

MIDEAST

Kandahar police chief calls for attacks on militants in Pakistan

Page 2



NFL

Week 16 takeaways: Playoff contenders fall flat; 3 divisions still undecided

Back page

WAR ON TERRORISM

Kurdish fighters facing fierce opposition from Islamic State in Iraq

Page 6

Another family sues DOD over handling of WWII remains » Page 5

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 73, No. 178

©SS 2014

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2014

平成26年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

By TOM HAYS

The Associated Press

Big-city police departments and union leaders around the country are warning the rank and file to wear bulletproof vests and avoid making inflammatory posts on social media in the days after a man ambushed two officers and shot them to death inside their patrol car.

The slayings of Officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu on Saturday afternoon in Brooklyn heightened fears about the safety of law enforcement officials nationwide, although authorities haven't said if they believe any threats are imminent. The gunman, 28-year-old Ismaiyil Brinsley, had vowed in an Instagram post to put "wings on pigs" as retaliation for the slayings of black men at the hands of white police.

Brinsley was black; the slain New York Police Department officers were Hispanic and Asian.

Investigators are trying to determine if Brinsley had taken part in protests over the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner, whose names he invoked in his threat, or simply latched onto the cause for the final act in a violent rampage.

The slayings come at a tense time as police nationwide are being criticized following Garner's death in a New York officer's chokehold and Brown's fatal shooting in Ferguson, Mo. Protests erupted in recent weeks after grand juries declined to charge the officers involved.

SEE VIGILANT ON PAGE 7



Staying vigilant

Departments around US on alert after NYC cop killings

New York Police Department officer Jason Muller salutes during the national anthem after participating in a moment of silence for two slain NYPD officers before an NBA game between the Brooklyn Nets and the Detroit Pistons on Sunday in New York.

JASON DeCROW/AP

■ Neighbor talks about prior shooting in Baltimore
Page 7

■ Gunman who ambushed officers had long rap sheet
Page 7

■ Ex-officer not charged in fatal Milwaukee shooting
Page 8

Leaving Afghanistan



Stars and Stripes photos show troops in the fight » stripes.com/afghanistan

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Our toughest counteraction will be boldly taken against the White House, the Pentagon and the whole U.S. mainland, the cesspool of terrorism, by far surpassing the ‘symmetric counteraction’ declared by Obama.”

— North Korea’s National Defense Commission, on being blamed by the U.S. for a cyberattack

See story on Page 10

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

- 1,000 soldiers from the 82nd Airborne headed to Iraq
- Former Delta Force doctor named top rural physician in America
- MIA widow grateful to finally know how pilot husband died in Vietnam
- JBLM C-17 squadron will be inactivated in 2016
- Navy admits error, honors World War II captain’s bravery in sinking of U-boat

COMING SOON

Video games

“Assassin’s Creed: Rogue”



TODAY IN STRIPES

- American Roundup 16
- Business 18
- Classified 19, 22
- Comics 13
- Crossword 13
- Faces 14
- Opinion 20-21
- Shifting Gears 15
- Sports 23-32
- Weather 18

MILITARY



John A. Mattias/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Abdul Raziq, the provincial chief of police, center, talks with elders in Ghorak district, Kandahar province, Afghanistan, in January 2013. On Friday, Raziq ordered his forces to attack Taliban insurgents inside Pakistan.

Afghan attacks in Pakistan ordered

By CARLO MUNOZ
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The police chief in Afghanistan’s southern province of Kandahar has ordered his forces to attack Pakistan-based Tehrik-i-Taliban insurgents inside Pakistan, adding fuel to rising tensions along the countries’ shared border.

Police Gen. Abdul Raziq issued

the order Friday, informing senior officials at the ministries of Interior and Foreign Affairs in Kabul of his plans, Kandahar police spokesman Ahmad Zia Durrani said Monday. The move will be a “kick in the teeth” to Taliban and other insurgent groups based in Pakistan looking to strike inside Afghanistan, Durrani added.

Government officials in Kabul did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Raziq’s move came as Islamabad and Kabul are set to discuss coordinated military actions against the terrorists’ hideouts along the porous, mountainous border between the two nations.

Last week, Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif threatened to send Pakistani troops into Afghan territory to kill or capture terrorist leaders responsible for the bloody attack Dec. 16 on a Pakistani military school. The massacre at the Army Public School and College in Peshawar, in which 149 people perished, was the deadliest terrorist attack in the country’s history.

Pakistan claims to have cap-

tured several suspects tied to the Peshawar attack, but has not provided details on the number of arrests made nor the identities of those taken into custody.

Durrani said Afghan border policemen were “continuously complaining of attacks” on their outposts from inside Pakistan. Tents used by the insurgents to mount their assaults were clearly visible inside Pakistani territory just 500 meters from the border, he added.

During a tour of the region last week, Raziq ordered Afghan troops to attack the camps and directed them to respond if other targets on the Pakistani side of the border present themselves, Durrani said.

“We destroyed all those tents with heavy machine-gun fire,” the spokesman said, but made clear that at no time did Afghan forces set foot on Pakistani soil.

It is not the first time the controversial Kandahar police commander has called for direct strikes against Taliban bases inside Pakistan. Since taking control of the restive province

in southern Afghanistan, Raziq has faced multiple accusations of leading unsanctioned cross-border raids into Pakistan.

His willingness to pursue insurgents on both sides of the border made Raziq a favorite among U.S. and NATO commanders. But critics claim that coalition forces also turned a blind eye to allegations of corruption and human-rights abuses in the region as a result of the campaign.

Islamabad reportedly intercepted communications from Tehrik-i-Taliban chief Umar Naray from across the border in Afghanistan showing that he coordinated the school attack.

In an emergency visit to Kabul last week, Pakistani Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raheel Sharif requested Kabul’s support in joint operations to capture Mullah Fazlullah, head of the Pakistani Taliban, who is also reported to be hiding in northeastern Afghanistan.

Zubair Babarkhail contributed to this report.
munoz.carlog@stripes.com

Correction

A story in Dec. 19 editions on a financial dispute between a government contractor and subcontractor incorrectly conveyed a court decision regarding Liberty Global Logistics’ release of 66 vehicles held as a lien against International Auto Logistics. The judge’s order reflected an agreement the two companies had reached beforehand.



Stay connected to
your military community,
no matter how far you are from home.

News, information and more — 24/7

stripes.com STARS AND STRIPES

LEXUS SPECIAL DELIVERY!



WISHING YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS WHEREVER YOU ARE!

The entire PCS Team would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. At this very special time of year, we thank US service members and their families everywhere for the daily sacrifices they make in protecting our freedom and way of life. We send our warmest greetings to those military members whose dedication and commitment will keep them from their loved ones this Christmas and we pray for their safe and speedy return to family and friends.

To enable all our team members to spend Christmas with their families, all PCS showrooms will be closed as shown below.

**LAST SHOWROOM OPENING DAY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20TH**

**NEXT SHOWROOM OPENING DAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH**



**We Service
What We Sell!**



Exclusive Lexus Military Sales Partner

Germany

Ramstein

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

Wiesbaden

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

Spangdahlem

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

www.pentagoncarsales.com • sales@pentagoncarsales.com

EUROPE

Army arts and crafts center to relocate

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
AND MARCUS KLOECKNER
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — As it turned out, the decision to locate an arts and crafts center at a tiny Army post on the edge of town didn't work out.

Less than two years after the Kaiserslautern Arts and Cultural Center opened its doors on the Daerner Kaserne post, Army officials have decided to close the facility at the end of January, citing lack of customers and loss of revenue. The facility will be consolidated with the arts and crafts center at Baumholder, where a more robust store will reopen sometime this spring, officials said.

It was "a business-based decision," said Steven Pelletier, U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation director, on Friday. "It isn't sustaining itself in that location."

In fiscal 2014, the Baumholder center earned about \$3,000, while the one at Kaiserslautern lost about \$44,000, said Jonathan Riley, a spokesman for U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz.

The facility at Baumholder is larger than the one at Daerner, Pelletier said, and has space for amenities such as a wood shop and classrooms that the Kaiserslautern one lacked.

The center at Daerner opened in March 2013, replacing the one in Heidelberg, which closed as U.S. Army Europe moved its headquarters to Wiesbaden.

Employees at the time worried that the isolated location at Daerner on the eastern outskirts of Kaiserslautern might make it difficult to attract customers and hoped the center might at some point relocate.

Pelletier said that was the plan, but officials could not find a suitable location in Kaiserslautern.

"We considered every facility that was available to us," he said.

"Instead of keeping the facility open in a location where people



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

Patrons check out the goods at the Kaiserslautern Arts and Cultural Center on Daerner Kaserne in Kaiserslautern, Germany, during the center's grand opening in March 2013.

‘Instead of keeping the facility open in a location where people weren't using it, we are going to consolidate it.’

Steven Pelletier

U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz

weren't using it, we are going to consolidate it."

Many of the regular customers of the Kaiserslautern facility were quilters because the center carried an array of fabrics cheaper than on the local economy. Several quilters said they were disappointed to hear of the pending closure.

"It's very, very frustrating to hear that they're doing this," said Peggy Fierst, a member of the Rheinland-Pfalz Quilt Guild. "They did a disservice in the beginning by putting it in the [Kaiserslautern Community Activities Center]. Nobody could find the KCAC."

The Kaiserslautern center recently came under new management, and there were plans

to expand, with yarn now on the shelves and ideas being tossed around for future classes — once the center moved to a bigger location in Kaiserslautern — from soap-making to painting wine glasses, staff members said.

Pelletier said rather than location, the wide availability of crafts materials was more likely to blame.

"Most arts and crafts folks shop on the Internet or the (local) economy. This community currently has three arts and crafts centers," he said, referring to Baumholder, Daerner and the Air Force-run center at Ramstein Air Base. "The market is a little bit saturated."

svan.jennifer@stripes.com

US Navy helo crashes in Kuwait; injuries minor

MANAMA, Bahrain — All six personnel aboard a Navy helicopter survived after it crashed while conducting a training exercise at

Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sunday.

U.S. Navy officials said the MH-60R rolled over after a hard landing at a site during a medical evacuation exercise. Three of the crewmembers were treated for minor injuries at a nearby medi-

cal facility.

The helicopter belonged to the Norfolk, Va., based Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26, which has a detachment forward deployed to Bahrain.

From staff reports

Limited availability

Free Kaiserslautern Wi-Fi service arrives — with time caps, hassles

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
AND MARCUS KLOECKNER
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — It's possible to access the Internet from a personal tablet or smartphone and drink a cappuccino while downtown, now that Kaiserslautern has about two dozen public Wi-Fi areas.

But don't expect the free surfing session to outlast that cup of joe. The service, in fact, may be more hassle than it's worth, with time caps, multistep log-in requirements and spotty coverage.

Daily use of city Wi-Fi tops off at 30 minutes and 300 megabytes of data, according to the KL Wireless website. Users wanting more time can log on to another wireless network for an additional 30 minutes. After that, it's possible to pay for unlimited access — about \$2.45 per day and up to \$12.25 per month, said Guido Hartmann, general manager of K-Wnet, one of several companies working with the city on the project.

With the launch of the hot spots this fall, Kaiserslautern has joined a growing list of German cities to offer free, public Wi-Fi. But as is the case in Kaiserslautern, access in many cities is limited: A small number of hot spots results in gaps of Wi-Fi coverage in some places, or surfing time is capped.

Berlin set up free Wi-Fi in 2012 and now has hundreds of hot spots — but free daily usage is also limited to 30 minutes.

Kaiserslautern has about 25 hot spots, with the majority set up in the pedestrian zone, including Stiftsplatz and Schillerplatz, Hartmann said.

Though many smartphone users already pay for free Internet roaming through individual service plans, Hartmann said many plans have data limitations.

"This is still good for anybody who wanted to use the Internet but does not want to spend their own data volume," he said.

To access the Internet, mobile users first must register with identifying information, a requirement that stems from a cumbersome German copyright law that holds Wi-Fi providers responsible for how other people use their online networks, Hartmann

said. After signing on to the "KL-Wireless" network, users must enter their cellphone number on an online form and wait to receive a text message with a temporary username and a password.

The connection terminates at 30 minutes. To log on for an additional 30 minutes, users can switch over to Westpfalz wireless and go through the same log-in steps.

The Wi-Fi zones are visible by the pink "Hotspots" signs and phone boxes set up around the pedestrian area. But the wireless technology doesn't work inside every downtown business. The maximum range of the signal is about 260 to 330 feet. Businesses farther away from the hot spots might have problems receiving the signal, Hartmann said.

City officials said the Wi-Fi project is intended to strengthen the reputation of Kaiserslautern as a technology center and move the region forward while serving its citizens and guests, according to a city press release.

Free public Wi-Fi was recently extended to Pirmasens and is expected to soon reach other cities in the Westpfalz region, such as Enkenbach-Alsenborn, Ramstein-Miesenbach and Kusel.

Surfing the web isn't the only thing people can do with their mobile digital devices in Kaiserslautern.

Since August, motorists are able to pay parking tickets on the spot with their smartphones through PayPal, city officials say.

Drivers scan a parking ticket's "QR-code" with an app on their smartphone and enter the relevant information on the website that comes up. From the website, users can pay the ticket from their PayPal account.

The city will test the project — unique in Germany — for one year, according to Kaiserslautern's mayor.

In September, the city of Kaiserslautern also launched its redesigned website, billed as being more user friendly. The site — kaiserslautern.de — can be viewed in German or English and includes a city map, tourist information and a calendar of events, among other features.

svan.jennifer@stripes.com
kloeckner.marcus@stripes.com

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us, wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
LETTERS@STRIPES.COM

EUROPE

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@stripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

ROWELL ROWELL
rowell.vian@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@stripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

ROBERT REISMANN
reismann.robert@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150 DSN 314.583.9150

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING

YUKO SAITO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

CIRCULATION

MARI MATSUMOTO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3171 DSN 315.229.3171

MILITARY

WWII B-24 gunner's kin sues over ID, remains

One body from plane shot down in 1944 still unidentified

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Another family has filed suit against the Defense Department POW/MIA accounting agencies seeking the identification and return of remains.

Sally Hill Jones — niece and next of kin of a missing World War II Army Air Forces B-24 gunner — filed suit without the assistance of an attorney on Dec. 4 in a Texas district court, according to documents. Jones seeks to join John Eakin in suing the government over remains she believes could belong to her uncle, Staff Sgt. Carl Holley.

Holley was one of 10 reportedly killed on April 18, 1944, when the B-24 bomber "Sweepy-Time" Gal was shot down by Japanese Zeroes off the coast of Hong Kong. Four bodies were recovered after the crash, and three allegedly have been identified, according to Jones, former Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command investigators and accounting documents.

The unidentified remains were buried at Hawaii's National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, called the Punchbowl, until 2005, when they were exhumed by JPAC.

The Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory and JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory have tried to use DNA testing to identify the remains but have been unable to do so, according to internal emails and documents.

In 2012, after years of JPAC denials, Eakin sued for the remains of his cousin, Pvt. Arthur "Bud" Kelder, who, evidence suggested, was buried as an unknown in the Philippines. As a result, the



Photos courtesy of Sally Hill Jones

The crew of "Sweepy-Time" Gal, including gunner Staff Sgt. Carl Holley, kneeling at far right, assembles in front of their plane, a B-24 bomber shot down by Japanese Zeroes off the coast of Hong Kong on April 18, 1944.

Defense Department exhumed 10 sets of remains in August and is actively working to make identifications.

Jones said she had been pursuing the case since 2001, but couldn't get answers until she filed her lawsuit. The accounting community finally responded to her, but she was not satisfied.

The government has until Jan. 16 to respond to her suit, according to U.S. Attorney's Office spokesman Daryl Fields.

"I don't have faith in JPAC to make the ID, given their track record," Jones said.

She hoped that by suing, she could open the door for other families.

"I'd like to see an attorney take this on as a class action," she said. "There are a lot of older folks whose siblings died in World War II, and they don't know what hap-



The disinterment of X-345 at Hawaii's Punchbowl cemetery takes place in 2005.

pened to them. But they could know. It's heart-breaking."

Lt. Col. Melinda Morgan, of the

Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, declined to comment in an email to Stars and Stripes, citing

the ongoing litigation.

However, Jones provided documents and emails to Stars and Stripes that show the JPAC-CIL and AFIDIL are using an untested, next-generation mitochondrial DNA approach with the remains. They believe they have a result, but the procedure hasn't been validated yet.

Jones has been told the validation and an identification could come early next year.

Mark Leney, JPAC's former DNA manager, who is now at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, had undertaken the case before he left JPAC in 2006. He said the remains appeared to have been treated with a chemical — possibly formaldehyde — that made the identification difficult at the time. However, he believed that issue had been resolved in recent years by technological advancements.

"That was eight years ago," he said. "It doesn't seem like they've gone very far."

Leney said mitochondrial DNA testing is "not a very strong method" in making identifications.

Jones started her quest for an ID more than a decade ago. Her mother has since died.

Louis Mroz, younger brother of 2nd Lt. John Mroz, who also died in the plane crash and is one of the seven missing, had been leading efforts to compel the government to make an identification but is now 86 and in poor health. He said he has been turned away by JPAC several times when seeking answers.

"I'd like to see some new sources of information," he said.

Jones hopes her suit can spur identifications before the memories fade — like Mroz's recollection of his brother building him a P-40 Warhawk model airplane just before he shipped out.

"He was quite a guy," Mroz said of his brother. "He always had time to help me. ... I'm 86 years old, but the memories are still fresh in my mind."

burke.matt@stripes.com

Want to buy a real military Humvee? They're now at Utah's Hill AFB

By MITCH SHAW

(Ogden, Utah) Standard-Examiner

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — If you're that rare individual who's in the market for a military Humvee, you might be able to find one for sale at Hill Air Force Base.

Last Wednesday, a company called GovPlanet — an Internet-based marketplace for buying and selling used government assets — held an online auction that allowed customers to view and bid on High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles, more commonly known as Humvees.

According to a report from the Army Times, the auction in-

cluded 25 Humvees built between 1987 and the mid-1990s that are currently being stored at Hill.

Approximately 4,000 of the troop-transporting vehicles will be sold to the public as part of a Defense Logistics Agency plan to turn retired military vehicles into assets — rather than just scrap them as has been the past procedure. Bids for the Humvees start at \$10,000.

Humvees are produced by a company called AM General, an American heavy vehicle manufacturer based in South Bend, Ind. The vehicles differ from the civilian "Hummer" that the company also manufactures, and until now, they have never been

sold to the public.

GovPlanet says the Humvees featured on its website are not street-legal and only include cargo and troop carriers with model numbers M998, M998A1, M1038 and M1038A1. All are "soft sided," or unarmored vehicles for off-road use only.

According to a news release posted on the website of GovPlanet's parent company, IronPlanet, the company was awarded a DLA contract to manage and sell Department of Defense surplus assets in July. The contract has a base term of two years, with four one-year renewal options.

The company estimates it will get its hands on \$50 million to \$70

million worth of military surplus each year. The contract requires they give 75.29 percent of sales revenue to the DLA.

In another release posted to the company's website, Randy Berry, senior vice president of operations and services for IronPlanet, said additional auctions in which customers can bid on Humvees and a host of other military vehicles and equipment will be held throughout 2015.

GovPlanet's next auction is set for Jan. 7, and several military vehicles located at Hill are currently for sale. Winning bidders are responsible for picking up the vehicles.

In addition to Humvees,

military surplus items sold by GovPlanet include trucks, trailers, generators, wheel loaders, cranes, crawler tractors and other equipment.

YES

Click today...cash today™
www.militaryloans.com



"We love to say yes!"

WAR ON TERRORISM

Kurdish battle vs. militants in Sinjar becomes 'fierce'

By DALTON BENNETT
The Associated Press

MOUNT SINJAR, Iraq — Kurdish fighters in Iraq pushed deeper Monday into the town of Sinjar, held by the Islamic State group, but are facing stiff resistance from the Sunni militants who captured it in August.

One of the fighters, Bakhl Elias, said clashes since late last night have been "fierce" and that Islamic State militants are using snipers. At least two Kurdish peshmerga fighters have been killed by snipers, and 25 were wounded in the latest fighting.

Large plumes of black smoke are billowing into the sky from inside the town.

The Kurdish forces say the militants are burning tires and oil to create a smoke screen of thick, dark clouds to obstruct airstrikes against their positions by the U.S.-led coalition.

Last week, the Kurdish peshmerga fighters launched the operation to retake Sinjar and were able to reach thousands of Yazidi who were trapped on Mount Sinjar.

Peshmerga fighters opened up a corridor to the mountain and are regularly bringing truckloads of aid and food to the area.

In neighboring Syria, Kurdish fighters pushed into an Islamic State-held neighborhood in the northern town of Kobani, capturing a cultural center that they had besieged on Saturday.

"The center is very important morally and militarily," said Kobani-based activist Mustafa Bali, referring to the site, which is located on a hill that overlooks several neighborhoods east and southeast of the town.

"This will change the military rhythm in the coming days," Bali said, adding that the aim of Kurdish fighters in Syria is to evict Islamic State militants from Kobani and nearby villages.

Kurdish fighters have been slowly advancing in Kobani over the past weeks, backed by Iraqi peshmerga fighters who came to

help and by airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition.

The Islamic State group began its Kobani offensive in mid-September, capturing parts of the town as well as dozens of nearby villages. Hundreds of fighters on both sides have been killed since.

Idris Nassen, a Kobani local official, said that over the past few days, the Syrian Kurdish force known as the People's Protection Units, or YPG, "has taken the initiative" and advanced in Islamic State-held neighborhoods.

Nassen said peshmerga fighters usually bombard Islamic State positions in the town, while YPG fighters carry out the ground attack with the help of airstrikes that target militant positions.

The Kurdish forces say the militants are burning tires and oil to create a smoke screen of thick, dark clouds to obstruct airstrikes by the U.S.-led coalition.



ANJUM NAVEED/AP

Pakistani civil society members take part in a candlelight vigil in Islamabad for the victims of a school massacre by the Taliban in Peshawar last week.

In response to school massacre, Pakistan plans to hang 500 convicted of terrorism

By ZIA KHAN
dpa

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan on Monday announced a plan to hang 500 convicted terrorists as police arrested suspects believed to have abetted Taliban gunmen who killed 135 children at a school last week.

The executions were expected to take place in three weeks' time, said Musadik Malik, spokesman for Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

"There will be no mercy for those who have killed our children, citizens and soldiers," the spokesman quoted Sharif as saying in the capital, Islamabad.

Sharif's government lifted a six-year moratorium on executions after Taliban gunmen stormed an army-run school in the northwestern city of Peshawar last Tuesday, killing 148 people — including 135 students.

All the assailants were killed by army commandos.

Six militants convicted of attacks on the army headquarters and on former military ruler Pervez Musharraf have since been hanged in the central province of Punjab, according to provincial

Home Minister Shuja Khanzada.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said on Sunday that police had arrested suspects behind the attack — the deadliest ever in Pakistan — warning that militants might be planning more "savagery" activities.

"A few suspects who were facilitators in one way or another have been taken into custody," Khan told media in Islamabad.

The minister did not disclose the identity of those arrested or confirm their exact number, saying only that they were being interrogated by police and other security agencies.

Another Interior Ministry official told dpa that the arrests were made in and around Peshawar and that six suspects, including a woman, were picked up from a remote town in the central province of Punjab.

Taliban spokesman Muham-

mad Khorassani said the attack was to avenge a military offensive launched in June to regain control of the country's tribal regions from Islamist militants linked to al-Qaida.

Police commandos killed at least two militants believed to be behind the attack in clashes in Peshawar city and its suburbs on Saturday, a military statement said.

The Taliban on Saturday threatened to carry out jailbreaks if the government did not stop the executions of their fighters.

Authorities deployed troops to guard prisons where detained militants were being kept and tightened security at airports, railway stations and in all major cities.

All schools, colleges and universities were closed for winter vacation one week earlier than scheduled.



DALTON BENNETT/AP

Yazidi fighters gather on the summit of Mount Sinjar, Iraq, as they head to battle Islamic State militants on Sunday.

“There will be no mercy for those who have killed our children, citizens and soldiers.”

Musadik Malik

spokesman for Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif

NATION



SETH WENIG/AP

Police officers pay their respects Monday at a makeshift memorial near the site where New York City police officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu were murdered on Sunday.

Vigilant: Officers directed to call extra backup, avoid confrontations

FROM FRONT PAGE

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio says protests and political debate over police tactics should be halted until the funerals are held for the two officers.

De Blasio said Monday in a speech that it was time to support the families of the officers and show them respect. He said Saturday's ambush killing was an attack on "all police."

After the officers' killings, a union-generated message to the 35,000-officer NYPD warned officers that they should respond to every radio call with two cars — "no matter what the opinion of the patrol supervisor" — and not make arrests "unless absolutely necessary."

The president of the detectives' union told members in a letter to work in threes when out on the street, wear bulletproof vests and keep aware of their surroundings. Another directive warned officers in Newark, N.J., not to patrol alone and to avoid people looking for confrontations. At the same time, a memo from an NYPD chief asked officers to limit their comments "via all venues, including social media, to expressions of sorrow and condolence."

In Philadelphia, Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey urged the leaders of protests over the deaths of Garner and Brown to "call for calm and not let this escalate any further." In Boston, Police Commissioner William Evans said police issued an alert warning officers about the New York City slayings and added that the department had issued sever-

al alerts following the Ferguson grand jury's decision.

Hours before shooting the officers, Brinsley had shot and wounded his ex-girlfriend, Shaneka Thompson, at her home in suburban Baltimore (see sidebar).

After leaving Baltimore, authorities said, Brinsley took a bus north to New York City and used Thompson's phone to write on Instagram: "They take 1 of ours, let's take 2 of theirs." He ended the post with references to the Brown and Garner cases.

Once in New York and shortly before he opened fire on the officers, Brinsley walked up to people on the street and asked them to get him on Instagram, then de Blasio Saturday as he walked through the hospital where Liu and Ramos had been taken.

The shootings also deepened acrimony between rank-and-file police and de Blasio. Their union president recently suggested officers sign a petition telling the mayor not to attend their funerals if they died on duty, and some officers turned their backs on de Blasio Saturday as he walked through the hospital where Liu and Ramos had been taken.

Police Commissioner William Bratton said Monday on NBC's "Today" show that he didn't consider that gesture appropriate, "but it's reflective of the anger of some" police officers. The mayor has lost some officers' confidence, Bratton said, but he suggested that recent pension changes and ongoing contract negotiations also had contributed to the uneasy atmosphere.

De Blasio and Bratton met with relatives of Ramos and Liu on Monday.

Ramos' 13-year-old son, Jaden, said in a Facebook post that Saturday was the worst day of his life. "Today I had to say bye to my father," Jaden wrote. "He was the best father I could ask for. It's horrible that someone gets shot dead just for being a police officer. Everyone says they hate cops but they are the people that they call for help."

Killer had long criminal history

By TOM HAYS
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The gunman who fatally ambushed two police officers in their squad car had a long criminal record, a hatred for police and the government, and an apparent history of mental instability that included an attempt to hang himself a year ago, authorities said.

Moments before opening fire, Ismaaiyl Brinsley approached people on the street in Brooklyn and asked them to follow him on Instagram, then told them, "Watch what I'm going to do," Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce said.

A portrait of the Brooklyn-born gunman emerged as big-city police departments and union leaders around the U.S. warned officers to change their routines and insist on extra backup a day after Brinsley carried out what he portrayed online as retaliation for the slayings of black men at the hands of white police officers.

Brinsley was black; the slain officers were ethnically Asian and Hispanic.



Brinsley

The slayings came at a tense time. Police across have been criticized for months for their tactics, following Eric Garner's death in a New York officer's chokehold and Michael Brown's fatal shooting in Ferguson, Missouri. Protests erupted in recent weeks after grand juries declined to charge the white officers involved.

Investigators were trying to determine if Brinsley had taken part in any protests over the deaths of Brown and Garner, whose names he invoked in his online threat, or simply latched on to the cause for the final act in a violent rampage.

They said he traveled frequently between the South and New York, where he fathered a child in Brooklyn, and had been in the city earlier in the week.

Brinsley, 28, had at least 19 arrests in Georgia and Ohio, spent two years in prison for gun possession and had a troubled childhood so violent that his mother was afraid of him, police said. He ranted online about police and the government and expressed "self-despair and anger at himself and where his life was," Boyce said.

Boyce said Brinsley's mother believed he had undiagnosed mental problems and may have been on medication at some point, but detectives were still trying to determine if he had a mental illness.

Neighbor talks about shooting before slaying of NYPD officers

By JULIE LINDERMAN
The Associated Press

TOWSON, Md. — The ex-girlfriend of the man who ambushed two NYPD officers screamed for help after she was shot, banged on a neighbor's door and said: "I can't die like this, please please help me," according to the neighbor who said she saw the woman and called for help.

Yvette Seay told The Associated Press on Sunday that her neighbor, 29-year-old Shaneka Thompson, banged on her apartment door in Owings Mills, Md., for help after being shot. Seay said she talked to Thompson through her closed front door and she could see the bloodied woman through the peep hole.

Seay said Thompson wanted her to open her door, but she didn't know what was going on, so she kept it closed and called 911. She said there was blood all over the carpet in the hallway.

"I told her to hang in there. I was afraid to ask her too many questions because she was hysterical," Seay said.

Police said Thompson's ex-boyfriend, Ismaaiyl Brinsley, shot her in the stomach around 5:45 a.m. Saturday and then fled to New York, where he gunned down two officers in a squad car.

Thompson was in critical condition at a University of Maryland Medical Center and is expected to survive.

Seay said Thompson moved in a few months ago. Seay said she had heard her neighbors fight before, but the screaming got her out of bed Saturday morning.

STARS AND STRIPES

Send Your Wish List to Santa

(and he will send you a note back)

— Address your letter to: **Santa Claus at the North Pole**
(drop in any APO/EPO mailbox)

See selected letters online:
stripesrewards.com/letterstosanta

NATION



JOHN LOCHER/AP

Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval speaks at an event to announce the Federal Aviation Administration's first issuance of an unmanned aerial systems test site special airworthiness certificate Friday near Boulder City, Nev. Beside him is the Sensorion Aerospace Magpie commercial drone.

Emails: FAA drone approvals bedeviled by warnings, conflict

By CRAIG WHITLOCK
The Washington Post

The Federal Aviation Administration proclaimed a new era in aviation in September when it granted permission to six Hollywood filmmakers to fly drones on movie sets, a decision that opened the door to commercial drone flights in the United States.

"These companies are blazing a trail," Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx said at the time. "We are thoroughly satisfied these operations will not pose a hazard to other aircraft or to people and property on the ground," added Michael Huerta, the chief of the FAA.

What the FAA did not reveal, however, was that senior officials had overruled objections from some of its safety inspectors, who had warned after a formal review that the filmmakers' plans were too risky and should be prohibited, according to documents and emails obtained by The Washington Post.

The warning turned out to be prescient. On Wednesday, a camera-toting drone operated by one of the filmmakers, Pictovision Inc., flew off a set in California and disappeared, according to an FAA report. Tom Hallman, the president of Pictovision, said crew members found the 20-

pound drone the next day in "rugged terrain" on a private ranch about 100 yards from where they had been filming near Santa Clarita. He said no one was injured.

Since giving the go-ahead to Hollywood cinematographers three months ago, the FAA has been swamped with requests to fly drones from other companies. As of Friday, 167 applications from an array of industries were pending, and the government is bracing for hundreds more next year.

Several FAA employees, speaking on condition of anonymity for fear of retaliation or losing their jobs, said supervisors are pressuring analysts to rubber-stamp the applications without a rigorous safety review.

"There's huge political pressure to do quick approvals," said one former FAA flight safety official. "Congress made very clear that they want, and safety is not at the forefront because of pressure from the industry."

Safety inspectors said they were being marginalized in other ways. Last month, the FAA hired a lobbyist for the Hollywood filmmakers and other companies that want to fly drones. His task? Guess ways to speed up the approval process.

"How is this not a conflict of interest?" Lance Nuckolls, an FAA

safety inspector, complained in an email to colleagues. "I'm now officially numb with total dismay and disgust with our leadership."

After The Post raised questions about the arrangement, the FAA acknowledged that it had been a conflict of interest and said it ended the contract on Thursday.

The FAA's caseload is cresting at a critical time and is aggravating disagreements within the agency over how to open the nation's skies to drones. Cheap, easy-to-fly drones equipped with video cameras have become hugely popular with consumers and hobbyists. But in the absence of clear safety standards and effective oversight, the robotic aircraft are interfering with air traffic and threatening passenger planes.

Since June 1, pilots have reported 25 near-collisions with rogue drones and about 150 other incidents in which drones were spotted in forbidden airspace. Although most weighed only a few pounds, aviation experts said they could have caused midair disasters if they had struck a plane or helicopters in vulnerable spots.

Drones also can hurt bystanders on the ground. According to an FAA document, four people have been killed in recent years around the world after remote-controlled aircraft crashed into them.

Ga. prosecutor tapped for deputy AG

By ERIC TUCKER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is preparing to nominate the top federal prosecutor in Atlanta to the No. 2 position at the Justice Department, according to two people familiar with the move.

They said Sally Quillian Yates is Obama's pick for deputy attorney

general. If confirmed by the Senate, she'll oversee day-to-day operations.

The individuals, not authorized to discuss the decision by name before it's formally announced, requested anonymity.

Yates is currently the U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Georgia. Another U.S. attorney, Loretta Lynch, has been nominat-

ed for attorney general and faces confirmation hearings early next year.

Yates has been U.S. attorney since 2010. She was previously a prosecutor in that office and prosecuted Eric Rudolph in the 1996 Summer Olympics bombing in Atlanta. She's also served as vice chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee.

Ex-officer not charged in fatal Wis. shooting

By TODD RICHMOND
The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — A white former Milwaukee police officer who fatally shot a black man in a downtown park in April won't face criminal charges, the county's top prosecutor said Monday.

District Attorney John Chisholm said in an emailed news release that Christopher Manney won't be charged because he shot Dontre Hamilton in self-defense.

"This was a tragic incident for the Hamilton family and for the community," Chisholm said in a statement. "But, based on all the evidence and analysis presented in this report, I come to the conclusion that Officer Manney's use of force in this incident was justified self-defense and that defense cannot be reasonably overcome to establish a basis to charge Officer Manney with a crime."

Hamilton's death predated those of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo., and Eric Garner in New York City, but the case hasn't attracted as much attention despite frequent, mostly peaceful protests. Hamilton's family has used the protests to try to raise awareness about mental illness. Others said his death underlined race concerns, chanting "people

of color are people, too," and carrying signs that read "black lives matter."

Manney is at least the third white police officer in the U.S. this year to not be charged after a confrontation that led to a black man's death.

Manney shot Hamilton, 31, on April 30 after responding to a call for a welfare check on a man sleeping in the park. Manney said Hamilton resisted when he tried to frisk him. The two exchanged punches before Hamilton got a hold of Manney's baton and hit him on the neck with it, the former officer has said. Manney then fired, hitting Hamilton 14 times.

Hamilton's family said he suffered from schizophrenia and recently had stopped taking his medication.

Police Chief Edward Flynn fired Manney in October, saying Manney instigated the fight with an inappropriate push-down. The chief said Manney correctly identified Hamilton as mentally ill but ignored his training and department policy, and treated him as a criminal.

"You don't go hands-on and start frisking somebody only because they appear to be mentally ill," Flynn said when he announced Manney had been dismissed.

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

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

The latest Tablet Edition offers:

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

All for the same great low price!

Learn more by visiting stripes.com/ipad



STARS AND STRIPES
TABLET EDITION v2.0

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

NATION

Ariz. sheriff aims to halt immigration order



AP photos

Lawyer Larry Klayman, left, and his client, Maricopa County, Ariz., Sheriff Joe Arpaio, right, want U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell, center, to rule that President Barack Obama violated the Constitution by not seeking approval from Congress before enacting recent changes in U.S. immigration policy.

By SAM HANANEL
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A U.S. judge on Monday appeared deeply skeptical of the lawsuit of a sheriff in Arizona seeking to halt President Barack Obama's plan to spare nearly 5 million people from deportation.

District Judge Beryl Howell questioned whether Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio had legal standing to challenge the immigration program announced last month. She suggested the topic is better left for Congress and the Obama administration to sort out.

In the first courtroom battle over Obama's plan, Arpaio's lawyer, Larry Klayman, said the president violated the U.S. Constitution by doing an end-run around Congress. He argued that the program would let more illegal immigrants enter the country and commit crimes, burdening law enforcement.

"It's not policy, he's creating law and he cannot do that under

the U.S. Constitution," Klayman said of Obama.

But Justice Department lawyer Kathleen Hartnett said Arpaio's lawsuit seemed to be raising a "political dispute" rather than a legal claim the court could address. The Obama administration has called the case "speculative and unsubstantiated" and has urged the court to dismiss it.

Howell at times seemed exasperated with Klayman, a long-time conservative activist who has filed hundreds of lawsuits against the federal government, including challenges to Obama's U.S. citizenship. When Klayman said his client has been threatened because of his tough views on Obama's immigration policy, Howell responded: "That just doesn't cut it for me."

Howell also said it did not appear that Arpaio could show a "concrete" injury he has suffered from the new policy, especially since it will take months before the bulk of it actually goes into effect.

"If Congress doesn't like it,

doesn't Congress have the power to step in?" she asked.

Howell said she would issue a ruling in the case soon.

Arpaio has often clashed with the federal government over the enforcement of immigration laws and he has filed suit to stop new policies announced by Obama. He claims that more than 35 percent of immigrants living in Maricopa County illegally who wound up in Arpaio's jails in 2014 were repeat offenders, signifying in the sheriff's view that federal officials have done a poor job of deporting criminals.

Obama's plan marks the most sweeping change to the nation's immigration policies in nearly three decades and set off a fierce fight with Republicans. The changes include work permits and three-year deportation stays for more than 4 million immigrants here illegally. It mostly applies to those who've been in the country more than five years and have children who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents.

Migrants apply for driver's licenses in Arizona after judge nixes policy

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Young immigrants protected from deportation under an Obama administration policy have started to apply for Arizona driver's licenses now that a judge has barred the state from denying them driving privileges.

Monday marked the first day that about 20,000 immigrants in the country illegally who have received protection from deportation could apply for Arizona licenses.

Immigrants lined up outside Motor Vehicle Division offices.

In Tucson, Jose Alberto Aguilar waited behind about 50 people before the office opened. The 23-year-old civil engineer is a Mexican City native and was brought to the U.S. by his parents as a child. He is looking forward to buying a car and getting himself to work.

The Arizona Department of

Transportation said it's anticipating a rush of immigrant applicants in the weeks ahead at Motor Vehicle Division offices statewide. It comes after a judge barred enforcement of Gov. Jan Brewer's policy of denying licenses to the group. The governor is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review her appeal.

Monday was the first day the young immigrants could seek driver's licenses. They say the governor's policy made it difficult or impossible for them to get essential things done in their everyday lives, such as going to school, work or the store.

The move in Arizona to deny the licenses was a reaction to steps taken by the Obama administration in 2012 to shield thousands of immigrants from deportation. The president's policy applied to people younger than 30 who

came to the U.S. before turning 16; have been in the country for at least five continuous years; are enrolled in or have graduated from a high school or equivalent program; or have served in the military.

In the nation's most visible challenge to Obama's ferretdenial program, Brewer issued an executive order in August 2012 directing state agencies to deny driver's licenses and other public benefits to immigrants who get work authorization under the policy. Her attorneys have argued that the decision grew out of liability concerns and the desire to reduce the risk of the licenses being used to improperly access public benefits.

Despite her belief that issuing licenses is a state matter, Brewer's office confirmed she would comply with the court's orders.

Korea's No.1 Plastic Surgery Hospital

Grand Plastic Surgery

EYES & NOSE CORRECTION	FACIAL CORRECTION	BREAST CARE	BODY CONTOURING	ANTI AGING
------------------------	-------------------	-------------	-----------------	------------

Grand Plastic Surgery

is equipped with total of 21 floors

(6 basement level & 15 ground level floors) separated into different treatment centers to aid fast recovery and convenience of all customers.

- Consultation Room
- Main Lobby
- Dermatology Center
- Recovery Room
- Treatment Room
- Operating Room
- Reception

Enhance your looks, regain confidence

BEFORE AFTER SURGERY

BEFORE AFTER SURGERY

BEFORE AFTER SURGERY

BEFORE AFTER SURGERY

Grand's Specialized System For International Patients

- Specialty 01**
Coordinators specialized in 8 different languages
- Specialty 02**
5 star Hotel concierge system in place
- Specialty 03**
1:1 Personalized Service for Foreign Patients
- Specialty 04**
Personalized service for Koreans living abroad

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Phone (+82)70-7119-1580

E-Mail grand.ong@gmail.com

http://eng.grandsurgery.com

Open weekdays 10am - 7pm
Open Saturday 10am - 5pm
Closed on Sunday and 12th holidays

WORLD

China remains mum on Sony hacking case

The Associated Press

BEIJING — China told the U.S. that it is against cyberattacks and opposes any nation or individual launching such attacks from a third country, but did not directly condemn the Sony hackings that Washington has blamed on North Korea, China's foreign ministry said Monday.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi made the comments to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in a phone conversation Sunday night, but he did not blame North Korea for the hackings against Sony Pictures, the ministry said in a statement.

The United States has reached out to China, North Korea's key ally, for help as President Barack Obama weighs possible responses to the cyberattack. Although China holds considerable leverage over the North and its technological infrastructure, involving Beijing could pose complications because Obama has pointedly accused China of engaging in its own acts of cybertheft.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying warned Monday against suggesting that China was used as a platform for the attacks without sufficient evidence.

"I think to arrive at any conclusion, sufficient facts and evidence are needed," Hua said at a daily news briefing. "China will handle the case on the basis of facts, international laws and Chinese laws."

Hua reiterated Beijing's stance on cybercrime but also did not directly condemn the Sony hackings or mention North Korea.



A South Korean soldier walks near a TV showing an advertisement of Sony Picture's "The Interview" at the Seoul Railway on Monday.

N. Korea threatens strikes on US

By HUYUNG-JIN KIM
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — President Barack Obama is "recklessly" spreading rumors of a Pyongyang-orchestrated cyberattack of Sony Pictures, North Korea said, as it warned of strikes against the White House, Pentagon and "the whole U.S. mainland, that cesspool of terrorism."

Such rhetoric is routine from North Korea's massive propaganda machine during times of high tension with Washington. But a long statement from the powerful National Defense Commission late Sunday also underscores Pyongyang's sensitivity at a move whose plot focuses on the assassina-

tion of its leader, Kim Jong Un, who is the beneficiary of a decades-long cult of personality built around his family dynasty.

The U.S. blames North Korea for the cyberattack that escalated to threats of terror attacks against U.S. movie theaters and caused Sony to cancel "The Interview's" release.

Obama, who promised to respond "proportionately" to the attack, told CNN's "State of the Union" in an interview broadcast Sunday that Washington is reviewing whether or not to put North Korea back on its list of state sponsors of terrorism.

The National Defense Commission, led by Kim, warned that its

1.2 million-member army is ready to use all types of warfare against the U.S.

"Our toughest counteraction will be boldly taken against the White House, the Pentagon and the whole U.S. mainland, the cesspool of terrorism, by far surpassing the 'symmetric counteraction' declared by Obama," said the commission's Policy Department in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

North Korea has said it knows how to prove it had nothing to do with the hacking and proposed a joint investigation with the U.S.

North Korea and the U.S., which fought each other in the 1950-53 Korean War, remain technically

in a state of war because the conflict ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. The U.S. stations about 28,500 troops in South Korea to deter aggression from North Korea.

The rivals are locked in an international standoff over the North's nuclear and missile programs and its alleged human rights abuses. In the spring of last year, tension dramatically rose after North Korea issued a string of fiery threats to launch nuclear strikes against Washington and Seoul.

North has had long love affair with cinema

By KIM TONG-HYUNG
The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea hates the currently scrapped Hollywood film that revolves around the assassination of its beloved leader, but the country has had a long love affair with cinema — of its own particular styling.

In the six decades since North Korea began to cultivate its own film industry, a South Korean director and his movie star wife have had a long love affair with cinema — a of its own particular styling. In the six decades since North Korea began to cultivate its own film industry, a South Korean director and his movie star wife have had a long love affair with cinema — a of its own particular styling.



DVDs are displayed at a store in Pyongyang, North Korea.

movies to be the most important tool to educate the masses, according to archive material maintained by the South Korean government.

The country's relative isolation means North Korean filmmakers rarely get the opportunity to work with foreign artists. A notable exception was "Comrade Kim Goes

Flying," a romantic comedy from 2012 about a young female coal miner who dreams of becoming a trapeze artist. The movie was co-produced with Western partners.

The 1980s were a heyday for North Korean movies. The current leader's father, Kim Jong Il, was an ardent movie buff and ensured generous funding for filmmakers.

When Kim soured on the quality of films produced by his countrymen, he ordered the abduction of South Korean film director Shin Sang-ok and his then-wife, actress Choi Eun-hee, in 1978. Shin said after he escaped the North in 1986.

Shin shook the North Korean movie scene with his entertainment-focused works. They included 1984's "Love, Love, My Love," responsible for the first onscreen kiss in North Korean films.

North Korea has long shown American characters in its movies as villains, sometimes played by North Koreans in makeup, but also by actual Americans who defected to the North in the 1960s.



Before you go shopping for your dream house, get the best loan rates available for veterans from a veteran-owned and operated company that partners with veteran nonprofits and carefully selected lenders.

STARS & STRIPES
VA Loan Center
 Get Real Time Pricing on VA Loans
 visit stripes.com/valoans today!
 Powered by VA Loan Captain

WORLD

Experts expect surge in tourism in Cuba

By **Ben Fox**

The Associated Press

HAVANA — As the U.S. and Cuba begin to normalize relations for the first time in half a century, some Americans are already roaming the streets of Old Havana, attending dance exhibitions and talks on architecture as they take part in scripted cultural tours that can cost more than a decent used car back home.

The U.S. visitors are participants in the highly regulated "people-to-people" travel that President Barack Obama permitted in 2011 in one of his first moves toward detente with Cuba. The program aims to increase in-

teraction with ordinary Cubans without creating uncomfortable images of Americans lounging on beaches in a single-party state. The tours tend to attract people sympathetic to improving ties with President Raul Castro's government.

"It's preselected for people who already want there to be change," said Jonathan Anderson, 33, of Denver, on an eight-day excursion that cost \$6,000 per person. "People aren't coming here to see how evil Castro is. They are coming here to reinforce ties."

Travel experts said Sunday that the new opening to Cuba that Obama announced four days earlier goes far beyond the 2011 reform and could sharply in-

crease U.S. tourism in the coming years.

Among the changes, Obama directed the Treasury Department to expand the categories of travelers who can go to Cuba without requesting licenses from the department first. Soon to be covered by a standing, blanket travel permit are participants in educational activities, the category that covers most people-to-people travel.

Experts said eliminating the licensing requirement could greatly reduce the costs of organized tours by cutting paperwork. It also could, perhaps more importantly, allow huge numbers of Americans to legally travel on

their own to Cuba.

In the past, people-to-people travelers could go to Cuba only under a license obtained by a travel company in a time-consuming process followed by lengthy government verification that travelers weren't engaging in inappropriate leisure tourism.

"We can't go to the beach and drink mojitos all day," said Tony Pandola, who was leading Anderson's trip with Global Expeditions, of San Francisco. "That doesn't have any sort of objective as an educational or cultural exchange."

Now, according to travel experts awaiting regulations expected within weeks, it appears

tour companies will be able to head to Cuba and simply give the U.S. government their word that they're engaging in educational travel and not ordinary tourism. Some think the new "general license" travel permits would apply to individuals, allowing people to go on their own.

"As long as with integrity they can say they're going to engage with the Cuban people and learn about Cuba and talk about the United States, then they don't have to do anything other than say that's what they're doing," said John McAuliffe, executive director of the Fund for Reconciliation and Development, which has organized trips in the past.



DAN PELLE/AP

A woman cries Sunday during a church service to remember eight children who were killed in the Cairns suburb of Manoora, Australia.

Australian woman charged with killing 7 of her children, a niece

The Associated Press

CAIRNS, Australia — A judge on Monday rejected a plea by lawyers for an Australia woman charged with killing eight children to have the next hearing held in a mental health court.

Mersane Warria, charged under her full name of Raina Mersane Ina Thaiday, is facing eight counts of murder in the deaths of seven of her children and her niece, whose bodies were found inside her northern Australia home last week.

Police were called to the home in the Cairns suburb of Manoora on Friday morning after receiving a report of a woman with serious injuries. When they got to the house, they found the bodies, along with Warria, who was suffering from stab wounds to the chest.

Warria, 37, did not attend a brief hearing at Cairns Magistrates Court on Monday, as she is recovering from her injuries in a hospital.

Magistrate Alan Comans rejected a request from Warria's lawyer, Steve MacFarlane, to hold the case's next hearing in a mental health court. Criminal cases are sometimes referred to such courts if the defendant is believed to be mentally ill or has an intellectual disability. The court then decides what the defendant's mental state was when he or she committed the offense.

Outside court, MacFarlane said his client was expected to be examined by psychiatrists and that the case could still be heard in mental health court after that assessment was completed.

"I think she probably knows

what happened but doesn't realize it and it hasn't sunk in," he said. "I've spoken to her, and she's coping the best that she can at the moment."

The case has been adjourned until Jan. 30.

Police haven't said how the children died, but Queensland Police Detective Inspector Bruno Anscar said they're examining several knives in the home that may have been the weapon used to kill them. Suffocation was also a possible cause of death, he said.

Officials were still trying to determine exactly what happened inside the house and had collected more than 100 witness statements, he said. A coroner was conducting autopsies, but police would not be releasing the results as the case was now a matter for the courts, he said.

Russian minister says ruble to extend gains

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — A senior Russian minister said on Monday he's expecting the ruble to extend its recent gains and that the government is not planning to introduce currency controls on Russian companies.

The ruble has been the worst-performing currency this year, along with the Ukrainian hryvnia, having lost half of its value. Its collapse in the past weeks sparked a consumer boom as worried Russians flocked to shops to buy cars and durable goods before prices rose further.

The government "opposes" currency controls as a way to tackle the ruble crisis and sees "more harm in them" than potential advantages, Deputy Prime Minister Igor Shuvalov said in comments to Russian news agencies.

The ruble collapse has stirred rumors that Russia could introduce capital and currency controls to keep the rate high.

Shuvalov insisted that the government is seeking to stabilize the ruble rather than see it go back to pre-crisis levels.

Following moderate gains as the end of last week, the ruble was 5

percent higher in early afternoon trading on Monday at 56 against the U.S. dollar.

The Russian currency has been battered by low oil prices, now about \$60 per barrel, down from a June high of \$107, as well as the sanctions that the West imposed on Russia for its involvement in Ukraine and the annexation of Crimea.

Low oil prices account for as little as a quarter of the ruble decline, according to Alexei Kudrin, Russia's finance minister in 2000-2011. Kudrin told reporters on Monday that the sanctions could be contributing up to 40 percent of the collapse.

The Russian government has been revising the forecast for the national economy next year, expecting a recession if oil prices remain low.

Kudrin warned on Monday that Russia will enter a recession next year even if oil prices are as high as \$80.

"We are entering or have already entered a full-blown economic crisis, and we're going to feel it to the full next year," Kudrin said. "This is a serious challenge to the economy."



PAVEL GOLOVKIN/AP

A man walks past a shop window with a T-shirt on display reading, "I Believe in the Ruble," in downtown Moscow on Monday.

WORLD

Francis delivers scathing critique

By NICOLE WINFIELD
The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis issued a blistering critique Monday of the Vatican bureaucracy that serves him, denouncing how some people lust for power at all costs, live hypocritical double lives and suffer from a “spiritual Alzheimer’s” that has made them forget they’re supposed to be joyful men of God.

Francis’ Christmas greetings to the cardinals, bishops and priests who run the Holy See was no joyful exchange of holiday good wishes. Rather, it was a sobering catalogue of 15 sins of the curia that Francis said he hoped would be atoned for and cured in the New Year.

He had some zingers: How the “terrorism of gossip” can “kill the reputation of our colleagues and brothers in cold blood”; how cliques can “enslave their



ANDREAS SOLARO/AP

Pope Francis meets with cardinals and bishops of the Vatican Curia on the occasion of the exchange of Christmas greetings in Clementine Hall at the Vatican on Monday.

members and become a cancer that threatens the harmony of the body” and eventually kill it by “friendly fire”; about how some suffer from a “pathology of power” that makes them seek power at all costs, even if it means defaming or discrediting others publicly.

Francis, who is the first Latin American pope and never worked

in the Italian-dominated curia before he was elected, has not shied from complaining about the gossiping, careerism and bureaucratic power intrigues that afflict the Holy See. But as his reform agenda gathers steam, he seemed even more emboldened to highlight what ails the institution.

The cardinals were not amused. The speech was met with tepid

applause, and few were smiling as Francis listed one by one the 15 “Ailments of the Curia” that he had drawn up, complete with footnotes and Biblical references.

At the end of the speech, he asked the prelates to pray that the “wounds of the sins that each one of us carries are healed” and that the church and curia itself are made healthy.

Airport security in Frankfurt criticized

BERLIN — The German government said a European Union inspection found security shortcomings at Frankfurt airport, the country’s busiest, and that measures have been taken to address them.

Interior Ministry spokesman Johannes Dirmoth said Monday that the routine inspection took place in early November and found “significant shortcomings.”

He said extra training is now being given to security assistants and additional checks are being carried out.

Dirmoth didn’t give details of the EU commission’s confidential interim report. The Bild am Sonntag newspaper reported, without citing sources, that inspectors had been able to get weapons or dangerous substances through security checks on one in two attempts.

Chinese military plane crashes; at least 2 dead

BEIJING — A Chinese military plane crashed in the country’s northwest on Monday, and a news website said at least two people were killed.

The plane crashed at about 3 p.m. near the city of Weinan, 600 miles west of Beijing, in Shaanxi province, according to the local fire department and the website Huashang He.

Photos on the website showed smoking wreckage, including a tail bearing the markings of the People’s Liberation Army, strewn across a farm field. It said wreckage was spread across an area of 1,500 feet long.

Spain’s \$3B holiday lottery world’s biggest

MADRID — The drawing is underway in Spain for the world’s biggest lottery payoff, a \$3 billion pot of cash that will be divided among thousands of ticketholders.

The top prize for this year’s “El Gordo” (The Fat One) drawing are tickets that will win \$490,000. Many more people who bought \$24 tickets will take home smaller amounts. Unlike lotteries that offer one large jackpot, Spain’s Christmas season lottery distributes winnings to thousands.

It’s the world’s richest lottery. Spaniards are glued to television as awards are announced on a program that often lasts four hours.

China sends 700 troops on South Sudan mission

BEIJING — China will send 700 troops to South Sudan as part of the country’s first infantry battalion to participate in a United Nations peacekeeping mission, state media reported Monday.

The official Xinhua News Agency said 180 of the troops will fly to South Sudan next month, followed by the rest of the battalion in March. The agency said the battalion will be equipped with drones, armored infantry carriers, anti-tank missiles, mortars and other weapons for self-defense purposes.

From The Associated Press

Spain: Princess to be tried for fraud

By ALAN CLENNENING
The Associated Press

MADRID — A Spanish judge on Monday ordered the king’s sister, Princess Cristina, to be tried along with her husband on charges of tax fraud — making her the first member of the country’s royal family to face charges in court since the royalty was restored in 1975.

In issuing the indictment, Judge Jose Castro went against a prosecutor’s Dec. 9 recommendation that Cristina should be fined and only her husband, Olympic handball medalist turned businessman Inaki Urdangarin, be tried. If convicted, Cristina could face up to four years in prison.

Suspected abuse of company

funds to cover the couple’s expenses at their Barcelona home is among evidence Castro has compiled and consulting firm that Cristina co-owned with her husband.

The legal troubles of King Felipe VI’s sister during a four-year probe have damaged the Spanish monarchy’s image.

The case centers on allegations that Urdangarin used his Duke of Palma title to embezzle about \$7.4 million in public contracts through the Noos Institute, a non-profit foundation he set up with a business partner that channeled money to other businesses, including Aizoon.

Cristina’s lawyers have said she is innocent. Prosecutor Pedro Horrach recommended charges

for Urdangarin carrying a possible sentence of 19½ years in prison while saying Cristina should not be indicted but forced to pay \$711,000 to cover the amount she could have profited from because of her husband’s alleged illegal dealings.

Castro had the option of accepting Horrach’s recommendations or sending Cristina to be tried by a different judge.

Cristina’s brother, Felipe, 46, became king in June when his father, Juan Carlos, abdicated after a four-decade reign.

Felipe pledged to restore public trust in the monarchy and ordered a palace reshuffle, meaning that Cristina and her sister, Princess Elena, are no longer official members of the royal family.



MANU FERNANDEZ/AP

Spain’s Princess Cristina arrives at the courthouse of Palma de Mallorca, Spain, in February.

Woman fatally shot at Myanmar copper mine protest

The Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar — A woman was fatally shot Monday during a crackdown on protesters at a controversial Chinese-backed copper mine in northwestern Myanmar, activists and an opposition lawmaker said.

Khin San Hlaing, a lawmaker from the National League for Democracy party, said the con-

frontation at the Letpadaung copper-mine project occurred as police and Chinese workers erected a fence on land that the villagers claimed as theirs.

She said a woman in her 50s was fatally shot in the head, though it was not clear whether she was shot by police or mining company security personnel. Photos taken at the scene showed the dead woman bleeding from her head,

and a wounded man sitting up with blood coming from his thigh. Khin San Hlaing said 12 people were wounded, with nine hospitalized, including two in critical condition.

Government and company authorities could not be reached immediately for comment.

The massive project, a joint venture between a Myanmar mili-

tary-controlled holding company and China’s Wanbao Mining Group Ltd., drew international attention two years ago when police forcefully dispersed protesters, injuring more than 100 Buddhist monks. The mine has been the scene of some of the fiercest opposition to corporate land-grabbing in Myanmar since elected President Thein Sein came to power in 2011.

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



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				
42					43	44			45	46	47
48								49		50	
51								52		53	

ACROSS

- 1 Detail, for short
- 5 Parisian pal
- 8 Beavers' creations
- 12 Geometry measure
- 13 Pale
- 14 Privy to
- 15 Become smaller
- 17 Old portico
- 18 Unfavorable vote
- 19 Act of recession
- 21 Coffee enhancer
- 24 Actress de Matteo
- 25 Succor
- 26 Devise
- 30 Mrs. McKinley
- 31 B.B. King's genre
- 32 Auction action
- 33 Show a difference
- 35 Rasp
- 36 Own
- 37 "The Age of Anxiety" poet
- 38 Deli meat
- 41 Hostel
- 42 Thing
- 43 Repentant
- 48 Finished
- 49 Rotbitale of hockey
- 50 Caspian feeder
- 51 Heroic verse

DOWN

- 1 Pouch
- 2 Expert
- 3 Still, in poetry
- 4 Forty winks
- 5 Vacationing
- 6 PC alternative
- 7 Surfers' mecca
- 8 Oust an attorney
- 9 Con
- 10 Armstrong's destination
- 11 Unforeseen problem
- 16 Aries
- 20 Wagers
- 21 Stylish
- 22 Start over
- 23 Verve
- 26 Collarbone
- 27 Footnote abbr.
- 28 Repulsive
- 29 Paraiside
- 31 "Dracula" author
- 34 View from Windsor Castle
- 35 5K race, maybe
- 37 Pismire
- 38 Faction
- 39 Con
- 40 Fallon predecessor
- 41 Erstwhile Peruvian
- 44 "— Town"
- 45 Rage
- 46 Sailor
- 47 Will Ferrell movie

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

12-23

CRYPTOQUIP

UD R DPTJMK ITIC TIML NT
 ULQMCN DPYUZ DPTJULQ
 ZTJL R NKMM NKYLX, UC
 UN XLTJL RC R CRI-ZKRQTL?
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FOR BREATH-FRESHENING FOLLOWING HOME RUNS, WOULD SOME BASEBALLERS USE AFTER-DINGER MINTS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals P

FACES

LOW PROFILE

‘Interview’ co-directors have been silent since Sony postponed release

By JOSH ROTTENBERG
Los Angeles Times

As Sony Pictures' cancellation of "The Interview" continues to raise a clamor around the world, the two people at the center of this growing storm — the film's co-directors, Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg — have been silent. James Franco, who co-stars in the film, popped up Dec. 18 to help Stephen Colbert bid adieu to "The Colbert Report." But as of Monday, Rogen and Goldberg, longtime best friends and collaborators, who more than a week ago were smiling for photographers at the film's Los Angeles premiere, had not sent out so much as a tweet.

What they originally envisioned as a silly, over-the-top comedy about a TV reporter (Franco) and producer (Rogen) trying to assassinate North Korean leader Kim Jong Un sparked an international incident unlike anything the film industry has ever seen. Now, in the wake of the devastating cyberattack on Sony Pictures that has been reportedly tied by U.S. officials to North Korea, the film has been indefinitely postponed.

That has put a halt — at least for now — to what has been a long winning streak with some of the decade's biggest comedy hits. But don't expect that hiatus to last long.

Before "The Interview," Rogen and Goldberg played a roll as one of the most powerful comedy teams in the industry.

Their directorial debut, last year's apocalyptic comedy "This Is the End," earned rave reviews and proved hugely profitable for Sony. Last summer's "Neighbors," for Universal Studios, which they co-produced and Rogen starred in, earned more than \$268 million worldwide and was praised for offering a fresh twist on the otherwise stale frat-comedy genre.



Columbia Pictures

Co-directors and co-writers of "The Interview," Evan Goldberg (left) and Seth Rogen, grace a Dec. 11 red-carpet premiere for the movie in Los Angeles. Since Sony Pictures pulled the plug on the release of "The Interview," however, the two have disappeared from public view.

Those successes — which came on the heels of earlier hits they wrote and produced, including "Superbad" and "Pineapple Express" — gave them the clout to push "The Interview" into what was clearly, in hindsight, perilously edgy territory.

Edginess, of course, is essential to the duo's comic brand, as they explained to *The Times* last month, just days before the Sony hacking came to light.

"Our comedic sensibility was shaped in a lot of ways by what happened in high school, which is why our movies are so immature and stupid," Rogen said.

"You never know if a movie is going to be funnier or better than your last movie," he added. "But what we always think is, 'Maybe we can make the next movie crazier.'"

Rogen and Goldberg are already deep into work on other projects, two of which they've trying to bring to fruition for years.

This month, AMC ordered a pilot for a series adapted from the dark, violent comic-book series "Preacher," to be executive produced by Rogen and Goldberg, a passion project the two

have been pursuing for nearly a decade.

Both in format and genre, "Preacher" — the story of a preacher possessed by a supernatural being and looking to confront God — marks a major departure from Rogen and Goldberg's earlier work.

"It will be much more dramatic than comedic," Goldberg told *The Times* last month. "At times it will be funny like 'Breaking Bad' was funny, but there are whole episodes that will be, like, scary."

On the big screen, Rogen is set to co-star in an untitled Christmas comedy, due November 2015, which he and Goldberg produced. After that, the two are co-writing and producing an animated comedy called "Sausage Party," a sort of demented, gleefully profane takeoff on Pixar movies like "Toy Story" about anthropomorphized food.

As for their next big-screen directorial effort, Rogen and Goldberg haven't figured that out yet.

"This much is probably safe to say: Whatever film they make next, it won't have anything to do with global politics.

Comedy alternatives to 'The Interview'

Over the years, other world leaders have been the targets of wacky assassination attempts on film. But those actually made it to the multiplex, while the demise of Kim Jong Un in "The Interview" remains shelved.

Holiday moviegoers with a hankering for an over-the-top plot to kill a real world leader can still do it on the download in the safety of their own homes. A few options:

"Foul Play" 1978
Chevy Chase and Goldie Hawn play a police officer and a librarian who uncover a plot to assassinate the visiting Pope Plus XIII during an opera performance.

"The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad!" 1988
Detective Frank Drebin (the late Leslie Nielsen) must foil an attempt to slay Queen Elizabeth II at a baseball game.

"Hot Shots! Part Deux" 1993
Saddam Hussein (Jerry Hall-eva) faces off against Charley Sheen's war hero Topper Harley. Hussein is depicted as a bumbling leader who dates on his itty-bitty dog and wears women's underwear.

"Zoolander" 2001
In a scheme to maintain cheap child labor in Malaysia, Will Ferrell's tyrannical fashion mogul Jacobim Mugatu attempts to brainwash Ben Stiller's supermodel Derek Zoolander into simulating the country's new prime minister.

"Team America: World Police" 2004
Kim Jong Un's father was depicted as a sad-sack villain in this marionette musical from the creators of "South Park." Kim Jong Il crooning in broken English about his loneliness at the top is one of the film's funniest moments.

From The Associated Press

First weekend of final 'Hobbit' takes in \$90.6 M

The Associated Press

While Hollywood continued to wrestle with the fallout of the Sony hacking scandal, the weekend box office offered the solace of a moviegoing truism: Hobbits sell.

Peter Jackson's final installment of his six J.R.R. Tolkien adventures, "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies," debuted with \$56.2 million over the weekend and \$90.6 million since opening Wednesday, according to studio estimates Sunday. For an industry reeling from the cancellation of "The Interview" and terrorist threats against moviegoers, Middle-earth proved reliable refuge.

Aided by popularity on Imax screens, "The Battle of the Five Armies" dominated the pre-Christmas frame with a five-day haul similar to the franchise's previous entry, "The Desolation of Smaug," even if its actual debut weekend was notably less than for both prior "Hobbit" movies. In its second week of release overseas, Warner Bros.' "Five Armies" added \$105.5 million to bring its two-week global total past \$350 million.

Jeff Goldstein, head of domestic distribution for Warner Bros., said the healthy weekend of moviegoing was a welcome

respite after an "upsetting and so disturbing" week.

"Not only did we do business in places that I would expect, like the West Coast, we did business everywhere in the country," Goldstein said. "We didn't see that on the prior two Hobbits."

Another final installment in a trilogy, "Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb," opened in a distant second place. The Fox comedy, which features Robin Williams' final performance, took in \$17.3 million, well off the pace of previous franchise entries. The franchise's previous debut was \$54.2 million for 2009's "Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian."

Sony Pictures, which on Dec. 17 shelved the Dec. 25 release of the North Korea satire "The Interview" following hacker threats of violence against theaters showing the film, unveiled its other holiday offering. The studio's "Annie" remake, starring Quvenzhané Wallis as the titular orphan, opened with \$16.3 million.

Last week's top film, Ridley Scott's Moses epic, "Exodus: Gods and Kings," tumbled to fourth place with \$8.1 million in its second week. The Fox release slid a dramatic 67 percent.

Other news

■ **Tom Brokaw** says his cancer is in remission. The veteran NBC newsmen announced Sunday that, after months of chemotherapy, he soon will begin a drug maintenance program. Last February, he revealed that six months earlier he had been diagnosed with multiple myeloma, a cancer affecting blood cells in the bone marrow, and was undergoing treatment. He called the past year "a challenge," but added gratefully he met in "world-class hospitals with brilliant physicians."

■ **Entertainer Elton John** and longtime mate David Furnish officially married Sunday on the ninth anniversary of the day they entered into a civil partnership. The couple converted their civil bond under new laws implemented in England earlier this year that allow same-sex marriages.

■ **Udo Jurgens**, an Austrian-born star who dominated pop music in the German-speaking world and sold more than 100 million records in a career spanning five decades, died on Sunday. He was 80. ■ **British actress Billie Whitelaw**, who appeared on stage and screen for decades, died Sunday in London at age 82.



Madonna drops 6 songs

In a surprise preview of her new album, Madonna released six songs Dec. 20 on iTunes and other streaming services. The leaks of several in-progress demos prompted the early releases, publicist Liz Rosenberg confirmed. Madonna said that she had wanted to wait until a different holiday season.

"I was hoping to release my new single 'Living For Love' on Valentine's Day with the rest of the album coming in the spring," she said. "I would prefer my fans to hear completed versions of some of the songs instead of the incomplete tracks that are circulating. Please consider these ... an early Christmas gift."

The full album, "Rebel Heart" — Madonna's 13th — is set to drop in March.

From The Associated Press

SHIFTING GEARS

Ferrari looks to cash in on its image

Sports car maker positions itself as lifestyle brand ahead of IPO

By COLLEEN BARRY
The Associated Press

MILAN — Ferrari's sleek sports cars and souped-up Formula 1 racing machines have made the prancing horse logo among the world's most powerful brands. Now, as the company prepares for a public listing, it wants to cash in on the cachet.

The aim: position Ferrari not just as a car-maker, but as a luxury goods company. Think Armani, Hermes ... Ferrari.

Chairman Sergio Marchionne will present his vision to investors in the coming weeks, but the potential already has the two worlds spinning in anticipation.

"I actually think cars are almost incidental to Ferrari," Marchionne said last month when announcing plans to spin off Ferrari from its mass-market parent Fiat Chrysler Automobiles NV. "It sounds sacrilegious. But it is truly a luxury brand."

Persuading the investing community of that distinction could significantly multiply Ferrari's market value by putting it among a category of companies that squeeze value not just out of the quality of the materials and product, but also out of their allure.

Marchionne has room to leverage.

Although Ferrari's brand has been named the world's most recognizable for two straight years in a survey by London-based consultants Brand Finance, it is only 35th in value, around \$4 billion.

Lifting that figure is Marchionne's goal between now and the IPO, due in the second or third quarter next year.

Getting a higher valuation is a tricky balance between finding new sources of sales to increase revenues and protecting the brand's exclusivity.

"If you think of the capacity of the Ferrari brand in the luxury space, there are many avenues you can take from a product perspective," said Anil Valsan, an EV automotive analyst. "But at the same time you have to be very careful about not damaging the brand. It is absolutely critical that the brand's value is not lost by diversifying into too many products."

Currently, its revenue stream is limited by the fact that it keeps car sales to just 7,000 a year to retain an aura of exclusivity. Also, manufacturing high-performance engines and race cars is more capital intensive than, say, fashion.

Ferrari could take a gamble and expand its range of car offerings to include SUVs, well-performing segment globally. That would bring its automotive portfolio



LUCA BRUNO/AP

The Ferrari Store in Milan, Italy. Ferrari's sleek sports cars and Formula 1 racing machines have made the prancing horse logo among the world's most powerful brands. Now, as the company prepares for a public listing, it wants to cash in on the cachet. The aim: position Ferrari not just among its car-making peers, but as a luxury goods company.



MARCO VASINI/AP

Sebastian Vettel tests an F1 car at Ferrari's private Fiorano circuit in November.

closer in line with competitors Porsche or Bentley. Lamborghini, another Italian sports car maker, has previewed a concept SUV.

Already the brand presents itself as a luxury producer, with such services as on-site atelier for Ferrari buyers to customize their sports cars and a race track for Ferrari owner test drives.

But analysts say there is more the company can do to monetize that image. One strategy could be creating an exclusive Ferrari club that could eventually be expanded to hotels catering to Ferrari owners and very high net worth individuals, said Brand Finance executive Robert Haigh.

In addition, the Ferrari World theme park — which is being expanded from Abu Dhabi to Barcelona — could be taken global, capitalizing on Ferrari's reputa-

tion for cutting-edge technology, he said.

And while Ferrari is already selling branded fashion items, not all products bearing the Formula 1 Scuderia logo are of the same high quality.

"There are Ferrari caps, rubbish jackets and watches that are not necessarily expensive or well-made," Haigh said. "They are not necessarily protecting the Scuderia brand the way they should be."

That includes getting back to winning on the Formula 1 circuit — one of the points of contention that led to the putsch of long-time Chairman Luca Cordero di Montezemolo after Marchionne publicly complained about Ferrari's recent track record.

Meanwhile, the luxury world has speculated that Ferrari's new plans could increase cooperation among Italy's luxury brands, which are for the most part independent operators in the hands of their creative founders and lacking economies of scale.

Giorgio Armani, asked backstage at his last round of shows about the prospect of creating a Made in Italy luxury group, said that "putting together the most beautiful Italian brands is fascinating."

"Everything depends on the quality of the product, on who would want to join," he said.



MARCO VASINI/AP

The interior of a vintage Ferrari at the factory in Maranello, Italy.

CAPITOL MOTORS
25% OFF*

SINGLE OPTIONS AND OPTIONAL PACKAGES WHEN ORDERING YOUR NEW 2015.5 VOLVO

*Limited offer - Contact us for complete details and a quote.

info@capitolmotors.com

US MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC SALES IN GERMANY & ITALY

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Broken treetop on wire decorated for holiday

WA INDIAN ISLAND — Some Washington state residents are getting in the holiday spirit by decorating a Douglas fir that toppled onto an unused utility line in a recent windstorm and looks like an upside-down Christmas tree.

The 12-foot top of the tree that snapped off now dangles on the line on Indian Island, about 40 miles northwest of Seattle across Puget Sound.

Residents decked out the tree with garlands, ribbons, ornaments and a sign that says, "Santa, I want it all!"

A utility agency said the tree doesn't pose an immediate electrical hazard but advises residents to stay away.

Woman seeking driving job charged with DWI

NY FORT EDWARD — Police said a northern New York woman has been arrested on charges of driving drunk after trying to apply for a job — as a driver for a social services agency.

The Washington County sheriff's office said the 50-year-old woman went to a county office in Fort Edward on Wednesday to apply to become a Meals on Wheels program driver.

Senior investigator Tony LeClaire said staffers smelled alcohol on her breath. They asked her to leave and called police out of concern she might have driven there.

She initially walked away, but the sheriff's office said a deputy saw her return about 15 minutes later, get into a pickup and try to drive away. Police said her blood-alcohol level was nearly three times the legal limit.

7 puppies left in trash get permanent homes

NV INCLINE VILLAGE — Seven puppies left for dead in a trash bin have found permanent homes after being nursed back to health by volunteers at a Lake Tahoe facility.

Melissa Shaw, of the Pet Network Humane Society in Incline Village, said the pups were adopted Thursday.

The puppies were discovered Oct. 29 in a trash bin behind a Radio Shack in Susanville, Calif., with their umbilical cords still attached.

Officials believe the four females and three males were only a couple days old when they were found.

The dogs are a combination of golden retriever, black Labrador retriever and German shepherd.

Karen Russell, who adopted one of the puppies, said the dogs may have had a rough start to life but have "hit the lottery" by ending up in loving homes.

Man in elf costume charged with DWI

NJ RIVERDALE — Police said an elf on the sauce is facing drunken-driving charges in New Jersey.

THE CENSUS

78

The number of elk killed during an annual hunt that Michigan wildlife officials are calling a success. Wildlife biologist Jennifer Kleitch said hunters got their elk, and the Department of Natural Resources achieved its animal management goals. The elk season consisted of four brief periods in August, September and December. Thousands of hunters applied for 100 elk licenses.



DAVID TULLS/AP

A dog's eye view

Motorist Stacey Ray encourages Blue, top, one of her two European Great Danes, to get back inside the vehicle as Bella, right, watches during a trip to a shopping mall Friday in Alpharetta, Ga. Ray said her pets are therapy dogs and they help cheer up patients in nursing homes and hospitals.

Riverdale police said Brian Chellis, 23, was found passed out in a car early Friday morning wearing an "Elf on the Shelf" costume.

Lt. James Macintosh said the Cedar Grove man was asleep behind the wheel of a van with its engine running, lights on and music blaring. He said Chellis was in a red shirt, red pants and white ruffled collar.

Macintosh said Chellis seemed confused about where he was and had an open can of beer in the car. He was issued a summons and was released to a family member.

Pilot brings plane down in river, hurts no one

SC COLUMBIA — Authorities said no one was injured in a small plane crash in Calhoun County.

The Department of Natural Resources said a pilot was able to bring a Mooney 20 down in the Congaree River at about 2:15 p.m. Saturday.

The Federal Aviation Administration said the plane had taken off from an airfield in Columbia.

The plane was completely submerged in water. Officials said the pilot was taken to a hospital to be checked out but wasn't hurt.

Authorities are still investigating the crash.

2 cows escape meat facility, are recaptured

ID POCATELLO — Pocatello police said two cows that escaped from a meat-processing business have been captured. Officers were told by Anderson Custom Pack that employees found the missing cows and brought them back to the business Saturday.

A total of five cows have fled from Anderson Custom Pack in two recent incidents.

One of the cows was recaptured on Dec. 15, and two were fatally shot — one by Pocatello police and the other by one of Anderson's owners.

Police said the cows recaptured Saturday were not injured. Anderson Custom Pack has said the cow that fled the business Dec. 12 escaped on its own, while the other four cows were intentionally released by a trespasser.

Police: Mother hands baby over to stranger

AZ PHOENIX — Phoenix police said a woman al-

legedly gave her baby to a complete stranger because she couldn't afford to care for the child.

Authorities said the 39-year-old mother approached another woman at a north Phoenix apartment complex Saturday night, telling her she didn't have money to feed or clothe the infant.

The mother then allegedly handed her 3-month-old daughter to the woman before running off toward a mountainous area.

Police located her at a home with the baby's father, along with a 12-year-old and an 18-month-old child. After interviewing the suspect, authorities had her sent for a psychiatric evaluation.

The baby is now with the father.

Police have not released the woman's name. They said the investigation will go to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office for review.

Prison locks down over possible chickenpox

IL PINCKNEYVILLE — A prison in southern Illinois is on partial lock-down while awaiting test results for two inmates who may have chickenpox. Authorities said it's the second state prison to isolate inmates last

week as a precaution to prevent chickenpox from spreading.

Illinois Department of Corrections spokesman Tom Shaer said Saturday that the Pinckneyville Correctional Center lock-down affected one cell wing. The department is following Illinois Department of Public Health precautions to protect staff and prevent spreading the possible viral infection.

Menard Correctional Center was also in lock-down last week following five cases of chickenpox among inmates in one housing unit. Inmates were treated with anti-viral medication; at least three have recovered.

Paramedic jailed for stealing from dead man

MI MUSKOGON — A paramedic has been sentenced to 15 days in jail for stealing money from a dead man in western Michigan.

Jack Price was accused of stealing \$80 last year while on an ambulance run to the home of a 55-year-old man.

Price, 28, from Ravenna, was sentenced last Monday after pleading guilty to larceny, a misdemeanor, in a plea deal.

Make
someone
happy



Coca-Cola
open happiness

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Attorneys 178

NICKEL
US & German Attorneys
 US & German Divorces • Employment
 Wills and Probate • Support Issues
 Personal Injury • Tax
 Contractor
 Issues
 Call 069-299-2069-0
 Email: maiss@nickelonline.de

**EUROPE'S PREMIER
 MILITARY DEFENSE FIRM**

COURT & CARPENTER
 Over 45 years defining
 servicemembers
 Heilbronner Strasse 150,
 70191 Stuttgart, Germany
 Phone in Germany: 0711 490 04320
 www.militarylawfirm.eu

Dental 902

**American
 Dental Care**
Services Offered:
 Family Dentistry
 Certified Orthodontics
 Crowns and Veneers
 Implant Surgery
 Zoom Teeth Whitening
 Wisdom Teeth Surgery
 Nitrous Oxide
 Saturday & Evening Appointments
 Caring, Friendly American Staff

LOCATIONS
Wiesbaden Dental Care
 06119 887 2650
 Bahnstrasse 14, 65205 Wiesbaden
 Wiesbadendental.com
Ramstein Dental Care
 06371 406230
 Post Strasse 1, 66877 Ramstein
 Ramsteindental.com
 Certified American Dental
 Hygienists
 TRICARE Preferred Provider

Want a better picture?
 You'll get one – just by reading
 Stars and Stripes military news coverage.
 In print • Online at stripes.com •
 Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad
STARS AND STRIPES
 However you read us, wherever you need us.

Transportation 944

**VEHICLE
 SHIPPING SERVICES**

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

GERMANY +49-6134-2592730 Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de	UNITED KINGDOM +44-117 938 1919 0800-7839351 (UK only) info@carshipuk.co.uk www.carshipuk.co.uk	USA +1-972-602-1670 +1-800-264-8167 (US only) info@tgalus www.tgalus
--	--	---

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

Trans Global
 LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH


Interglobal Shipping GmbH
 Specialized Shipping to/from the US & Canada
 Autos, Household Goods, Personal Belongings
 Contact your Pro's at the Docks today!!!
 info@interglobalshipping.de
 www.interglobalshipping.de
 Tel: (0421) 520-6511 Fax: (0421) 520-6565
 Toll-Free: 0800-009-6311

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA

OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri
 0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (972-7447)
 For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de
 Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de

transcar
Dependable POV Shipping
 20 Years Experience
 supporting the U.S. Military Community
 Professional, Proud Provider of
 Superior Customer Service
 Port-to-Port or Door-to-Door Delivery Options
 All-Inclusive Rates: No Hidden or Surprise Fees
Toll Free (In Germany): 0800-transcar (87267227)
Outside Germany: +49 (0) 6146 6070
Phone (In Italy): 0039 348 5505355
Email: povshipping@transcar.de
Web: http://povshipping.transcar.de

Dental 902

American Orthodontist
Over 90% Non-Extraction
Dr. Michael Dillon, DDS, MS (Ortho)
 Univ of Maryland, Former USAF
All Treatment Fees in US \$
 Convenient Payment Plans • No Referral Necessary
 Evening & Weekends • **TriCare Provider**
06371-918911 • www.dillonortho.com

**Modern Aesthetic
 Dentistry**

 • Aesthetic Dentistry
 • TMJ/Facial Pain Treatment
 • Certified Dental Hygienist
 • Preventive Care and Periodontal Therapy
 • Orthodontics/Invisalign
 • Implants
Dr. Charles A. Smith DDS, LVIF is an American trained dentist providing expert dental care with the newest and most successful techniques to cover all over Europe to visit Dr. Smith for general dental care to smile makeovers. After many successful years in Heidelberg, Dr. Smith has now opened a second office in Stuttgart. Please visit our Homepage and email for appointment in early december.
DR. CHARLES A. SMITH & ASSOCIATES
 www.smithortho.com
Charles-Lindbergh-Str. 11 • 71034 Böblingen
info@boeblingendental.com • www.boeblingendental.com

Financial Services 904

LOANS up to \$10,000
For Active Duty U.S. Military
Call Toll Free
Germany: 0800 YES-LOAN
Italy/Belgium: 00800 YES-LOANS
Statewide: +1.931.802.6522
www.yesomni.com

 "We love to say yes"
 © Credit Financial. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. All loans subject to approval.
Free Classifieds!
 Visit Stripes.com for details.
STARS AND STRIPES

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
 Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
 Lt. Col. Michael C. Bailey, Europe commander
 Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander
 Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

EDITORIAL

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

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
 Teddie Weyr, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
 wey.teddie@stripes.com
 (+1)202761.0908; cell (080)583.1673
 +49(0)173.315.1881; DSN (314)583.9310
Pacific
 Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief
 alexander.paul@stripes.com
 +81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)583.1673
 DSN (315)225.5377
Washington
 Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief
 dickson.patrick@stripes.com
 (+1)202761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908
 Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
 bowers.brian@stripes.com
 Amanda Trypanis, Design Desk Supervisor
 trypanis.amanda@stripes.com

CONTACT US

Washington
 tel: (+1)202.761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
 fax: (+1)202.761.0890
 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
 20045-1301

Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

OMBUSDSMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stripes.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays except Dec. 25 and Jan. 11 for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday. Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45022, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45022, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government. As a result, Stars and Stripes and its products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or delivery without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or delivery without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stripes.com

OPINION

‘Chaos’ can be best path to democracy

By JACKSON DIEHL
 The Washington Post

The most revealing sentence in President Barack Obama's explanation of his radical revision of U.S. Cuba policy last week was his admonition to Americans, and Cubans, that they should not seek the "collapse" of the Castro regime. "Even if that worked," the president asserted, "we know from hard-earned experience that countries are more likely to enjoy lasting transformation if their people are not subjected to chaos."

Embedded in that short remark is the essential logic behind Obama's decision to lift — or seek to lift — all U.S. sanctions on Cuba without requiring the "significant steps towards democracy" he once said would be needed for such a normalization. It is also the organizing principle of much of his foreign policy. If regime collapse is not a desirable outcome in Cuba — or, for that matter, in Syria, Iran and other dictatorships — it follows that the correct policy is U.S. "engagement" or "direct diplomacy" with such regimes, aimed not at overturning them but at gradually nudging them toward more civilized behavior.

The no-chaos rule explains why Obama would have declined to support the 2009 Green Movement in Iran while dispatching letters to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei offering detente. It lies behind his refusal to provide decisive support to Syrian rebels, instead seeking a negotiated solution with the regime of Bashar Assad. And it answers those who wonder why he would provide what amounts to a blank check to the Castro's just as they were facing the twin threats of losing Venezuelan oil subsidies and mounting popular pressure for basic freedoms.

Obama cited "hard-earned experience" for his nostrum, and he's certainly had some he can point to: Libya, Iraq or Egypt, where the overthrow of regimes led to counterrevolution or civil war. The presi-

U.S. "engagement" with Stalinist-style totalitarian regimes, such as Cuba, has never produced a transition to democracy.

dent, however, articulated his ideology before he took office — and the failures on his watch stem in part from his own reluctance to vigorously support democratic transitions.

They also don't negate two historical facts: A large number of successful democracies have grown out of regime collapse; and U.S. "engagement" with Stalinist-style totalitarian regimes, such as Cuba, has never produced such a transition.

Obama's chaos theory won't make much sense to former citizens of East Germany, who last month celebrated the 25th anniversary of the sudden collapse of their regime — and the Berlin Wall. Nor to Romanians, who a month later lived through bloody anarchy in the streets of Bucharest and Timisoara as the Stalinist regime of Nicolae Ceausescu imploded — and for the past two decades have built a peaceful and increasingly prosperous democracy.

As a visiting journalist I witnessed the havoc wreaked on Jakarta in 1998 when the Suharto dictatorship abruptly collapsed and mobs looted the capital. Indonesia shortly thereafter became the world's largest majority Muslim democracy, and it remains so nearly 17 years later.

It's easy to go on: the Philippines in 1987; Serbia in 2000; Georgia in 2003. People took to the streets; regimes quickly collapsed; "chaos" ensued for a time; and the result was an enduring transition to democracy. U.S. "engagement" with dictatorships, on the other hand, has a much thinner record of results — and none in the former Soviet Bloc.

Authoritarian leaders themselves, from the Castros to Egypt's generals to China's top secretaries, routinely offer a version of Obama's argument — that the alternative to them is chaos — as reason for dodging the liberalizing steps Washington urges. Governments such those in China and Vietnam have proved far more adept than U.S. policymakers anticipated in pocketing the profits of U.S. investment and trade while preventing political liberalization.

Cooperating with such regimes yields other goods, of course. The opening to China has helped produce the largest reduction of poverty in history. Dictatorships in the Middle East offer bases for the U.S. military, not to mention oil supplies. While Cuba has little value in strategic terms, detente with Havana will remove an irritant from U.S. relations with more important countries, like Brazil. And though Obama didn't say so, a Castro collapse could have unpleasant short-term consequences for the United States, such as a massive flow of refugees.

It's possible, in short, to articulate a rationale for engaging with regimes like Cuba's. Contrary to Obama's rhetoric, however, it is a policy that reduces the possibility of near-term democratization in favor of economic benefits and geopolitical stability. China is a country where the gains from such a strategy outweigh the costs, particularly as U.S. leverage to bring about political change is limited. In Cuba the calculus is different: The economic benefits of engagement are minor, while the possibility that continued sanctions could be used to engineer regime change — or at least meaningful political concessions — is far greater.

Obama, of course, can make the case for appealing the Castros. But his claim that Cubans should not hope for their collapse as a route to freedom is not only patronizing, it's wrong.

Jackson Diehl is deputy editorial page editor for The Washington Post.

Salute to the graceful silence of George W. Bush

By CASS R. SUNSTEIN
 Bloomberg News

In the domain of foreign affairs, 2014 has brought heated national debates on an impressive range of subjects: Russia, Ukraine, Iran, Syria, Ebola, immigration policy, and most recently, torture, North Korea and Cuba. One of the more remarkable features of all these discussions has been the consistent grace of President George W. Bush.

This month, Bush offered a rare comment on a public debate. Responding to the Senate's release of the CIA torture report, he said, "We're fortunate to have men and women who work hard at the CIA serving on our behalf. These are patriots and whatever the report says, if it diminishes their contributions to our country, it is way off base." Note that Bush paid tribute to the employees of the CIA — and pointedly declined to take a shot at the Barack Obama administration.

No one doubts that, on so important questions, Bush is in profound disagreement with his successor. Nonetheless, he has maintained silence. In March, he explained, "I don't think it's good for the country to have a former president undermine a current president; I think it's bad for the presidency for that matter."

To many Republicans, that crisp explanation is not convincing. But Bush has made an honorable calculation: He would not have been president for eight years, and the

substance of his own views is hardly absent from public debate today — whether or not he raises a personal objection while out of office. He's aware that whenever a former president speaks out against the current one, the criticism gets amplified beyond its merits.

Bush doesn't want to exploit his past role in that way. "I really don't long for publicity," he said. "I'm perfectly content to be out of the limelight."

Contrast that statement with the case of Leon Panetta, Obama's former CIA director and secretary of defense. In his book "Worthy Fights," he discloses internal debates that officials expected to remain private, and complains that the White House was "so eager to rid itself of Iraq that it was willing to withdraw rather than lock in arrangements that would preserve our influence and interests." In an interview promoting his book, he said of Obama, "These last two years, I think he kind of lost his way."

Similar, in his book, "Duty," Robert Gates, who was secretary of defense under both Bush and Obama, writes that, in 2010, he concluded that, with respect to Afghanistan, Obama "doesn't believe in his own strategy, and doesn't consider the war to be his. For him, it's all about getting out." Gates adds that "agreements with the Obama White House were good for only as long as they were politically convenient."

It should go without saying that if Pa-

netta and Gates had not had the privilege of working in the Obama administration, few people would pay attention to their books. The contrast with Bush could not be greater. Panetta and Gates have exploited their own roles.

Unlike a former president, moreover, former Cabinet members owe a duty of loyalty to a sitting president, not least because they have been able to participate in internal discussions. In those discussions, officials generally deserve to be able to speak on the understanding that what they say will not appear in a book — certainly not while the president remains in office.

Sure, confidentiality and loyalty have limits. If a former official was exposed to genuine wrongdoing — for example, in the form of illegality, as opposed to policy disagreements — he or she may have a duty to speak out. But neither Panetta nor Gates points to such wrongdoing.

Public figures are ordinarily rewarded for what they say, not for what they don't. Grace is an underrated virtue; gracelessness is an insufficiently acknowledged vice. For his understated remarks about the CIA and his continued silence about his successor, a salute to George W. Bush — along with hope that, when he leaves office, Obama will follow the example.

Cass R. Sunstein, administrator of the White House blog, has previously appeared in *Stars and Stripes*. He is the Robert Walmisley university professor at Harvard Law School and a Bloomberg View columnist.

SCOREBOARD

Sports

on AFN

Go to the American Forces Network website for the most up-to-date TV schedules. myafn.net

Deals

National's transactions

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Recalled G Jordan Adams and F/C Jarnell Stokes from Iowa (NSA).

FOOTBALL
National Football League
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Released G Jarrod Hughes from the practice squad. Signed DT Curtis Feig to the practice squad.

MIAMI DOLPHINS — Released LB Jake Krotz. Signed WR Matt Heath from the practice squad.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Assigned LB Chris Borland on injured reserve. Signed LB Chase Thomas from the practice squad.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — Released TE Russell Wilson. Signed TE Keaton Mitchell from the practice squad.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS — Placed S Major Wright on injured reserve. Signed DB C.J. Wilson from the practice squad.

National Hockey League
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Activated F Alexander Semin from injured reserve. Reassigned F Justin Shugg to Charlotte (AHL).

COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Assigned G Oscar Dansk from Kalamazoo (ECHL) to Springfield (AHL).

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Assigned G Eric Hartzell from Wilkes-Barre/Scranton AHL to Wheeling (ECHL).

Golf

Dubai Open

Sunday
At The Els Club
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Purse: \$500,000
Yardage: 7,538; Par: 72

Final	
Ariun Arvaj, Thailand	71-67-68-66=272
Jung-hun South Korea	71-67-68=273
W. Jeon, South Korea	69-69-68=273
H. Jeong, South Korea	72-71-69=274
P. Tangkubakul, Thailand	72-71-69=274
Chang-Pieng, South Korea	70-73-68=277
Chang-Pieng, South Korea	70-73-68=277
P. Junhasavajikul, Thai	68-72-70=277
C. Nair, Thailand	71-69-70=277
J. Kruger, South Africa	71-72-64=277
E. Easton, South Africa	69-71-69=278
N. Zhang, South Korea	70-71-68=278
G. Bhullar, India	69-69-69=278
S. Yip, South Korea	71-68-69=278
U. Kaur, Australia	72-69-67=279
N. Wannasichan, Thailand	72-70-67=279
W. Hwang, South Korea	70-71-67=279
D. Clarke, Northern Ireland	72-71-67=279
P. Lalanda, Australia	71-71-70=280
J. Tangkubakul, Thailand	72-71-68=280
P. Pittayarat, Thailand	69-72-68=281
N. Zhang, South Korea	70-71-68=281
Javi Colombo, Spain	69-73-67=281
A. Kang, United States	71-73-71=290

Boxing

Fight schedule

Dec. 30
At Tokyo, Omar Narvaez vs. Nayra Iriarte. At New York, WBO super flyweight title: Akira Yagasaki vs. Pedro Pablo Rodriguez. At Las Vegas, WBA junior flyweight title: Jorge Linares vs. Yago Arreola. At the vacant VBO flyweight title: Gennadiy Golovkin vs. Yago Arreola.
Jan. 1
At Otis City Center, Gm. Tokyo, Israel Perez vs. Takashi Uchiyama, 12, for Uchiyama's WBO World featherweight title. At the Koshi Kono vs. Norberto Jimenez, 12, for Kono's WBO junior bantamweight title. At the vacant WBO flyweight title: Roberto Assis vs. Yago Arreola. At 12, for Rosales's WBA junior flyweight title.

Jan. 9
At Chumash Canyon Resort, Santa Ynez, Calif., Darleys Perez vs. Jonathan Benavidez. At the vacant WBA light-heavyweight title: Wilfredo Santana vs. Sebastian Lujan, 10, waterfights.

Jan. 23
At Turning Stone Resort & Casino, Verona, N.Y., WBA super flyweight title: Carlos Burgos, 10, lightweight.

Jan. 23
At the MGM Grand, Las Vegas, Bernabe Stiverino vs. Deontay Wilder, 12, for Stiverino's WBA World heavyweight title.

Jan. 23
At Manchester, England, Richard Abril vs. Anthony Crolla, 12, Abril vs. WBA light-heavyweight title.

College football

Bowl game

Saturday, Dec. 20
New Orleans Bowl
Louisiana State (11-2) vs. Louisiana 3
New Mexico Bowl
At Albuquerque
Utah State (12-1) vs. UTEP (9-5)
Las Vegas Bowl
Utah 45, Colorado State 20
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Air Force 38, Western Michigan 24
Camella Bowl
At Montgomery, Ala.
Bowling Green (9-5), South Alabama 28
Monday, Dec. 22
Raymond James Beach South Bowl
Rice (7-5) vs. Fresno State (6-7)
Friday, Dec. 26
Heart of Dallas Bowl
Illinois (6-6) vs. Louisiana Tech (8-4)
Quinn Lamont Bowl
At Detroit
Rutgers (7-5) vs. Carolina (6-6)
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Bowl
UCF (9-3) vs. N.C. State (7-5)

Saturday, Dec. 27
Military Bowl
At Annapolis, Md.
Virginia Tech (6-6) vs. Cincinnati (9-3)
At El Paso, Texas
Duke (9-3) vs. Arizona State (9-3)

Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Miami (6-6) vs. North Carolina (6-6)
Pinstripe Bowl
At Yonkers, N.Y.
Boston College (7-5) vs. Penn State (6-6)

Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Nebraska (9-3) vs. Southern Cal (8-4)
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (7-5)

Russell Athletic Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Clemson (9-3) vs. Oklahoma (8-4)
At Houston
Texas Bowl (6-6) vs. Texas (6-6)
Tuesday, Dec. 30
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Notre Dame (7-5) vs. LSU (8-4)

Bell Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Louisville (7-5) vs. Wake Forest (1-3)
At Santa Clara, Calif.
Stanford (7-5) vs. Maryland (7-5)

Wednesday, Dec. 31
Peoples Bowl
At Atlanta
Mississippi (9-3) vs. TCU (11-1)

At El Paso, Texas
Duke (9-3) vs. Arizona State (9-3)

Independence Bowl
At Shreveport, La.
Miami (6-6) vs. North Carolina (6-6)
Pinstripe Bowl
At Yonkers, N.Y.
Boston College (7-5) vs. Penn State (6-6)

Holiday Bowl
At San Diego
Nebraska (9-3) vs. Southern Cal (8-4)
Liberty Bowl
At Memphis, Tenn.
West Virginia (7-5) vs. Texas A&M (7-5)

Russell Athletic Bowl
At Orlando, Fla.
Clemson (9-3) vs. Oklahoma (8-4)

At Houston
Texas Bowl (6-6) vs. Texas (6-6)
Tuesday, Dec. 30
Music City Bowl
At Nashville, Tenn.
Notre Dame (7-5) vs. LSU (8-4)

Bell Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
Louisville (7-5) vs. Wake Forest (1-3)
At Santa Clara, Calif.
Stanford (7-5) vs. Maryland (7-5)

Wednesday, Dec. 31
Peoples Bowl
At Atlanta
Mississippi (9-3) vs. TCU (11-1)

AP sportlight

Dec. 23
1933 — Montreal's Howie Morenz scores the team's 100th goal, becoming the league's career goal-scoring leader. Morenz's goal caps the Canadiens' 3-0 victory over the Detroit Red Wings.

1951 — Norm Van Brocklin's 73-yard touchdown pass to Bob St. Bon, the fourth quarter gives the Los Angeles Rams a 27-17 victory over the Cleveland Browns for the NFL title.

1978 — Bryan Trotter has five goals and three assists in a 5-4 victory over the Islanders to a 9-4 victory over the Rangers. Trotter sets an NHL record with three goals and three assists in the second period.

1996 — Barry Sanders of the Detroit Lions rushes for 175 yards in a 24-14 victory over the San Francisco 49ers. Sanders rushes for the season's 15th 100-yard game, becoming the first in NFL history to rush for 1,000 yards during a season. Sanders' rushing first in NFL history.

2007 — The New England Patriots set an NFL record for the 18th win, the best start in league history with a 28-7 victory over the Miami Dolphins.

2007 — Chris Johnson sets an NCAA bowl record with 408 all-purpose yards, and Ben Hartman has a 34-yard field goal as time expires to give East Carolina a 20-17 victory over Ball State.

2010 — The Arizona Cardinals becomes the fastest to 400 catches in NFL history, with 133 receptions in Carson Palmer's previous 17 games. Palmer's 400th catch surpasses the milestone in his 67th game. The previous record was held of former kicker Winslow, who did it in 72 games.

2011 — The Boston Celtics set an NBA record with their 19th consecutive victory. The Celtics improve to 27-2 — the best start for a two-loss team in NBA history. The previous record was set when the Celtics record set in 1981-82.

2009 — Baysa Moore scores 23 points

Fiesta Bowl

Boise State (11-2) vs. Arizona (10-3)
Orange Bowl
At Miami Gardens, Fla.
Mississippi State (9-5) vs. Georgia Tech (10-3)

Thursday, Jan. 1
Outback Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
Wisconsin (10-3) vs. Baylor (8-4)
Cotton Bowl Classic
At Arlington, Texas
Michigan State (10-2) vs. Baylor (11-1)

Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Minnesota (8-4) vs. Missouri (10-3)
Rose Bowl
At Pasadena, Calif.
Playoff semifinal: Oregon (12-1) vs. Florida State (13-0)

Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
Playoff semifinal: Alabama (12-1) vs. Ohio State (12-1)

Friday, Jan. 2
Armed Forces Bowl
At Fort Worth, Texas
Pittsburgh (6-7) vs. Houston (7-5)
TexasStar Bowl
At Jacksonville, Fla.
Iowa (7-5) vs. Tennessee (6-6)

Alamo Bowl
At San Antonio
UCLA (9-3) vs. Cornell (9-3)
Cactus Bowl
At Phoenix, Ariz.
Oklahoma State (6-6) vs. Washington (6-5)

Saturday, Jan. 3
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
Florida (6-5) vs. East Carolina (6-4)
Goodyear Bowl
At Mobile, Ala.
Toledo (8-4) vs. Indiana State (7-5)

Sunday, Jan. 10
Medal of Honor Bowl
At Charlotte, N.C.
American vs. National

College Football Championship
At Arlington, Texas
Sugar Bowl winner vs. Rose Bowl winner

FCS playoffs
Seminals
Friday, Dec. 19
North Dakota State 35, Sam Houston State 7

Saturday, Dec. 20
Illinois State 19, New Hampshire 18
Championship
Saturday, Jan. 10
At FC Dallas
Frisco, Texas
North Dakota State (14-1) vs. Illinois State (11-1)

Division II playoffs
Championship
Saturday, Dec. 20
Colorado State-Pueblo 13, Minnesota State (Mankato) 0

and Tina Charles adds 20 to help No. 1 Connecticut win its 48th straight game, becoming the longest winning streak in college basketball history.

2009 — Gary Patterson, who guided TCU to its best season in 70 years, becomes the first coach to lead a conference Coach of the Year from outside the six conferences with national TV coverage.

2010 — Sidney Crosby extends his points streak to 16 games with a goal and an assist, and Pascal Dupuis scores the decisive goal in the seventh round of a shootout to give the Pittsburgh Penguins a 3-2 victory over the Washington Capitals. Crosby has 25 goals and 25 points streak since 1992-93 when Quebec's Matt Sauer set the record.

2011 — Doug Martin rushes for 151 yards and returns the opening kickoff for a touchdown, giving Boise State a lead 14 seconds into the Las Vegas Bowl. Martin has 205 yards and two touchdowns, ending his career with 39 total touchdowns. NCAA's winningest player at the position.

2012 — Jamaal Charles rushes for 226 yards and scores a touchdown in Kansas City's 20-13 loss to Indianapolis Colts.

2012 — New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees passes for 446 yards and three touchdowns in the Saints' 34-10 victory at Dallas. Brees, with 4,781 passing yards, becomes the first player in NFL history to record at least 4,500 yards in three consecutive seasons. The Cowboys lose despite rallying for two touchdowns in the fourth quarter.

2013 — Andrew Luck throws for 205 yards and two touchdowns in a season record, and his touchdown pass to Reggie Wayne in the fourth quarter gives the Colts a 20-13 win over Carolina City, Luck, with 4,183 yards, surpasses Cam Newton's year-old record of 4,051 yards passing by a rookie in the second quarter.

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25 fared

Sunday
1. Kentucky (12-0) did not play. Next: at Louisville, Tuesday, Dec. 29.
2. Duke (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Toledo, Monday, Dec. 29.

3. Louisville (10-0) did not play. Next: at UNLV, Tuesday, Dec. 29.
4. Louisville (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Cal State Northridge, Tuesday, Dec. 29.
5. California (10-0) did not play. Next: at California, Monday, Dec. 29.

6. Virginia (11-0) beat Harvard 76-27. Next: vs. Dayton, Tuesday, Dec. 30.
7. Villanova (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Tuesday, Dec. 30.
8. Gonzaga (11-1) did not play. Next: at BYU, Saturday, Dec. 30.

9. Texas (10-1) did not play. Next: at Stanford, Tuesday, Dec. 30.
10. Kansas (9-1) did not play. Next: at Temple, Monday, Dec. 29.

11. Wichita State (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Loyola Marymount, Monday, Dec. 29.
12. Ohio State (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Miami (Ohio), Monday, Dec. 29.

13. Iowa State (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. NYU, Wednesday, Dec. 31.
14. Utah (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Weber State, Monday, Dec. 29.

15. Oklahoma (7-3) did not play. Next: vs. Washington State, Monday, Dec. 29.
16. Washington (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Tulane, Monday, Dec. 29.

17. Maryland (10-0) beat Oklahoma State 73-64. Next: vs. Oakland, Saturday, Dec. 27.
18. Providence (10-0) beat North Carolina 73-64. Next: at San Diego State, Monday, Dec. 29.

19. St. John's (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Bowling Green, Monday, Dec. 29.
20. Notre Dame (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Weber State, Monday, Dec. 29.

21. West Virginia (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Arizona, Monday, Dec. 29.
22. Butler (8-3) did not play. Next: vs. UT Martin, Monday, Dec. 29.

23. Santa Clara (8-3) did not play. Next: vs. UAB, Saturday, Dec. 27.
24. North Carolina State (8-4) did not play. Next: vs. the Citadel, Monday, Dec. 29.

Sunday, Jan. 12
College Football Championship
At Arlington, Texas
Sugar Bowl winner vs. Rose Bowl winner

Sunday, Dec. 21
Army 72, Maine 69, OT
Duke 83, Holy Cross 48
Franklin Pierce 88, Dominican (NY) 72
Harford 62, FIU 69
Miami (Fla.) 69, Oregon State 52
Southern Cal 75, Boston College 71
St. Michael's 71, Wichita State 61
St. Thomas Aquinas 68, Felician 58
Stony Brook 67, Loyola (Md.) 62

SOUTH
Alabama 60, Appalachian St. 69
Duke 83, Bridgewater St. 51
E. Tennessee 75, Eastern Mich. 58
E. Michigan 67, Western Mich. 55
Georgia 65, Seton Hall 47
IU Indy 70, Western Ky. 55
Hampden 75, N. Arizona 66
Lipscomb 69, Austin Peay 63
Marshall 68, Tennessee 56

SOUTH
Alabama 87, New Orleans 58
Charlotte 85, Davidson 58
Clemson 66, SC State 57
Florida 69, Mercer 59
Georgia 65, South Carolina 57
Dayton 71, Vanderbilt 67
Duke 83, Kentucky 68
IU Indy 70, Western Ky. 55
Johns C. Smith 59, St. Leo 54
Maine 69, William & Mary 55
Maryland 110, Coppin St. 51
Michigan St. 89, Syracuse 76
North Carolina 75, W. Carolina 45
North Florida 67, Kentucky 56
St. Francis (Pa.) 75, Coastal Carolina 72

MIDWEST
Tennessee Tech 62, Morgan St. 56
UAB 73, South Alabama 43
Valdosta State 62, Penn State 63
Virginia Tech 73, Radford 60
W. Kentucky 94, Ball St. 69

MIDWEST
Evansville 87, Indiana 76
Cleveland State 62, Eastern Mich. 47
IUPUI 62, Evansville 50
Iowa 100, Drake 98
Iowa State 62, Sam Houston 57
Marquette 65, W. Illinois 57
North Dakota 86, Eastern Mich. 59
Minnesota 62, Cent. Michigan 64
N. Iowa 51, Illinois 42
North Dakota 86, St. Joseph's 50
Purdue 70, Wright 41
St. Louis 62, Eastern Mich. 59
South Carolina 84, Liberty 44
South Dakota 86, North Dakota 81
Tennessee Tech 62, Morgan St. 56

WEST
California 73, Oklahoma St. 64
North Dakota 86, St. Joseph's 50
FAR WEST
Bryant 48, Denver 47
BYU 67, Montana State 47
Seattle 66, Sacramento St. 60
St. Mary's 67, Montana 59
Washington St. 82, San Jose St. 53

Don Haskins Sun Bowl
Kent St. 53, N. Dakota 52
First Round
UTEP 78, Alcorn 45

Walter H. Rife Holiday Classic
First Round
Green Bay 52, Bradley 47
UC Irvine 55, Bradley 47

AP Women's Top 25 fared

Sunday
1. South Carolina (12-0) beat Liberty 84-56. Next: at Wake Forest, Friday, Jan. 2.
2. UConn (9-1) beat Texas A&M 66-56. Next: vs. SMU, Saturday.

3. Duke (10-0) beat Texas A&M 67-65. Next: vs. Rice, Tuesday, Dec. 30.
4. Baylor (10-0) beat Texas A&M 67-65. Next: vs. Rice, Tuesday, Dec. 30.

5. Notre Dame (11-1) beat Saint Joseph's 64-50. Next: at UCLA, Sunday, Dec. 28.
6. Baylor (10-0) beat Texas A&M 67-65. Next: vs. Albany (N.Y.), Tuesday, Dec. 30.

7. Stanford (6-4) did not play. Next: vs. UC Davis, Monday, Dec. 29.
8. Stanford (6-2) lost to No. 13 Duke 89-68. Next: vs. Tennessee State, Sunday, Dec. 29.
9. Prairie View, Monday, Dec. 29.

10. Louisville (11-1) beat No. 24 California 70-57. Next: vs. Evansville, Monday, Dec. 29.
11. Tennessee (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Oregon State, Sunday, Dec. 29.
12. Nebraska (10-1) did not play. Next: at Minnesota, Monday, Dec. 29.

13. Duke (8-3) beat No. 8 Kentucky 89-68. Next: at No. 2 Iowa State, Monday, Dec. 29.
14. Maryland (8-2) beat Coppin State 110-51. Next: vs. Texas State, Monday, Dec. 29.
15. Georgia (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Belmont, Monday, Dec. 29.

16. Oregon State (10-0) did not play. Next: at Tennessee, Sunday, Dec. 29.
17. Rutgers (9-2) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Sunday, Dec. 29.
18. Michigan State (8-3) beat No. 19 Syracuse 89-76. Next: vs. Northwestern, Monday, Dec. 29.

19. Oklahoma State (9-1) beat South Carolina 66-62. Next: vs. Northwestern State, Monday, Dec. 29.
20. Syracuse (8-3) lost to No. 18 Michigan State 89-76. Next: vs. Cornell, Sunday, Dec. 29.

nia 70-57. Next: vs. Evansville, Monday, Dec. 29.

21. Tennessee (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 16 Oregon State, Sunday, Dec. 29.
22. Nebraska (10-1) did not play. Next: at Minnesota, Monday, Dec. 29.

23. Duke (8-3) beat No. 8 Kentucky 89-68. Next: at No. 2 Iowa State, Monday, Dec. 29.
24. Maryland (8-2) beat Coppin State 110-51. Next: vs. Texas State, Monday, Dec. 29.

25. Georgia (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Belmont, Monday, Dec. 29.
26. Oregon State (10-0) did not play. Next: at Tennessee, Sunday, Dec. 29.
27. Rutgers (9-2) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Sunday, Dec. 29.

28. Michigan State (8-3) beat No. 19 Syracuse 89-76. Next: vs. Northwestern, Monday, Dec. 29.
29. Oklahoma State (9-1) beat South Carolina 66-62. Next: vs. Northwestern State, Monday, Dec. 29.

30. Syracuse (8-3) lost to No. 18 Michigan State 89-76. Next: vs. Cornell, Sunday, Dec. 29.

31. Mississippi State (14-0) beat Miami (Ohio) 68-42. Next: vs. Arkansas-Pine Bluff, Monday, Dec. 29.

32. West Virginia (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest 100-98. Next: vs. Penn State, Sunday, Dec. 29.

33. California (7-3) lost to No. 10 Louisville 79-72. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Sunday, Dec. 29.
34. Indiana (7-4) did not play. Next: vs. Hampton, Monday, Dec. 29.

Sunday's women's scores
Binghamton 72, Rider 67
Bucknell 74, Mount St. Mary's 49
Cleveland State 62, Penn State 63
Kent St. 62, Colgate 61
LIU Brooklyn 79, Buffalo 73
Lynchburg 66, WIT 52
Navy 71, St. Peter's 35
Purdue 70, Youngstown St. 52
Portland St. 71, Columbia 66
Princeton 84, Marquette (NJ) 53
Purdue 70, Duquesne 57
Quinnipiac 70, Hartford 58
South Florida 69, Penn State 87
UConn 86, UGA 50

SOUTH
Alabama 87, New Orleans 58
Charlotte 85, Davidson 58
Clemson 66, SC State 57
Florida 69, Mercer 59
Georgia 65, South Carolina 57
Dayton 71, Vanderbilt 67
Duke 83, Kentucky 68
IU Indy 70, Western Ky. 55
Johns C. Smith 59, St. Leo 54
Maine 69, William & Mary 55
Maryland 110, Coppin St. 51
Michigan St. 89, Syracuse 76
North Carolina 75, W. Carolina 45
North Florida 67, Kentucky 56
St. Francis (Pa.) 75, Coastal Carolina 72

MIDWEST
Tennessee Tech 62, Morgan St. 56
UAB 73, South Alabama 43
Valdosta State 62, Penn State 63
Virginia Tech 73

NHL

Roundup

Flayers win in OT in Zepp's debut

The Associated Press

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Rob Zepp made 25 saves in his NHL debut and Jakob Voracek scored 10 seconds into overtime, sending the Philadelphia Flyers to a 4-3 victory over the Winnipeg Jets on Sunday night.

Voracek and linemate Claude Giroux forced a Dustin Byfuglien turnover behind the Winnipeg net, and Voracek slid the puck through Ondrej Pavelec's pads for his second goal of the game.

The 33-year-old Zepp was promoted from Lehigh Valley of the American Hockey League due to an injury to Steve Mason. The Flyers say he is the oldest goaltender to win his NHL debut since 1926. "As calm as you try to be, when you wait this long and you get out on the ice, I'm not going to lie, I didn't feel like myself in the first 10 minutes," said Zepp, who spent the previous seven seasons in Germany.

Vincent Lecavalier had two third-period goals for the Flyers, who rallied from a 3-1 deficit.

"The way the guys battled in the third period was unbelievable," Zepp said. "I appreciate this more than anybody knows."

Blackhawks 4, Maple Leafs 0: Patrick Kane had a power-play goal and two assists, leading host Chicago to the victory.

Antti Raanta made 31 saves for his second shutout of the season, helping the Blackhawks rebound from a 3-2 shootout loss Saturday night in Columbus.

Reimer made 30 saves in Toronto's third straight loss following a six-game winning streak.

Avalanche 2, Red Wings 1 (SO): At Detroit, Jarome Iginla scored in the ninth shootout round to lift Colorado to the victory.

Iginla got a wrist shot past Petr Mrazek, who had turned away six straight Avalanche shooters. Nathan MacKinnon and Matt Duchene also scored in the tiebreaker as Colorado ended a three-game road trip with five points.

Gustav Nyquist and Tomas

Tatar had shootout goals for Detroit, which fell to 1-7 this season in the tiebreaker.

Detroit had a 22-12 shots advantage five minutes into the third period and finally cashed in when Pavel Datsyuk wristed a power-play shot past Calvin Pickard for his 13th goal.

The Avalanche tied it with 4:15 left in regulation when Erik Johnson scored on the power play for his eighth of the season.

Rangers 1, Hurricanes 0: Ryan McDonagh scored in the first and Cam Talbot made 18 saves, leading host New York to its sixth consecutive victory.

The Rangers completed a sweep of the home-and-home weekend series against the Eastern Conference-worst Hurricanes, who lost for the eighth time in nine games.

Talbot is 3-3-1 this season backing up Henrik Lundqvist, with all three of his victories being shutouts.

Bruins 4, Sabres 5 (OT): Loui Eriksson scored 2:14 into overtime, and host Boston rallied for the victory.

Dougie Hamilton scored twice for Boston, including a tying goal with 1:31 left in the third after the Bruins pulled goalie Tuukka Rask. Chris Kelly also scored for Boston, and defenseman Zdeno Chara had two assists.

Buffalo couldn't quite hang on after holding a 3-2 lead for most of the third period on Tim Schaller's first NHL goal.

Stars 6, Oilers 5 (SO): Tyler Seguin had two goals and an assist, and then scored in the shootout to help visiting Dallas to its fourth consecutive win.

Shawn Horcoff had the winning score in the eighth round of the tiebreaker, and also collected his fifth goal in the first period. Erik Cole and Jamie Benn also scored in regulation for the Stars (14-13-5), who have won five of six.

The Oilers (7-20-7) blew a 5-2 lead and have lost seven straight and 18 of 19.



TREVOR HAGAN, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

The Flyers' Jakob Voracek, center, and Nicolas Grossmann celebrate after Voracek scored in overtime to beat the Jets 4-3 in Winnipeg on Sunday.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference							
Atlantic Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Montreal	14	22	7	44	92	83	
Tampa Bay	35	20	11	44	113	93	
Detroit	34	17	9	43	94	84	
Toronto	34	19	12	41	114	102	
Boston	34	17	14	37	86	88	
Florida	31	14	9	36	69	79	
Ottawa	33	14	13	34	89	92	
Buffalo	12	6	4	29	66	69	
Metropolitan Division							
Pittsburgh	32	16	0	46	102	72	
N.Y. Islanders	33	23	6	46	104	91	
N.Y. Rangers	31	17	10	44	88	93	
Washington	12	16	0	38	85	85	
Philadelphia	33	13	14	32	92	99	
Columbus	14	14	3	31	75	103	
New Jersey	35	12	17	30	77	102	
Chicago	33	9	20	4	22	68	92

Western Conference						
Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	34	19	11	42	97	87
St. Louis	33	21	9	45	100	81
Nashville	35	21	8	44	97	64
Winnipeg	34	17	10	41	83	80
Minnesota	31	16	12	35	91	84
Dallas	32	14	13	35	95	109
Colorado	33	14	13	32	85	101

Pacific Division							
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Anaheim	35	22	8	5	49	100	96
Vancouver	32	19	11	42	97	92	
Los Angeles	34	17	11	40	94	84	
Calgary	35	17	13	37	100	95	
Arizona	32	11	17	4	26	74	
Edmonton	14	20	7	7	16	115	

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

Saturday's games
 N.Y. Rangers 3, Carolina 2, SO
 Columbus 5, Chicago 2, SO
 Los Angeles 4, Arizona 2
 Colorado 5, Buffalo 1
 Philadelphia 7, Toronto 4
 Philadelphia 4, Ottawa 1
 Washington 4, New Jersey 0
 N.Y. Islanders 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Pittsburgh 3, Florida 1
 Nashville 6, Minnesota 5, OT
 Vancouver 3, Calgary 2, OT
 San Jose 3, St. Louis 5, OT

Sunday's games
 Colorado 2, Detroit 1, SO
 Dallas 6, Edmonton 5, SO
 Boston 4, Buffalo 3, SO
 N.Y. Rangers 1, Carolina 0
 Chicago 4, Toronto 0
 Philadelphia 4, Winnipeg 3, OT

Monday's games
 Ottawa at Washington
 Nashville at Columbus
 Pittsburgh at Florida
 Arizona at Vancouver
 San Jose at Anaheim
 Calgary at Los Angeles

Tuesday's games
 Carolina at Boston
 Montreal at N.Y. Islanders
 Washington at N.Y. Rangers
 Philadelphia at Minnesota
 Dallas at Edmonton
 Buffalo at Detroit
 Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay
 Arizona at Edmonton
 St. Louis at Colorado
 Winnipeg at Chicago

Sunday						
Rangers 1, Hurricanes 0						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
N.Y. Rangers	1	0	0	1	0	0

First Period—1. N.Y. Rangers, McDonagh 2 (Stapan, Zuccarello), 4:10.
Shots on goal—Carolina 4-10-4-18.
N.Y. Rangers 0-1-13-7-31.
Goals—Carolina, Khudobin 0-8-2 (31 shots-30 saves). N.Y. Rangers, Talbot 3-3-1 (18-18).
A—18,006 (18,006), T—2:27.

Blackhawks 4, Maple Leafs 0						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chicago	2	0	2	4	4	4

First Period—1. Chicago, Rundblad 1 (Kane, Sharp), 15:30. 2, Chicago, Versteeg 9 (Kane, Sharp), 13:59.
Second Period—3. Chicago, Kane 16 (Stoner, Seabrook), 9:07 (pp), 4, Chicago, Toews 13 (Seabrook, Keith), 11:22.
Shots on goal—Toronto 7-9-15-31.
Chicago 12-15-34.
Power-play opportunities—Toronto 0 of 2; Chicago 1 of 3.
Goals—Toronto, Reimer 6-0-4 (34 shots-30 saves). Chicago, Raanta 6-2-0 (31-31).
A—22,131 (19,717), T—2:24.

Flyers 4, Jets 3 (OT)						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	1	0	2	1-4	4	4
Winnipeg	2	1	0	0-3	3	3

First Period—1. Philadelphia, Voracek 13 (Giroux, Raffl), 46:2, Winnipeg, Hulscher 6-33, 3, Winnipeg, Byfuglien 8 (LITTLE), 7:33.
Second Period—4. Winnipeg, Perrault 6 (Scheifele, Frolik), 11:21.
Third Period—5. Philadelphia, Lecavalier 3 (Streit, Vandeweyer), 6:08, 6, Philadelphia, Lecavalier 4, 16:46.
Overtime—7. Philadelphia, Voracek 14:10.
Shots on goal—Philadelphia 9-9-9-1-23. Winnipeg 17-9-2-0-28.
Power-play opportunities—Philadelphia 0 of 4; Winnipeg 0 of 1.
Goals—Philadelphia, Zepp 1-0-0 (28 shots-25 saves). Winnipeg, Pavelec 10-6-5 (23-19).
A—15,016 (15,004), T—2:29.

Bruins 4, Sabres 3 (OT)						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	0	2	1	0-3	3	3
Boston	1	1	1	1-4	4	4

First Period—1. Boston, Hamilton 6 (Soderberg, Eriksson), 5:52 (pp).
Second Period—2. Buffalo, Meszaros 1 (Stewart, Larsson), 6:06, 3, Buffalo, Ristolainen 3 (Ennis, Girgensons), 14:36 (pp), 4, Boston, Kelly 3 (Chara, Hamilton), 15:36.
Third Period—5. Buffalo, Schaller 1 (Deslauriers, Flynn), 1:27, 6, Boston, Hamilton 7 (Bergerson, R.Smith), 18:29.
Overtime—6. Boston, Eriksson 7 (Lucic, Chara), 2:14.
Shots on goal—Buffalo 7-15-6-0-28. Boston 10-13-13-1-37.
Power-play opportunities—Buffalo 1 of 2; Boston 1 of 1.
Goals—Buffalo, Enroth 10-11-2 (37 shots-33 saves). Boston, Rask 13-10-3 (28-25).
A—17,565 (17,565), T—2:32.

Avalanche 2, Red Wings 1 (SO)						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	0	0	1	0-2	2	2
Detroit	0	0	1	0-1	1	1

Colorado won shootout 3-2.
Third Period—1. Detroit, Datsyuk 13 (Sheahan, Zetterberg), 4:52 (pp), 2, Colorado, Johnson 8 (Barrie, Landeskog), 15:45 (pp).
Shots on goal—Colorado 5-7-9-2-23. Detroit 10-10-14-5-35.
Power-play opportunities—Colorado 1 of 2; Detroit 1 of 4.
Goals—Colorado, Pickard 6-5-2 (35 shots-34 saves). Detroit, Mrazek 3-2-1 (23-22).
A—20,027 (20,027), T—2:44.

Stars 6, Oilers 5 (SO)						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	2	1	2	0-6	6	6
Edmonton	1	4	0	0-5	5	5

Dallas won shootout 3-2.
First Period—1. Edmonton, Hall 9 (Purcell, Eberle), 2:58 (pp), 2, Dallas, Horcoff 5 (Jokipaka, Scovieri), 6:36, 3, Dallas, Cole 6 (Hemla, Goligoski), 10:20.
Second Period—4. Edmonton, Purcell 5 (Nugent-Hopkins, Hall), 1:11, 5, Edmonton, Arcoabele 6 (Petry, Ferenc), 2:44, 6, Seguin 6, J. Benn 6, P. Roy, Hemsky NG, Fiedler 6, Jo Benn NG, Horcoff G, Edmonton 2 (Hall NG, Derry NG, Eberle G, Hendricks NG, Nugent-Hopkins NG, Purcell G, Arcoabele NG, Lander NG).
Shots on goal—Dallas 11-14-16-4-45. Edmonton 12-9-5-3-29.
Power-play opportunities—Dallas 1 of 3; Edmonton 1 of 1.
Goals—Dallas, Lehtonen (9 shots-15 saves), Lindback 1-0-0 (9:19 second, 10:5). Edmonton, Scrivens 5-15-5 (45-40).
A—16,839 (16,839), T—2:51.

Scoring leaders						
Through Dec. 21						
Player	G	A	Pts	GP	GF	GA
Jakub Voracek, Phi	13	34	40	4	4	4
Tyler Seguin, Dal	13	20	27	42	42	42
Evan Giroux, Phi	13	30	40	40	40	40
Clayton Klockner, StL	12	23	38	38	38	38
Uladimir Karanzenko, StL	12	20	32	32	32	32
Ryan Getzlaf, Ana	12	25	37	37	37	37
Steven Stamkos, TB	12	24	36	36	36	36
Phil Kessel, Tor	12	19	36	36	36	36
Patrick Kane, Chi	12	26	38	38	38	38
Rick Nash, NYR	12	20	32	32	32	32
Nicklas Backstrom, Was	12	20	34	34	34	34
Tyler Johnson, Tor	12	24	36	36	36	36
Mark Giordano, Cgy	12	20	32	32	32	32
2 tied with 31 pts.						



PAUL SANCIYA/AP

Red Wings goalie Petr Mrazek stops a shot by Colorado's Tyson Barrie in the shootout in Detroit on Sunday. Colorado won 2-1.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

College basketball roundup

Terps pass a road test by beating Cowboys

The Associated Press

STILLWATER, Okla. — Maryland passed another big test as it prepares for its first season in the rugged Big Ten.

Jake Layman had 21 points and 11 rebounds and the No. 17 Terrapins beat Oklahoma State 73-64 on Sunday to improve to 11-1. They handed the Cowboys their fifth loss in 198 nonconference home games dating to 1987.

"It's big for the team to get that first real road win in a tough environment, especially the younger guys because this is what we'll see in conference play," Layman said.

Maryland, 17-15 last season, connected on just five of its first 20 shots, but was 7-for-8 down the stretch in the opening half to take a 32-27 lead. The Terps opened the second half with a 15-3 run to build a 17-point lead.

"The last 5 minutes of the first half and the opening minutes of the second half are about as well as we've played this year," Maryland coach Mark Turgeon said. "Our guys really rose to the occasion. It's always better when you make shots and it was fun to see that stretch. We gained a lot of confidence when we beat Iowa State (in Kansas City) and this is a great win for us. We have two really good road wins."

Layman was 3-for-5 from three-point range and the Terrapins were 10-for-25 overall from long range. Melo Trimble had 16 points, Jared Nickens added 11, and Richaud Pack had 10 rebounds.

Le'Bryan Nash led Oklahoma State (9-2) with 17 points and 19 rebounds. Anthony Hickey had 16 points, and Phil Forte III added 13.



SUE OROZCO/AP

Maryland's Jake Layman dunks in front of Oklahoma State's Le'Bryan Nash on Sunday. Maryland won 73-64.

No. 6 Virginia 76, Harvard 27: Mike Tobey scored 15 points in the first half and Virginia held Harvard to one field goal before the break.

Malcolm Brogdon also had 15 points to help Virginia (11-0) match its best start since 1992-93.

Army 72, Maine 69 (OT): Mo Williams scored all seven of his points in the final minute of overtime to help host Army.

Maine led 66-65 in OT when Williams hit a three-pointer with 57 seconds to play to put Army up 68-66. A free throw by Shaun Lawton pulled the Black Bears within one, 68-67, but Williams was fouled and hit two free throws for a 70-67 Army lead. Till Gloger's basket made it 70-69 with 5 second left, but Williams hit two more free throws to ice the win.

Tanner Plomb scored 20 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, Kevin Ferguson added 10 points, and the Black Knights (8-2) outrebounded the Black Bears 43-33.

FSU clears QB Winston

School cites insufficient evidence in code of conduct hearing

By KAREEM COPELAND
The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State quarterback Jameis Winston was cleared Sunday of the accusations he faced at a student code of conduct hearing involving an alleged sexual assault two years ago.

Former Florida Supreme Court Justice Major Harding wrote in a letter to Winston that the evidence was "insufficient to satisfy the burden of proof." Prosecutor Willie Meggs made a similar decision a year ago when he decided not to criminally charge Winston, citing a lack of evidence.

This month, a two-day hearing was held to determine whether Winston violated four sections of the code of conduct — two for sexual misconduct and two for endangerment.

The ramifications for Winston ranged from a reprimand to expulsion from school.

The woman can request an appeal within five days.

"We will consider an appeal but right now we feel a little duped," Baine Kerr, one of the woman's lawyers, said in an emailed statement. "At some point we have to recognize that Florida State is never going to hold James Winston responsible."

AP is not identifying the woman because it does not identify people who say they are victims of sexual abuse.

"Somehow Jameis Winston still wins," Kerr said. "The order doesn't even follow the Student Conduct Code and it ignores the bulk of the evidence."

Kerr said that between his client, Winston, and two teammates that were at the off-campus apartment — Chris Casher and Ronald Darby — only the woman would answer questions about what happened.

Winston did submit a lengthy

'Somehow Jameis Winston still wins.'

Baine Kerr
Attorney for woman who accused FSU QB of sexual assault

statement detailing his version of events.

Florida State president John Thrasher said the university selected the former state Supreme Court justice to remove any doubt about the integrity of the process.

Harding wrote that both sides' version of the events had strengths and weaknesses, but he did not find the credibility of one "substantially stronger than the other."

In sum, the preponderance of the evidence has not shown that you are responsible for any of the charged violations of the Code," Harding wrote.

Winston family adviser David Cornwell did not respond to requests for comment.

Cornwell has contended that attorneys for the former student pushed for the hearing after they were rebuffed in an attempt to reach a settlement with Winston.

Florida State faces Oregon in the College Football Playoffs semifinal on Jan. 1. Before the ruling, there were questions whether Winston would be available to play. The Seminoles won a national championship with Winston at the helm last season and have not lost a game since he earned the starting job before the beginning of the 2013 season.

Florida State is currently being investigated by the Department of Education on how it handles possible Title IX violations. The woman who said Winston assaulted her filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, which decided the university should be investigated for possible Title IX

violations over the way it responds to sexual violence complaints.

Title IX is a federal statute that bans discrimination at schools that receive federal funding. The Department of Education in 2011 warned schools of their legal responsibilities to immediately investigate allegations of sexual assault and domestic violence, even if the criminal investigation has not concluded.

Bowls on AFN



Boca Raton Bowl
Marshall vs. Northern Illinois
AFN-Sports
Midnight, Wednesday, CET
8 a.m. Wednesday, JKT



Pointsettia Bowl
Navy vs. San Diego State
AFN-Sports
3:30 a.m. Wednesday, CET
11:30 a.m. Sunday, JKT

Introducing Mercedes-Benz to the MAS product line-up



Leaving the Middle East? Order a new Mercedes-Benz and access your military program benefits.

militaryautosource.com

Contact your Sales Representative for more details. Vehicles shown are for illustrative only, and they contain optional equipment available at additional charge. Program and government are subject to terms and conditions. Offered by Mercedes Military Sales Corporation - (MMS) LLC, (MMSDC)

MAS MILITARY AUTOSOURCE



SPORTS BRIEFS

Disappointing Pistons move on from Smith

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The Detroit Pistons have waived forward Josh Smith, less than two years after signing him to a lucrative free-agent contract.

The Pistons are 5-23 and coach and team president Stan Van Gundy says the club wants to develop younger players. He says he felt it best to give the 29-year-old Smith his freedom to go elsewhere.

Smith signed a \$54 million, four-year deal with the Pistons before last season, but he shot only 42 percent from the field in 2013-14. This season, Smith is at 39 percent.

In other NBA news:

■ Nuggets forward Danilo Gallinari has a torn meniscus in his right knee and is expected to soon undergo surgery.

The team has yet to announce a timetable for his return.

Gallinari turned in one of his best games of the season Saturday in a win over Indiana as he scored 19 points, including a three-pointer to spark a critical fourth-quarter run.

Gallinari is averaging 7.8 points in 18.8 minutes this season.

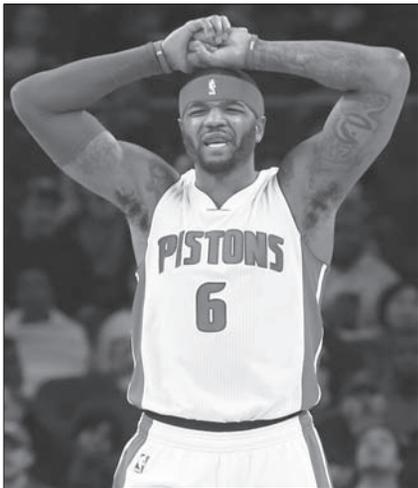
He was back on the court this year after missing nearly 18 months with a torn ACL in his left knee that required three surgeries.

Jets players speak out on murdered officers

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Jets defensive lineman Sheldon Richardson spoke out in support of two New York City police officers killed Saturday, saying "innocent blood was spilled."

Richardson, from the St. Louis area, had been critical of the grand jury in Ferguson, Mo., which didn't indict officer Darren Wilson in the killing of Michael Brown on Aug. 9. After the Jets' 17-16 loss to the New England Patriots on Sunday, Richardson says no officer deserves to die, and mourning "innocent cops" is "not the way to go."

Jets center Nick Mangold wore a black NYPD cap while walking into MetLife Stadium, and held it to his heart during the singing of the national anthem.



PAUL SANCTA/AP

The Detroit Pistons waived forward Josh Smith on Monday, parting ways less than two years after signing him to a four-year, \$54 million contract.

Officers Rafael Ramos and Wenjian Liu were shot while sitting in their patrol car in Brooklyn.

Hughes, Twins agree to 5-year, \$58 million deal

MINNEAPOLIS — Phil Hughes finished his first season in Minnesota one out shy of a \$500,000 bonus. His new deal with the Twins more than takes care of that.

The Twins and the 28-year-old right-hander agreed Monday to a \$58 million, five-year contract that adds \$42 million in guaranteed money from 2017-19.

Hughes went 16-10 with a 3.52 ERA and led the major leagues among qualifying pitchers with an 11.63 strikeout-to-walk ratio. He had been scheduled to make \$8 million each of the next two seasons as part of a \$24 million, three-year contract he signed as

a free agent after leaving the New York Yankees.

He will make \$9.2 million in each of the next two years and \$13.2 million annually from 2017-19. The deal includes \$200,000 per year in available performance bonuses and a limited no-trade provision.

In what was another long season for the Twins' starting rotation, Hughes was the one guy the team could rely on each time he took the mound. He was coming off a woeful season with the Yankees in which he went 4-14 with a 5.19 ERA and he had given up 59 home runs over his previous two seasons. Hughes was revitalized in pitcher-friendly Target Field.

Hughes allowed 16 homers and walked 16 batters, becoming the sixth pitcher in baseball history to walk fewer than 20 batters while pitching at least 200 innings in a season.

Kentucky unanimous No. 1 for 3rd week

Kentucky leaves no doubt about its standing atop the AP Top 25 poll.

The Wildcats (12-0) are the unanimous No. 1 for the third week in a row, again getting all 65 first-place votes.

The new rankings Monday came two days after Kentucky's 83-44 romp over UCLA. The Wildcats scored the game's first 24 points and led 41-7 at halftime in a matchup of the two teams with the most NCAA championships.

No. 22 Baylor (9-1), a Sweet 16 team last season, is the highest-ranked of four Top 25 newcomers. TCU (11-0), another Big 12 team, debuted at No. 25. Its first poll appearance since the 1998-99 season.

Northern Iowa (10-1) returned to the poll at No. 23, ahead of Colorado State (11-0).

Duke (10-0) stayed second, followed by Arizona (12-0) and Louisville (10-0). The only change in the top 10 was Virginia (11-0) moving up to fifth and swapping spots with Wisconsin (10-1), the only Top 25 team that was idle last week. Villanova (11-0), Gonzaga (11-1), Texas (10-1) and Kansas (9-1) rounded out the top 10.

Northeast (11-1), which beat Purdue 94-63 in its only game last week, made the biggest upward move, five spots to 16th.

Falling out were Miami, San Diego State, Butler and Michigan State.

Report: Mississippi QB recruit Kelly arrested

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Mississippi recruit Chad Kelly faces numerous charges, including resisting arrest, after an altercation at a downtown Buffalo restaurant, The Buffalo News reported Sunday night.

The newspaper reported Kelly, the former Clemson quarterback who announced last week he made a verbal commitment to play at Ole Miss, was arrested early Sunday morning after allegedly punching a bouncer for refusing to leave the establishment, which also includes a bar. A Buffalo Police report said the

20-year-old Kelly then allegedly scuffled with officers while being removed from a pickup which police stopped nearby.

Kelly faces other charges, including third-degree assault, second-degree harassment and second-degree menacing. He was arraigned in Buffalo City Court and released without bail.

Kelly and a male companion had allegedly been ejected earlier in the evening. The altercation began after the two attempted to re-enter the establishment.

Two members of the bar's security staff sustained minor injuries in the altercation, police said.

Kelly, who grew up in nearby Niagara Falls, is the nephew of Buffalo Bills Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly.

In April, Kelly was kicked off the Clemson football team for conduct detrimental to the program. It happened two days after he was benched during the Tigers spring game for disagreeing with coaches over whether to go for it on fourth down.

Kelly enrolled at East Mississippi Community College, where he led the school to win the National Junior College Athletic Association title earlier this month.

103-year-old golfer makes hole in one

SARASOTA, Florida — A 103-year-old Florida golfer may have made history as the oldest person to record a hole in one.

The PGA of America announced on its website that Gus Andreone of Sarasota achieved the feat on Wednesday at Palm Aire Country Club. The group said it was likely that Andreone was the oldest golfer to ace a hole, beating the previous record of a 102-year-old woman in 2007.

Andreone told Tampa Bay television station Fox 13 News that the ace marks his eighth since 1939.

He used a driver on the 113-yard 14th hole of the Lakes Course, as he normally does, but then noticed something different. The ball went straight into the hole.

Andreone pocketed \$80 for the feat, and says he looked forward to doing it again.

THE BADDER YOU ARE, THE BIGGER THE GIFT.

SHOP HARLEY® FOR A ADDRESS SAKE.

Order a bike and get the gear you need with an H-D® gift card:

Speak to a Sales Representative Today for gift card details.

GIFT IT OR KEEP IT FOR YOURSELF.

Enter for the chance to win a genuine H-D® Fleecie!® One winner per location.

*No purchase necessary to enter. All program and guarantees are subject to terms and conditions. Visit www.mcs.com or see your Sales Representative for complete details. All illustrations and specifications are to the best of our knowledge correct as of the date of publication. There are subject to change made by the manufacturer and the laws or regulations of any federal, state or local governmental agency. Overseas Military Sales Corporation is an authorized contractor of the Exchange and MCS. Exchange Home Care Sales is an authorized distributor to sell and distribute Harley-Davidson® articles. This advertisement does not express or imply endorsement by the Exchange. ©2014 MCS. DOD compliance: The Federal Government and is not sponsored by them. #1738_Batting_55_51ps

INFLUOREBOARD

American Conference

W	E	T	Pct	PF	PA
Y-New England	12	3	567	409	259
Y-Philadelphia	10	6	567	409	259
Y-Buffalo	8	7	533	326	280
N.Y. Jets	3	12	200	246	377
Y-Indianapolis	10	5	467	331	289
Y-Cincinnati	9	6	467	331	289
Y-Jacksonville	3	12	200	246	377
Tennessee	7	9	413	244	411

North

Cincinnati	9	4	679	311	289
Y-Cincinnati	9	6	467	331	289
Y-Cleveland	9	6	467	331	289
Y-Denver	11	3	786	407	304
Y-Kansas City	8	7	533	326	280
Oakland	7	9	413	244	411

National Conference

W	E	T	Pct	PF	PA
Y-Dallas	11	4	733	423	353
Y-Philadelphia	6	9	440	240	374
N.Y. Giants	6	9	440	240	374
Washington	6	9	440	240	374

South

Carolina	6	8	433	305	374
Atlanta	7	8	433	305	374
New Orleans	6	9	440	240	374
Tampa Bay	6	9	440	240	374

North

x-Detroit	11	4	733	423	353
Y-Detroit	11	4	733	423	353
Y-Minnesota	6	9	440	240	374
Y-Minnesota	6	9	440	240	374

West

x-Seattle	11	4	733	423	353
x-Arizona	11	4	733	423	353
San Francisco	7	8	467	331	289
San Francisco	7	8	467	331	289

Monday's game

Denver at Cincinnati

Sunday, Dec. 28

Indianapolis at Tennessee

San Diego at San Francisco

Jacksonville at Houston

San Diego at Kansas City

Chicago at Minnesota

San Diego at Buffalo

Dallas at Indianapolis

Seattle at Arizona

Sunday

Giants 37, Rams 27

N.Y. Giants 10 14 10 7-37

St. Louis 3 3 7 7-27

First Quarter

NYG—FG Brown 29, 10:41.

NYG—Beckham Jr. 9 pass from Manning (Brown kick), 7:29.

NYG—Randall 1 pass from Manning (Brown kick), 7:29.

SE—Kendricks 23 pass from Hill (Zuerlein kick), 8:25.

NYG—Beckham Jr. 80 pass from Manning (Brown kick), 8:25.

NYG—Brown 52, 8:11.

SE—Glens 47 quarter (Hill (Zuerlein kick), 3:56.

Second Quarter

NYG—Darwin 12 run (Brown kick), 4:49.

SE—Mason 10 run (Zuerlein kick), 2:18.

NYG—Zuerlein 20, 1:52.

SE—Darwin 12 run (Brown kick), 4:49.

NYG—Randall 1 pass from Manning (Brown kick), 7:29.

SE—Kendricks 23 pass from Hill (Zuerlein kick), 8:25.

NYG—Beckham Jr. 80 pass from Manning (Brown kick), 8:25.

NYG—Brown 52, 8:11.

SE—Glens 47 quarter (Hill (Zuerlein kick), 3:56.

Third Quarter

NYG—Brown 52, 8:11.

SE—Glens 47 quarter (Hill (Zuerlein kick), 3:56.

Fourth Quarter

NYG—Brown 52, 8:11.

SE—Glens 47 quarter (Hill (Zuerlein kick), 3:56.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—N.Y. Giants: Manning 26-110, Barkin 4-21, Beckham Jr. 1-0, Manning 26-110, Barkin 4-21, Beckham Jr. 1-0, Manning 26-110, Barkin 4-21, Beckham Jr. 1-0.

Packers 20, Buccaneers 7

Green Bay	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	7	3	0	10-20	20
Tampa Bay	0	3	0	0-3	3

First Quarter

GB—Lacy 17 run (Hoyle kick), 4:49.

GB—Frosty 42, 4:55.

GB—Frosty 43, 2:00.

Second Quarter

GB—Frosty 42, 4:55.

GB—Frosty 43, 2:00.

Third Quarter

GB—Frosty 42, 4:55.

GB—Frosty 43, 2:00.

Fourth Quarter

GB—Frosty 42, 4:55.

GB—Frosty 43, 2:00.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Green Bay: Lacy 17-99, Crosby 11-57, Rodgers 3-19, Flynn 3-19, M. Smith 1-10, T. Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Green Bay: Rodgers 3-19, Flynn 3-19, M. Smith 1-10, T. Brown 1-10.

Passing

Green Bay: Rodgers 3-19, Flynn 3-19, M. Smith 1-10, T. Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Tampa Bay: Ryan 17-99, Smith 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Tampa Bay: Ryan 17-99, Smith 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Passing

Tampa Bay: Ryan 17-99, Smith 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Packers: Rodgers 3-19, Flynn 3-19, M. Smith 1-10, T. Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Packers: Rodgers 3-19, Flynn 3-19, M. Smith 1-10, T. Brown 1-10.

Passing

Packers: Rodgers 3-19, Flynn 3-19, M. Smith 1-10, T. Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Buccaners: Ryan 17-99, Smith 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Buccaners: Ryan 17-99, Smith 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Seahawks 35, Cardinals 6

Seattle	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle <td>0</td> <td>14</td> <td>0</td> <td>21-38</td> <td>38</td>	0	14	0	21-38	38
Arizona	0	3	0	3-17	17

First Quarter

SEA—Lynch 73 run (Hauschka kick), 7:03.

SEA—Lynch 6 run (Hauschka kick), 3:41.

Second Quarter

SEA—Lynch 73 run (Hauschka kick), 7:03.

SEA—Lynch 6 run (Hauschka kick), 3:41.

Third Quarter

SEA—Lynch 73 run (Hauschka kick), 7:03.

SEA—Lynch 6 run (Hauschka kick), 3:41.

Fourth Quarter

SEA—Lynch 73 run (Hauschka kick), 7:03.

SEA—Lynch 6 run (Hauschka kick), 3:41.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Seattle: Lynch 73-485, Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Seattle: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Passing

Seattle: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Arizona: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Arizona: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Passing

Arizona: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Seattle: Lynch 73-485, Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Seattle: Lynch 73-485, Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Passing

Seattle: Lynch 73-485, Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Arizona: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Arizona: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Steelers 20, Chiefs 12

Kansas City	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>0</td> <td>6-12</td> <td>12</td>	3	3	0	6-12	12
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	6-12	12

First Quarter

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

Second Quarter

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

Third Quarter

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

Fourth Quarter

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

KC—FG Santos 25, 2:06.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Steelers: Bell 13-74, Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Steelers: Bell 13-74, Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Passing

Steelers: Bell 13-74, Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Chiefs: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Chiefs: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Passing

Chiefs: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Steelers: Bell 13-74, Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Steelers: Bell 13-74, Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Passing

Steelers: Bell 13-74, Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Chiefs: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Chiefs: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Dolphins 37, Vikings 35

Minnesota	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota <td>10</td> <td>0</td> <td>18-35</td> <td>35</td> <td>35</td>	10	0	18-35	35	35
Miami	0	7	23-37	37	37

First Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

Second Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

Third Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

Fourth Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Miami: Taylor 11-119, G. Williams 1-10, K. Williams 1-10.

RECEIVING

Miami: Taylor 11-119, G. Williams 1-10, K. Williams 1-10.

Passing

Miami: Taylor 11-119, G. Williams 1-10, K. Williams 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Passing

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Passing

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Raiders 26, Bills 24

Buffalo	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	7	3	0	14-24	24
Oakland	4	13	6	7-26	26

First Quarter

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

Second Quarter

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

Third Quarter

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

Fourth Quarter

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Oakland: Jacobsen 9-93, Woods 7-52, Chandler 4-37, Spiller 4-14, Murray 1-10, Dixon 3-22, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14.

RECEIVING

Oakland: Jacobsen 9-93, Woods 7-52, Chandler 4-37, Spiller 4-14, Murray 1-10, Dixon 3-22, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14.

Passing

Oakland: Jacobsen 9-93, Woods 7-52, Chandler 4-37, Spiller 4-14, Murray 1-10, Dixon 3-22, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14, McEachern 4-14, Carr 4-14.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Passing

Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

Passing

Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.

RECEIVING

Buffalo: Johnson 1-10, Williams 1-10, Brown 1-10.



WR DeSean Jackson (AP)

The Vikings' Terrence Fede, left, celebrates after blocking a Vikings punt for a safety.



Terrence Fede (AP)

Dolphins 37, Vikings 35

Minnesota	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	10	0	18-35	35	35
Miami	0	7	23-37	37	37

First Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

Second Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

Third Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

Fourth Quarter

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

MIN—Waltace 16 pass from Tannehill (Sturgis kick), 4:52.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Miami: Taylor 11-119, G. Williams 1-10, K. Williams 1-10.

RECEIVING

Miami: Taylor 11-119, G. Williams 1-10, K. Williams 1-10.

Passing

Miami: Taylor 11-119, G. Williams 1-10, K. Williams 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

RECEIVING

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Passing

Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing—Minnesota: Peterson 10-57, Brown 1-10, Floyd 1-10.

Raiders 26, Bills 24

Buffalo	W	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	7	3	0	14-24	24
Oakland	4	13	6	7-26	26

First Quarter

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

BUF—Watkins 42 pass from Orton (Carpenter kick), 11:11.

Second Quarter

NFL



DON WRIGHT/AP

Steelers cornerback William Gay (22) breaks up a pass intended for Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Albert Wilson (12) on Sunday in Pittsburgh. The Steelers won 20-12.

Steelers grab playoff spot

Pittsburgh returning to postseason after two-year absence

By WILL GRAVES
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — There was no joyous celebration. The hooting and hollering was kept to the minimum.

A return to the playoffs following a two-year absence after a 20-12 win over Kansas City on Sunday doesn't have the Pittsburgh Steelers getting ahead of themselves. Yes, they're playing into January. But there's still plenty on the table with a week to go in the regular season.

Next up? A shot at the AFC North title and the home game that comes along with it next Sunday against Cincinnati.

"We're going to treat that like a playoff game like we've had the last three weeks," quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said. "We still have work to do."

It's a job the surging Steelers (10-5) suddenly look capable of handling. Pittsburgh has won three straight and is 7-2 since getting crushed at Cleveland in early October. The NFL's top-ranked offense was

slowed a bit by the Chiefs, but the defense sacked Alex Smith six times and held Kansas City out of the end zone.

Six times the Chiefs (8-7) drove into Pittsburgh territory. They picked up four Cairo Santos field goals, a Jamaal Charles fumble and a fourth-down gamble in the second quarter that came up empty and gave the Steelers momentum for good.

"I think there's so many little things that happened," Smith said. "They're not big things, but just little stuff that gets magnified."

It's the kind of missed opportunities that have piled up for Kansas City over the last month. The Chiefs have dropped four of five and need to beat San Diego next week and get some help to make it back to the playoffs.

"We shoot ourselves in the foot sometime and don't know how to bounce back from it," linebacker Tamba Hali said.

Time is running out for Kansas City. Not so much the Steelers, who have won their last six games in December.

Stretch: Seahawks look ready for another run at Super Bowl

FROM BACK PAGE

In case you missed it, here are two top topics after the NFL's 16th regular-season Sunday:

Division deciders: Three divisions will be decided by head-to-head matchups next Sunday: Detroit at Green Bay (NFC North), Carolina at Atlanta (NFC South); the champ will make the playoffs despite a losing record, and Cincinnati at Pittsburgh (AFC North) at night.

Super Seahawks: Don't look now, but the Seahawks — who were 3-3 in October — sure look like a team ready to make a real run at a second consecutive Super Bowl championship. They're 11-4 after dominating host Arizona 35-6 on Sunday night and have allowed an average of 6.6 points during a five-game winning streak. Marshawn Lynch sat out the first quarter, but by the fourth, he was shedding would-be tacklers and rumbling 79 yards for an exclamation-point TD. Richard Sherman added an interception. Russell Wilson threw two TD passes to Luke Willson, including one that went 80 yards; he produced a juking, 5-yard touchdown run; and also had a career-best 55-yard run. A victory over St. Louis next week would make Seattle the NFC's No. 1 seed.

Romo's day: After so many late-season slip-ups, Tony Romo came up big, throwing twice as many scoring passes (four) as incompletions (two) to help Dallas clinch the NFC East by walloping Indianapolis 42-7. Romo also eclipsed Troy Aikman's club mark for career passing yards.

Philbin stays: Cross Miami off the list of teams that will be hiring a new coach. Dolphins owner Stephen Ross announced after a 37-35 victory over Minnesota — decided by a last-minute safety off a blocked punt — that he'll keep Joe Philbin. "I believe in this team," Ross said. "I believe in the coach." Philbin is 23-24 with zero playoff trips in his first NFL head coaching job, 8-7 this season.

Raiola's intent?: Lions center Dominic Raiola called it "totally unintentional" that his foot came down on Ego Ferguson's lower right leg while the Bears' defensive tackle was on the turf during Detroit's 20-14 victory. "Come on, now," Raiola said. "I'm not out here trying to step on people." Last month, Raiola was fined \$10,000 by the NFL for unnecessary roughness for a striking New England's Zach Moore in the last minute of Detroit's loss to the Patriots. Raiola, a 14-year veteran, wasn't disciplined for a chop block during a kneel-down at the end of that game.

Lions get past Clausen, Bears

By ANDREW SELIGMAN
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The playoff-bound Detroit Lions avoided an embarrassing loss to Chicago after the Bears benched Jay Cutler for Jimmy Clausen.

Now, they will try to secure their first division title in more than two decades.

Joiqe Bell scored on a neat touchdown run in the fourth quarter, and the Lions overcame two interceptions by Matthew Stafford to beat the Bears 20-14 on Sunday. "It's what you play the game for," Stafford said. "You play the game to play extremely meaningful games in December. They'll be excited for it. I know everybody in our locker room will be excited as well."

Now, they'll be more meaningful than next week's game at Green



CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/AP

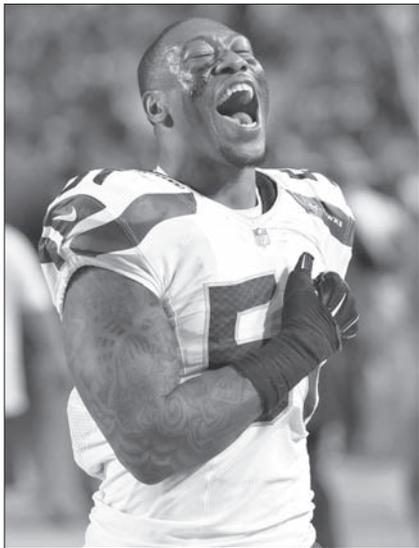
Detroit Lions running back Reggie Bush ran for 54 yards and a touchdown against the Bears on Sunday in Chicago.

Bay, where the Lions haven't won since 1991 and the NFC North will be decided.

Chicago (5-10) benched Cutler days earlier, having seen enough after he led the NFL with 18 interceptions and 24 turnovers in the first year of a seven-year contract he signed in the offseason. They turned to the cast-off Clausen, who hadn't started a game since 2010.

Stafford outplayed Clausen, but just barely. He completed 22 of 39 passes for 243 yards and reached the 4,000-yard mark for the fourth straight year.

Ndamukong Suh had two sacks, and Calvin Johnson caught six passes for 103 yards. The Lions (11-4) make their second trip to the postseason in four years and third in 16 years after Philadelphia's loss to Washington on Saturday.



ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

Seattle outside linebacker Bruce Irvin reacts to a touchdown during the second half of Sunday's win over the Arizona Cardinals.

NFL ROUNDUP



25 13

HOUSTON — The Texans are back to a fourth-string quarterback and No. 1 overall pick Jadeveon Clowney has hardly played all season because of a knee injury. Yet thanks to in large part to a defense led by J.J. Watt, the Texans are still in playoff contention with one week left in the regular season.

Arian Foster threw for a touchdown, Randy Bullock made a franchise-record six field goals and Houston's defense dominated.

With three quarterbacks hurt, the Texans started Case Keenum, who got his first win in nine NFL starts.

"It's pretty special," Watt said. "I think it's a testament to our team. It's a testament to the coaching staff, to guys we have. It was fun. Days like this are a blast."

The Ravens (9-6) now need some help next week to get into the postseason after Joe Flacco threw a season-high three interceptions and the offense struggled all day.

Houston (8-7) needs several teams to lose next week to reach the postseason for the third time in franchise history.

Keenum lost each of his eight starts last season before being released by the Texans in training camp. They signed the former receiver-turned-quarterback University of Houston star off the St. Louis practice squad Monday after both Ryan Fitzpatrick and Tom Savage were injured last Sunday with Ryan Mallett already out for the season.

"I'm not the best with words, and I couldn't put it into words," Keenum said. "Arian said he was going to punch me if I cried. When you don't win, it makes winning very, very sweet."



17 16

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Jonas Gray scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 1-yard run early in the fourth quarter after the Patriots intercepted Geno Smith, and New England clinched a first-round playoff bye.

Tom Brady threw a 3-yard TD pass to Rob Gronkowski for the Patriots (12-3), who could earn home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs if Denver loses at Cincinnati on Monday night.

With the Jets (3-12) leading 13-10 late in the third quarter, Smith's pass for Lance Amaro hung in the air for an easy interception by Jamie Collins — and led to Gray's score minutes later.

Nick Folk's 52-yard field goal attempt could have given New York a lead with just over five minutes left, but it appeared to be partially blocked and fell short. Brady and the Patriots then ran out the clock.



CHRIS LEE, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/TNTS

Giants wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr., right, fends off Rams cornerback Janoris Jenkins for a two-yard gain in the first quarter Sunday, in St. Louis. The Giants won 37-27 as Beckham set a franchise record with his 11th touchdown catch.



37



27



17



13



26



24



37



35

ST. LOUIS — The New York Giants are peaking behind a rookie that no one can cover. They all have Odell Beckham Jr.'s back, too.

Beckham caught two touchdowns and rolled up 118 of his 148 yards receiving in the second half after absorbing two late hits. The Rams hadn't allowed a TD in three straight games.

"Absolutely, they played dirty," Giants defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul said.

"Man, they are a dirty team," linebacker Jameel McClain yelled as he entered the locker room.

Rams coach Jeff Fisher blamed the Giants.

"Very disappointing in the actions on the other side," Fisher said. "There's no place for it in the game. It's unfortunate it got out of hand."

Beckham set a franchise rookie record with his 10th and 11th TD catches, shattered another rookie mark for receptions and topped 1,000 yards. The second late hit by linebacker Alec Ogletree led to a brawl and three ejections, none of them to starters.

Ogletree's hit finished with some back-and-forth with Beckham — football to the face, slap to the facemask, attempted kick — that led to fistcuffs. Wide receiver Preston Parker jumped Ogletree as he was backing away.

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Cam Newton threw for one touchdown and ran for another as Carolina (6-8) took over sole possession of first place in the NFC South. The victory sets up the winner-take-all showdown next Sunday at Atlanta.

Newton threw for 201 yards and ran for 63 yards just 12 days after the quarterback suffered two fractures in his lower back following an automobile accident.

Johnny Manziel made his second NFL start for Cleveland (7-8) but left with 1:49 remaining in the first half with a hamstring injury.



20



3

TAMPA, Fla. — Aaron Rodgers threw for 318 yards and one touchdown to help the Packers clinch a wild-card playoff berth.

Eddie Lacy scored on a 44-yard run. Jordy Nelson caught a 1-yard TD pass in the fourth quarter and had nine receptions for 113 yards, while Randall Cobb finished with 11 catches for 131 yards.

A 21-13 loss to Buffalo a week ago cost Green Bay (11-4) sole possession of first place in the division.

OAKLAND, Calif. — One week after shutting down Aaron Rodgers and the Packers to move into playoff contention, Buffalo Bills came up short against rookie Derek Carr and lowly Oakland.

Carr threw two touchdown passes, Sebastian Janikowski kicked four field goals, and the Raiders knocked the Bills from playoff contention.

The Bills (8-7) had gone four straight games without allowing a touchdown pass, including the past two weeks against Peyton Manning and Rodgers. But Carr broke that streak with a pair of scoring throws that gave the Raiders (3-12) their third straight home win.

"You see what that defense did to them," Carr said. "The best quarterbacks, really to ever play this game, what that defense has done to them and it's like, you turn the film on and you see what they're doing and you know it's going to be tough."

It was early but Carr responded by throwing a 3-yard touchdown pass to James Jones in the second quarter and then sealed the win with a 1-yarder to Jamize Olawale with 2:51 to go.

Carr went 17-for-34 for 214 yards but did not turn the ball over and was sacked just once.

The Bills needed to win their final two games and get some help to end the NFL's longest active playoff drought at 14 seasons.

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — Dolphins owner Stephen Ross stood on the sideline at the end of a wild victory sharing a laugh with those around him, his mind made up regarding the direction of the franchise.

He's keeping his coach. The Dolphins will sit out the playoffs for the sixth year in a row despite, but afterward Ross announced Joe Philbin will return for a fourth season as coach.

Ross said his decision wasn't based on what happened Sunday, but the win certainly helped the Dolphins' mood after dismal back-to-back losses spoiled their playoff hopes.

Rookie Terrence Fede blocked a punt for a safety with 41 seconds left, and Ryan Tannehill threw four touchdown passes, the most by a Dolphins quarterback since Dan Marino in 1998. Miami outscored the Vikings 23-18 in a bizarre fourth quarter.

The Dolphins overcame a 14-0 deficit to take the lead, but trailed again after giving up 15 points in an 11-second span in the fourth quarter.

Tannehill then drove Miami 80 yards and hit Damien Williams for a 3-yard score with 1:11 left to make it 35-all. Minnesota failed to pick up a first down, and Fede blocked Jeff Locke's punt out of the end zone for the game-winner.

NFL



ROCELIO SOLIS/AP

Falcons safety Kemal Ishmael, left, strips the ball from Saints tight end Jimmy Graham as safety Dezmen Southward tackles him after a reception near the goal line in the second half on Sunday in New Orleans.

Falcons hold off Saints, play Panthers for NFC South title

By BRETT MARTEL
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — A tenacious play by two backup defenders on Jimmy Graham's catch at the goal line — and a little help from a disputed ruling — helped save Atlanta's postseason hopes and ultimately sank the Saints.

New Orleans may have been done in anyway by Julio Jones' remarkable return from a hip injury. But the 30-14 Falcons triumph that eliminated the Saints from playoff contention Sunday may be most remembered for the officials' decision to rule Graham's fourth-quarter catch a fumble instead of a touchdown.

"Did I think it was a score? Yes," Saints coach Sean Payton said. "It looked pretty clear and yet — look — it is what it is, right? They go back to [NFL headquarters in] New York with that and it's disappointing."

Atlanta (6-9) next meets Carolina (6-8-1) for the NFC South title next week in the Georgia Dome. The Saints (6-9) are left with an anticlimactic visit to Tampa Bay.

Graham's fumble came on the first play of the fourth quarter. The star tight end leaped to grab Drew Brees' pass and came down at the goal line, his body writhing as he tried to force his way past reserve safety Dezmen Southward. Fellow Falcons safety Kemal Ishmael recovered immediately and ripped the ball away, then covered it.

The initial ruling was a fumble and Falcons recovery.

Graham's forward progress appeared to have been stopped before the ball came loose, but that was not reviewable.

At least one replay angle showed that the ball may have broken the plane of the goal line, and the Superdome crowd roared when it was shown on large video boards. However, referee John Parry could not find evidence conclusive enough to overturn the call.

Graham was not present when locker rooms were opened to reporters.

Southward said he never had a good look at whether Graham got in.

"I was too busy putting my face in his ribs. I was just trying to keep him out," Southward said. "All that credit goes to Kemal, obviously coming in and not quitting on the play."

While the play was a momentum changer, Atlanta might have won anyway.

After not practicing or playing for about two weeks, Jones caught seven passes for 107 yards. He made his presence felt with one double-digit-yard reception after another, including third-down catches of 12 and 24 yards during the Falcons' first touchdown drive.

The Saints committed three turnovers in the fourth quarter in their fifth straight loss at home and were eliminated officially with Carolina's victory over Cleveland.

Seahawks regain upperhand in NFC

By BOB BAUM
The Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Seattle's defense was stifling as usual and its offense had a record-breaking eruption against a defense that's supposed to be one of the NFL's best.

That team from the Pacific Northwest sure looked a lot like the Super Bowl champs of last season in its 35-6 victory over the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday night.

"I think it feels better than last year," Seattle defensive end Michael Bennett said.

Russell Wilson threw for two touchdowns and ran for another and the Seahawks amassed a franchise-record 596 yards to close in on another NFC West title and the No. 1 seed in the conference.

"That's about as much fun as you can have playing NFL football in the regular season," Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said.

Seattle (11-4) moved into a tie with Arizona (11-4) for first in the NFC West and holds the tiebreaker by virtue of two wins over the Cardinals.

A Seattle win at home over St. Louis in next weekend's regular-season finale would clinch the NFC's No. 1 seed in the NFC. That would force the Seahawks at home throughout the playoffs, until they'd come back to this same Arizona stadium for the Super Bowl.

"They're playing awesome football," Cardinals cornerback Patrick Peterson said. "You can't take anything away from that ballclub. They have a championship pedigree, what it takes to win on the road, what it takes to win the division. Obviously, it's not over yet, but they're one step closer."

Arizona's only remaining hope of winning the division is to have the Seahawks lose to the Rams and the Cardinals win at San Francisco. Otherwise, Arizona will be relegated to a wild-card

spot and a first-round game on the road. The Cardinals would have clinched the No. 1 seed in the conference with a victory.

Instead, the Cardinals suffered their most one-sided loss of the season and their only one at home in eight games.

Wilson had the longest run of his career (55 yards) and matched the longest pass of his career (80) in the Seahawks' fifth straight victory.

Marshawn Lynch sat out the first quarter with what the team called an "upset stomach," then came in to score on a 6-yard run in the second quarter and a spectacular, multiple tackle-breaking 79-yard scoring run in Seattle's 21-point fourth quarter.

After his long run, Lynch spun around in the air and grabbed his crotch facing the field before falling to the turf.

The Cardinals had their most one-sided loss of the season and their only one at home in eight games.

Third-string quarterback Ryan Lindley, pressed into action with an injury to Drew Stanton in the previous game, was 18-for-44 for 216 yards and an interception against a Seattle defense that ranks No. 1 in the NFL and has allowed 33 points in its last five games.

"He needed more help," coach Bruce Arians said. "He didn't jump offside on third-and-goal, that's for sure. Points were going to be a premium for us. Overall, he threw about how we expected him to do."

Wilson completed 20 of 31 for 339 yards, including touchdown passes of 80 and 20 yards to tight end Luke Wilson. Lynch gained 113 yards on 10 carries, and Wilson ran for 88 yards in six attempts.

The blowout would have been worse had Steven Hauschka not missed three field goals.

Dallas locks up division by routing Colts

By SCHUYLER DIXON
The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Tony Romo helped dump a bucket on Jason Garrett and playfully shoved him the same way the Dallas coach often does to his players.

The Cowboys had long since known their four-year playoff drought was over Sunday when they finally got to celebrate in the final seconds of a dominating 42-7 win over Indianapolis that clinched the NFC East title.

A special moment made perfect sense for the quarterback with a history of crushing late-season failures and a coach who kept getting Dallas to meaningful finales but couldn't shake questions about his future because he couldn't break through with a postseason trip.

"In so many ways, this is such a long journey and to get to a point to achieve your first goal of winning the division title, a lot goes into that," said Garrett, in his fourth full season. "I think the way you play in securing that matters, and I thought we played really, really well."

Romo threw four touchdown passes and broke Troy Aikman's franchise record for yards passing while the Cowboys (11-4) emphatically ended a three-game home losing streak, scoring touchdowns on their first four possessions.

Dallas had an opening for its first division and postseason berth since 2009 because of Philadelphia's 27-24 loss at Washington on Saturday. The Eagles were eliminated with the Cowboys' win.

The Colts (10-5) didn't have much to play for with the AFC South title secured, and

looked like it while they barely avoided their first shutout loss in 21 years.

"Yeah, it was a dismal start," said Andrew Luck, who threw for a season-long 109 yards with two interceptions and was pulled in the third quarter with the game out of hand. "It was bad. A lot of bad. Not much good, if any."

The Cowboys had already ended their three-year run of 8-5 finishes that included losses in finales that kept them out of the playoffs. But they had to keep winning to make sure they got in.

Tight end Jason Witten had a touchdown catch and 90 yards receiving to reach his 11th straight season with at least 600 yards. He had the memorable one-liner that it couldn't be "the same old story" before training camp during the string of frustrating, 500 finishes.



BRANDON WADE/AP

Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo, right, and Jeremy Mincey dump a water bucket on coach Jason Garrett after Dallas beat Indianapolis to win the NFC East.

SPORTS



Clean break
Pistons decide to waive F Smith
Sports briefs, Page 27

NFL: WEEK 15 TAKEAWAYS



Rick Scuteri/AP

Seattle Seahawks running back Marshawn Lynch (24) breaks free from Arizona Cardinals outside linebacker Alex Okafor, right, on a 79-yard touchdown run during the second half of Sunday's game in Glendale, Ariz.. Seattle won 35-6, guaranteeing a return to the playoffs for the defending Super Bowl champs.



Baltimore Ravens tight end Owen Daniels.

JASON FOCHTMAN/AP

Stretch run

Spots secured, hopes dashed as season winds down

The Associated Press

Now that they've qualified for the postseason, there's no relaxing for the Packers, Lions, and Steelers.

Nor for the Seahawks, Cardinals, Cowboys, Patriots and Broncos.

Week 15 saw defending Super Bowl champion Seattle secure its passage to the playoffs with a 35-6 rout of Arizona on Sunday night. It also had Dallas clinching the NFC East; Pittsburgh setting up a showdown for the AFC North title with

Cincinnati; Green Bay and Detroit winning to head into their own battle for the NFC North crown at Lambeau Field; and New England moving a step closer to home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs.

New Orleans fell out of the race — if you want to call it that — for the NFC South, losing at home to Atlanta. With Carolina beating Cleveland, the Panthers guaranteed that next week's visit to the Falcons will be for the division championship — even though the winner will have a losing

record.

Buffalo saw its meager postseason hopes disappear; Baltimore took a major hit in its playoff aspirations; Houston stayed alive in the AFC wild-card chase; and San Diego took control of that very chase.

Meanwhile, the Bengals (9-4-1) host the Broncos (11-3) on Monday night. Denver already owns a playoff spot, but trails New England for the AFC's top slot.

Got it all?

SEE STRETCH ON PAGE 29

Winston cleared in code of conduct hearing | Page 25



027664463149