another seven-year term in the June 3 election, which the opposition and the United States have already declared a farce aimed at giving Assad a veneer of popular support.



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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Spring breathes life into US economy

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Spring's thaw is reviving the U.S. economy, too.

A recent batch of government and business reports show an economy emerging from winter's deep freeze.

Economists had expected the growth to accelerate in 2014 after two years of slow and steady improvement. But an unusually bitter winter sent factories, hiring and consumer spending into hibernation.

Now, as temperatures rise, the economy is regaining momentum. Factories are busier. Consumers are spending more. Banks are making more loans to businesses. Companies have bigger plans to invest in plants and equipment.

The improvement appears to be widespread across America.

"The weather really played havoc," said Michael Dolega, senior economist at TD Economics. "There were ice storms in Geor-

gia. That is not something you see every day. Now, as Americans have dug themselves out and everything has melted, you're going to get a bounce-back."

An index based on several leading economic indicators — including employment, consumer confidence, stocks and interest rates — shot up for the third straight month in March, the Conference Board, a business research association, said Monday. The index's 0.8 percent gain to 100.9 "suggests accelerated growth for the remainder of the spring and the summer," said Ken Goldstein, a Conference Board economist.

Many economists expect the economy to grow at an annual rate of 3 percent or more from April through June, up from an estimated 1.3 percent the first three months of the year. The positive economic news has sparked a rally on Wall Street in the past week. The Standard & Poor's 500 index is up 0.9 percent for the year and

is near its record close of 1,890 set April 2.

Helping to drive the growth have been recent increases in manufacturing after tumbling in January. Factory production climbed 0.5 percent in March, after a 1.4 percent surge the previous month, the Federal Reserve reported last week. This suggests that manufacturers anticipate that demand from businesses and consumers will increase.

After the winter slowdown, recovering motor vehicle sales have boosted revenue for companies such as Batesville Tool & Die in Batesville, Ind.

"We feel like the auto industry is all the way back from before the recession," said Judy Fledderman, the company's president and CEO.

Weekly government reports on unemployment benefits show that most employers are prepping for stronger growth in the months ahead.

The number of claims is con-

sistent with job gains of "200,000-plus" this month, said Sai Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets.

Shopping has also recovered along with temperatures. March buying at general merchandise stores, such as Wal-Mart, Target and Macy's, climbed at the fastest clip in seven years, the Commerce Department said last week.

Total U.S. retail sales rose last month by 1.1 percent, led by purchases of autos and furniture.

MARKET WATCH

April 21, 2014

Dow Jones industrials	+40.71
	16,449.25
Nasdaq composite	+26.03
	4,121.55
Standard & Poor's 500	+7.04
	1,871.89
Russell 2000	+4.41
	1,142.31

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (April 23)	\$1.4176
Dollar buys (April 23)	€0.7054
British pound (April 23)	\$1.73
Japanese yen (April 23)	99.00
South Korean won (April 23)	1,014.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.6824
Canada (Dollar)	1.1011
China (Yuan)	6.2378
Denmark (Krone)	6.4051
Egypt (Pound)	6.9925
Euro	0.7240
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.3812
Hungary (Forint)	222.18
Israel (Sheqel)	3.4885
Japan (Yen)	102.59
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2812
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	5.9753
Philippines (Peso)	44.54
Poland (Zloty)	3.103
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	1.0395
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2566
South Korea (Won)	8.8742
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8824
Thailand (Baht)	32.31
Turkey (Lira)	2.1414

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., non-sterling British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to the dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	7.75
Federal funds market rate	0.10
3-month bill	0.64
30-year bond	3.52

WEATHER OUTLOOK

WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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

Wednesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Chatanooga	64	29	Cir	Fort Wayne	48	23	PCldy	Louisville	55	30	PCldy	Pocatello	53	32	Cldy	Sious City	63	41	Cldy
Ablene, Texas	70	39	Cir	Cheyenne	40	35	Cir	Fresno	84	54	Cir	Lubbock	76	39	PCldy	Portland, Maine	43	34	Cir	Sious Falls	52	40	Rain
Akron, Ohio	47	21	Cir	Chicago	53	29	Cir	Goodland	59	37	Cir	Macon	65	36	Cir	Portland, Ore.	61	47	Cir	South Bend	50	24	PCldy
Albany, N.Y.	43	27	Cir	Cincinnati	52	25	PCldy	Grand Junction	57	41	Cldy	Madison	53	25	Cir	Providence	47	35	Cir	Sooke	58	35	Cldy
Albuquerque	73	43	PCldy	Cleveland	45	23	PCldy	Grand Rapids	49	22	Cldy	Medford	69	42	PCldy	Pueblo	56	35	Cir	Springfield, Ill.	59	31	Cir
Allentown, Pa.	48	27	Cir	Colorado Springs	49	36	Cldy	Great Falls	31	21	Snow	Memphis	63	36	Cir	Raleigh-Durham	53	31	Cir	Springfield, Mo.	60	32	Cir
Amarillo	72	39	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	62	38	Cir	Green Bay	42	23	Cldy	Miami Beach	82	72	Cldy	Rapid City	39	32	Cir	St. Louis	66	39	PCldy
Anchorage	48	34	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	64	38	Cir	Greensboro, N.C.	53	30	Cir	Midland-Odesa	79	41	PCldy	Reynolds	70	43	PCldy	Tallahassee	70	39	Cir
Ashville	55	28	Cir	Columbus, Ohio	50	25	PCldy	Honolulu	82	70	PCldy	Milwaukee	48	35	Cir	Richmond	53	32	Cir	Tampa	77	55	PCldy
Atlanta	61	35	Cir	Concord, N.H.	44	31	Cir	Hartford Springfield	45	31	Cir	Mpls-St Paul	42	31	Rain	Roanoke	54	33	Cir	Toledo	47	23	PCldy
Atlantic City	49	35	Cir	Corpus Christi	74	45	PCldy	Helena	47	35	Snow	Missoula	47	31	Cldy	Rochester	38	23	PCldy	Topeka	69	42	Cir
Austin	71	40	PCldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	67	41	PCldy	Indianapolis	62	40	PCldy	Monterey	67	36	Cir	Rockford	50	28	Cir	Tucson	68	42	Cir
Baltimore	50	29	Cir	Dayton	49	23	PCldy	Houston	71	40	Cir	Montgomery	67	36	Cir	Sacramento	60	51	Cir	Tulsa	69	42	Cir
Baton Rouge	66	34	Cir	Daytona Beach	70	56	PCldy	Huntsville	61	30	Cir	Nashville	61	29	Cir	St. Louis	60	34	PCldy	Tupelo	63	30	Cir
Bismarck	33	24	Cldy	Denver	48	35	Cir	Jacksonville	62	42	PCldy	New Orleans	65	43	Cir	St. Petersburg	76	63	PCldy	Waco	69	39	PCldy
Birmingham	63	34	Cir	Des Moines	62	38	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	64	32	Cir	New York City	50	30	Cir	St. Thomas	83	76	PCldy	Washington	52	33	Cir
Bismarck	33	24	Cldy	Detroit	44	22	PCldy	Jacksonville	64	48	PCldy	Newark	50	31	Cir	Salem, Ore.	62	45	PCldy	Wilmington Beach	80	68	Cldy
Boise	59	37	Cir	Duluth	27	19	Snow	Janeau	48	38	Cir	Norfolk, Va.	50	41	Cir	Salt Lake City	57	44	PCldy	Wichita	72	41	Cir
Boston	44	35	Cir	El Paso	83	53	Cldy	Kansas City	65	41	Cir	North Platte	54	35	Cir	San Angelo	74	38	Cir	Wichita Falls	70	39	Cir
Bridgport	48	25	Cir	Elkins	51	34	Cir	Key West	75	51	Cldy	Okla. City	54	35	Cir	San Antonio	74	44	PCldy	Wilkes-Barre	44	22	Cir
Brownsville	77	49	Cldy	Erie	36	17	PCldy	Knoxville	61	27	Cir	Omaha	62	38	PCldy	San Diego	68	59	Cir	Wilmington, Del.	50	29	Cir
Buffalo	39	19	Cir	Eugene	63	44	Cldy	Lake Charles	67	38	Cir	Orlando	77	56	PCldy	San Francisco	70	51	Cir	Yakima	62	35	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	39	22	Cir	Evansville	57	28	Cir	Lansing	47	21	PCldy	Paducah	59	29	Cir	San Jose	75	50	PCldy	Youngstown	62	35	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	37	32	PCldy	Fairbanks	48	23	Cldy	Las Vegas	85	62	PCldy	Pendleton	61	37	Cldy	Santa Fe	70	32	PCldy				
Casper, Wyo.	38	20	Cir	Fargo	35	26	Snow	San Francisco	52	24	Cir	Peaslee	59	31	Cir	St. Ste-Marie	9	9	Cir				
Charleston, S.C.	61	26	Cir	Flagstaff	64	28	PCldy	Lincoln	60	38	PCldy	Philadelphia	50	32	Cir	Savannah	64	42	Cir				
Charleston, W.Va.	57	40	Cir	Ft. Worth	47	18	PCldy	Little Rock	63	33	Cir	Phoenix	92	62	Cir	Seattle	59	45	Cir				
Charlotte, N.C.	57	31	Cir	Fort Smith	67	38	Cir	Los Angeles	75	56	PCldy	Pittsburgh	49	21	Cir	Shreveport	68	36	Cir				

National temperature extremes
 Cldy Hi: Mon., 93, Death Valley, Calif.
 Lo: Mon., 7, Yellowstone Lake, Wyo.

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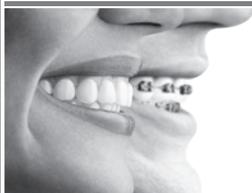
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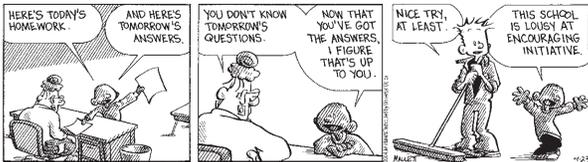
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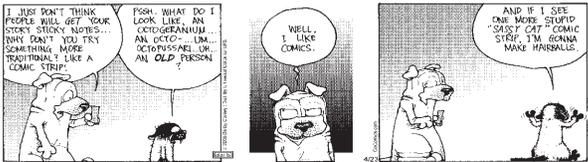
Non Sequitur



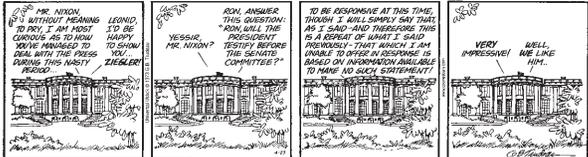
Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12					13				14				
15				16					17				
18								19	20				
			21					22					
23	24	25			26		27		28			29	30
31			32		33		34		35				
36				37		38		39		40			
			41				43		44				
45	46						47			48	49	50	
51						52	53						
54						55				56			
57						58				59			

ACROSS

- 1 History chapters
- 5 Obama, 'for ex.
- 8 Disarray
- 12 Sinful habit
- 13 Lab eggs
- 14 Italian wine region
- 15 Trusted to a third party
- 17 "— see clearly now ..."
- 18 Come back
- 19 Comment
- 21 Wrestling surface
- 22 Eastern potentate
- 23 Gorilla
- 26 Journal
- 28 Felix of "The Odd Couple"
- 31 Relax
- 33 Gist
- 35 Attend
- 36 Verite
- 38 Unruly bunch
- 40 Bill
- 41 Mars' counterpart
- 43 "Arabian Nights" bird
- 45 Gunshot noise
- 47 Flickering light of a sort
- 51 Terrible guy?
- 52 Avoidance
- 54 Literature Nobelist
- 55 Blond shade
- 56 Fringe benefit

DOWN

- 1 Always
- 2 Go up
- 3 Bookkeeper (Abbr.)
- 4 Antioxin
- 5 "— Abbey"
- 6 Leading lady?
- 7 "The Treasure of the Sierra —"
- 8 Crippling
- 9 Snail on la carte
- 10 Celebrity
- 11 Founder
- 16 Exam format
- 20 Ostrich's cousin
- 23 Upper limb
- 24 Shell game item
- 25 M'ischiveous adventure
- 27 Wrigley product
- 28 Greek vowel
- 30 Steal from
- 32 "Game of —"
- 34 Beet recipe
- 37 "— the fields we go"
- 39 This and that
- 42 Radiator output
- 44 Thin pancake
- 45 Latvia's capital
- 46 Wicked
- 48 Actor Clive
- 49 Poet
- 50 Part of BPOE
- 53 Away from NNW

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

4-23

CRYPTOQUIP

PCX ZKOK IKQKEZ EJ
 MTESEZM K JTFNKUEZX ZXKU
 PCX JXK'J FBPPBN. E IKGG
 PCKP SXXQ-JXK SUEOZM.
Yesterday's Cryptquip: TWO DOCTORS ARE APPARENTLY DOING THAT GUY'S SURGERY TOGETHER. NOW THAT'S REAL CO-OPERATION.
 Today's Cryptquip Clue: J equals S

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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Pro soccer

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Team	Pts	GF	GA	Goal Diff.
Sporting KC	3	2	11	9
Columbus	3	3	0	6
Toronto FC	3	3	0	6
D.C.	2	2	2	0
New England	2	2	2	0
Philadelphia	1	2	5	3
Houston	1	2	5	3
New York	0	2	4	2
Chicago	0	2	7	5
Montreal	0	4	3	1
0	4	3	1	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Team	Pts	GF	GA	Goal Diff.
FC Dallas	5	1	16	10
Seattle	12	14	11	3
Real Salt Lake	3	0	13	11
Colorado	3	0	13	11
Vancouver	2	2	3	1
Los Angeles	2	2	3	1
Portland	0	3	4	1
San Jose	0	3	4	1
Portland	0	3	4	1
Portland	0	3	4	1
Portland	0	3	4	1

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

Wednesday, April 16
New York 2, Philadelphia 1
Seattle 1, Portland 0
Chicago 1, New England 1
Houston 0, Houston 0
Colorado 0, San Jose 0
New York 0, Los Angeles 2
Columbus 1, D.C. United 1
FC Dallas 2, Toronto FC 1
Sporting Kansas City 1, Montreal 0
Real Salt Lake 1, Portland 0
Seattle 3, Chicago 1

Wednesday's game
Houston 1, New York 1

Saturday's games
Philadelphia at Montreal
Colorado at Seattle FC
FC Dallas at D.C. United
New York at Columbus
Sporting Kansas City at New England
Vancouver at Real Salt Lake
Seattle FC at San Jose

Sunday's game
Portland at Houston

NWSL

Team	W	T	Pts	GF	GA
Portland	1	0	0	3	0
Seattle	1	0	0	3	0
San Diego	1	0	0	3	0
Chicago	0	0	0	3	0
Houston	0	0	0	3	0
St. Louis	0	0	0	3	0
Kansas City	0	1	1	2	4
Boston	0	2	0	2	6

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

Sunday, April 20
Houston 3, Boston 2
Washington at Seattle FC
Saturday's games
Washington at Chicago
FC Kansas City at Portland
Seattle at San Jose
Houston Blue FC at Boston
Houston at Seattle FC

Boxing

Fight schedule
April 25
At Moscow, Russia: Richard April vs. Eduardo Trovati, 12, for April's WBA World lightweight title; Denis Chishev vs. Guillermo Jones, 12, for Ledebev's WBA World cruiserweight title.

April 26
At Oberhausen, Germany, Wladimir Klitschko vs. Alexei Letchenko, 12, for Klitschko's IBF-WBO-IBO-WBA Super World Heavyweight (title) and WBC Heavyweight (title) titles; Marco Antonio Serrano Williams, 10, heavyweight, vs. Sergio Martinez, 10, heavyweight; Antonio Orozco vs. Richie McPranjan, 12, for Estrada's WBA Super World-WBO flyweight title.

At Stutthub Center, Carson, Calif., Keith Thurman vs. Mike Davis, 12, for Thurman's interim WBA World welterweight title; Omar Figueroa vs. Jerry Belmont, 12, for Figueroa's WBC lightweight title; Lucas Matthysse vs. John Molina, 12, junior welterweight; Antonio Orozco vs. Martin Hernandez, 10, junior welterweight.

April 28
At Bayamon, Puerto Rico, Michael Perez vs. Jorge Romero, 10, junior welterweight; Mike Arroyo vs. Eliecer Aguilar, 10, junior welterweight.

May 1
At Hialeah (Fla.) Park Race Track, Robert Garcia vs. Victor Cayo, 10, welterweight.

May 2
At the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Erlandy Lara vs. Steve Smith, 12, for Lara's WBA World light middleweight title; Mickey Bey vs. Alan Herrera, 10,

College baseball

Baseball America Top 25

DURHAM, N.C. — The top 25 teams in the Baseball America poll with records through April 20 and projected finish (voting by the staff of Baseball America).

Rank	Team	Record	Pvs
1.	Virginia	33-7	1
2.	Cal State Fullerton	30-3	2
3.	Louisiana-Lafayette	26-7	3
4.	Florida State	26-7	4
5.	Oregon State	27-7	5
6.	Florida	27-7	9
7.	Washington	26-8	6
8.	Alabama	28-12	8
9.	Louisiana State	28-12	8
10.	Texas	30-11	6
11.	South Carolina	30-10	12
12.	Rice	29-13	16
13.	Louisville	28-11	10
14.	Houston	28-10	14
15.	Miami	27-13	15
16.	Mississippi State	30-13	13
17.	Kentucky	26-14	19
18.	Indiana	25-11	17
19.	Oregon	31-10	23
20.	Mississippi State	26-15	23
21.	Oklahoma State	29-11	NR
22.	Arkansas	24-15	22
23.	Texas Christian	24-13	NR
24.	Clemson	25-16	NR
25.	Vanderbilt	29-12	18

Collegiate Baseball poll

TUCSON, Ariz. — The Collegiate Baseball Poll is based on the votes of coaches, sports writers and sports information directors.

Rank	Team	Pts	Pvs
1.	Cal Poly	34	494
2.	Virginia	30	473
3.	Louisiana-Lafayette	35	490
4.	Washington	27	483
5.	Florida St.	30	483
6.	Oregon	25	478
7.	Alabama	28	475
8.	Florida State	21	478
9.	Louisiana St.	30-10	472
10.	Mississippi State	27-13	472
11.	Mississippi State	30-11	466
12.	Indiana	25	464
13.	Oklahoma State	29-11	464
14.	Texas Christian	26-13	459
15.	Texas	30-11	459
16.	Pepperdine	30	454
17.	South Carolina	29	454
18.	Rice	29	451
19.	Mississippi State	26-15	446
20.	Kentucky	26	446
21.	Central Florida	25	443
22.	New York State	25	443
23.	New Mexico	30-11	439
24.	Arizona	29	439
25.	Vanderbilt	29	437
26.	U.C. Santa Barbara	24	437
27.	Arizona	28	427
28.	Seton Hall	27	427
30.	Liberty	31	425

Monday's scores

Rank	Team	Record	Pvs
1.	Virginia	34-7	1
2.	Cal State Fullerton	31-3	2
3.	Louisiana-Lafayette	27-7	3
4.	Florida State	27-7	4
5.	Oregon State	28-7	5
6.	Florida	28-7	9
7.	Washington	27-8	6
8.	Alabama	29-12	8
9.	Louisiana State	29-12	8
10.	Texas	31-11	6
11.	South Carolina	31-10	12
12.	Rice	30-13	16
13.	Louisville	29-11	10
14.	Houston	29-10	14
15.	Miami	28-13	15
16.	Mississippi State	31-13	13
17.	Kentucky	27-14	19
18.	Indiana	26-11	17
19.	Oregon	32-10	23
20.	Mississippi State	27-15	23
21.	Oklahoma State	30-11	NR
22.	Arkansas	25-16	22
23.	Texas Christian	25-13	NR
24.	Clemson	26-16	NR
25.	Vanderbilt	30-12	18

PGA Tour FedEx Cup leaders

Rank	Player	Points	Money
1.	Jimmy Walker	2,046	\$4,225,071
2.	Bubba Watson	1,840	\$4,533,007
3.	Matt Kuchar	1,436	\$3,121,107
4.	Patrick Reed	1,364	\$3,038,426
5.	Justin Rose	1,325	\$2,850,000
6.	Chris Kirk	1,120	\$2,569,772
7.	Justin Spivey	1,092	\$2,569,772
8.	Harris English	1,180	\$2,181,286
9.	Webb Simpson	1,051	\$2,102,826
10.	Bill Haas	1,042	\$1,937,317
11.	Matt Simpson	971	\$2,089,776
12.	Adam Scott	935	\$1,818,286
13.	Ryan Moore	902	\$2,086,504
14.	Jason Day	886	\$1,818,286
15.	John Senden	844	\$1,868,464
16.	Kevin Na	834	\$1,606,652
17.	Brian Stankovic	828	\$1,518,286
18.	Matt Jones	798	\$1,605,598
19.	Adam Long	777	\$1,518,286
20.	Jason Day	769	\$2,102,360
21.	Bubba Watson	769	\$2,102,360
22.	Russell Henley	733	\$1,499,994
23.	Gary Woodland	719	\$1,491,410
24.	Erik Compton	712	\$1,491,410
25.	Russell Knox	712	\$1,136,721
26.	Adam Scott	712	\$1,136,721
27.	Charles Howell III	658	\$1,203,504
28.	Matt Jones	658	\$1,203,504
29.	Chesson Hadley	649	\$1,237,706
30.	Luke Donald	640	\$1,172,651
31.	Brian Stankovic	640	\$1,172,651
32.	Charles Hoffman	623	\$1,101,457
33.	Adam Long	617	\$1,101,457
34.	Chris Stroud	515	\$1,203,782
35.	Graeme McDowell	515	\$1,203,782
36.	Jason Kokrak	507	\$1,012,875
37.	Brian Harnier	507	\$1,012,875
38.	Brian Harnier	507	\$1,012,875
39.	Brian Harnier	507	\$1,012,875
40.	Brian Harnier	507	\$1,012,875
41.	Daniel Summerhays	457	\$1,003,950
42.	Brendon Todd	457	\$859,850
43.	Scott Brown	457	\$859,850
44.	Adam Scott	517	\$948,300
45.	Matt Jones	517	\$948,300
46.	Cameron Tringale	516	\$887,550
47.	Brian Bohn	508	\$949,014

Golf

Ryder Cup points

At Gleneagles Hotel, Gleneagles, Scotland Sept. 26-28, 2014 (voting by the staff of Baseball America).

Rank	Player	Points
1.	Bubba Watson	6,258.984
2.	Jimmy Walker	4,459.071
3.	Cal Poly	3,925.333
4.	Dustin Johnson	3,759.812
5.	Justin Rose	3,658.968
6.	Patrick Reed	3,038.426
7.	Harris English	2,680.515
8.	Jason Dufner	2,668.448
9.	Phil Mickelson	2,662.862
10.	Justin Rose	2,214.852
11.	Chris Kirk	2,214.852
12.	Webb Simpson	2,174.655
13.	Ryan Moore	2,165.352
14.	Kevin Stadler	2,165.352
15.	Adam Scott	2,102.826

European Points

Rank	Player	Points
1.	Victor Dubuisson	2,297.434
2.	Adam Scott	2,165.473
3.	Thomas Bjorn	1,932.604
4.	Henrik Stenson	1,718.866
5.	Ian Poulter	1,584.898
6.	Josip Lajovic	1,300.177
7.	Luca Bignardi-Castano	1,268.876
8.	Georg Lulija	1,186.364
9.	Miguel Angel Jimenez	1,186.364
10.	Justin Rose	995.740

World rankings

Rank	Player	Points
1.	Tiger Woods	USA 8.66
2.	Adam Scott	AUS 8.14
3.	Justin Rose	ENG 7.85
4.	Bubba Watson	USA 7.25
5.	Matt Kuchar	USA 7.02
6.	Patrick Reed	USA 6.85
7.	Jordan Spieth	USA 6.78
8.	Sergio Garcia	ESP 6.78
9.	Phil Mickelson	ENG 5.96
10.	Justin Rose	ENG 5.81
11.	Justin Rose	ENG 5.81
12.	Zach Johnson	USA 5.57
13.	Ernie Els	RSA 5.57
14.	Graeme McDowell	IRL 4.44
15.	Sergio Garcia	ESP 4.44
16.	Charl Schwartzel	SAF 4.36
17.	Ian Poulter	ENG 4.22
18.	Luke Donald	USA 4.15
19.	Jim Furyk	USA 4.15
20.	Adam Scott	USA 4.15
21.	Keegan Bradley	USA 4.10
22.	Matt Kuchar	USA 4.10
23.	Victor Dubuisson	FRA 4.06
24.	Miguel Angel Jimenez	ESP 4.06
25.	Patrick Reed	USA 4.06
26.	Jamie Donaldson	SCO 3.89
27.	Hideki Matsuyama	JPN 3.73
28.	Adam Scott	USA 3.73
29.	Lee Westwood	ENG 3.71
30.	Lee Westwood	ENG 3.71
31.	Bill Haas	USA 3.34
32.	Miguel Angel Jimenez	ESP 3.34
33.	Ernie Els	SWE 3.19
34.	Hunter Mahan	USA 3.12
35.	Matt Jones	USA 3.12
36.	Louis Oosthuizen	SAF 3.10
37.	Adam Scott	USA 3.10
38.	Stephen Gallacher	SCO 2.88
39.	Harris English	USA 2.86

Porsche Grand Prix

At Porsche-Arena, Sep. 26-28

NHL PLAYOFFS



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

Chicago goalie Corey Crawford, back, makes a glove save on a shot by St. Louis center Steve Ott, center, as Johnny Oduya watches during the first period of Game 3 of their Western Conference first-round playoff series Monday in Chicago. The Blackhawks won 2-0 to cut St. Louis' series lead to 2-1.

Crawford steadies Blackhawks

Goalie shuts out Blues, helps Chicago cut into St. Louis' series lead

By JAY COHEN
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Corey Crawford was there every time. Slap shots, wristers, backhands and tips, he stopped each one of them.

The Chicago Blackhawks needed a rebound game from their goaltender, and he delivered in a big way.

Crawford made 34 saves in his third career postseason shutout, and the Blackhawks got back into their playoff series with the St. Louis Blues with a 2-0 victory in Game 3 on Monday night.

"I'm just going shot by shot," Crawford said. "It's all I could do the whole game was worry about the next one and focus on the next shot and stop that. I don't want anything else going through my mind through that hockey game."

Jonathan Toews and Marcus Kruger scored as the defending Stanley Cup champions bounced back after a pair of overtime losses in St. Louis. Toews' 21st postseason goal was only the second score by a Blackhawks forward in the series.

"Three games in a row. It's been a very intense series and extremely close," Blackhawks coach Joel Quenneville said.

Ryan Miller shook off another

slow start and finished with 23 saves, but Toews' shot at 4:10 of the first went through the goaltender's legs and was the only score for most of the game.

"It's not a good goal. We'll leave it at that," Miller said.

It was quite a turnaround for Crawford, who was upset with his play after Saturday's 4-3 loss. Barret Jackman's winning goal in Game 2 went through Crawford, prompting the goaltender to say he had to play better for Chicago to win.

Quenneville met with Crawford on Sunday, and he responded with one of the best games of his career.

"We have a lot of one-on-one meetings throughout the season, but we got ramped up at playoff time," said Quenneville, a former NHL defenseman. "I generally stay away from the goalies. We chatted. Basically I was commending him on accepting that responsibility [for the loss]."

Crawford drew chants of "Corey! Co-rey!" from the capacity crowd at the United Center. He was helped by a sound performance by Duncan Keith and Chicago's defensemen, who stepped up along the suspended Brent Seabrook.

The Blackhawks killed three

St. Louis power plays, while the Blues' penalty-kill unit went 4-for-4, including a 5-on-3 disadvantage in the second.

"We knew this was going to be a long series, but we really played hard, we really played well," St. Louis coach Ken Hitchcock said. "We did a lot of the things we needed to do to win the hockey game, but you've got to give their goalier credit. He was good, especially late."

The Blues, who scored tying goals late in regulation in each of the first two games, pulled Miller within 57 seconds left, but the Blackhawks held on. Kruger stuffed home an empty-netter in the final seconds.

Game 4 is Wednesday night.

Each team was without a key contributor after Seabrook wiped out Blues center David Backes with a big hit in Game 2. The five-minute major and game misconduct penalty for Seabrook led to Vladimir Tarasenko's tying power-play goal with 6.4 seconds left.

Seabrook was suspended for three games by the NHL, putting Sheldon Brookbank in the lineup for the first time in the series. Playing with Keith, Brookbank turned in a solid performance in his 19th career playoff game.

Lehtonen sharp as Stars blank Ducks

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Kari Lehtonen stopped all 37 shots and the Dallas Stars clearly frustrated the top-seeded Anaheim Ducks.

Everything changed in this first-round series when the Stars got their first home playoff game in six years.

While Dallas captain Jamie Benn skated out of the penalty box to score first and 19-year-old rookie Valeri Nichushkin and Ryan Garbutt added goals, Anaheim's dynamic scoring duo of Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry probably had more punches than shots as the Stars won 3-0 in Game 3 Monday.

"I'm pretty sure if you watch the scrums, our guys got punched in the face a few times," Stars coach Lindy Ruff said. "Eventually you're going to punch back ... For us, we know we've got a good skating team and I think that we can frustrate."

Lehtonen held up through five Anaheim power plays and had some tremendous stops to get his first career postseason victory.

"It was unbelievable. That's Kari at his best," Benn said. "He made some big saves at key times and kept us in the game and pretty much won that game for us."

The back-and-forth between



TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

Dallas' Ryan Garbutt, front, celebrates his goal with Cody Eakin during the third period of Monday's 3-0 win in Game 3 of their Western Conference first-round playoff series against Anaheim in Dallas.

Trevor Daley and Getzlaf carried into the second period and they had to be separated in the opening minute — just before an eerie replay for Ducks defenseman Stephane Robidas when he broke his right leg again.

Robidas had to be helped off the ice after his leg bent awkwardly when a sliding Garbutt undercut him. The team said the latest fracture was just above the one he sustained Nov. 29 while with Dallas.

Penguins rally in third to defeat Blue Jackets

By RUSTY MILLER
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Pittsburgh Penguins also have another P-word going for them: patience.

Brandon Suter, Lee Stempniak and Jussi Jokinen scored in a span of 2:13 of the third period to save the Penguins from another two-goal hole in a 4-3 win over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Monday.

Now up 2-1 in the best-of-seven series, the Penguins got off to a horrible start, but took charge in the final two periods.

"It's not ideal, especially when it's 2-1 and you fall behind (by two goals) again," said captain Sidney Crosby. "Typically, it's not the way you win hockey games. But it showed a lot of character."

A two-goal lead has been poison so far in the series. Columbus also blew a 3-1 lead in Game 1, then the Penguins returned the favor Saturday night. In each case the oppo-

nent scored the final three goals, the Blue Jackets taking their first playoff win in double-overtime 48 hours earlier in Pittsburgh.

Down 2-0 early and then 3-1 in the third, the veteran Penguins scored on three consecutive shots.

Coach Dan Bylsma called a timeout after goals by Boone Jenner and Jack Johnson stacked the Blue Jackets to a 2-0 lead 3:18 in before a raucous, overflow crowd of 19,148. The Penguins collected themselves and then collected another comeback win.

The surge began with less than 2 seconds left in the second period when Brooks Orpik rifled a hard wrister past Columbus goaltender Sergei Bobrovsky, making it 2-1.

Just over a minute into the third period, the Blue Jackets pushed the lead back to two goals. Brandon Dubinsky spun and fired a backhander that hit the glove of teammate Cam Atkinson and beat a surprised Marc-Andre Fleury.



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NHL PLAYOFFS

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

(Best-of-seven)
(x=if necessary)
Detroit 1, Boston 1
 Detroit 1, Boston 0
 Boston 4, Detroit 1
Tuesday: at Detroit
Thursday: at Detroit
Saturday: at Boston
x-Monday, April 28: at Detroit
x-Wednesday, April 30: at Boston
Montreal 5, Tampa Bay 0
 Montreal 4, Tampa Bay 1 (OT)
 Montreal 3, Tampa Bay 1
Tuesday: at Montreal
x-Thursday: at Tampa Bay
x-Sunday: at Montreal
x-Tuesday, April 29: at Tampa Bay
Pittsburgh 2, Columbus 1
 Pittsburgh 4, Columbus 3, OT
Monday: Pittsburgh 4, Columbus 3
Wednesday: at Columbus
Saturday: at Pittsburgh
x-Monday, April 28: at Columbus
x-Wednesday, April 30: at Pittsburgh
N.Y. Rangers 1, Philadelphia 1
 N.Y. Rangers 4, Philadelphia 1
 Philadelphia 4, N.Y. Rangers 2
Tuesday: at Philadelphia
Friday: at Philadelphia
Sunday: Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers
x-Tuesday, April 29: at Philadelphia
x-Wednesday, April 30: at N.Y. Rangers

Western Conference

Colorado 2, Minnesota 4
 Colorado 5, Minnesota 4 (OT)
 Colorado 4, Minnesota 2
Monday: Minnesota 1, Colorado 0, OT
Thursday: at Minnesota
Saturday: at Colorado
x-Monday, April 28: at Minnesota
x-Wednesday, April 30: at Colorado
St. Louis 2, Chicago 0
 St. Louis 4, Chicago 3, 3OT
 St. Louis 4, Chicago 3, 3OT
Monday: Chicago 2, St. Louis 0
Friday: at St. Louis
x-Sunday: at Chicago
x-Tuesday, April 29: at St. Louis
Anaheim 2, Dallas 1
 Anaheim 4, Dallas 3
 Anaheim 3, Dallas 0
Monday: Dallas 3, Anaheim 0
Wednesday: at Dallas
Friday: at Anaheim
x-Sunday: at Dallas
x-Tuesday, April 29: at Anaheim
San Jose 2, Los Angeles 0
 San Jose 6, Los Angeles 3
 San Jose 7, Los Angeles 2
Tuesday: at Los Angeles
Thursday: at Los Angeles
x-Saturday: at San Jose
x-Monday, April 28: at Los Angeles
x-Wednesday, April 30: at San Jose

Monday Stars 3, Ducks 0

Anaheim 0 0 0-0
Dallas 1 1 1-3
First Period—1, Dallas, Ja.Benn 2 (Harcroft, Daley), 19:25.
Second Period—2, Dallas, Nichushkin 1 (Sequin, Scevour), 17:15.
Third Period—3, Dallas, Garbutt 2 (Eakin, Rousseau), 7:52.
Shots on goal—Anaheim 13-17-7—37, Dallas 9-6-7—22.
Power-play opportunities—Anaheim 0 of 5, Dallas 0 of 3.
Goalies—Anaheim, Anderson 2-1-0 (22 shots—19 saves), Dallas, Lehtonen 2-0-0 (37-37).
A—19,120 (18,532), **T**—246.

Blackhawks 2, Blues 0

St. Louis 0 0 0-0
Chicago 1 0 1-2
First Period—1, Chicago, Toews 1 (Keith, Brookbank), 4:10.
Third Period—2, Chicago, Kruger 1 (Saad, Handuso), 19:40 (m).
Shots on goal—St. Louis 15-8-11—34, Chicago 7-11-7—25.
Power-play opportunities—St. Louis 0 of 3; Chicago 0 of 4.
Goalies—St. Louis, Miller 2-1-0 (24 shots-23 saves), Chicago, Crawford 1-2-0 (34-34).
A—22,112 (15,117), **T**—231.

Penguins 4, Blue Jackets 3

Pittsburgh 0 1 3-4
Columbus 1 1 3-3
First Period—1, Columbus, Jenner 1 (Skille, Johnson), 1:33, 2, Columbus, Johnson 3 (Dubinsky, Svard), 3:18.
Second Period—3, Pittsburgh, Orpik 1 (Bennett, Martin), 19:58.
Third Period—4, Columbus, Atkinson 1 (Dubinsky, Calvert), 1:04, 5, Pittsburgh, Sutter 2 (Martin, Bennett), 5:53, 6, Pittsburgh, Stempniak 1 (Kunitz, Crosby), 7:52, 7, Pittsburgh, Jokinen 2 (Masata, Malkin), 8:06.
Shots on goal—Pittsburgh 16-10-15—41, Columbus 7-8-5—20.
Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 0 of 6; Columbus 0 of 4.
Goalies—Pittsburgh, Fleury 2-1-0 (20 shots-17 saves), Columbus, Bobrovsky 1-2-0 (41-37).
A—19,148 (18,144), **T**—228.

Wild 1, Avalanche 0 (OT)

Colorado 0 0 0-0
Minnesota 0 0 0-1
Overtime—1, Minnesota, Granlund 3 (Dumminville, Parise), 5:08.
Shots on goal—Colorado 8-7-5—22, Minnesota 22-13-2—46.
Power-play opportunities—Colorado 0 of 4; Minnesota 0 of 3.
Goalies—Colorado, Varlamov 2-1-0 (46 shots—45 saves), Minnesota, Kuemper 1-0-0 (22-22).
A—19,211 (17,954), **T**—258.



ANN HEISENFELT/AP

Minnesota center Mikael Granlund, bottom, shoots the puck around Colorado defenseman Erik Johnson, right, and goalie Semyon Varlamov, center, to score the game-winning goal in overtime on Monday in St. Paul, Minn., in Game 3 of their Western Conference first-round playoff series. The Wild won 1-0 to cut Colorado's lead in the best-of-seven series to 2-1. Game 4 is Thursday in St. Paul.

Wild finally crack Avalanche

Granlund's OT goal on 46th shot gives Minnesota first win in series

By DAVE CAMPBELL
The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — For three periods, Mikael Granlund and the Minnesota Wild were flinging puck after puck at Semyon Varlamov, who was busy playing the part of impenetrable force.

Finally, in overtime, such persistence produced a reward. Granlund's diving goal 5:08 into overtime gave the Wild a 1-0 win over Varlamov and the Colorado Avalanche in Game 3 on Monday night to pull within 2-1 in the best-of-seven series.

Varlamov stopped 45 of 46 shots, a franchise playoff record for shots on goal by the Wild.

"It felt like we were taking it to 'em pretty good, so to not get frustrated at that point, not start to drift and get away from our game, that's what good teams do," a proud Wild coach Mike Yeo said.

Granlund, who had a career-high seven shots on goal, sliced toward the crease and moved

parallel to the net with some slick stick work. Avalanche defenseman Erik Johnson, who saved Game 1 by racing to swat away a shot on an empty net, lost his balance and tried unsuccessfully to dive at Granlund, who then began to fall forward. Granlund extended his stick to knock the puck in, and the celebration ensued.

"We were playing really good. We were creating chances. We got rewarded. We need to just keep playing like that," Granlund said.

Game 4 is at Xcel Energy Center on Thursday, when the Avalanche will be without defenseman Tyson Barrie. He took a knee-to-knee hit in the second period that yielded a penalty for Matt Cooke and a medial collateral ligament injury for Barrie. Coach Patrick Roy said he'll be need four to six weeks to recover.

"Knee on Tyson Barrie is without an doubt the play of the game. We lost our best offensive defenseman," Roy said, expressing confidence Cooke will be suspended.

Darcy Kuemper made 22 saves, and the Wild goalie in his first career playoff start was just as good as Varlamov. He said he had a feeling this would be another one-goal game.

"I just tried to stick with it and make the saves I had to," Kuemper said. "My teammates were obviously playing unbelievable and making it easy on me. I was just trying to do my job and stay sharp."

After the Avalanche line of Nathan MacKinnon, Paul Stastny and Gabe Landeskog combined for 17 points and seven goals over the first two games, the Wild kept them from doing any damage.

"Let's not kid ourselves. This is a huge win for us, not only to get the win but the way that we played the game, the way that we played our game," Yeo said. "We know that next game is going to be even bigger and a tougher test, and we're going to have to be real good. But there's no question that we needed this one."



ANN HEISENFELT/AP

Colorado Avalanche rookie center Nathan MacKinnon, left, is tied with teammate Paul Stastny for the scoring lead in the playoffs with seven points in three games.



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NFL/GOLF

Briefs

Seahawks acquire Pryor from Raiders

Oakland receives 7th-round pick for QB

The Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders have traded away the final player drafted by late owner Al Davis.

Oakland dealt quarterback Terrelle Pryor to the Seattle Seahawks on Monday for a seventh-round pick in next month's draft.

The Raiders fulfilled Pryor's wish to be traded a day before the start of their offseason program. Pryor had asked to be dealt after the season when he lost his starting job to undrafted rookie Matt McGloin, and the Raiders made the move after acquiring Matt Schaub from Houston on Saturday.

Pryor said on Twitter: "Thank you Mr Davis and Raidernation for the unbelievable support!! I will miss the Fans and all of the teammates I have met over the years with the Raiders organization."

The Raiders took Pryor in the third round of the supplemental draft in 2011, less than two months before Davis died. Pryor was suspended for the first five games by Commissioner Roger Goodell, who ruled he must miss the time he would have served under a suspension had he stayed at Ohio State.

Pryor showed flashes of what he could do early last season, completing 68.1 percent of his passes for 845 yards, four touchdowns, two interceptions and a 97.6 passer rating in his first four starts. He also brought the running element to Oakland's offense and set an NFL record for quarterbacks with a 93-yard touchdown run against Pittsburgh on Oct. 27.

Bengals exercise option on WR Green for 2015

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals exercised a 2015 contract option for receiver A.J. Green on Monday, letting them turn their focus to an extension for quarterback Andy Dalton.

Green was the fourth overall pick in the 2011 draft and was entering the final season on his deal.

Green has 3,833 yards receiving in his first three seasons, trailing only Randy Moss' 4,163 yards in his first three seasons. He set club records with six 100-yard receiving games and five straight 100-yard games last season. He finished with 1,426 yards, trailing only Chad Johnson's club record of 1,440 yards.

Suh won't attend Lions' minicamp, source said

DETROIT — Ndamukong Suh will be a no-show at the Detroit Lions' voluntary minicamp this week.

Suh won't be in Allen Park, Mich., on Tuesday with his team, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press. The person, who said Suh will attend the team's voluntary workouts in May and mandatory minicamp next month, spoke Monday night on condition of anonymity because the defensive tackle was not announcing his plans.

Suh is entering the last year of his contract and is scheduled to count more than \$20 million against the salary cap this season.



SAM RICHE/MCT

The Oakland Raiders granted quarterback Terrelle Pryor's request for a trade after the team acquired Matt Schaub from the Houston Texans to be its starting quarterback. Pryor, the last draft pick by late owner Al Davis, lost the Raiders' starting job last season to undrafted rookie Matt McGloin.

Giants' Hill facing third suspension for drugs

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — A person with knowledge of the situation tells The Associated Press that New York Giants safety Will Hill is facing a possible third suspension for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

The person, who requested anonymity because the allegations have not been publicly disclosed, confirmed Monday that Hill failed another drug test. Hill could face a suspension of six games to a year depending on what the tests showed.

QB Freeman signs with Giants to be backup

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Josh Freeman signed with the

New York Giants on Monday to be a backup quarterback to Eli Manning. Freeman was released by Tampa Bay early last season and spent the rest of 2013 with Minnesota. His one start for the Vikings was in a 23-7 loss to the Giants in which he struggled, going 20 of 53 for 190 yards with an interception.

Playoff game to air on cable TV for first time

NEW YORK — An NFL playoff game will air on cable for the first time this season.

The league said Tuesday that a wild-card matchup will be broadcast on ESPN in January. As with "Monday Night Football," the game will be simulcast locally in the teams' home markets.

In the NFL's new TV deals that

start with the 2014 season, NBC exchanged one of its wild-card matchups for one in the divisional round. It hasn't been determined yet whether NBC will show an AFC or NFC game in January.

Report: Jags' Allen retires after stroke

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Former Jacksonville Jaguars linebacker Russell Allen is retiring after suffering a concussion and a stroke in a game last December.

Allen said he has a dead spot — no bigger than a dime — on his cerebellum. The cerebellum controls motor movement and coordination. In the months after Allen's initial stroke diagnosis, he saw three neurosurgeons. The last one advised Allen to quit playing football.

Pinehurst No. 2 ready for U.S. Open double bill

By JOEY MCCREARY
The Associated Press

PINEHURST, N.C. — Pinehurst No. 2 is ready for its double dip of U.S. Opens. In less than two months, it will host the U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open in consecutive weeks.

U.S. Golf Association executive director Mike Davis said on Monday he was expecting "a challenging test of golf, but ... a great test of golf" on the course designed by Donald Ross and recently restored to his specifications by Ben Crenshaw.

When the men tee it up from June 12-15 and the women follow a week later, they'll find wider fairways, no rough and only two cuts of grass — green and fairway. Ross' famed turtleback greens remain largely unchanged.

Davis said the course was "going to give the best players in the world some shots that they simply haven't had to make in past U.S. Opens."

The distances will be different but the intent was for the course to play the same way in both opens.

The course will play at 7,562 yards for the men and 6,649 for the women. In both weeks, par will be 70.

Ben Kimball, executive director of the U.S. Women's Open, said the plan was to have the pins placed in roughly the same quadrants of the greens in each corresponding round of both tournaments.

"We want to give them the same look from week one to week two," Kimball said.

No. 2 has hosted U.S. Opens in 1999 and 2005. The U.S. Women's Open has been held at nearby Pine Needles three times since 1996 — but never at Ross' signature course.

Crenshaw led a yearlong \$2.5 million face-lift for the course, removing the rough and reverting its layout closer to Ross' original design.

Shots that go into what would have been the rough might land in sandy hardpan, some wiregrass, or even on what Davis called "natural vegetation."

"Will it be easier?" he asked. "Probably a little bit easier, but I suppose there's an element of luck involved."

Davis said the greens should be slightly less firm during the women's open.

He said it's too soon to say if in the future the USGA will try to pull off another doubleheader like this one.

"We really want to see how it goes," he said.



GERRY BROOME/AP

The "Puttifer" statue at Pinehurst Resort & Country Club will greet the best men's and women's golfers when the course hosts the U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open golf championships in June in Pinehurst, N.C.

SPORTS BRIEFS/MLB

Briefly

Tennessee hires Tyndall as coach

The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee is counting on Southern Mississippi's Donnie Tyndall to make the same solid transition from the mid-major ranks as the Volunteers' last two basketball coaches.

Tennessee announced Tuesday it would introduce Tyndall at an afternoon news conference.

Tyndall replaces Cuzzo Martin, who went 63-41 in three seasons at Tennessee before California hired him on April 15. Martin led Tennessee to a 23-14 record and an NCAA regional semifinal appearance this season.

The 43-year-old Tyndall has gone 56-17 with a pair of NIT appearances in two seasons at Southern Mississippi. The Golden Eagles went 29-7, tied a school record for victories in a season and reached the NIT quarterfinals this year.

Tennessee has plucked its last two coaches from mid-major programs. Martin came to Tennessee in 2011 after three seasons at Missouri State. Martin was preceded by Bruce Pearl, who arrived at Tennessee from Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

In other college basketball news:

■ A person familiar with the situation said Tuesday that Clemson junior K.J. McDaniels is leaving school for the NBA Draft.

The person spoke with The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither McDaniels nor Clemson has announced the decision.

■ Kentucky forward Julius Randle will leave after one season to enter the NBA Draft, where he is expected to be among the top five selections.

Randle averaged 15.0 points and 10.4 rebounds and was voted to The Associated Press' All-America second team.

Jazz don't keep Corbin, begin search for coach

SALT LAKE CITY — Tyrone Corbin oversaw Utah's transition from Jerry Sloan and Deron Williams to a youth movement, one he was set to see to fruition.

The Jazz are in the market for a new coach after deciding not to offer Corbin a new contract Monday.

Corbin went 112-146 in three-plus seasons in Salt Lake City. He took over on Feb. 10, 2011, following the resignation of Sloan, for whom he played three seasons and served as a longtime assistant.

Corbin reached the playoffs in the strike-shortened 2011-12 season, but his team was swept by San Antonio in the first round of the playoffs. The Jazz went 43-30 in next season and dumped a number of veterans. This year,

they went 25-57, the worst season by the Jazz since 1979-80, when Utah was 24-58 following the franchise's relocation from New Orleans.

In other NBA news:

■ The Golden State Warriors have agreed to terms to buy 12 acres of land in San Francisco's Mission Bay neighborhood to build a new arena.

The Warriors announced Tuesday they would buy the land from salesforce.com. The team was originally hoping to build a new arena on San Francisco's waterfront but those plans faced opposition from critics concerned about traffic, environmental issues and blocked views of the Bay Bridge.

New Mexico suspends Gongbay after charges

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The University of New Mexico said Monday running back Crusoe Gongbay is facing rape charges and has been suspended from the team.

University officials issued a statement Monday night saying the 20-year-old turned himself in to campus police.

Coach Bob Davie said he's aware of the allegations, and due to the serious nature of the charges, the junior has been suspended indefinitely.

KOB-TV reports that Gongbay and another man who is not a student each face two counts of second-degree criminal sexual penetration and one count of kidnapping.

The charges stem from April 13, when a female student reported she was the victim of sexual assault. Investigators say they consulted with the district attorney's office before requesting arrest warrants.

Djokovic: Wrist better, will try to play in Spain

Saying his right wrist is not as badly hurt as he feared, Novak Djokovic plans to be back on the tennis tour in two weeks — and at the French Open later next month.

The right-handed Djokovic said in a statement Tuesday he's been "assured" by doctors that he will be ready for upcoming clay-court tournaments, starting with the Madrid Masters on May 5. He would head to Rome the following week, and then to Paris, where he'll play in the year's second Grand Slam tournament begins May 25. "Fortunately, the situation with the injury is better than it first seemed," said Djokovic, who is No. 2, behind Rafael Nadal, in the ATP rankings.

Djokovic has won six major singles championships and needs a French Open title to complete a career Grand Slam.



Nick Wass/AP

The Angels' Raul Ibanez, right, follows through on a double that drove in three runs during the eighth inning of Monday's game against the Nationals in Washington. The Angels won 4-2.

Ibanez's three-run double lifts Angels over Nationals

By HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In the first major league matchup featuring twentysomething stars Mike Trout and Bryce Harper, it was a guy born two decades earlier, Raul Ibanez, who came through with the biggest hit.

And after delivering a tiebreaking three-run double as a pinch hitter in the eighth inning to help Trout's Los Angeles Angels beat Harper's Washington Nationals 4-2 Friday, the 41-year-old Ibanez was showered with a particular nickname when he returned to the dugout.

"After he got that hit, we were calling him 'Viejo,' — 'Old' in Spanish," Trout said with a smile.

Ibanez might be, um, much more experienced than many of his teammates, but he happens to be leading the Angels this season with 15 RBIs.

"These guys make me feel young," he said about his teammates with the Angels, his fifth club in a 19-year career. "And I have five kids at home. They're 12 and under, and I'm the biggest kid in the house, really. I feel right at home around these guys who are 22, 24, 25 years old. They definitely keep you young."

He came through on a night that Trout and Harper went a combined 2-for-8 with zero runs or RBIs, and Albert Pujols went 0-for-5, staying on 498 homers.

The 22-year-old Trout, the 2012 AL Rookie of the Year and a two-time MVP runner-up, was 2-for-5 with a pair of singles. The 21-year-old Harper, the 2012 NL rookie honoree, was 0-for-3 with a walk. The two outfielders became pals while teammates in the Arizona Fall League in 2011 and chatted with each other before the game.

Neither recent first-round pick in the amateur draft — Trout was No. 25 overall in 2009, Harper was No. 1 a year later — was much of a factor once play began, though. Instead, all eyes were on Ibanez, taken in the 36th round in 1992.

"He's been around the block," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said.

Fernando Salas (1-0) won with a hitless seventh.



Nick Wass/AP

Los Angeles center fielder Mike Trout, right, looks back after striking out during the first inning. Trout and Albert Pujols, left, combined to go 2-for-10.

Joe Smith worked the eighth and Ernesto Frieri pitched the ninth to earn his second save, despite allowing Desmond's leadoff homer. Frieri struck out Denard Span with a man on second to end it.

The Nationals led 1-0 entering the eighth, when they brought in reliever Tyler Clippard (1-2). Pujols led off and reached on the first of shortstop Ian Desmond's two errors in the inning. Later, Erick Aybar's third hit of the night scored Pujols to even it.

Ibanez, without a hit in his previous 11 at-bats, connected on a changeup, Clippard's specialty.

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	11	8	.579	1
Toronto	9	9	.526	1 1/2
Baltimore	9	9	.500	1 1/2
Tampa Bay	9	10	.474	2
Boston	7	11	.450	2 1/2

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	10	5	.683	0
Chicago	10	5	.500	1
Minnesota	9	9	.500	1
Cleveland	9	10	.474	1 1/2

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	13	6	.684	0
Pittsburgh	11	9	.547	1 1/2
Los Angeles	9	10	.474	2
Seattle	8	11	.421	2 1/2
Houston	6	14	.300	7 1/2

Phillies 7, Dodgers 0

Philadelphia	ab	r	h	bi
Gwynn cf	4	1	0	0
Rollins ss	5	1	1	0
Yutzler 3b	4	1	1	0
Ruiz c	4	2	3	0
Howard 1b	4	1	2	0
Mann pp	0	0	0	0
Ortiz lf	4	0	0	0
Brayton cf	4	0	0	0
Clayton 2b	4	0	0	0
Byrd rf	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles

ab	r	h	bi	
Pujar rf	4	0	1	0
Herrera 3b	4	0	0	0
Adrian 1b	4	0	1	0
Kerner c	4	0	0	0
Upton 2b	4	0	0	0
Wright 3b	4	0	0	0
Freese lf	4	0	0	0
Harmon 1b	4	0	0	0
Wright 2b	4	0	0	0
Dorner 2b	4	0	0	0
Matt 3b	4	0	0	0

Indians 4, Royals 3

Kansas City	ab	r	h	bi
Aoki rf	4	0	0	0
Infante 2b	4	0	1	0
Homer 1b	4	0	0	0
B Butler dh	4	0	0	0
Boutt Jr 3b	4	0	0	0
Stenzel c	4	0	0	0
Adair lf	4	0	0	0
Adair ss	4	0	0	0
Wright 2b	4	0	0	0
Maxwell ph-1b	1	0	0	0

Cleveland

ab	r	h	bi	
Bourc 4f	4	0	1	0
Swisher 1b	4	1	2	0
Rizzo 3b	4	0	0	0
Chanin 3b	4	0	0	0
Scuttlifone lf	4	0	0	0
Acosta 2b	4	0	0	0
Acosta 2b	4	0	0	0
Acosta 2b	4	0	0	0
Acosta 2b	4	0	0	0
Acosta 2b	4	0	0	0

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	13	9	.588	0
Washington	10	9	.526	3
New York	10	9	.526	3
Philadelphia	11	4	.731	0
Miami	11	4	.731	0

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	15	5	.750	0
St. Louis	11	9	.547	4
Pittsburgh	9	11	.447	6 1/2
Cincinnati	8	11	.421	6 1/2
Chicago	7	13	.348	8

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	10	6	.600	0
San Francisco	11	9	.550	1
Colorado	11	10	.524	1 1/2
San Diego	10	11	.476	2
Arizona	7	17	.288	8

Phillies 7, Dodgers 0

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clayton 2b	8	4	0	0	0	0
Mann pp	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ortiz lf	5	8	5	4	3	2
Brayton cf	2	1	0	0	0	1
Clayton 2b	2	1	0	0	0	1
Byrd rf	0	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Dorner 2b	8	4	0	0	0
Matt 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 2b	0	0	0	0	0
Harmon 1b	0	0	0	0	0
Freese lf	0	0	0	0	0
Upton 2b	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Adrian 1b	0	0	0	0	0
Kerner c	0	0	0	0	0
Herrera 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Pujar rf	0	0	0	0	0

Indians 4, Royals 3

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Aoki rf	6	1	1	1	4	6
Infante 2b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Homer 1b	1	1	0	0	1	1
B Butler dh	1	1	1	1	3	0
Stenzel c	6	7	0	0	2	5
Adair lf	3	3	0	0	2	5
Adair ss	3	3	0	0	2	5
Wright 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Maxwell ph-1b	1	0	0	0	1	0

Cleveland

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	
Bourc 4f	6	1	1	1	4	6
Swisher 1b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Rizzo 3b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Chanin 3b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Scuttlifone lf	6	6	3	3	2	7
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5

National League

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Atlanta	13	9	.588	0
Washington	10	9	.526	3
New York	10	9	.526	3
Philadelphia	11	4	.731	0
Miami	11	4	.731	0

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Milwaukee	15	5	.750	0
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Arizona	7	17	.288	8

Phillies 7, Dodgers 0

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clayton 2b	8	4	0	0	0	0
Mann pp	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ortiz lf	5	8	5	4	3	2
Brayton cf	2	1	0	0	0	1
Clayton 2b	2	1	0	0	0	1
Byrd rf	0	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Dorner 2b	8	4	0	0	0
Matt 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 2b	0	0	0	0	0
Harmon 1b	0	0	0	0	0
Freese lf	0	0	0	0	0
Upton 2b	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Adrian 1b	0	0	0	0	0
Kerner c	0	0	0	0	0
Herrera 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Pujar rf	0	0	0	0	0

Indians 4, Royals 3

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Aoki rf	6	1	1	1	4	6
Infante 2b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Homer 1b	1	1	0	0	1	1
B Butler dh	1	1	1	1	3	0
Stenzel c	6	7	0	0	2	5
Adair lf	3	3	0	0	2	5
Adair ss	3	3	0	0	2	5
Wright 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Maxwell ph-1b	1	0	0	0	1	0

Cleveland

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	
Bourc 4f	6	1	1	1	4	6
Swisher 1b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Rizzo 3b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Chanin 3b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Scuttlifone lf	6	6	3	3	2	7
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Acosta 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	13	9	.588	0
Washington	10	9	.526	3
New York	10	9	.526	3
Philadelphia	11	4	.731	0
Miami	11	4	.731	0

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	15	5	.750	0
St. Louis	11	9	.547	4
Pittsburgh	9	11	.447	6 1/2
Cincinnati	8	11	.421	6 1/2
Chicago	7	13	.348	8

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	10	6	.600	0
San Francisco	11	9	.550	1
Colorado	11	10	.524	1 1/2
San Diego	10	11	.476	2
Arizona	7	17	.288	8

Phillies 7, Dodgers 0

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clayton 2b	8	4	0	0	0	0
Mann pp	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ortiz lf	5	8	5	4	3	2
Brayton cf	2	1	0	0	0	1
Clayton 2b	2	1	0	0	0	1
Byrd rf	0	0	0	0	0	0

Los Angeles

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Dorner 2b	8	4	0	0	0
Matt 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 2b	0	0	0	0	0
Harmon 1b	0	0	0	0	0
Freese lf	0	0	0	0	0
Upton 2b	0	0	0	0	0
Wright 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Adrian 1b	0	0	0	0	0
Kerner c	0	0	0	0	0
Herrera 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Pujar rf	0	0	0	0	0

Indians 4, Royals 3

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Aoki rf	6	1	1	1	4	6
Infante 2b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Homer 1b	1	1	0	0	1	1
B Butler dh	1	1	1	1	3	0
Stenzel c	6	7	0	0	2	5
Adair lf	3	3	0	0	2	5
Adair ss	3	3	0	0	2	5
Wright 2b	3	3	0	0	2	5
Maxwell ph-1b	1	0	0	0	1	0

Cleveland

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	
Bourc 4f	6	1	1	1	4	6
Swisher 1b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Rizzo 3b	1	1	0	0	1	1
Chanin 3b	1	1	0	0		

MLB



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

Cincinnati's Billy Hamilton, left, scores ahead of the tag by Pittsburgh catcher Russell Martin during the first inning of Monday's game in Pittsburgh. Hamilton scored on a fielder's choice by teammate Brandon Phillips.

AL roundup

O's down Buchholz, Red Sox

The Associated Press

BOSTON — The Baltimore Orioles scored six runs off Clay Buchholz in the third inning then held on to spoil Boston's Patriots' Day morning game a year after the Boston Marathon bombings with a 7-6 win over the Red Sox on Monday.

The Red Sox had a chance to win in the ninth when they loaded the bases with one out on a single by Brock Holt, a double by Dustin Pedroia and an intentional walk to David Ortiz. One run scored on Mike Napoli's groundout to second, but Mike Carp grounded out to first as Tommy Hunter escaped with his fifth save.

The game began at 11:09 a.m., about an hour before Meb Keflezighi crossed the Boston Marathon finish line just over a mile away as the first American man to win the race since Greg Meyer in 1983. A long, loud cheer went up in Fenway Park when the result of the race was shown.

Trailing 7-4, Napoli led off the eighth with his fourth homer of the year. Singles by Xander Bogaerts and Daniel Nava put runners at first and second with one out. But pinch-hitter Jonathan Herrera struck out as the runners took off and Bogaerts was tagged between second and third.

Wei-Yin Chen (3-1) and five relievers pitched well enough for Baltimore to gain a split of the four-game series.

The Orioles started the third with consecutive singles by Steve Lombardozzi, David Lough, Nick Markakis, Nelson Cruz and Chris Davis that produced three runs. Adam Jones drove in another on a forecourt at second base before a run-scoring double by Steve Clevenger and an RBI single by Jonathan Schoop made it 6-0 and knocked Buchholz (0-2) out of the game.

Indians 4, Royals 3: Jason Kipnis and Michael Brantley hit two-run homers, powering host Cleveland over Kansas City when a fearless squirrel ran around Progressive Field and provided some extra entertainment.

Kipnis connected in the sixth inning off Jeremy Guthrie (2-1), overcoming a 3-2 deficit. Brantley provided Cleveland a 2-0 lead in the fourth.

White Sox 3, Tigers 1: Jose Abreu and Dayan Viciedo hit RBI doubles in the seventh inning, and visiting Chicago rallied for a victory over Detroit.

Chicago scored three runs in the seventh off Anibal Sanchez (0-2) after managing only one hit in the first six innings. John Danks (2-0) allowed six hits and three walks in 6½ innings, but the Tigers could score only one run off him.

Astros 7, Mariners 2: Matt Dominguez homered and drove in three runs, Dallas Keuchel struck out a season-high eight and visiting Houston broke a seven-game skid with a win over Seattle.

It is the seventh straight loss for Seattle, which is the longest active streak in the majors.

Angers 4, Athletics 3: Donnie Murphy lined a go-ahead single up the middle with one out in the eighth inning, and visiting Texas rallied from an early three-run deficit to beat Oakland.

Sean Doolittle (0-1) allowed a leadoff double to Kevin Koussanoff and Mitch Moreland sacrificed him to third before Murphy's hit. Murphy and Koussanoff are both former A's players.

NL roundup

Davis' slam leads Pirates

Pittsburgh holds off Cincinnati rally

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Ike Davis made his first home run with the Pittsburgh Pirates a memorable one.

Davis became the first player to hit grand slams for different teams in the same April, and Neil Walker had a run-scoring single with two outs in the ninth inning as the Pirates twice overcame deficits to beat the Cincinnati Reds 6-5 Monday night.

Pittsburgh trailed 2-0 before Davis' fourth-inning homer off Mike Leake. Davis hit a game-winning, ninth-inning slam off the Reds' J.J. Hoover on April 5 for the New York Mets, who traded him to the Pirates on Friday.

According to STATS, no player previously hit slams for different teams in the same April. Davis became just the third to hit slams for different teams against the same opponent in the same year, following Ray Boone in 1953 and Mike Piazza in 1998.

"We knew that's what he was capable of doing when we traded for him," Walker said. "As a left-handed hitter in this ballpark, I can envision him hitting more balls over that Clemente Wall in right field. This is just his start."

Leake said he made a good pitch and gave credit to Davis, his former college teammate at Arizona State.

"I broke his bat and he still hit it out," Leake said. "That's how strong he is."

With nobody out, Davis was just trying not to kill a rally rather than trying to hit a grand slam.

Braves 4, Marlins 2 (10): Evan Gattis hit a two-run homer in the 10th inning,

leading host Atlanta past Miami.

Dan Uggla led off with a single up the middle off Arquemedes Caminero (0-1), and Gattis followed with a shot into the left-field seats for his fifth homer of the season — and first career walkoff homer.

Mets 2, Cardinals 0: Jenry Mejia pitched four-hit ball into the seventh inning and David Wright delivered another key hit for host New York in its victory over St. Louis.

Wright lined an early RBI single that extended his hitting streak to 12 games and Kyle Farnsworth earned his first save as the Mets' newest closer.

Braves 4, Padres 3: Aramis Ramirez homered and Ryan Braun drove in two runs to lead host Milwaukee past San Diego.

Wily Peralta (3-0) gave up three runs and six hits in 6½ innings as the Brewers improved their major league-best record to 15-5. Peralta struck out six.

Rockies 8, Giants 2: Charlie Blackmon hit two of his team's five homers and Jorge De La Rosa threw five efficient innings, lifting host Colorado to a victory over San Francisco.

Nolan Arenado, Wilin Rosario and Corey Dickerson also homered for the Rockies, who've won four of the last five. It was Blackmon's first multihomer game of his career.

Phillies 7, Dodgers 0: Cliff Lee scattered four hits over eight innings, struck out 10 and retired 21 of his last 22 batters to lead visiting Philadelphia to a victory over Los Angeles.

Carlos Ruiz hit a two-run homer and a two-run double and Ryan Howard also



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Atlanta catcher Evan Gattis rounds the bases after hitting a game-winning two-run home run in the 10th inning of Monday's game against Miami in Atlanta.

went deep for the Phillies in the opener of a four-game series.

Cubs 5, Diamondbacks 1: Travis Wood hit a three-run homer and drove in four runs to back his nine-strikeout performance on the mound, leading host Chicago to a victory over Arizona.

Wood (1-2) gave up a run and six hits over seven innings. His four RBIs and nine strikeouts matched career highs.

NBA

Bulls' Noah voted best defender

By Andrew Seligman
The Associated Press

LINCOLNSHIRE, Ill. — There were some emotional moments and some funny stories as Joakim Noah accepted the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year award on Monday, like this one.

The Chicago Bulls' center recalled a grueling workout with coach Tom Thibodeau.

"I told Thibs, 'If we weren't winning games, I would really, really hate you,'" he said. "And he said, 'Trust me, Jo, I feel the same way about you.'"

Noah laughed. So did Thibodeau.

With their drive and desire, those two are in many ways a perfect match. And when it came to this year's award, it was no contest.

Noah got 100 of a possible 125 first-place votes from a panel of sportswriters and broadcasters and wound up with 555 points.

Indiana's Roy Hibbert (166 points, eight first-place votes) and the Los Angeles Clippers' DeAndre Jordan (121 points, eight first-place votes) came in second and third, respectively.

"This is very humbling to be in this situation right now," Noah said as his famous father Yannick, his mom, his sisters and brother all watched from the front row.

He told coach Tom Thibodeau: "Without your system, this wouldn't be possible."

The only other Bulls player to win the award was Michael Jordan in 1988. Besides joining the greatest player in franchise history, Noah's name gets added to an impressive list of centers to take the honor. It includes stars such as Hakeem Olajuwon, Dikembe Mutombo, Alonzo Mourning, David Robinson, and Dwight Howard.

The recognition comes after Noah helped Chicago win 48 games and earn home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs despite losing Derrick Rose to a season-ending



KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/AP

Bulls center Joakim Noah, center, got 100 of a possible 125 first-place votes of a panel of sportswriters and broadcasters to be named the Defensive Player of the Year.

knee injury and trading away Luol Deng.

The Bulls won more games than any other Eastern Conference team after New Year's Eve before stumbling in the postseason opener against Washington. Game 2 was Tuesday, another test for a team and a player who have passed their share.

Noah had some issues with teammates and coaches after he was drafted out of Florida in 2007. But there's little question who the team's most valuable player was this season.

When the Bulls looked like they might fall apart, Noah kept them together. The irony is the defensive player award comes at a time when he's getting as much praise for his ability on offense, a weakness his first few years in the league.

Noah averaged career highs of 12.6 points, 11.3 rebounds and 5.4 assists. He's a focal point on offense and one of the league's best passing big men, with the ball often being funneled through him. He also remains their anchor on defense with his ability to cover ground and rotate onto smaller players in

pick-and-roll situations creates havoc for opponents. He averaged 1.5 blocks.

"It's been really fun for all of his to watch him and his game evolve and grow over the years," general manager Gar Forman said.

"He's a competitor. He's passionate. He's intelligent and he's a leader. But along with that, what Joakim probably is is the best teammate that I've had a chance to witness in the 16 years that I've been with the Chicago Bulls."

The recognition comes at a difficult time for Noah, whose youth basketball mentor and second father figure Tyrone Green recently died. He dedicated the award to him, recalled sleeping on his couch in the summer as a teenager and going on trips with his mom and sister to work on his game. Green believed he could make Noah into an NBA player even if his own father had doubts.

"He was too skinny, couldn't shoot," Yannick Noah said. "He couldn't jump, couldn't do a lot of things. The only thing I knew he had was his drive."

Popovich Coach of the Year

The Associated Press

San Antonio Spurs coach Gregg Popovich was named NBA Coach of the Year on Tuesday, making him just the third coach in league history to win the Red Auerbach trophy three times in his career.

Popovich has received the league's top coaching honor in two of the last three seasons, joining Don Nelson and Pat Riley as the only coaches to win the award three times.

In a career full of masterful coaching performances, Popovich may have delivered his best in season No. 18.

The Spurs entered the season still thinking about the devastating loss to the Heat in last summer's classic NBA Finals. Once again thought to be too old to challenge LeBron James and mighty Miami, the Spurs took the defending champions to seven games but couldn't quite close it out for the franchise's fifth NBA title.

"Suffice to say that I've thought about it every day," Popovich said at training camp in October. "I'm wondering if it will go away. I'm anxious for it to happen, but it hasn't happened yet."

They showed up to training camp still stung from that defeat, and Popovich had to get to know a new staff after losing assistants Brett Brown and Mike Budenholzer to head coaching jobs in Philadelphia and Atlanta.

It was the key to the Spurs to a league-best 62-20 record for home-court advantage throughout the playoffs. And he did it while deftly navigating a season filled with nagging injuries to several key players. Tim Duncan was the only starter to play at least 70 games.

Pushing: George hoping playoff run will boost marketing potential

FROM BACK PAGE

Duplicate that performance in this year's playoffs and lead the Pacers on a deep playoff run, and George could emerge as this postseason's biggest winner. Indiana opened its first-round best-of-seven series Saturday night against Atlanta.

"There really isn't a ceiling because each athlete can take it (the endorsements) as far as they can take it," said Ken Ungar, president of U/S Sports Advisors, an Indianapolis-based sports and entertainment marketing agency. "I've seen estimates that LeBron James makes \$42 million a year off endorsements. So how far can Paul take it? That's up to him."

George leaves the financial details to agent Aaron Mintz and a team of advisers who are aggressively trying to promote George as a prime-time pitchman.

He spent part of last Thursday with Papa John's founder John Schnatter raising money for Riley



George

"I've seen estimates that LeBron James makes \$42 million a year off endorsements. So how far can Paul take it? That's up to him."

Ken Ungar

U/S Sports Advisors President on Paul George

Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, perhaps a sign of what his next big business venture might be. Three weeks ago, George made a splashy debut on the national advertising scene with a nifty crossover move and a spectacular dunk fueled in part by the rushing onslaught of Gatorade.

Those inside and outside his inner circle believe this is just the start of a booming business for Paul George Inc., and that many more deals will soon be

announced.

"We track every sport and are looking at who the up-and-coming talent is and making sure we have connections across the board, Paul was doing those things," said John Shea, senior director of Gatorade Sports Marketing. "When we sign athletes we're looking at the long-term prospects."

Finding major players in small markets is nothing new.

Brett Favre and Peyton Manning became the face of the NFL

in the mid-1990s despite spending most of their careers in Green Bay and Indianapolis. Kevin Durant, one of the front-runners for this year's MVP award, has made a similar impact in the NBA even though he plays in Oklahoma City. And Reggie Miller, the biggest star in the Pacers' NBA history, became a popular national figure thanks to his annual battles with Michael Jordan, Spike Lee and the Knicks.

One reason for the blurring of the big-market, small-market lines is expanded television coverage, which has ensured all NBA stars can get a national showcase. Plus, the Internet has allowed everyone to more closely follow their favorite players wherever they are.

George is still one of the last players off the court at practice and acknowledged that the Pacers' second-half struggles taught him how to look for shots in a different way.

There are also questions. Despite rumors about his relationship with a Miami-based exotic dancer and a report last month that George had been "catfished" into providing revealing photos of himself to a man who had posed as a woman on the Internet, George has tried to stay above the fray and emphatically denied both stories.

But the biggest part of making this pitch is that George needs to keep winning and perhaps even bring home a championship to cement his status as the best emerging star in basketball.

"All eyes are on you in a small market, and when you're really the only show in town and you are the marquee player, the community looks to you," Miller said. "PG has had a coming out party this year, third in all-around votes, an All-Star starter and rightfully so. He should be in the top five in MVP voting, and he's one of the best two-way players in the game."

SPORTS



Pryor arrangement

Raiders trade QB to Seahawks | NFL, Page 26

NBA

Pacers forward Paul George has the pedigree to make it big in the NBA. He's been to the last two All-Star Games, was rewarded with a max contract in September and at age 23 still has plenty of upside. But the question remains: Can one of the league's brightest young stars in one of the league's smallest cities still make it big in the marketing business.

AJ MAST/AP

Pushing popularity

After finding success on court, Pacers' George making play for big endorsement deals in small market

By MICHAEL MAROT

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Paul George already has a winning résumé.

He's played in two All-Star Games, been the league's Most Improved Player, reached the conference finals and led his team to the best record in the East. He is revered by teammates and coaches and has been rewarded with a max contract. He finished third overall in this year's All-Star voting, appeared on two major magazine covers and may be on the verge of becoming a major endorser, too.

At age 24, George looks like he'll become the next big small-market star.

"I want to crack the top five," George said earlier this week, referring to jersey sales. The league announced last week that George was No. 15 overall. "This playoff run should definitely do it."

The truth is George never has defined success by numbers alone. Ask why the jersey sales mean something to him and George explains it's the stamp of approval from fans who like his simple, honest style.

'I want to crack the top five. This playoff run should definitely do it.'

Paul George

Pacers star on his rank in jersey sales

Corporate America, which does look at the numbers, has started noticing, too.

A year ago, George's strong postseason performance helped Indiana push Miami to seven games in the conference finals and turned an overlooked high school and college player into an emerging star. He's now the fifth player in league history to improve his scoring average by four or more points in three consecutive seasons while participating in 50 percent or more of his team's games. Plus, the Pacers (56-26) finished No. 1 in the East, giving them home-court advantage through the conference finals.

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Davis hits first HR with Pirates to hold off Reds rally | MLB, Pages 27-29

