



## ISRAEL POUNDS GAZA

- Shelling cripples strip's sole power plant
- Congress scrambles to seal Israel aid package

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HATEM MOUSSA/AP

Smoke and fire rise from an explosion during an Israeli airstrike on Gaza City. Israel escalated its military campaign against Hamas on Tuesday, striking symbols of the group's control and firing tank shells that shut down the strip's only power plant in the heaviest bombardment so far in the 3-week-old clashes.

## \$17B VA reform bill aims to improve care, hold staff accountable

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Capitol Hill lawmakers signed off Monday night on a detailed \$17 billion compromise to overhaul the troubled Department of Veterans Affairs.

The plan cracks down on employee wrongdoing but also directs billions into growing and studying the department

after a nationwide scandal over long wait times and falsified records.

A conference committee of House and Senate leaders on veteran issues agreed to the deal, but its future is far from certain. The far-reaching legislation must pass both chambers, and lawmakers were working against the clock Tuesday to orchestrate floor votes before a monthlong recess that begins Friday.



ONLINE

Read more about  
Veterans Affairs reform at  
[stripes.com/news/veterans](http://stripes.com/news/veterans)

Here's a look at what exactly is in the reform bill.

**Outside care:** The vast majority of new spending would go into expanding access

to private care for veterans who are having difficulty getting VA treatment.

■ A \$10 billion Veterans Choice Fund would be created in the U.S. Treasury. The money could be tapped to fund private treatment when beneficiaries cannot get a VA health care appointment within two weeks or live more than 40 miles from a VA facility.

**SEE BILL ON PAGE 2**

### PACIFIC

New airmen in Korea banned from drinking alcohol for 1st 30 days

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### FACES

Gaga: Recording jazz with Tony Bennett just came naturally

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### NBA

Judge rules against Sterling, opening door for Clippers sale

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# QUOTE OF THE DAY

"This is something that the research-based pharmaceutical industry reaches for all the time: a cure. But when they achieve one, can we afford it?"

— Michael Kleinkort, director of the IMS Institute, on a Hepatitis C drug that costs \$1,000 per pill  
**See story on Page 7**

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3. Stealth destroyers, littoral combat ships headed to Pacific, Mabus says
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# COMING SOON

Faith

Christians in China try to protect the cross



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# MILITARY

# Bill: Hiring, leasing should increase capacity

### FROM FRONT PAGE

■ A pilot program providing access to outside care in five of the 23 VA service networks would be extended for two years.

■ **Staff and medical facilities:** The compromise puts \$7 billion into hiring and leasing to expand capacity in the VA system.

■ \$5 billion would go toward new primary care and specialty care physicians as well as doctors, nurses, social workers and mental health professionals.

■ \$2 billion would be used to lease new major medical facilities in New Mexico, New Jersey, South Carolina, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, California, Puerto Rico, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska, Arizona and Oklahoma.

■ Each year, VA would report the five job positions with the largest staffing shortages and work to fill them.

■ Graduate medical education residency positions at medical facilities would increase by up to 1,500.

■ A medical scholarship program requiring service in the department would be extended for five years, and limits on a federal debt reduction program for graduates who go to work for the VA would be increased.

■ Mobile VA medical centers that provide vets tele-medicine would be standardized with set goals and schedules to improve access.

■ **Staff wrongdoing:** Lawmakers in both chambers supported measures cracking down on staff behind falsified data on patient wait times.

■ Senior executives could be fired at will by the secretary and would have only seven days to appeal. The Merit Systems Protection Board would then refer the case to an administrative judge

who would be required to make a decision on the appeal within three weeks. If no decision is reached, the secretary's decision stands.

■ Any VA employee who falsifies medical appointment scheduling data or directs others to falsify data faces civil penalties, unpaid suspensions or termination.

■ In-person training on how to schedule veterans for appointments would be required for employees at medical facilities.

■ Patient wait times could no longer be factors in employee awards and bonuses, though the VA abandoned the practice earlier this year.

■ **Identifying problems:** The VA is the largest integrated health care system in the United States, and many have struggled to understand the scope and nature of its dysfunction. The compromise calls for new looks at how the department functions.

■ The VA would contract for a private independent assessment of its health care system and management, which would focus on the needs of veterans and workloads of its staff.

■ A commission would examine how best to organize the VA health care system, locate health care resources and deliver health care to veterans over the next two decades.

■ A technology task force would review the VA's computerized scheduling system and its software. The VA must implement any recommended upgrades within a year.

■ **Sex assault:** The military has struggled with how to handle and treat sexual assault. Lawmakers want to more VA assistance in overcoming has been called an epidemic.

■ VA counseling would be expanded to include active-duty and

### reserve troops

■ A report would be done comparing the treatment and services available to male veterans who experienced sexual trauma in the military with those available to female veterans.

■ **Cuts:** The compromise this week would mean a big increase in emergency spending that would normally require cuts elsewhere. To placate budget hawks, lawmakers said the compromise includes \$5 billion in "offsets" — spending cuts from the VA budget.

■ VA would be barred from handing out more than \$360 million in employee awards or bonuses in any given fiscal year.

■ Veterans would be denied money under the Montgomery GI Bill All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program and Post-9/11 Educational Assistance programs if they are being charged higher tuition than in-state students pay.

■ A cap on VA pensions for veterans who get Medicaid coverage for nursing facilities would be extended for a decade.

■ Collection of fees on Veterans Housing Benefit Program Fund loans would be extended for a decade.

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# Body found in C-130 at Ramstein

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A body appearing to be that of an African teen was found Sunday in the landing gear bay of an Air Force C-130J assigned to the 86th Airlift Wing at Ramstein Air Base in Germany, a Pentagon spokesman said Tuesday.

The boy, described as an adolescent black male, was hidden in a spot above the rear landing gear where routine pre- and post-flight inspections would not have found him, Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby said.

A defense official speaking anonymously told NBC News that the boy is believed to have entered the plane in Mali. Kirby said he could not con-

firm that report.

"The aircraft had just returned from supporting Africa Command operations with stops in a few countries," he said. "At this point it is unknown where or when the deceased entered the landing gear wheel well."

American and German emergency responders removed the body and transported it to a German facility for autopsy. The boy's body was free of communicable diseases, Kirby said. The cause of death remains under investigation.

The investigation will include a look at security measures on the ground wherever the boy entered the cargo aircraft, Kirby said.

# Correction

An article in the July 27 edition incorrectly described the process by which the Marine Corps notified the families of Lance Cpl. Gregory Buckley Jr. and two other Marines about the trial and conviction of the Marines' killer in Afghanistan. A Marine lawyer in Afghanistan did not notify the families of the trial's completion by email; she asked Marine casualty-assistance personnel to deliver the news in person, but family members heard it from other sources first.

# Jury awards Ventura \$1.8M in suit over book

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A jury has awarded former Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura \$1.8 million in his lawsuit against the estate of "American Sniper" author Chris Kyle.

The federal jury in St. Paul found Tuesday that the 2012 best-selling book labeled Ventura in describing a bar fight in California in 2006. Kyle wrote that he decked a man later identified as Ventura after the man allegedly

said the Navy SEALs "deserve to lose a few."

Ventura, a former governor and professional wrestler, testified the incident never happened. Kyle insisted in testimony videotaped before he was slain last year that it did.

Both sides put witnesses on the stand during the two-week trial that backed their version of events.

Legal experts said before the trial Ventura had to clear a high legal bar to win.

The Associated Press

# TURUMI LODGE

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## MILITARY

# Back to the grind

## Navy greensiders see contrast between their deployments

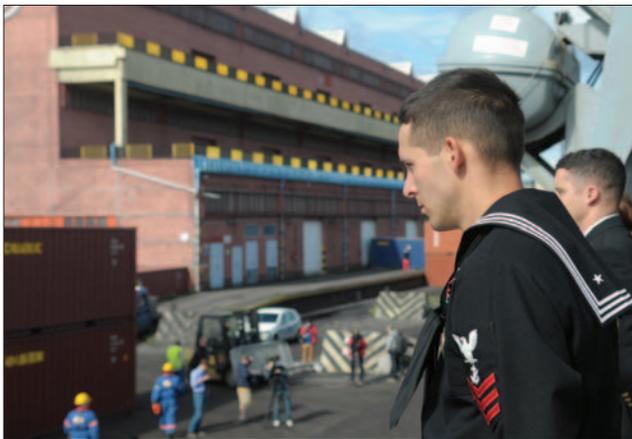
By STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

ABOARD THE USS OSCAR AUSTIN IN THE BALTIK SEA — As a line medic for a Marine platoon in Iraq 10 years ago, Petty Officer 1st Class Randall McClain treated the wounds of war, from blunt trauma to lacerations and an amputation.

Now the senior medic aboard this guided-missile destroyer, the 39-year-old from Colorado deals with seasickness, illness and the occasional light injury from accidents. He is, by his own admission, a little bored.

“There are those who belong on the ship, those who belong on ‘greenside’ and those who belong in hospitals,” McClain said, using the term for a sailor embedded in a Marine unit.

As the U.S. prepares to withdraw its last combat troops from Afghanistan, the experience of Navy “greensiders” and others who have deployed on the ground over the past 13 years can be lost within a service whose wartime experience was mostly at sea. Now working in hospitals and chapels and aboard ships like this



PHOTOS BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY/Stars and Stripes

**Petty Officer 1st Class Douglas Edmonston, of Wimberley, Texas, looks on as the guided-missile destroyer USS Oscar Austin docks in Gdynia, Poland, on July 1. Edmonston, now serving as a Navy counselor, has made two deployments to Iraq and one to Afghanistan, serving alongside Marines and other deployed sailors.**

one, their experiences set them apart from their peers.

The Navy's primary role in Iraq and Afghanistan was at sea, supporting flight operations, logistics and special operations. Its work was critical and intense. Between 2001 and 2011, the service was second only to the Army in the number of “troop-year” deployments.

The Navy assignments were generally less dangerous than those of soldiers, Marines and special operations forces. Those who did deploy were typically “individual augmentees” who rounded out commands by filling support roles such as military police, hospital corpsmen or even cooks. Some augmentees were part of the Navy's Fleet Marine Force, a group of chaplains, hos-

pital corpsmen and religious program specialists that regularly works with Marine units.

The Navy says it has deployed 78,000 sailors as individual augmentees since September 2001. Most assignments came during the height of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, between 2006 and 2010, when the Navy assigned 54,000 individual augmentees, according to CNA Analysis, a firm specializing in Navy research.

Navy chaplain Lt. Autumn Butler-Saeger, 39, of South Carolina, deployed to Iraq in 2008 as the religious leader for a supply battalion of 1,100 Marines and civilians in Iraq's Anbar province.

She recalls holding services in a plywood chapel, counseling distraught Marines and occasionally riding along with logistics convoys. Today, the chaplain is aboard the Oscar Austin, and she says her time in Iraq gives her perspective when conditions are difficult at sea.

“It was always funny to me to hear sailors complain about deployment when you had a hot meal three times a day, you had a semi-comfortable rack and you didn't really worry about taking incoming fire,” she said.

Petty Officer 1st Class Douglas Edmonston was an armed guard for Navy chaplains serving Marines in Iraq. Over two six-month tours in the country, he often volunteered to fill out patrols or stand guard. Surrounded by Marines during his early years, he had trouble readjusting to some aspects of Navy life, including the level of respect between junior and midgrade enlisted. He immersed himself in Marine culture, which made readjustment to some aspects of Navy life difficult.

“A corporal tells a lance corporal to do something and the lance corporal jumps to it,” he said. “A third-class petty officer tells a seaman to do something, you might have to tell him why.”

Now a career counselor aboard

the Oscar Austin, Edmonston said Fleet Marine Force sailors have an easy rapport and mutual respect when working together on a deployment like this. He and corpsman McClain got along easily when they met.

The adjustment is often more difficult for corpsmen, who have played a more intense role in Iraq and Afghanistan, said Vice Adm. Bill Moran, the service's chief of naval personnel.

“If you look at the corpsman rating, of the injuries, fatalities, casualties ... in the Navy outside of SEAL and EOD (explosive ordnance disposal), it's the corpsman community that's paid the highest price.”

McClain, from Grand Junction, Colo., knew he wanted to work with Marines when he joined the Navy. His chance came after assignment to a naval hospital in Portsmouth, Va., when he became an augmentee with the 1st Battalion, 8th Marines and went to Iraq in 2003 as a line medic.

McClain patrolled with his platoon in Haditha and Fallujah, enduring the stress of battle and experiencing injuries much different than those at the hospital. At first a “corpsman” to his Marines, he later became “Doc,” the term of endearment earned by line medics.

“I think it really shaped the way I act, the way I think,” he said. Moran said sailors with downrange experiences will ultimately be a benefit to the Navy.

“We are far more joint and (far) better as a Navy for that experience,” he said.

McClain hopes his next assignment will be with a Marine unit. He likes the idea of getting back out to the field, although assignments are harder to come by as Afghanistan winds down and as he progresses in rank.

“I feel that my purpose is out there,” he said.

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# Afghan president's cousin is assassinated

By AMIR SHAH  
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A powerful cousin of outgoing Afghan President Hamid Karzai was assassinated by a suicide bomber hiding explosives in his cap on Tuesday, a provincial official said.

It was the latest attack targeting Afghan power brokers and government officials as insurgents and political factions struggle for power ahead of the withdrawal of foreign combat forces by the end of this year.

Hashmat Khalil Karzai was a staunch supporter of the president and had played an active role in the campaign to choose his cousin's successor.

The attacker blew himself up while bowing to kiss Karzai's hand following morning prayers for the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr in a reception room at the Karzai family home in the southern province of Kandahar, a provincial government spokesman said.

It was similar to the September 2011 killing of former Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani, who at the time was the leader of a government-appointed peace council seeking reconciliation with militants.

Karzai condemned the attack. “Just like all other Afghans who are the daily targets of terrorist attacks, our family too is no exception and as every other Afghan, we too will have to bear it,” he said in a statement.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for Tuesday's attack, which comes at a sensitive time in Afghanistan as an audit is taking place under international supervision of all 8 million ballots cast last month in the second round of the country's presidential election.

The process is key to ensuring a peaceful transfer of power at the international community winds down its combat mission and foreign aid dwindles.

Hashmat Karzai was campaign manager for former Finance Minister and World Bank official Ashraf Ghani, who is competing against Abdullah Abdullah.

It was not the first time that Karzai's family members have been targeted.

The president's powerful half-brother, Ahmad Wali Karzai, who was the head of the provincial council, was slain in his home in the city of Kandahar by his bodyguard in July 2011.

British Ambassador Richard Stagg also expressed condolences to the Karzai family.



Hashmat Khalil Karzai



**Navy chaplain Lt. Autumn Butler-Saeger, 39, of Goose Creek, S.C., stands on the deck of the USS Oscar Austin shortly after it pulled into Poland. Butler-Saeger served as a chaplain for Marines during a six-month deployment to Iraq in 2008.**

## MILITARY



PHOTOS BY KAREN WARREN, THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE/AP

A flag that once belonged to Lance Cpl. Fred Maciel, who died in a helicopter crash in Iraq more than nine years ago, is unveiled at Calvary Hill Cemetery in Humble, Texas, on Saturday. Lanie and Walter Brown bought the flag for \$5 after finding it at a flea market in Hemphill, about 170 miles from Houston.

## Couple finds tribute flag in a Texas market, returns it to Marine's mom

The Associated Press

HUMBLE, Texas — A couple who discovered a tribute flag for a fallen Marine at a Texas flea market presented it to his mother Saturday, more than nine years after he was killed in Iraq.

Lanie and Walter Brown gave the flag to Patsy Maciel before a small crowd gathered at the grave of Lance Cpl. Fred Maciel in the northern Houston suburb of Humble.

The Browns bought the flag for \$5 after finding it tucked away earlier this month in the corner of a flea market in Hemphill, about 170 miles from Houston. The flag has about two dozen messages written by other Marines for Maciel, who was 20 when he died in a helicopter crash in Fallujah, Iraq, in 2005.

“He was one of 31 American servicemembers killed in the crash, which occurred during a sandstorm. It was among the single largest losses of American lives in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“We’ll always remember the sacrifice you made,” one message says. Another says, “Thank you for being who you were ... Rest in peace.”

Patsy Maciel didn’t know of the flag’s existence until contacted by the Browns on Facebook. She had already received her son’s belongings and an official flag to drape his coffin during funeral services.

“I was crushed,” Maciel, dressed in a T-shirt adorned with a photo of her son, his dog-tags hanging around her neck, told



Patsy Maciel, right, the mother of Lance Cpl. Fred Maciel, embraces Lanie Brown as she holds her son's flag at Calvary Hill Cemetery.

the Houston Chronicle. “I didn’t know how to make memories without my son.”

Fred Yahne, the owner of the flea market, said he’d put the flag on one of the market’s main counters in early July to look at it later. He believes the flag probably was among the contents of one of the many storage lot auctions his shop buys, according to the Chronicle. “His wife sold it before he had a chance to examine it.”

“I would want that if it was one

of my sons,” said Yahne, 52, explaining that two of his children served in the Army.

Maciel said her son was an athletic child who played basketball, football and baseball. He enlisted before he graduated, coming home from high school one day and telling his mom he’d joined the Marines.

“His dream was to be a Marine, and I had to let him do that,” she said. “I’m proud of him, that he died doing what he loved.”

# Drinking policy in effect for new airmen in Korea

Servicemembers new to theater prohibited from buying, consuming alcohol for 30 days

By ARMANDO R. LIMON  
Stars and Stripes

All active-duty airmen newly assigned to the Korean peninsula are prohibited from buying or consuming alcohol for 30 days from the day of their arrival, the 7th Air Force announced earlier this month.

The new policy, which took effect July 1, was instituted as part of additions to the orientation program for airmen arriving in Korea.

The alcohol ban and “associated restrictions” may be extended beyond 30 days in certain circumstances until an airman’s initial feedback session is finished, a statement by the 51st Fighter Wing said. Unit commanders can extend the restrictions. The Defense Biometric Identification System records the 30-day timeline.

“We are guests here and not only do our actions matter, they have strategic implications,” 7th Air Force commander Lt. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas said in a wing news release. “This is a fresh start to change the tone in Korea and leave a culture that is better than how we found it.”

The 30-day alcohol ban took

**‘We are guests here and not only do our actions matter, they have strategic implications.’**

Lt. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas  
7th Air Force commander

effect less than two weeks after Jouas, citing an increase in alcohol-related incidents involving airmen, instituted an alcohol ban for all Korea-based Airman June 20-23. More than 100 Osan Air Base personnel, mostly airmen, had sought treatment in alcohol-related incidents in the past year. Three were near-fatalities, Jouas wrote in an editorial published in the command newspaper.

“Over the past few months, the number of alcohol-related incidents resulting in serious injury reached the point where this action became necessary,” Jouas wrote about the weekend ban.

The 7th Air Force deemed the weekendlong ban a success after no incidents were reported.

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## Sailor dies while aboard US destroyer in Red Sea

The Pentagon on Monday announced the death of a sailor who was serving aboard a Navy destroyer off the coast of Africa.

Seaman Yeshabel Villot-Carrasco, 23, was serving as a boatswain’s mate aboard the USS James E. Williams when she died on June 19 as the ship transited the Red Sea, the Defense Department said. The sailor died in non-hostile circumstances, but the cause of death was not given. Navy spokeswoman Lt. Richlyn Ivey said Villot-Carrasco’s death remains under investigation.

The military announced her death after determining the ship was performing duties related to Operation Enduring Freedom, Ivey said. The military announces all deaths related to the operation, regardless of cause. The ship’s Facebook page announced the death in June.

Villot-Carrasco, of Parma, Ohio, joined the Navy in April 2013. According to the Facebook post, she married another active-duty sailor late last year.

The James E. Williams de-

ployed from Norfolk, Va., in March to conduct operations in 6th Fleet waters, which cover Europe and most of Africa. The ship had just performed an exercise with the Tunisian navy before entering the Red Sea.

## Navy rescues mariners in the Gulf of Oman

MANAMA, Bahrain — The cargo ship USNS Richard E. Byrd rescued nine crewmembers from a Yemeni-flagged cargo vessel adrift in the Gulf of Oman on Monday, the U.S. 5th Fleet said. There were no reports of casualties or injuries, a statement said.

The Byrd was the first on the scene after the crew from the vessel Assad requested assistance. The ship had lost power and was taking on water. Crewmembers abandoned the ship onto a life raft and made their way to the Byrd.

The Byrd is on a scheduled deployment to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility in support of maritime security operations.

From staff reports

# General discusses next-generation aircraft

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Even before the Air Force's new F-35 "fifth-generation" fighter jet is combat-ready, the service is looking ahead to what comes next.

At an Air Force Association breakfast Tuesday, Gen. Michael Hostage, the head of Air Combat Command, said studies are under way to come up with a concept for a sixth-generation fighter plane.

The aircraft could be completely different than any of its predecessors, Hostage said at the meeting in Arlington, Va. "It isn't necessarily another single-seat fighter."

"Be thinking in terms of what is the capability that future technology will bring to us that will allow us to provide air dominance. ... If that's a single button on a key-board that makes all the adversaries fall to the ground, I'm OK with that," he said.

He raised the possibility that the new jet will be equipped with laser weapons, also known as "directed energy" capabilities.

"There is some amazing development in that arena," he said. "I think it holds great promise."

The Air Force is aiming to put the sixth-generation fighter into the skies in the 2030s.

Hostage also sees the service's training regimen fundamentally changing so that the most important combat training is done in simulators rather than in live exercises like the prestigious Red Flag.

With live-fire training, "I can't turn on every bell and whistle on my new fifth-gen platforms," Hostage explained. "A, they're too destructive, and B, I don't want the bad guys to know what I'm able to do. There's a live virtual constructed arena out there that I think will provide us the path of the future. ... If you look at the gaming industry today, the virtual reality industry, the virtual reality capability, we're rapidly approaching the point in which you can't tell whether you're in a simulated environment or a real environment."

In the not-too-distant future, he said, "I will do my highest-end training in a live virtual constructed environment."

The Air Combat Command chief also sees a need to build intelligence, surveillance and re-

**'Be thinking in terms of what is the capability that future technology will bring us that will allow us to provide air dominance.'**

**Air Force Gen. Michael Hostage**  
Air Combat Command chief

connaissance planes that could survive advanced enemy anti-aircraft weapons.

"Right now, I have an over-weighted fleet that's really good at fighting in a permissive environment," such as Afghanistan. "We need to resize and reposition that fleet," he said. "I need the ability to produce ISR in a contested environment. ... The kind of platform that does that is ... not a Predator, not a Reaper."

Hostage said people need to temper their expectations about what drones will be able to do in a more lethal environment in which aircraft are more likely to be shot down.

"We have developed an expectation on the part of our joint partners that we're going to produce that staring eye on the battlefield 24/7, and it's not going to happen

in a contested environment," he said.

The general said the new planes will probably be able to gather intelligence only "on a periodic, episodic basis" in enemy airspace.

Given the anti-aircraft capabilities of potential adversaries, Hostage said stealthier planes will need to be used for close-air support missions.

"There are dozens of very significant anti-access potential arenas around the world," he said. "And with the proliferation of relatively capable" surface-to-air missiles, "the contested space is changing. I could not send an A-10 into Syria. I know that they'd never come back."

Earlier this month, the Pentagon put out a request for proposals for a long-range bomber that the Air Force wants to acquire. Hos-

tage gave a preview of what it will be expected to do.

"We're not going to build a platform that has everything on it such that it can go in there alone and be unprotected," he said. "... It will be part of a family of capabilities that, given a threat environment, will shape the members of the family that have to go in" on a bombing mission. "The concept of long-range strike is ... we have to be able to hold at risk an adversary such as the U.S. sanctuary" because of geography.

In remarks that will disappoint many fighter jocks, Hostage foresees a time when pilots will not soar into the wild blue yonder.

"I talk about providing that environment in which the hunter is sitting in a box on the ground would have the same kinesthetic awareness of the aviator sitting in a platform in the middle of a combat environment," Hostage said. "The day will come when I can produce that, and if that day comes, I am happy to stop flying manned aircraft."

"That day is not here yet ... but I think it will happen."

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## Girl struck by plane on beach dies

By TAMARA LUSH  
The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — A 9-year-old girl who was struck by a plane that crash-landed on a beach while she vacationed with her family has died from her injuries, law enforcement officials in Florida said Tuesday.

Oceana Irizarry's father also was killed Sunday. The two, of Fort Stewart, Ga., were walking along Caspersen Beach in Venice on Sunday afternoon when the 1972 Piper Cherokee plane made an emergency landing after reporting problems.

In a statement, the family thanked the emergency responders and beachgoers who helped them, and expressed gratitude for prayers and support from around the world.

Sgt. 1st Class Ommy Irizarry, who was celebrating his ninth anniversary with wife, Rebecca, died at the scene Sunday. His daughter was airlifted to All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg. The Sarasota County Sheriff's Office said they were leaving that they were notified by the medical examiner's office of the girl's death.

He "was a beloved husband, father, son, brother, friend and soldier," the family wrote in the statement. "He lit up the room whenever he entered and was devoted to his family."

Oceana was about to enter fourth grade, the family said. "Oceana was a beautiful, intelligent and kind-hearted little girl," the statement said. "She was a natural artist who loved to learn."

"She's Ommy's princess on Facebook were of him, his wife,



COURTESY OF THE IRIZARRY AND POWER FAMILIES/AP

**Sgt 1st Class Ommy Irizarry and his daughter, Oceana, 9, of Fort Stewart, Ga., pose for a photo together on July 20.**

Rebecca, and their three children. The family could be seen smiling on various beaches and playing in the water through the years.

It was unclear how the plane or the debris hit the father and his daughter. Officials say the pilot radioed the airport that he was having trouble with the plane and was planning to land on the beach.

"He's trying to make the airport," a woman calling 911 from the airport said. "He says he's not going to make the airport. But he's going to be on the beach."

In other 911 calls, a family friend cried as she described the scene while screams and wailing could be heard in the background. Another man told a dispatcher about the little girl's condition.

"She's breathing a little right now," a man said. "Rapid pulse and difficult breathing. She's

unconscious."

The pilot was identified as Karl Kokomoro, 57, and the passenger was David Theem, 60, both of nearby Englewood. They were not injured.

The National Transportation Safety Board was investigating.

## China reports deadly mob attack, blames militants

By CHRISTOPHER BODEN  
The Associated Press

BEIJING — A mob armed with knives rampaged through part of China's volatile northwest region of Xinjiang and police responded with gunfire, leaving dozens of people dead in the latest violence blamed on Islamic militants, state media reported Tuesday.

Many other people were injured in the violence Monday in Shaqoch county near the city of Kashgar, the official Xinhua News Agency said. It said the mob first attacked a police station and government offices in the township of Elixku before moving on to a neighboring township, attacking civilians and smashing vehicles along the way.

Xinhua said dozens of people were killed or injured in the attacks but gave no precise figures. It also said police shot and killed dozens of the attackers.

"Initial investigation showed that it was a premeditated terror attack. Further investigation is underway," Xinhua said.

Calls to more than a half-dozen police stations and government offices in the area either rang

unanswered Tuesday evening or were answered by people who confirmed the attack but said they were not permitted to release any information about it.

Obtaining details of violence in the remote region is usually impossible, and authorities routinely prevent foreign journalists from working freely in the area.

There has been increasing violence in Xinjiang in recent months blamed on pro-independence militants from the region's native Turkic Uighur Muslim ethnic group. While some of the attacks have shown an increased level of sophistication and planning, most have relied on crude weaponry such as swords, bombs and homemade explosives.

China's government says the attackers have ties to overseas Islamic terrorist groups, although it has provided little evidence to back up its claim.

Uighur activists say repressive Chinese cultural and religious policies are fueling resentment among Uighurs, along with a sense that the benefits of economic growth in the resource-rich region are flowing disproportionately to migrants from the country's Han Chinese majority.

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NATION

# US weighs where to place border children

## White House says there are no plans to house Texas border kids at Guantanamo

By CAROL ROSENBERG  
The Miami Herald

MIAMI — The Obama administration has no plans to use its pop-up tent city for Caribbean migrants at Guantanamo to help ameliorate the Texas border crisis of unaccompanied children crossing the border from Central America.

In 2007, the Bush White House invested more than \$17 million building an infrastructure to shelter 10,000 migrants on the Leeward side of the remote U.S. Navy base in Cuba — a ferry ride away from the Windward side where in the 1990s, before the war-on-terrorism prison was built, the Pentagon had a 60,000-migrant campsite.

Texas-based U.S. Army South, a subsidiary of the Pentagon's

Southern Command, periodically runs exercises on how the Department of Homeland Security would handle a migrant surge operation at Guantanamo.

But Monday, White House deputy press secretary Shawn Turner said in response to a query from the Miami Herald that using Guantanamo is not a possibility.

"The administration is not considering using Guantanamo Bay facilities to house the influx of migrant children coming across the border in the lower Rio Grande Valley," he said.

The Associated Press reported Monday that more than 57,000 children and other migrants have crossed the border since October, mostly from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

## Maine governor bemoans decision to relocate 8 immigrants to state

The Associated Press

LEWISTON, Maine — In the whitest U.S. state, thousands of miles from the Mexican border, the debate over immigration is quickly becoming a central issue in one of the nation's most closely watched governor's races.

With its close-knit communities and a practice of labeling non-natives as "from away" Mainers have a reputation for being insular. But they have also embraced the need for immigrants as the state's population ages and declines.

So Republican Gov. Paul LePage roiled the cultural waters when he criticized the federal government's placement of eight immigrant children in Maine without advising him.

He contended Monday that the federal government was ducking its responsibility by leaving the border unprotected and pushing the burden onto states. He said he worries about a financial impact if more children

are placed in the state. "If we have eight kids in the state right now and if there are any state dollars going there, there are eight



LePage

Mainers not getting services," he said during a visit to a homeless shelter in Lewiston.

Since January, more than 30,000 children, mostly from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala have crossed the nation's southern border illegally and have been placed with sponsors throughout the country.

The eight minors in Maine are a fraction of the thousands sent to states including New York, California and Florida.

The issue has risen to the

forefront of races for governor in border states, like Arizona.

In Maine, LePage's re-election campaign has attacked his Democratic opponent, U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud, for not taking a clear stand on whether he would agree to shelter children in Maine and sought to link Michaud's views with Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick's when the two campaigned together in Maine last week.

LePage's campaign is touting his policies on immigration, including a recent directive that cities and towns not provide welfare benefits to those who can't prove they are living in the country legally.

Michaud's campaign said last week that LePage is using the issue merely to rally his political base this November. Michaud said that the decision to house children in Maine would depend on a number of factors, including the cost and what sites are available.

# Judge's handgun ruling has DC officials, police scrambling

By ANN E. MARIMOW  
AND CLARENCE WILLIAMS  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The District of Columbia's top lawyer on Monday sought to temporarily halt a federal court ruling allowing thousands of city residents with registered handguns — as well as legal gun owners from other states — to carry firearms on the streets of the nation's capital.

The ruling, which upended the city's decades-old restrictions on carrying handguns in public, created confusion and concern as officials grappled with its implications. The law was declared unconstitutional in an opinion released over the weekend, leaving police scrambling to give clear direction to officers.

D.C. Police Chief Cathy Lanier told her officers Monday that they could no longer stop someone simply for carrying a gun in public, which would need suspicion that a crime had been committed. For visitors who carry guns into the city, police will need to determine whether they are following the laws of their home state.

"We understand that the immediate implementation of this ruling creates safety concerns for our members and our community," Lanier wrote in a memo to police officers Monday. She instructed them to "continue to serve the best interests of public safety while respecting individual rights."

Police urged officers to contact a department lawyer, on call around the clock, with questions.

D.C. officials have argued that the gun law — among the strictest in the nation — has been a pillar of their public safety strategy in

**"Given the complexity of the issue, it will require a significant amount of retraining because the mind-set of officers has to change for how we have to deal with that."**

Delroy Burton  
chairman of the D.C. police union

a city that has historically been beset by gun violence. Mayor Vincent Gray said Monday that he was "very troubled" by the decision. He appealed to people who live elsewhere to refrain from bringing guns into the city.

The decision, which is likely to be appealed, came five years after a lawsuit challenged the District's outright prohibition on carrying handguns. The case is among a series of legal efforts taking on gun restrictions nationwide. It followed the 2008 landmark Supreme Court decision that used a D.C. case to declare that the Second Amendment guarantees a person's right to own a firearm for self-defense.

U.S. District Judge Frederick Scullin, a senior judge who normally sits in Upstate New York, struck down the city's law because there is no process for issuing carry licenses to registered gun owners. Citing several recent court opinions, the judge found that "there is no longer any basis on which this court can conclude that the District of Columbia's total ban on the public carrying of ready-to-use handguns outside the home is constitutional."

He suggested city officials could create a new licensing system "consistent with constitutional standards" enabling people to exercise their Second Amendment

right to bear arms."

On Monday, officials asked the judge to stop the order from taking effect for at least six months "in the interest of public safety and clarity." They said it would allow time to file an appeal or for the D.C. Council to rewrite the law. It was not clear when Scullin would rule on the city's motion.

Council Chairman Phil Mendelson said that the panel is on summer break until late September but that it's possible lawmakers could return for an emergency session to address the issue. "If prosecutors need legislative action, then of course we'll consider that," he said.

Even with the ruling, officials said, guns remain prohibited in some areas.

Guns are not allowed on the Capitol grounds or on District government property, including schools, parks, recreation centers and office buildings. At the John A. Wilson Building, the District's City Hall, an X-ray machine on Monday continued to screen visitors with X-ray machines and metal detectors.

Private property owners, according to city law, may still ban guns from their property. In addition, it remains illegal to carry handguns on a shotgun in the District, according to Lanier.

mind-set of officers has to change for how we have to deal with that," Burton said. "Otherwise, we're going to expose the department, our members and the city to significant civil liability."

Gun rights activists praised the ruling, saying there was no evidence that the restrictions had made D.C. streets safer.

"Every law-abiding person should be able to exercise their fundamental right to self-defense, which as the court in this case correctly notes is not confined to the home," said Chris Cox, chief lobbyist for the National Rifle Association.

Activists fighting gun violence expressed disappointment at the judge's decision but urged city officials to pass strong laws for the public carrying of weapons.

"Whether or not the District decides to appeal this misguided decision, it would be a law enforcement nightmare if virtually anyone is allowed to carry loaded guns on the streets of the nation's capital," said Jonathan Lowy, director of the legal action project at the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence.

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NATION

# Force is not with US politics

By Christopher Ingraham  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Last week FiveThirtyEight released the results of a poll of Americans' opinions on the "Star Wars" universe. Not surprisingly, Jar Jar Binks is the most reviled character in the series.

COMMENTARY

As Walt Hickey notes, the Gungan from Naboo posted lower favorability numbers than Emperor Palpatine, "the actual personification of evil in the galaxy."

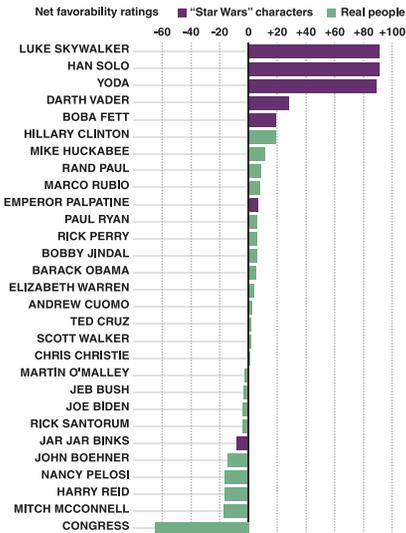
On the other hand, with a net favorability of -8, Jar Jar is considerably more popular than the U.S. Congress, which currently enjoys a net favorability rating of -65.

The last time congressional net favorability was above that was February 2005. Incidentally that was just before the release date of "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith," which marked Jar Jar's last appearance on the big screen.

But picking on Congress' unpopularity is a bit like beating a dead tauntan. After all, the legislative branch has been less popular than lice, Brussels sprouts and Nicker-

## Political force

Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker are polling higher than all potential 2016 candidates in favorability ratings.



SOURCES: fivethirtyeight.com, Gallup WASHINGTONPOST.COM/WORKBLOG

back for some time now. What if we compared the favorability of 2016 presidential hopefuls and other political leaders with that of "Star Wars" characters?

Hillary Clinton currently has the highest net favorability of any 2016 White House contender. But to put her 19 percent favorable rating in context, she's tied with Boba Fett, the bounty hunter who froze Harrison Ford in carbonite.

None of the 2016 hopefuls is polling higher than Darth Vader. You'll recall that Vader chopped

off his son's hand and blew up an entire planet, but evidently in the eyes of the American public these are minor sins compared with Benghazi, Bridgegate and Gov. Rick Perry's hipster glasses.

Those numbers suggest that if "Star Wars" were real and Darth Vader decided to enter the 2016 presidential race, he'd be the immediate front-runner.

Meanwhile President Barack Obama is polling just two favorability points below Emperor Palpatine, Lord of the Sith. Make of that what you will.

# Abuse suspect dies in NY shootout

By Jake Pearson and Tom Hays  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A man who skipped town after being accused of molesting a boy was killed and three law enforcement officers trying to arrest him were wounded in a daytime shootout inside a small smoke shop in one of New York's most bustling neighborhoods, officials said. The man, Charles Richard Mozdir, was recently featured on a CNN show about fugitives. He was wanted in a San Diego case and was charged with lewd acts upon a child younger than 14, a criminal complaint said.

The shootout Monday between Mozdir and members of the New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force happened just after 1 p.m. in Greenwich Village not far from New York University in a highly trafficked tourist area bounded by jazz clubs, res-

taurants, a subway station and a basketball court.

Mozdir's handgun was recovered at the scene, and 20 extra rounds of ammunition were found in his pocket, Police Commissioner William Bratton said.

A police detective first entered the narrow smoke shop and identified Mozdir, who apparently was alone, before leaving and returning with the U.S. marshals, Police Commissioner Bratton said.

The detective was shot at least twice, in the stomach below his protective vest and in the right chest, which could have been deadly were it not stopped by the vest, Bratton said at a hospital.



Mozdir

One U.S. marshal was shot in the elbow and another in his buttocks, he said. All three were in stable condition and had been visited by city and federal officials.

The detective didn't fire his weapon, but the federal agents fired multiple rounds, authorities said.

A \$1 million bench warrant was issued for Mozdir's arrest in June 2012 after he skipped an arraignment in San Diego Superior Court on child sexual assault charges, a spokesman for the San Diego County district attorney said.

Mozdir, a wedding photographer, also had been charged with attempting to dissuade a witness from prosecution, the criminal complaint said. He had posted \$250,000 bail.

Mozdir's case had recently been featured on CNN's "The Hunt with John Walsh." Mozdir was accused of abusing the boy while babysitting him.

# Expensive cure for hepatitis C raising questions over cost

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldívar  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A \$1,000-per-pill drug that insurers are reluctant to pay for has quickly become the treatment of choice for a liver-wasting viral disease that affects more than 3 million Americans.

In less than six months, prescriptions for Sovaldi have eclipsed all other hepatitis C pills combined, according to new data from IMS Health. The prospect of a real cure, with fewer nasty side effects, is enticing thousands to get treated for the first time.

But clinical and commercial successes have triggered scrutiny of the drug's manufacturer, California-based Gilead Sciences Inc., which just reported second-quarter profits of \$3.66 billion, a net margin of 56 percent.

Two senior senators are raising questions about documents that suggest the initial developers of Sovaldi considered pricing treatment at less than half as much. The health insurance industry is publicly scolding Gilead, and state Medicaid programs that provide health coverage for the poor are reacting.

The repercussions for patients could go beyond one drug and one disease. A number of promising cancer medications near approval could provide the next storm over costs. The average cost of brand-name cancer drugs has doubled in a decade, to about \$100,000 a month.

"You can't put too fine a point on the sort of moral dilemma that we have here," said Michael Kleinkor, director of the IMS Institute, which studies prescription drug trends. "This is something that the research-based pharmaceutical industry reaches for all the time: a cure. But when they achieve one, can we afford it?"

New data from IMS Health, the Connecticut parent company of the institute, illustrate Sovaldi's impact since its debut in December: ■ The total number of pharmacy prescriptions for all hepatitis C pills has soared, highlighting patient demand for a cure. In May, more than 48,000 prescriptions were filled for four such medications, with Sovaldi accounting for three-fourths of the total. By comparison, prescriptions for May 2013 totaled about 6,200. That was before Sovaldi became available.

■ In Sovaldi's first 30 weeks on

the market, 62,000 new patients tried the drug, nearly three times as many as had tried an earlier medication that showed initial promise. That makes Sovaldi the most successful launch for any hepatitis C drug. Gilead expects to have a successor soon that will make treatment easier to tolerate, because it won't require patients to take additional medications with strong side effects.

■ The weekly number of new patients going on Sovaldi has been gradually slowing, from more than 2,900 in February and March to about 1,600-1,800 in late June and early July. That could indicate that pent-up initial demand is giving way to steadier levels, or it could mean that insurers are limiting access to protect their budgets.

The cost of a 12-week regimen of Sovaldi along with two companion medications that patients must also take is around \$100,000. Competing regimens with other hepatitis C drugs cost in the mid-to high five figures, and some are far less effective and harder to tolerate.

Sovaldi's implications for Medicare and Medicaid costs have prompted rare bipartisan cooperation in Congress on a health care issue.

Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden and Republican Sen. Charles Grassley are asking Gilead for a detailed explanation of its pricing.

Gilead spokeswoman Amy Flood said the company has no comment.



COURTESY OF GILEAD SCIENCES/AP

The hepatitis C medication Sovaldi has proven effective, but questions have been raised over its cost.

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NATION

# Private drone intrudes on wildfire fight

The Associated Press

SHINGLE SPRINGS, Calif. — A private drone trying to record footage of a Northern California wildfire nearly hindered efforts to attack the flames from the air, but firefighters made enough progress to allow most of the 1,200 people under evacuation orders to return home Monday.

An unmanned aircraft that aimed to get video of the blaze burning near vineyards in the Sierra Nevada foothills east of Sacramento was sighted Sunday, two days after the fire broke out, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection spokeswoman Lynne Tolmachoff said.

Authorities told the man controlling the drone to stop it from flying because of the potential danger to firefighting planes. The man, whom Tolmachoff did not identify, was not cited.

"This is the first one that I'm aware of," she said. "These unmanned aircraft are becoming very popular with people, and there's a possibility we will see more of them."

Crews held the fire to a little under 6 square miles, increasing containment to 75 percent by Monday evening, state fire Battalion Chief Scott McLean said. Most evacuees were allowed to return home.

"We're not going to get complacent, but it's looking very good," McLean said.



MARK CROSS, THE FRESNO BEE/AP

**A helicopter hovers above a home as it prepares to dip water from the nearby Merced River in El Portal, Calif., on Monday.**

The fire has destroyed 13 homes and 38 other structures near wine-growing regions in Amador and El Dorado counties since it started Friday, as it burns in rugged grassland and timber. Some grapevines did burn, but crews were able to keep the fire from spreading to the main grape-growing area, Tolmachoff said.

The Sierra foothills fire is one of two in California that has forced people from their homes, underscoring the state's heightened fire danger this year after three years of drought created tinder-dry conditions.

Firefighters have responded to more than 3,600 fires so far this year, about 1,000 more than the average of the previous five years, Tolmachoff said.

# Same-sex marriage ban overruled in Va.

The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — An appeals courts' decision to strike down Virginia's same-sex marriage ban adds to the growing list of decrees on a hot-button issue that will likely end up being decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond is the second federal appellate court to overturn gay marriage bans, after the Denver circuit, and is the first to affect the South, a region where the rising tide of rulings favoring marriage equality is testing concepts of states' rights and traditional, conservative moral values that have long held sway.

"I am proud that the Commonwealth of Virginia is leading on one of the most important civil rights issues of our day," said Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring, who had refused to defend the state ban when he took office in January. "We are fighting for the right of loving, committed couples to enter the bonds of marriage."

Virginians voted 57 percent to 43 percent in 2006 to amend their constitution to ban gay marriage, and state law prohibits recognizing same-sex marriages performed in other states, which the court said infringes on its citizens' fundamental right to marry.

The court itself also highlighted the debate that pits moral values and the idea of equality against states' rights, recognizing that same-sex marriage "makes some people deeply uncomfortable," but argued in its ruling Monday that those concerns are "not legitimate bases for denying same-sex couples the process and equal protection of the laws."

"Civil marriage is one of the cornerstones of our way of life. It allows individuals to celebrate and publicly declare their intentions to form lifelong partnerships, which provide unparalleled intimacy, companionship, emotional support, and security," Judge Henry F. Floyd wrote. "Denying same-sex couples this choice prohibits them from participating fully in our society, which is precisely the type of segregation that the Fourteenth Amendment cannot countenance."

The 2-1 ruling applies throughout the circuit that also includes West Virginia, Maryland, and the Carolinas, where the attorneys general split Monday on what they'll do next. North Carolina's top lawyer, Roy Cooper, quickly announced that he will stop defending his state's ban, but a spokesman said South Carolina's attorney general, Alan Wilson, sees no need to change course.

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WORLD

# Israel hits symbols of Hamas rule

Military campaign in Gaza escalated, killing scores

By Karin Laub and Peter Enav  
The Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Israel on Tuesday unleashed its heaviest bombardment in its 3-week-old war against Hamas, striking symbols of the militant group's control in Gaza and firing tank shells that Palestinian officials said shut down the strip's only power plant.

Thick black smoke from the plant's burning fuel tank rose for hours. The station's shutdown further disrupted the supply of electricity and water to the 1.7 million people packed into the narrow Palestinian coastal territory.

On Tuesday evening, residents of the sprawling Jebeliyah refugee camp in northern Gaza reported intense tank shelling. Ten members of an extended family were killed and 50 other people wounded in the area, Palestinian health officials said. Two brothers driving in a car with markings of a U.N. aid agency were killed by shrapnel, an area resident said.

"It was like an earthquake," Moussa al-Mabhouth, a volunteer for Gaza's Civil Defense, said of the scene. "Roofs collapsed, walls cracked and wounded people everywhere."

The heavy strikes — which came a day after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday warned of a "prolonged" campaign against Hamas — were a new blow to international efforts to reach a sustainable truce in the fighting.

Israel has vowed to stop the Hamas rocket and mortar fire that has reached increasingly deeper into its territory and to destroy a sophisticated network of tunnels that have been used by the militants to infiltrate the Jewish state. For its part, Hamas has so far rejected cease-fire efforts unless its demands are met, including a lifting of a punishing blockade.

At least 1,175 Palestinians have been killed since the start of fighting July 8, including at least 100 on Tuesday, Palestinian health official Ashraf al-Kidra said.

The dead included multiple members of at least five families who were pulled from the rubble Tuesday after airstrikes and tank shelling struck their homes, including the mayor of a refugee camp and his 70-year-old father, according to Palestinian health officials and the Palestinian Red Crescent.

Israel has reported 53 soldiers and three civilians killed.

Already, the intensity and the scope of the current Gaza operation is on par with an invasion five years ago that ended with Israel unilaterally withdrawing after hitting Hamas hard.

On Tuesday, Israeli warplanes carried out dozens of attacks, leveling the home of the top Hamas leader in Gaza, Ismail Haniyeh, and damaging the offices of the movement's Al-Aqsa satellite TV station, a central mosque in Gaza City and government offices.

Haniyeh's house, in a narrow alley of the Shati refugee camp, was reduced to rubble but no one was hurt. Residents placed a large framed portrait of Haniyeh atop the wreckage and draped it with green Hamas



PHOTOS BY ADEL HANA/AF

Smoke rises from the Gaza power plant after it was hit by Israeli strikes on the Nusseirat Refugee Camp in central Gaza Strip on Tuesday.



A Palestinian worker carries a mattress from a destroyed carton factory in the camp.

flags and Palestinian national banners.

Israel has targeted several homes of Hamas leaders, but none has been killed — presumably because they have kept a low profile. Haniyeh said in a statement Tuesday that "destroying stones will not break our determination."

The scene at the Gaza power plant after two tank shells hit one of three fuel tanks was daunting. "We need at least one year to repair the power plant, the turbines, the fuel tanks and the control room," said Fathi Sheik Khalil, of the Gaza Energy Authority. "Everything was burned."

He said crewmembers who had been trapped by the fire for several hours were evacuated. Even before the shutdown, Gaza residents had electricity for only about three hours a day because fighting had damaged power lines. Most of the power lines from Israel that provided electricity for payment were previously damaged in the fighting.

That means most of Gaza will now be without power. The lack of electricity will also affect water supplies, since power is needed to operate water pumps.

Lt. Col. Peter Lerner, an Israeli military spokesman, did not comment on the explosion at the plant but told The Associated Press that Israel's latest strikes signal "a gradual increase in the pressure" on Hamas.

Israel is "determined to strike this organization and relieve us of this threat," Lerner said.

International calls for an unconditional cease-fire have been mounting in recent days as the extent of the destruction in Gaza became more apparent.

Tens of thousands of Gazans have been displaced by fighting in the border areas, which have come under heavy tank fire. In the West Bank, Yasser Abed Rabbo, the secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Organization, called for a 24-hour cease-fire and said the offer was made after consultations with Hamas and the smaller Islamic Jihad group.

However, Izzat Rishq, a senior Hamas official in exile, said his group wanted to hear from Israel first.

Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev declined comment.

# Lawmakers try to seal \$225M boost in Israel aid

By Bradley Klapper and Donna Cassata  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democratic and Republican members of Congress scrambled Tuesday to seal a \$225 million boost to Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system before they break this week for a month-long recess.

As the Gaza war escalates, Israel is proving to be among the few subjects uniting lawmakers. Members of both parties have introduced legislation backing the Jewish state, condemning the Palestinian militant group Hamas and seeking a tougher Iran policy. Iron Dome is the priority, but the House and Senate are at odds over process.

No money for Israel will be included in a larger House spending bill focused on border security, Rep. Hal Rogers, R-Ky, the Appropriations Committee's Republican

chairman, said Tuesday. He said military support for Israel would be addressed separately, though not necessarily this week. That means the effort could slip to September.

The Republican-led House's approach is at odds with the Democratic-controlled Senate, which wants the Iron Dome money approved with border security and wildfire assistance in a single package before lawmakers take their break on Thursday or Friday.

Amid a daily barrage of Palestinian rocket fire, Iron Dome has been credited with knocking hundreds out of the sky. Even as the Obama administration presses for a cease-fire, it has backed Israel's request to replenish its missile defense stockpiles while it is fighting, with Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel asking Congress to approve the measure.

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said he supported Hagel's request because Iron Dome "has afforded Israel some protection from indiscriminate rockets."

He has proposed a separate measure, which Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., signaled he might be open to.

But McConnell criticized efforts that he said would impose a cease-fire on Israel that doesn't meet its military objectives and rewards Hamas for a "campaign of terror."

"I support any effort which brings this campaign to an end in a manner that increases Israel's security," McConnell said Tuesday. "That means that Hamas cannot be left with a large stockpile of missiles and rockets, cannot be left with infiltration tunnels — they must be destroyed. Hamas cannot be allowed to aggressively rest, refit and build up weapons stockpiles."

House Republican aides said the Senate could deal with the issue as a freestanding bill that the House would easily approve.

"There'll be strong bipartisan support for Iron Dome. There always has been in a situation like this," said Rep. Tom Cole, a Republican.

**‘Hamas cannot be allowed to aggressively rest, refit and build up weapons stockpiles.’**  
Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

**‘It was like an earthquake. Roofs collapsed, walls cracked and wounded people everywhere.’**

Moussa al-Mabhouth  
Gaza Civil Defense volunteer

## UKRAINE UNREST

## Shelling adds to mounting civilian toll in Ukraine

By MITYSKAV CHERNOV  
AND PETER LEONARD  
The Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine — Shelling in at least three cities in eastern Ukraine has hit a home for the elderly, a school and several apartment blocks, adding to a rapidly growing civilian death toll Tuesday.

Among the victims were five people killed when the home for the elderly was struck by artillery fire in Luhansk, according to the separatist rebels in control there. Russian television showed images of bodies in wheelchairs covered with blankets.

In Donetsk, another rebel stronghold under fire by the Ukrainian forces, at least one person was killed when several shells hit an apartment block in the early afternoon.

An Associated Press reporter saw gaping holes in the side of a nine-story apartment block after it was fired on. Around 50 people took refuge in a nearby underground car park, and the area was heavy with the smell of household gas.

One resident, Lyubov Skorikh, ran out of her home after an explosion to seek shelter only to discover the body of her husband, Vladimir.

"I ran out. ... An old woman told me, 'Look, there is a man lying there.' I didn't even think that could be my husband," she said. "But then I saw the shoes; they were his shoes. Do you understand? His shoes! My God, I lived with him for 45 years; he was such a good person."

The government has refrained to date from attacks on the center of Donetsk, and direct strikes on the city may mark an escalation

in efforts to break the rebels' resolve there.

The use of unguided rockets in fighting between government troops and pro-Russia separatist rebels has been causing a notable increase in casualties in recent days and drawn criticism from the U.N. and rights groups.

With turmoil raging across a swathe of Ukraine's troubled east, international investigators were again prevented Tuesday from visiting the site of the Malaysia Airlines jet shot down earlier this month.

Ukraine security spokesman Andriy Lysenko said that rebels had blocked the railroad out of Luhansk, barring residents from leaving the city.

"If we were earlier able to organize additional trains to and from Luhansk, to Kiev, now they have completely blocked the railway line," Lysenko said.

Lysenko also accused separatist fighters of using children as human shields and stopping cars from leaving Luhansk. It was not immediately possible to confirm those claims.

In Horlivka, a city besieged by government troops, the mayor's office reported Tuesday that 17 people, including three children, were killed as a result of shelling.

The mayor's office said there has been major damage to many homes and government offices in the center of the city. It also said the top floor of a school was destroyed as a result of direct hit from a shell.

Rebels accuse the government of indiscriminately using heavy artillery against residential neighborhoods in areas under their control.

A U.N. monitoring mission in Ukraine says there has been an

**There is an increase in the use of heavy weaponry in areas that are basically surrounded by public buildings.**

Gianni Magazzeni

head of the U.N. office's branch that oversees Ukraine

## US accuses Russia of violating 1987 nuclear missile treaty

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration accused Russia of conducting tests in violation of a 1987 nuclear missile treaty, calling the breach "a very serious matter" and going public with allegations that have simmered for some time.

The treaty confrontation comes at a highly strained time between President Barack Obama and

Russian President Vladimir Putin over Russia's intervention in Ukraine and Putin's grant of asylum to National Security Agency leader Edward Snowden.

An administration official said Obama notified Putin of the U.S. determination in a letter Monday. The finding will be included in a State Department annual report on compliance with arms control treaties to be released Tuesday.

The U.S. says Russia tested a



DMITRY LOVETSKY/AP

**A woman rushes into her house during the shelling at a residential apartment house in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, on Tuesday.**

alarming buildup of heavy weaponry in civilian areas of Donetsk and Luhansk — including artillery, tanks, rockets and missiles that are being used to inflict increasing casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure.

The U.N. said in a report this week that use of such weaponry could amount to a violation of international humanitarian law.

"There is an increase in the use of heavy weaponry in areas that are basically surrounded by public buildings," said Gianni Magazzeni, head of the U.N. office's branch that oversees Ukraine. "All international law needs to be applied and fully respected."

Ukraine's government has stated that it has banned use of artillery in heavily besieged areas and in turn accuses separatists of targeting civilians in an effort to discredit the army.

The U.N. report acknowledged the government's promise not to bombard the cities of Donetsk and Luhansk. However, it said that "people trapped in areas controlled by the armed groups continue to be killed as the heavy shelling continues from both sides. Questions arise about the conformity of these attacks with the rules governing the conduct of hostilities."

The U.N. called for a "full and impartial investigation" of all in-

cidents where civilians have been killed.

New York-based Human Rights Watch has been more categorical in its accusations against the government and last week produced what it said was evidence the army had fired on houses in the suburbs of Donetsk.

The overall death toll has been steadily rising. The U.N. has said that at least 1,129 people were killed between mid-April, when fighting began, and July 26.

Ukrainian troops have for several days encroached on the outskirts of Horlivka, which is just north of the regional center and the main rebel stronghold, Donetsk.

Heavy fighting has also spread to other areas in the region, including towns not far from the crash site of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17.

Lysenko said Tuesday that 10 soldiers were killed and another 55 wounded in fighting over the past day.

A team of Dutch and Australian police officers and forensic experts is currently stationed in Donetsk in the hope of traveling to the fields where the Boeing 777 came down.

For the third day running, the delegation has been forced to cancel plans to travel to the area of the wreckage.

of violating the treaty.

Two officials said the U.S. is prepared to hold high-level discussions on the issue immediately and want assurances that Russia will comply with the treaty requirements going forward.

The officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the sensitive issue publicly by name ahead of Tuesday's report.

## EU adopts tough new sanctions on Russia

By JOHN-THOR DALLBERG  
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — Frustrated by the apparent ineffectiveness of previous sanctions and outraged by the deaths of 298 people aboard the Malaysia Airlines plane downed over eastern Ukraine, the European Union adopted tough new economic sanctions against Russia on Tuesday, two diplomats said.

The measures include an arms embargo, a ban on the sale of dual use and sensitive technologies and a ban on the sale of bonds and equities by state-owned Russian banks in European capital markets, the diplomats told The Associated Press.

The ambassadors also added eight names to the list of people subject to EU-wide asset freezes and travel bans, including four people close to Russian President Vladimir Putin, another EU official said. They also put three more entities on the list of companies and organizations subject to EU sanctions because of their alleged actions against Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, that official said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to comment publicly on the matter.

The measures were decided at a meeting of ambassadors from the EU's 28 member countries.

Europe, which has a much bigger trade relationship with Russia than the U.S., had lagged behind Washington in its earlier punitive measures, in part out of concern from leaders that the penalties could hurt their own economies. But on Monday, in a rare video-conference call with President Barack Obama, the leaders of Britain, Germany, Italy and France expressed their willingness to adopt new sanctions against Russia in coordination with the United States, a French statement said.

A spokesman for British Prime Minister David Cameron said it was agreed the EU should adopt a "strong package of sectoral sanctions as swiftly as possible."

Until now, the trade bloc has targeted only specific individuals, businesses or rebel groups.

The Western nations are demanding Russia halt the alleged supply of arms to Ukrainian separatists and other actions that destabilize the situation in eastern Ukraine.

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WORLD

# Health workers spread the word

## Officials attempt to trace passengers exposed to Ebola by Liberian traveler

By KRISTA LARSON AND MARIA CHENG  
The Associated Press

DAKAR, Senegal — No one knows for sure just how many people Patrick Sawyer came into contact with the day he boarded a flight in Liberia, had a stopover in Ghana, changed planes in Togo, and then arrived in Nigeria, where authorities say he died days later from Ebola, one of the deadliest diseases known to man.

Now health workers are scrambling to trace those who may have been exposed to Sawyer across West Africa, including flight attendants and fellow passengers.

Health experts say it is unlikely he could have infected others with the virus that can cause victims to bleed from the eyes, mouth and ears. Still, unsettling questions remain: How could a man whose sister recently died from Ebola manage to board a plane leaving the country? And worse: Could Ebola become the latest disease to be spread by international air travel?

The Togo-based West African airline that transported Sawyer last week said Tuesday it's now suspending flights to the two cities hardest hit by Ebola.

A statement from Asky Airlines said that it was temporarily halting flights to the capitals of Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Sawyer's death on Friday has led to tighter screening of airline passengers in West Africa, where an unprecedented outbreak that emerged in March has killed more than 670 people in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia. But some health authorities expressed little confidence in such precautions.

"The best thing would be if people did not travel when they were sick, but the problem is people won't say when they're sick," said Dr. David Heymann, professor of infectious diseases at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. "They will lie in order to travel, so it is doubtful travel recommendations would have a big impact."

"The important thing is for countries to be prepared when they get patients infected with Ebola, that they are isolated, family members are told what to do and health workers take the right steps."

The World Health Organization is awaiting laboratory confirmation after Nigerian health authorities said Sawyer tested positive for



JONATHAN PAYE-LAYNE/AP

People hang out in a street in Monrovia, Liberia, on Monday under a banner which warns people to be cautious about Ebola.

Ebola, WHO spokesman Gregory Hartl said. The WHO has not recommended any travel restrictions since the outbreak came to light.

The risk of travelers contracting Ebola is considered low because it requires direct contact with bodily fluids or secretions.

Patients are contagious only once the disease has progressed to the point they show symptoms, according to the WHO.

Still, witnesses say Sawyer, 40, a Liberian Finance Ministry employee en route to a conference

in Nigeria, was vomiting and had diarrhea aboard at least one of his flights with some 50 other passengers aboard. Ebola can be contracted from traces of feces or vomit, experts say.

Sawyer was immediately quarantined upon arrival in Lagos — a city of 21 million people — and Nigerian authorities say his fellow travelers were advised of Ebola's symptoms and then were allowed to leave. The incubation period can be as long as 21 days, meaning anyone infected may not fall ill

for several weeks.

Health officials rely on "contact tracing" — locating anyone who may have been exposed, and then anyone who may have come into contact with that person. That may prove impossible, given that other passengers journeyed on to dozens of other cities.

International travel has made the spread of disease via airplanes almost routine. Outbreaks of measles, polio and cholera have been traced back to countries thousands of miles away.



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

## Remembering ferry victims

A woman ties a ribbon for missing passengers and survivors of the sunken ferry Sewol at a group memorial altar Monday in Seoul, South Korea. Students who survived the April disaster testified Tuesday, the second day of the trial of 15 crewmembers, that they are still haunted by the sinking and they demanded crewmembers be punished for abandoning the ship.

# EU prosecutor says some captives' organs harvested during Kosovo war

By RAF CASERT  
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS — A special European Union prosecutor said Tuesday he had "compelling indications" that up to 10 captives were killed to have their organs harvested for illegal trafficking and black market sale during the 1998-99 Kosovo war.

The revelation was part of a presentation on a 2½-year investigation into atrocities that also largely confirmed human right reports that there was a campaign of persecution of Serb, Roma and other minorities by some people in the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army.

Clint Williamson, the chief prosecutor, said the Special Investigative Task Force would in the future be "in a position to file an indictment against certain senior officials of the former Kosovo Liberation Army" for a series of crimes, including killings, disappearances, camp detentions and sexual violence.

The killing for organ harvesting has long been a key aspect of

the level. Williamson said that the level of evidence was not yet sufficient to prosecute the alleged crimes.



Williamson

the war. Williamson said that the rebel KLA ran detention camps on Albania's border during Kosovo's war for independence from Serbia. It alleged that civilian captives were killed there and their organs sold as part of an illegal trade linked to senior KLA commanders.

Without naming any individuals, Williamson said that "there are compelling indications that this practice did occur." He went to lengths to make clear the alleged harvesting was not a wholesale practice, rejecting claims of hundreds of victims. Some 400 people — mostly Kosovo Serbs

— disappeared near the end of the war.

"Handful was meant literally — 10," Williamson said, holding up two hands with outstretched fingers. "That is the approximate range of the number."

"The fact that it occurred on a limited scale does not diminish the savagery of such a crime," he said.

About 10,000 people died in Kosovo's 1998-99 war for independence before NATO intervened to force Serbia to end its brutal crackdown against Kosovo separatists and pull its troops out of the territory.

Serbia has vowed never to recognize the independence of its former province, which many Serbians consider their nation's heartland.

In Belgrade, Serbia's war crimes prosecutor, Vladimir Vukcevic, told The Associated Press that Tuesday's announcement "crowns a big effort on our part and shows that we were right when we said that war crimes had been committed and that organ trafficking took place."



## WIRED WORLD

# NOSE for DATA

## Study uses computer games to test canine cognition

By DAN CRAFT

*The (Bloomington, Ill.) Pantagraph*

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — In a research lab at Illinois Wesleyan University, Cleo nose — er, knows — the score.

One moist touch of this side of the computer screen with her snout, and the 10-year-old Australian Shepherd mix will ring the bell that rewards her with some delicious chicken-and-lamb jerky treats.

If her nose presses the other side, she gets rewarded, too, but with a rude buzzer sound, and a lesser treat — kibbles, ho-hum.

To earn a tossed bone, as it were, a dog does what a dog has to do.

Sometimes colored shapes are the computer screen's cues for guiding where her nose goes. Sometimes colors provide the cues (easy on the reds and greens, which are the color-blind weaknesses of man's best friend).

Whether the cues are shape- or color-based, high-octane Cleo's interest never flags, her moist nose swabbing the screen with a confident swagger befitting her Computer Rock Star nickname.

Because Cleo was fed only half her regular breakfast portion today, she's not being too persnickety now as lunchtime approaches. Upbeat ring-tone or rude buzzer, she gets fed. And her moist, ever-alert nose gets a workout at the computer.

Cleo's owner, Ellen Furlong, described her as "a loud woman" with a "high need for cognition and stimulation."

That might explain why, at age 10 (70 in human years), Cleo looks half as old and recently ran a marathon with her owner.

She's also a bone-afide brainiac, especially when it comes to Furlong's research into animal cognition and enrichment techniques at Illinois Wesleyan University. In the Comparative Cognition Lab of IWU's Center for Natural Sciences, Furlong, an assistant professor of psychology, is working with her student researchers, Brenden Wall and Jeff Toraason,

in developing computer games.

But not for us.

"In our labs, we are asking about social cognition decision-making, using choice paths between the two outcomes," said Furlong, who joined the IWU faculty a year ago.

Furlong and her researchers are working toward practical application of their findings via computer games for mobile devices like iPads.

Future research could mean customizing apps to allow for cognitive distinctions between various breeds.

Having spent considerable time testing the decision-making skills of monkeys off the coast of Puerto Rico, Furlong is impressed by the cognitive powers and prowess of her canine subjects.

"They display pretty significant learning abilities, and they outshine many other species in terms of social skills ... they understand really complex social things primates don't," Furlong said.

"They are incredibly sophisticated ... socially savvy ... really good at math ... and overall just very intelligent. And, unlike working chimpanzees, we aren't at risk of losing a finger as we learn these things."

Psychology major Brenden Wall monitors Cleo as she ponders which shape will result in the reward of her favorite treat during their work June 3 in Illinois Wesleyan University's comparative cognition laboratory in Bloomington, Ill.

DAVID PROBER,  
THE (BLOOMINGTON, ILL.) PANTAGRAPH/AF



## NATION

## In pain, woman chooses to have clubfeet amputated

By CAITLIN DEWEY  
The Washington Post

For most of her teens, Lacey Phipps couldn't get out of her wheelchair, afflicted by twisted, deformed clubfeet so severe that 11 surgeries failed to fix them. She saw orthopedist after orthopedist. She downed pain pills and went under the knife for corrective surgeries that never helped. Then in July 2012, she made a radical decision that would scandalize her family and change her life.

"Chop them off!" Phipps said of her feet. "I got tired of sitting in a wheelchair — really, really tired," she said of that moment, in the slight lilt of rural Ireland where she grew up. "I got tired of watching everyone else go out and not be able to do anything myself."

Now fitted with two below-the-knee prostheses, Phipps, 24, bikes to school, goes rock climbing on weekends and plays forward in the intramural soccer league at Texas Tech University, where she is a senior. The Irish dances with a local troupe and hits the gym three times per week.

Far from an anomaly, Phipps is one of what doctors and other experts say is a growing number of young, active patients who are changing the way medicine sees amputation.

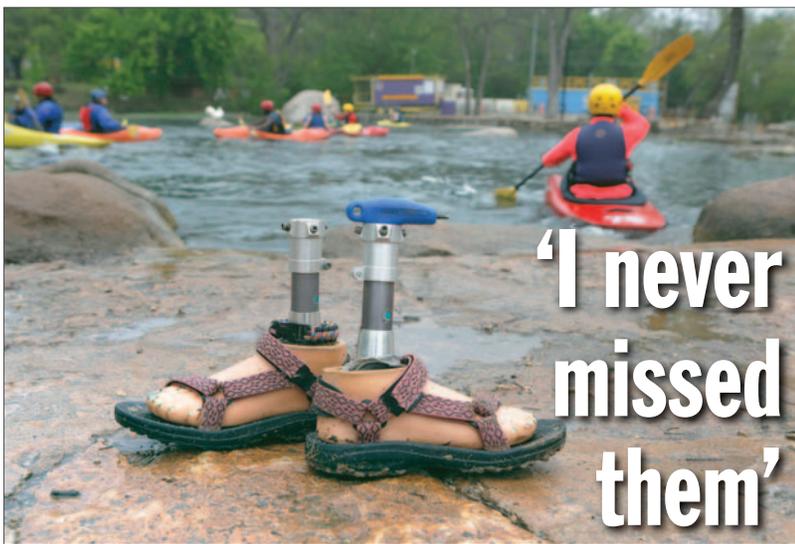
Historically, doctors have sought to preserve limbs at all cost. But as prosthetics have advanced, spurred on in part by injuries incurred in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and as young patients demand treatments that will allow them busier, more athletic lives, the emphasis has shifted. Where elective amputation would have been anathema 10 or 15 years ago, it's now seen as a viable option for a range of birth defects and traumas.

"The way we look at it now is more about function," said Chris Attinger, a plastic surgeon and specialist in limb salvage at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington. "We ask the patient, 'What do you want to do?'"

By all accounts, Phipps' case shouldn't even be gotten out of Clubfoot, a common, congenital defect that twists the feet out of position and makes it difficult to walk, affects roughly one of every 1,000 newborns. In the United States, more than 95 percent of cases are cured in infancy without surgery, using a series of plaster casts called the Ponseti Method that gradually realigns the foot.

But Phipps, who was born in Fort Worth, Texas, but grew up in a remote, Gaelic-speaking region of Ireland, endured repeated surgeries by doctors who either didn't know about the casting method or didn't believe it would work. On one occasion, a surgeon operated on her without anesthesia, giving her a flour-filled medical glove to squeeze for the pain. On another, a doctor joked to Phipps that he'd just cut her legs off while she was knocked out — causing Phipps, then just a small girl, to cry so hard the surgery had to be postponed.

Each failed operation only made Phipps' condition worse, further deforming her feet and forcing her, little by little, from crutches to a wheelchair, where she said she spent 99 percent of her time. By the time she, her mother and a twin sister moved to the United States in 2006, Phipps



PHOTOS BY ERICH SCHUEGL/The Washington Post

Lacey Phipps leaves her prosthetic feet behind to go paddling at Rio Vista Park in San Marcos, Texas, in May.



Lacey Phipps takes off her prosthetic feet during a break from kayaking. Born with clubfeet, she had them removed after surgeries left her in constant pain.

had no bones left in her ankles. Her tibia sat directly on her heel bones, grinding together whenever she moved.

The pain was excruciating. At age 13, Phipps began a daily dose of morphine that would make her sleep for 13 hours per night and would force her to nod off in class. That was only the first in a long, ever-rotating line of medications: baclofen to relax her muscles, Lyrica to dull nerve pain, metoprolol and gabapentin to counteract the various side effects and complications she developed.

"If you [had gone] to my house, it [looked] like a dispensary," she quipped, with "20 bottles [of different medicines]. Bottles everywhere."

Amputation had circled around in her mind for years, since that first insensitive doctor mentioned the possibility when she was a girl. But her grandmother said no man would marry a woman without legs, and her mother sobbed at the very thought.

Amputation isn't as simple as lopping off a leg and putting on a prosthetic in its place, explained Attinger, the MedStar George-

town surgeon. A huge range of factors, including the length of the stub left after the surgery and the structure of its bones, affects how a prosthesis will fit. Once a patient receives one, it requires lifelong adjustment as the stub changes size and shape.

Fortunately, both amputations and prostheses have come a long way in the past 10 years. Phipps said recent advances in the field didn't influence her decision to amputate, but there's no doubt they affected her treatment and how doctors responded to her request.

Before the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, amputations primarily were performed on the old and the infirm, frequently diabetic patients. But the soldiers who had lost legs to roadside bombs or other injuries were young, and they wanted more from their prosthetics than traditional patients did — the ability to walk, to run, even to ski and snowboard — as Zach Harvey, formerly the chief prosthetist at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, discovered when he moved to Breckenridge, Colo.

"It's really interesting how the military pushed the limits" of prosthetic technology, Harvey said. "We were constantly pushed at Walter Reed. They [injured soldiers] just didn't want to accept any limitations."

The pushing paid off. Research and development conducted at Walter Reed, as well as at other government-funded facilities and private companies, made huge advances in prostheses: stronger socket materials that didn't become brittle or break with use; gel liners to sculpt to uneven bone; sophisticated knees and ankles loaded with microprocessors and gyroscopes to mimic the action of natural joints.

Many of those advances have since trickled out into the civilian marketplace, where they benefit patients such as Phipps.

Phipps had her right foot and lower right leg amputated in July 2012, then the left in mid-December of that year. Performed at a hospital in Texas, the surgeries were relatively uncomplicated and sparked no last-minute hesitation: two clean cuts, a week in the hospital (visited often by college friends) and a month in a rehab center getting used to her prostheses. But her new legs weighed too much and fit too loosely,

tripping Phipps whenever she tried to get out of her wheelchair.

Phipps had heard about a Leesburg, Va.-based prosthetist named John Hattingh, who — like TV's Dr. House — specializes in difficult cases, and she got in touch with him. On Facebook, he was promising free prostheses if a patient had run out of options elsewhere. Phipps discussed her situation with him — the repeat surgeries, her continuing struggle to walk — and soon she was selected for the prostheses. In July of last year, Hattingh and his wife flew Phipps from Texas and installed her in their guest room. Hattingh, who has made a point of donating his services throughout his career, describes it as an act of "humanitarianism."

It took Phipps more than 37 days to recuperate after her amputations. But in Hattingh's clinic, she learned to walk again in three. From there, it was only a few months until she was scrambling up a rock wall at Texas Tech. In late February, she tackled Palo Duro Canyon's most difficult trail with her twin sister and older brother, who also live in Texas. They made the 300-foot descent in just over two hours.

"I am setting out to defy what society thinks about what is possible" is how Phipps put it on her "Feet Are Overrated" adventure blog, which is filled with updates on her mountain biking and trail hiking.

Phipps was back in Leesburg last December for adjustments to her prostheses. She's so active that she keeps breaking them.

Sitting in a wheelchair in Hattingh's workshop, her stumps slung nonchalantly over the edge of a work table, Phipps watches Hattingh disassemble her leg and chatters easily about the things she's excited to return to in Texas. Soccer. Irish dance. Her studies. She plans to become a pediatric orthopedist, so she can help children like the one she once was. So she can show them, in effect, that there is hope — even if the best solution is counterintuitive.

"Everyone is so hung up on having the perfect child," Phipps said. "All 10 toes, all 10 fingers. It's better to be without them than be in pain."

"I never missed them."

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Bathroom cameras may have filmed hundreds

**DE** NEWARK — State officials said hundreds of women may have been secretly videotaped from cameras found hidden in bathrooms at the University of Delaware.

On Friday, authorities announced the July 1 arrest of a University of Delaware graduate student after cameras were found in women's restrooms on campus. They said Javier Mendiolá-Soto, 38, a doctoral student from Mexico, has been charged with 21 counts of felony violation of privacy and was being held in Wilmington.

A lawyer for the suspect could not immediately be located.

## Man charged with murder after chase

**OH** CINCINNATI — A 44-year-old southwest Ohio man was charged with aggravated murder after police say he caused the death of a man during a robbery before leading officers on a low-speed chase last weekend.

Christopher McFerron was initially facing charges including inducing panic after a chase that lasted more than an hour Saturday in the western Cincinnati area. Police said he forced his wife out on Interstate 74 and continued driving with a gun to his head, ingesting heroin before he was caught.

The Cincinnati Enquirer reported the aggravated murder charge was added Monday. Police alleged that McFerron caused the death of James Roman, 72, who was abducted from the Lockland and found dead in his car Saturday morning.

McFerron appeared in court Monday. He did not enter a plea.

## Plane hits truck during emergency landing

**NV** RENO — A small airplane with engine trouble struck a pickup truck during an emergency landing on a Nevada highway Saturday morning, authorities said.

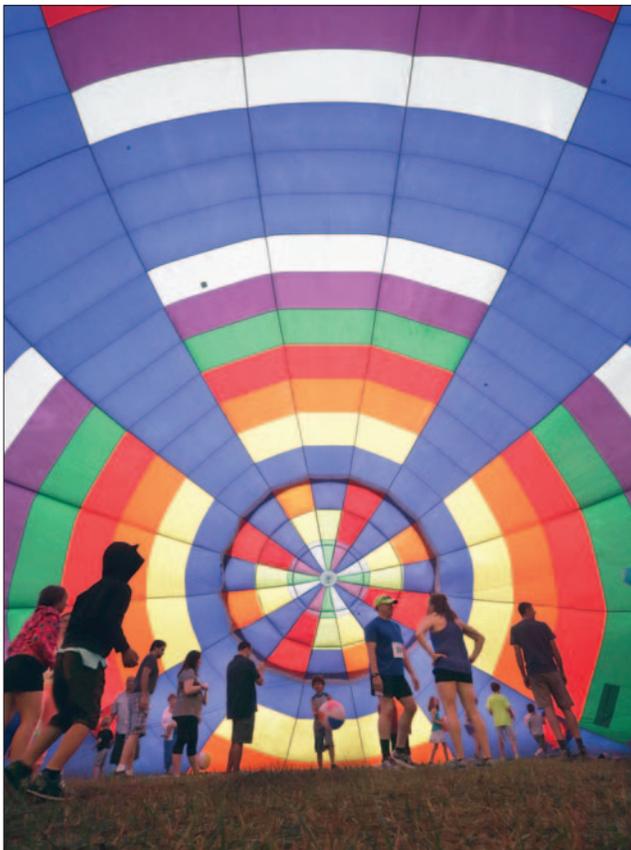
At least two people were aboard the plane and two people were in the truck when the collision occurred about 9 a.m. on a rural two-lane section of Nevada Route 445 about 20 miles north of Reno, Nevada Highway Patrol Lt. Kevin Homes said.

All four escaped with minor injuries, Honea said.

The truck was heading north on the 40-mile-long highway which links the Reno area and a desert lake. The plane, an experimental Thunder Mustang, was forced to land on the highway after losing power, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Allen Kenitzer said.

## Cops: Driver kills friend in drunken accident

**NY** SETAUKET — Police in New York said an inebriated man ran over and killed a friend who had climbed out of his car and started walking home because she was worried he



MEL EVANS/AP

## A lot of hot air

People walk around inside a partially inflated hot-air balloon at the 32nd annual QuickChek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning in Readington, N.J. Organizers say the event, staged at Solberg Airport, is the largest summertime hot-air balloon and music festival in North America.

during Orlando's 2014 Gay Days celebration.

The accident happened about 4 a.m. Saturday in Setauket on Long Island.

Suffolk County police said Lawrence Pagano, 23, called 911 after his car struck Kristal Berkowitz, 21. Police determined that Berkowitz had gotten out of Pagano's car and had begun walking home. Police said Pagano tried to pull over to talk to Berkowitz but instead hit her with his vehicle.

Berkowitz, of Stony Brook, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Pagano, of Coram, was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

## Man accused of illegal towing at gay festival

**FL** ORLANDO — Authorities have arrested a man they say illegally towed cars

during Orlando's 2014 Gay Days celebration.

Orange County Sheriff deputies arrested Jason Combs, 45, for towing more than 100 vehicles between June 5 and June 9. The annual festivities draw tens of thousands to the area. The arrest came after numerous complaints that Combs' ASAP Towing company targeted victims based on their sexual orientation.

Authorities said ASAP Towing made at least \$16,000 towing the cars but lacked permission to do so. Investigators are also looking into collusion with cab companies who lined up to take the drivers to the tow lot. Combs is charged with 29 counts of grand theft auto.

## UPS driver charged with stealing dozens of guns

**CA** RIVERSIDE — A Southern California

UPS delivery driver was arrested Friday and accused of stealing dozens of shipped guns that were sold on the black market, federal prosecutors said.

Curtis Hays, 36, of Rancho Cucamonga, was taken into custody on a federal indictment filed Wednesday in federal court in Riverside.

In 2012, the delivery driver allegedly stole packages containing 72 weapons at the UPS shipping hub in Ontario, east of Los Angeles, according to the indictment.

The guns were bound for a Turner's Outdoorsman sporting goods store in Rancho Cucamonga and included .22-caliber rifles, 12-gauge shotguns and .22-caliber and .45-caliber pistols, authorities said.

He also stole more than \$7,000 worth of jewelry and some cell-phones, prosecutors alleged.

## THE CENSUS

**.05** The percentage of bacteria spread by a fist bump as compared to a regular handshake.

According to a study published online in the American Journal of Infection Control, high-fives also spread fewer germs than handshakes — less than half. The importance of hand hygiene is nothing new in medicine. But the researchers realized that while a lot of studies focused on hands getting gummy from touching doorknobs and other surfaces, only a few had looked at handshakes.



## Police: Dad left boy, 2, alone to look for wife

**AZ** PHOENIX — An Arizona man is facing charges after police said he left his 2-year-old son alone to look for his wife while armed.

KNXV-TV reported that Kaleb Gage Pence was arrested last week in Phoenix after a relative found the boy alone.

According to police, Pence, 21, was spotted riding his motorcycle around an apartment complex and wearing a sidearm and carrying a rifle. Police said Pence told apartment officials he was undercover and showed a badge that said "officer."

Pence's 2-year-old son was later found home alone by Pence's grandfather. Pence was taken into custody and faces charges of impersonating a peace officer and child abuse.

## Man accused of killing girlfriend's pet turtle

**CT** STONINGTON — Authorities said a Connecticut man shot to death his girlfriend's pet turtle.

Sgt. Louis Diamanti, Stonington's animal control officer, alleged that Steven Richard, 31, used a BB gun rifle to shoot the turtle in the head Friday night outside a home.

Police responded after a neighbor reported an argument between Richard and the woman who lives in the house. They discovered the dead turtle in the yard.

Police said Richard did not explain why he shot the pet. A phone listed for Richard had been disconnected Monday. He was released on a promise to appear Aug. 4 in court on a charge of cruelty to animals.

Diamanti said he does not know what type of turtle it was.

From wire reports

FACES

# Gaga on Bennett duets album: Jazz comes easier than pop

By MESFIN FEKADU  
The Associated Press

**L**ady Gaga is a bona fide pop star, but the singer says recording jazz music was easier than pop. Gaga has spent two years recording an album of jazz standards with Tony Bennett called "Cheek to Cheek," to be released this fall.

"You know, it's funny, but jazz comes a little more comfortable for me than pop music, and R&B music," Gaga said in an interview Monday. "I've sang jazz since I was 13 years old, which is kind of like my little secret that Tony found out. So this is almost easier for me than anything else."

Gaga made the comments with Bennett by her side ahead of the duo's taped performance at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City, where her parents attended.

The 28-year-old and 87-year-old Bennett first collaborated on his Grammy-winning, platinum-selling 2011 album, "Duets II." Bennett said fans will be impressed with Gaga's vocal performance on the upcoming album.

"They're going to say, 'we had no idea she sings that well,'" he said.

"And they're gonna say they had no idea that Tony dressed so crazy," Gaga added, as Bennett smiled. "When you come out in your meat dress, Tony, nobody is going to know what's going on."



**'They're going to say, "we had no idea she sings that well."'**

**Tony Bennett**  
on listeners' reaction to his forthcoming album with Lady Gaga, "Cheek to Cheek"

"Cheek to Cheek" is Gaga's first release since last year's "ArtPop." Bennett released a collaborative album with Latin singers in 2012 called "Viva Duets."

The duo performed at the Montreal Jazz Festival this month and surprised high school students at the Frank Sinatra School of Arts, which was founded by Bennett, in Queens last month.

Gaga, who is currently on her "Artrave: The ArtPop Ball" tour, says she is "actually happier than I've ever been."

"There's sixty years between us, and when we sing, there's no distance," she added about working with Bennett.

**Lady Gaga shows some love at a concert taping with Tony Bennett on Monday in New York.**

AP



## The Situation agrees to anger management classes

Former "Jersey Shore" star Michael Sorrentino, better known as The Situation, has agreed to take the classes as part of a deal to resolve simple assault charges he faced following a July 15 fight with his brother at their family's tanning salon in Middletown Township, N.J.

A municipal court judge Monday accepted the deal and adjourned the matter for three months. If Sorrentino successfully completes the counseling program, the charge against him could be downgraded.

Sorrentino's family — including his brother — attended the hearing. Their Boca Tanning Club is the setting for a new reality show about them.

The cast members of the MTV reality show "Jersey Shore," filmed in Seaside Heights, were known for their love of tanning and the motto GTL, or gym, tan, laundry. They also were known for a rowdy, partying lifestyle that resulted in some cast members getting in fights and some facing legal troubles related to alcohol use.

## 'Pawn Stars' TV star plans stores near famous shop

The long parade of tourists who regularly stops by the downtown Las Vegas shop featured on the History Channel reality show "Pawn Stars" could soon have something better to do while waiting in line.

Gold & Silver Pawn Shop co-owner Rick Harrison has drawn up plans for a Pawn Star Plaza shopping center that could boast six restaurants and about 16 small shops. The company's general contractor has submitted the proposal to the city planning department, and a review is expected in September, according to pawn shop general manager Theo Syper.

From The Associated Press



CHARLES DHARAPAK/AP

President Barack Obama presents a National Medal of Arts to singer Linda Ronstadt in the East Room of the White House on Monday. The president admitted to a childhood crush on Ronstadt, who was inducted to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in April.

## Ronstadt among National Medal of Arts recipients

By NEDRA PICKLER  
The Associated Press

Singer Linda Ronstadt got the answer to that question she's been asking for decades: "When Will I Be Loved?"

The answer was delivered Monday at the White House, by President Barack Obama, who hung a National Medal of Arts around her neck and revealed, "I had a little crush on her back in the day."

The honor was a particularly special moment for Ronstadt, who didn't make it to her induction to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in April since Parkinson's disease limits her ability to travel. A military aide brought her into the East Room by wheelchair, but she walked to the stage to receive her award as a citation was read honoring her "one-of-a-kind voice" that paved the way for generations of women artists.

Ten other recipients were awarded the 2013 National Medal of Arts, as the nation's highest award given to artists and their patrons, including poet and novelist Julia Alvarez; Chicago arts patron Joan Harris; dancer and choreographer Bill T. Jones; composer John Kander; DreamWorks Animation chief executive Jeffrey Katzenberg; author Maxine Hong Kingston; documentary filmmaker Albert Maysles; New York architects Billie Tsien and Tod Williams; and Arizona artist James Turrell.

The Brooklyn Academy of Music, a performing arts venue known for its focus on alternative and avant-garde works, also received a medal from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Ten were awarded the National Humanities Medal, which honors those in fields including history, literature, languages and philosophy.

# BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Study: 35 percent facing debt collectors

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than 35 percent of Americans have debts and unpaid bills that have been reported to collection agencies, according to a study released Tuesday by the Urban Institute.

Those consumers fall behind on credit cards or hospital bills. Their mortgages, auto loans or student debt pile up, unpaid. Even past-due gym membership fees or cellphone contracts can end up with a collection agency, potentially hurting credit scores and job prospects, said Caroline Ratcliffe, a senior fellow at the Washington-based think tank.

“Roughly, every third person you pass on the street is going to have debt in collections,” Ratcliffe said. “It can tip employers’ hiring decisions, or whether or not you get that apartment.”

The study found that 35.1 percent of people with credit records had been reported to collections for debt, that average, \$5,178, based on September 2013 records. The study points to a disturbing

trend: The share of Americans in collections has remained relatively constant, even as the country as a whole has whittled down the size of its credit card debt since the official end of the Great Recession in the middle of 2009.

**‘Roughly, every third person you pass on the street is going to have debt in collections.’**

**Caroline Ratcliffe**  
Urban Institute

As a share of people’s income, credit card debt has reached its lowest level in more than a decade, according to the American Bankers Association. People increasingly pay off balances each month. Just 2.44 percent of card accounts are overdue by 30 days or more, versus the 15-year average of 3.82 percent.

Yet roughly the same percentage of Americans are still getting reported

for unpaid bills, according to the Urban Institute study performed in conjunction with researchers from the Consumer Credit Research Institute. Their figures nearly match the 36.5 percent of people in collections reported by a 2004 Federal Reserve analysis.

All of this has reshaped the economy. The collections industry employs 140,000 workers who recover \$50 billion each year, according to a separate study published this year by the Federal Reserve’s Philadelphia bank branch.

The delinquent debt is overwhelmingly concentrated in Southern and Western states. Texas cities have a large share of their populations being reported to collection agencies: Dallas (44.3 percent), El Paso (44.4 percent), Houston (43.7 percent), McAllen (51.7 percent) and San Antonio (44.5 percent).

Almost half of Las Vegas residents — many of whom bore the brunt of the housing bust that sparked the recession — have

debt in collections. Other Southern cities have a disproportionate number of their people facing debt collectors, including Orlando and Jacksonville, Fla.; Memphis, Tenn.; Columbia, S.C.; and Jackson, Miss.

Other cities have populations that have largely managed to repay their bills on time. Just 20.1 percent of Minneapolis residents have debts in collection. Boston, Honolulu and San Jose, Calif., have similarly low numbers.

MARKET WATCH	
July 28, 2014	
Dow Jones industrials	+22.02 16,982.59
Nasdaq composite	-4.65 4,444.91
Standard & Poor’s 500	+0.57 1,978.91
Russell 2000	-5.22 1,139.50

EXCHANGE RATES	
<b>Military rates</b>	
Euro costs (July 30)	\$1.3778
Dollar buys (July 30)	€0.7258
British pound (July 30)	\$1.74
Japanese yen (July 30)	99.00
South Korean won (July 30)	999.00
<b>Commercial rates</b>	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6942
Canada (Dollar)	1.0823
China (Yuan)	6.1805
Denmark (Krone)	6.5597
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	\$1.3413/1.7455
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.5201
Hungary (Forint)	231.77
Israel (Sheqel)	3.4280
Japan (Yen)	102.06
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2829
Norway (Krone)	6.2490
Philippines (Peso)	43.42
Poland (Zloty)	3.10
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2424
South Korea (Won)	1,026.78
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9064
Thailand (Baht)	31.82
Turkey (Lira)	0.1110

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

INTEREST RATES	
Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	4.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.10
30-year bond	3.87

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

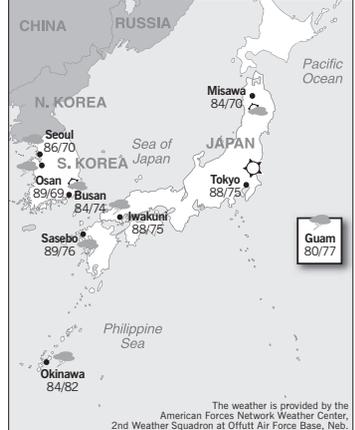
### WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



### WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



### THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC



### Wednesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr												
Ablene, Texas	79	74	Cldy	Chatanooga	85	59	Clr	Fort Wayne	75	56	Cldy	Louisville	83	62	Pcldy	Pocatello	86	59	Cldy	Shreveport	86	69	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	73	54	Rain	Cheyenne	67	54	Cldy	Fresno	102	73	Pcldy	Lubbock	93	71	Cldy	Portland, Maine	76	56	Cldy	Sioux Falls	79	55	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	81	66	Pcldy	Chicago	77	62	Pcldy	Goodland	74	59	Rain	Madison	87	62	Cldy	Portland, Ore.	87	61	Cldy	Spokane	95	68	Pcldy
Albuquerque	91	67	Pcldy	Cincinnati	77	56	Pcldy	Grand Junction	88	63	Cldy	Providence	79	62	Cldy	Spokane	95	68	Pcldy				
Allentown, Pa.	80	54	Pcldy	Cleveland	73	58	Cldy	Grand Rapids	74	56	Cldy	Pueblo	73	60	Cldy	Springfield, Ill.	80	57	Pcldy				
Anchorage	67	52	Cldy	Colorado Springs	71	56	Cldy	Greensboro, N.C.	89	60	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	85	60	Pcldy	Springfield, Mo.	77	54	Pcldy				
Ashville	81	66	Pcldy	Columbia, S.C.	89	67	Pcldy	Greensboro, N.C.	89	60	Cldy	Reno	94	66	Pcldy	Syracuse	77	57	Cldy				
Atlanta	83	61	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	75	56	Cldy	Harrisburg	85	59	Cldy	Richmond	85	60	Pcldy	Tallahassee	93	66	Cldy				
Atlantic City	84	58	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	80	54	Pcldy	Hartford Springfield	79	58	Pcldy	Roanoke	80	56	Cldy	Tampa	92	78	Pcldy				
Austin	82	56	Pcldy	Corpus Christi	95	76	Pcldy	Helena	91	60	Pcldy	Rochester	75	57	Rain	Toledo	75	56	Cldy				
Baltimore	82	60	Pcldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	95	74	Cldy	Honolulu	88	77	Cldy	Rockford	78	58	Pcldy	Topeka	81	61	Cldy				
Baton Rouge	91	68	Pcldy	Dayton	75	55	Pcldy	Houston	95	75	Cldy	Sacramento	100	66	Cldy	Tucson	103	77	Pcldy				
Bismarck	82	56	Pcldy	Daytona Beach	92	75	Pcldy	Huntsville	85	58	Pcldy	St. Louis	84	64	Pcldy	Tulsa	75	69	Rain				
Boise	95	73	Pcldy	Denver	73	58	Rain	Indianapolis	77	59	Pcldy	St. Petersburg	82	56	Pcldy	Tupelo	86	59	Pcldy				
Boston	76	62	Cldy	Des Moines	81	60	Pcldy	Jacksonville	92	71	Cldy	St. Thomas	88	63	Pcldy	Waco	98	73	Cldy				
Bridgport	80	59	Pcldy	Detroit	74	58	Cldy	Jacksonville	92	71	Cldy	Salem, Ore.	81	60	Pcldy	Wichita	79	61	Cldy				
Brownsville	97	79	Pcldy	Duluth	76	57	Pcldy	Janeau	61	52	Rain	Salt Lake City	89	67	Cldy	Wilmington, Del.	83	59	Cldy				
Buffalo	73	59	Cldy	El Paso	98	79	Pcldy	Kansas City	82	61	Pcldy	San Jose	88	67	Cldy	Wilmington, Del.	83	59	Cldy				
Carrollton, Va.	87	63	Pcldy	Elkins	71	49	Cldy	Key West	92	82	Cldy	San Jose	88	63	Pcldy	Youngstown	71	53	Rain				
Charleston, S.C.	88	69	Pcldy	Erie	70	58	Rain	Knoxville	83	56	Cldy	San Diego	78	70	Pcldy								
Charleston, W.Va.	79	55	Pcldy	Fargo	81	56	Cldy	Las Vegas	104	84	Pcldy	San Francisco	79	61	Cldy								
Charlotte, N.C.	83	63	Pcldy	Flagstaff	82	55	Pcldy	Las Vegas	104	84	Pcldy	San Jose	88	63	Pcldy								
				Fort Smith	77	69	Rain	Lincoln	85	58	Cldy	San Jose	88	63	Pcldy								
								Little Rock	81	64	Cldy	St. Marie	66	49	Cldy								
								Los Angeles	87	68	Pcldy	Seattle	83	59	Cldy								

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

**National temperature extremes**  
Cldy: Hi: Mon., 111, Glendale, Ariz.  
Cldy: Lo: Mon., 33, Pahaska, Wyo.

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Ernie Gates

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## Failing grade for UMUC moves

The University of Maryland/Europe has long been a hallowed institution to the U.S. military, having provided overseas university educational opportunities since the close of World War II.

In February 2013, faculty at the annual university meeting in Heidelberg, Germany, received a rude awakening during a presentation by the university's president, Javier Miyares. Full-time faculty would be reduced by nearly 50 percent over the coming year. The means by which this would be accomplished were not discussed.

Some months later, the criteria for reducing faculty were announced: faculty who had not taught at least eight face-to-face classes for each of the preceding two years would be released at the end of the 2014 academic year.

This policy led to much confusion, as faculty had been actively encouraged by the university for years to supplement their face-to-face teaching with online instruction. However, by the new rules, online instruction didn't "count" toward the retention criteria. Years of service to the university gave no advantage, nor did advanced degrees, rank credentials, location of instruction, faculty rank, field or teaching reputation.

(Note: University of Maryland overseas professors never been protected by tenure guarantees; this is based both on Maryland law and agreements with the Department of Defense.)

Not surprisingly, faculty cried foul. Some had simply not, through no fault of their own, been scheduled for the requisite number of face-to-face courses over the two-year period. Others had taught multiple online classes.

Following the rollout of the new rules, the university administration in Heidelberg adopted a strategy of radio silence. Months passed without a single email message to faculty.

"Terminal faculty" (to cite the indelicate phrasing used by the administration) were given a buyout option, by which they would receive one month's pay for every year taught at the university. In the end, by May 2014, nearly two-thirds of the 125 or

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so full-time professors in Europe had either agreed to take a buyout or had been forced out. Some had served the university for more than 30 years in Europe.

But another shoe was yet to drop. A good number of professors, many approaching retirement age, accepted the buyout, fully expecting to remain in Europe, and dropping to adjunct status. Most had lived in Europe for decades. Adjunct pay was low, and the benefits nil, but part-time status allowed for a continued income overseas. Official university policy, from 2013, had been that they could remain and carry on as part-time faculty.

In late April 2014, long after most terminated faculty had made plans to either remain in Europe as adjuncts or retirees, or to return stateside, the university announced that not terminated faculty would be permitted to teach in any capacity for three years, including adjunct.

For many colleagues, the lingering question (after the disposition of faculty), has been how the University of Maryland can continue to function effectively in Europe with so few remaining full-time faculty. At present, the university is scrambling to hire "traveling" faculty who agree to move each term to teach as needed — up to five times per year. But how it will work is anyone's guess. At Ramstein, Germany, the largest U.S. base in Europe, full-time professors of history, international relations, government, sociology, sociology — among others — are all gone.

The university claims that declining enrollments forced such changes but, in fact, in many locations around Europe, enroll-

ments have either been stable or are up.

Needless to say, morale in the European division has been low of late — with faculty, university support staff and students alike. Without a doubt, student confidence in the traditional flagship American university overseas has been visibly shaken.

In the end, it appears, sadly, that the University of Maryland in Europe, with its distinguished 65-year history, is approaching shortly an unfortunate, unnecessary and ignominious drawdown.

Thomas K. Murphy  
 Professor of history and government  
 University of Maryland  
 University College  
 Aviano, Italy

## There's more to GI loans story

The ProPublica article referencing USA Discounters that posted to stripes.com on July 24 ("They're basically ruthless": The discount store that sees servicemembers' profitability) is a good read, particularly the practices and policies of our company and our dealings with military customers.

It is against the law for USA Discounters to discuss the cases of individuals who purchased items from us on credit and defaulted on their payments. Prior to publication, the company asked the reporter to obtain permission from the customers referenced to allow us to release those details — which would have told a very different story than the one reported. The reporter was unable to obtain that permission.

It is irresponsible to report on allegations of this nature, knowing that there is another side to the story and knowing that the subject of the allegations is legally barred from telling it.

USA Discounters is proud of our long and important relationship with the military community. The company has always held that the men and women who serve and sacrifice for our country should be treated with the honor and respect they deserve. And we consistently work to meet that standard.

Timothy W. Dorsey  
 Vice president, USA Discounters  
 Virginia Beach, Va.

# Kerry erred by seeking quick deal with Hamas

By DAVID IGNATIUS

Secretary of State John Kerry has made a significant mistake in how he's pursuing a Gaza cease-fire — and it's not surprising that it has upset both the Israelis and some moderate Palestinians.

Kerry's error has been to put so much emphasis on achieving a quick halt to the bloodshed that he has solidified the role of Hamas, the intractable, unpopular Islamist group that leads Gaza, along with the two hard-line Islamist nations that are its key supporters, Qatar and Turkey. In the process, he has undercut not simply the Israelis but also the Egyptians and the Fatah movement that runs the Palestinian Authority, all of which want to see an end to Hamas rule in Gaza.

A wiser course, which Kerry rejected in his haste for a quick interim solution, would have been to negotiate the cease-fire through the Palestinian Authority, as part of its future role as the government of Gaza. Hamas agreed last April to bring the PA back to Gaza as part of a unity agreement with Fatah that was brokered by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Kerry has been motivated by two understandable short-term needs: First, he wants to stop the slaughter in Gaza, with its heavy loss of life among Palestinian civilians, including children. Second, he seeks to fulfill the instructions of President Barack Obama, who has been skeptical about

solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Kerry's approach has ignited a firestorm in Israel, with commentators left and right accusing him of taking Hamas' side and betraying Israel. That criticism is unfair, and it prompted a complaint Monday in Obama's name to U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Martin Benjamin Netanyahu. Kerry's mistake isn't any bias against Israel, but a bias in favor of an executable, short-term deal. A case can be made for this "kick the can down the road" approach, as I did last week in discussing Kerry's diplomatic negotiations with Hamas' leader, Ismail Haniyeh, and with rival political leaders in Afghanistan.

But Gaza has suffered from a generation of brutal expediency. Any deal that reinforces Hamas' stranglehold is misconceived. In the name of stopping bloodshed this week, it all but guarantees it in the future. That's why it's such a strong argument for the Nobel Peace Prize idea of returning to Palestinian Authority control.

Israel has undermined its own cause with statements that appear to be insensitive to Palestinian loss of life. One example is Israeli Ambassador Ron Dermer's claim that "the Israeli Defense Forces should be given the Nobel Peace Prize" for showing "unimaginable restraint," at a time when photos and videos provide wrenching evidence of civilian casualties in Gaza.

Kerry's initial plan was to support Egypt's demand that Hamas accept a cease-fire. When Hamas rejected what it viewed as a "deal," Kerry turned to Turkey and Qatar, which as friends and fi-

nancial backers of Hamas were thought to have more leverage. That put the deal first, and a stable solution to Gaza's problems second.

By turning to Turkey and Qatar, Kerry all but enhanced the position of the regional power brokers. That's contrary to the interests and desires of America's traditional allies, such as Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the moderate Palestinian camp headed by Abbas.

If Kerry has been shortsighted about seeking a path toward a more stable Gaza, so has Netanyahu's government. The Israeli prime minister denounced the Palestinian unity agreement forged by Abbas last spring, even though it opened the way for an alternative non-Hamas government. More important, Netanyahu consistently has failed to give Palestinian moderates concessions that might enhance their power in both the West Bank and Gaza.

Whether Kerry gets a permanent cease-fire or not, the same basic issue will haunt Gaza going forward, which is how to establish the Palestinian Authority as a responsible government that actually controls the territory. Israel's fear that the PA might operate on the Lebanese model — with Hamas maintaining a deadly militia — just as Hezbollah does in Beirut.

That's the right long-term question to be negotiating — and it's where Kerry should be spending U.S. diplomatic capital, rather than in pursuit of the interim deal.

David Ignatius is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

OPINION

# GOP focused on wrong set of Latino kids

By MANUEL PASTOR

Republicans are focused on the wrong set of children — and on the wrong set of voters. Instead of raising a hue and cry over the “threat” represented by thousands of unaccompanied minors entering the U.S. from Central America, they should be mindful of the millions of children already here who are U.S.-born citizens of undocumented and documented immigrants.

The GOP seems to hope that calling for unaccompanied minors to be removed quickly, and for the border to be secured, will activate its base in the midterm elections. Republicans can’t seem to resist the opportunity to talk tough on immigration. Last week, for example, Texas Gov. Rick Perry proposed to station the National Guard along the Rio Grande, a strategy that seems aimed less at real border security than his presidential ambitions.

And even when Republicans talk reform, they only want to talk tough. In January the Texas leadership rejected the principles for reform — principles summarily rejected by tea party Republicans for being too generous — that suggested allowing some share of the nation’s 11 million undocumented immigrants to stay here legally but with no clear path to citizenship.

Research doesn’t make much sense economically — my research shows that although legalization leads to economic gains, citizenship provides its own separate boost because it opens up a wider range of employment, signals permanence to employers and shifts investments in skill development. But the economic case does resonate with those who think that lines should be drawn and lawbreakers should be permanently punished. Some Republicans may even be a bit more Machiavellian: Denying citizenship would also eliminate the possibility of 11 million new voters, many of whom might vote Democratic.

That isn’t necessarily the case, of course.

Surveys conducted by the polling firm Latino Decisions indicate that 45 percent of undocumented immigrants would be open to voting Republican if the party were to lead on immigration reform. And although Mitt Romney’s 2012 call for immigrants to self-deport shrank his share of the Latino vote to 27 percent, George W. Bush, who took a stab at reform in office, won 40 percent of the Latino vote in 2004.

The Republicans may simply be blind to the demographic group they should be paying attention to: 4.5 million U.S.-born citizen children of undocumented immigrants. This population will age, gain the right to vote and then reward or punish those who have done right by their parents and their relatives. In a report I co-wrote for the Center for American Progress, we estimate that over the next five presidential elections, as these children come of voting age in waves, they have the potential to cast nearly 11 million votes.

The time is even more foreboding for the GOP than that. Expanding the future voter pool to take into account U.S.-born children of all immigrants — those with and without authorization — we find 15.4 million young people who will have the potential to cast 41 million votes in the next 20 years of presidential elections. Regardless of their parents’ status, most of these young people are sensitive to the heated rhetoric of the immigration debates.

Why should politicians sacrifice an advantage now to affect voters they still have a chance to influence later? Because voters remember — it was exactly 10 years ago that Republican Gov. Pat Wilson promoted Proposition 187 in California, a measure aimed at denying benefits, including education, to undocumented residents. That stance ensured that the GOP would wind up where it is today, with no Republican statewide officeholders in a state famous for producing two Republican presidents, Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan.



That helps explain why the Obama administration is likely to move forward with executive action that could reduce deportations. The impetus for that and for a more balanced approach to the current border crisis may be humanitarian, but the political calculus is still clear: a cohort of voters who want to see their parents, relatives and other immigrants, including the children now crossing the border, treated as human beings and not political footballs.

There is some good will on these issues in the GOP. Sens. John McCain and Lindsey Graham, among others, have been sin-

cere supporters of rational and humane reform — although even those voices are now willing to stir passions about the current border crisis. That’s a losing proposition. The crisis of unaccompanied minors entering the country will end — the influx already seems to be slowing — but the tone and tenor of the debate about immigration will linger, and its political impacts could last a generation.

Manuel Pastor is professor of sociology and director of the Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration at the University of Southern California. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

# A look at military personnel costs is badly needed

By WALTER PINCUS  
The Washington Post

In our troubled world, would you prefer that the United States had six more F-16 squadrons over the next year or to pay for a 1 percent cost-of-living adjustment for military retirees under age 62?

Last year the Obama administration proposed eliminating that 1 percent COLA raise — meant for retirees still able to work and before their Social Security kicks in — in order to pay for a 1 percent cost-of-living adjustment for military retirees under age 62. In February, however, the House and Senate, pressured by veterans’ groups, reinstated the initial 1 percent increase for retirees.

That 1 percent decision became more real on July 17 when the Senate Appropriations Committee approved an additional \$507.5 million in the fiscal 2015 Defense Appropriations bill to fund that 1 percent COLA for next year.

That amount, if used for some program other than the F-16s, could instead cover pay and allowances for about 5,000 U.S. troops. Or finally the nations of a near-strike group in the Mediterranean for about two months. Or support 10 Army combat training center exercises.

If the administration had gotten its way, the retirees would still have received a COLA increase — of 0.69 percent. Now, with the 1 percent restored, the increase will be 1.69.

Now the country’s defense posture will have fewer resources.

Of course the roughly \$500 billion defense budget is so huge that the Senate panel found its own way to cover added money for the working-age retirees. In its report, the committee said there was about \$762 million in unobligated funds from the prior year in military personnel accounts that would cover the increase.

The Congressional Budget Office has projected that if the initial 1 percent COLA increase for retirees under 62 is restored permanently, it would require an additional \$3.5 billion over the next five years.

With attention focused on the demands caused by rapidly moving events in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan and Ukraine, it is time for Congress — and the public — to stop turning down administration budget cut requests and begin thinking creatively about reshaping defense personnel costs.

Other recent proposals that Congress has rejected to save defense dollars, such as raising retiree Tricare and prescription drug fees, have been just nibbling around the edges of military personnel costs — which involve about a third of the department’s budget.

That serious battle will begin Feb. 1, when recommendations to President Barack Obama are set to come from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission. Established by the Congress in February 2013, the nine-member commission has held public and

private meetings, and last month issued a 358-page interim report that tries to describe the military pay and benefits programs.

The panel reviewed “nearly 100 distinct compensation benefits administered by [the Defense Department] and the U.S. Treasury that cover military pay, retired pay, survivor benefits, and unemployment compensation,” the report said.

Commission members looked at 65 special and incentive pay programs, more than 40 health benefit programs and 200 other distinct programs and benefits from eight federal agencies. The agencies also support military, veteran, retiree and family member quality of life. Some are self-sustaining, but others are costly — such as the \$10.2 billion approved in fiscal 2013 for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which has provisions to permit transfer of some or all unused benefits to a spouse or dependent child.

One focus of the commission may be on basic military pay. Its report noted that the services have and need to maintain “a far more professional and technologically fluent force.”

The strain of relocating every two or three years is also a growing problem for a changing military, which includes more women and married people with dependents. Todd Harrison, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, has written about the strain on families. He and others have proposed

recruiting skilled people at midcareer and starting them at higher ranks. That would reduce the need for others to have to relocate so often. The Marine Band already does that.

Another target is bound to be the ancient military retirement program in which if you make it to 20 years your payments start immediately, no matter what your age, but you get nothing if you leave or are forced out before that. Only 17 percent of service personnel make it to 20 years and most often they are not the grunts who have done the fighting.

During fiscal 2013, \$54.7 billion was paid to 2.28 million military retirees, including active, reserve, disabled and survivor recipients, according to the retirement panel. Past studies have suggested that the retirement system has to change to become more like private industry’s so there is some vesting shorter than 20 years and that an individual’s retirement program can be transportable when he or she leaves military service.

Big changes in military personnel pay and benefits are needed for the incoming generation of military service volunteers. The questions remain whether the commission will propose the changes needed, whether Obama will send them to Capitol Hill and whether the next Congress will have the foresight to pass the reforms required.

Walter Pincus reports on intelligence, defense and foreign policy for The Washington Post and writes the Fine Print column.

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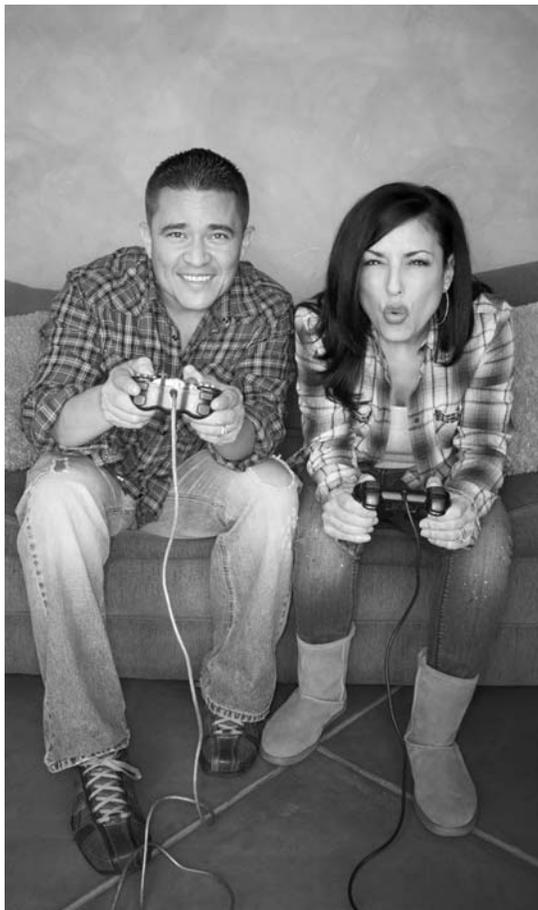


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NFL



MORRY GASH/AP

New Green Bay Packers defensive ene Julius Peppers, left, talks to teammate Mike Neal during the team's training camp session on Saturday in Green Bay, Wis.

# Peppers adjusts to life in Packers' 3-4 defense

By GENARO C. ARMAS  
The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Standing a sturdy 6 feet 7 inches tall, Packers pass rusher Julius Peppers poses an imposing sight to opposing linemen even without pads.

Good thing Green Bay's front five only has to go up against Peppers in practice now.

The eight-time Pro Bowler is spending his first training camp in Tiletown after joining the Packers as a free agent in the offseason following four seasons with the division rival Chicago Bears. The lure of playing in a 3-4 defense that also features linebacker Clay Matthews helped lure Peppers north to Green Bay. "It is a new challenge and I'm looking forward to not only proving to myself that I can do it, but proving to the outsiders who don't think I can do it," Peppers said Monday after the Packers practiced in pads for the first time.

When last seen at Lambeau Field on Nov. 4, Peppers was wreaking havoc on a Packers offense that had just lost quarterback Aaron Rodgers to a collarbone injury. He picked off a short pass by backup quarterback Seneca Wallace, and later sacked Wallace to help snap Chicago's six-game losing streak to Green Bay with a 27-20 win.

Just the physical stature that Julius has, I mean that alone is intimidating enough for an of-

fense," right guard T.J. Lang said. "Every time you look at the guy, you're just as equally impressed as the first time you've seen him. He's just a freak."

One who has 118½ sacks since entering the league in 2002, ranked 17th in NFL history. But Peppers recorded just seven sacks last season, the fewest for him since 2007.

He became a salary cap casualty in Chicago, which may explain Peppers' need to prove himself again in his 13th NFL season. "Well, it's not about really proving anybody wrong. It's about accomplishing some personal goals, one of which is winning a world championship."

**Julius Peppers**  
Green Bay Packers

some personal goals, one of which being is winning a world championship. That's the main thing," Peppers said.

For the Packers, Peppers punches up a defense that lacked enough playmakers last season, especially with Matthews sidelined for much of the year with a right thumb injury. The long-haired linebacker is a full participant again in camp following a

second surgery in the offseason.

The ideal scenario for coach Mike McCarthy might find Peppers and Matthews charging from opposite ends of the line to get the quarterback, though don't expect Matthews and Peppers to just remain on one side or the other. The first few days of camp has the duo moving around the field, one of McCarthy's tweaks to a defense that sagged in the second half in 2013.

"I think we're all about taking advantage of mismatches, but any time you could add someone of Peppers' caliber to the line, who gets after the quarterback and has a proven sack record, it definitely helps," Matthews said. "At the same time, the same is expected of me no matter where I'm in the line, whether it's left, right, in the middle."

Just to be clear, though, this is no fad defense where Peppers will primarily be used to cover the flat.

"He's here to go toward the quarterback, we all understand that," McCarthy said. "But when he does drop he has great ability and range."

It's something he didn't do much while with the Bears. But Peppers said he's getting more comfortable with the task — it's just a matter of adjusting to the learning curve in a different scheme.

"Well, that was one of the things that attracted me to coming," Peppers said. "A chance to stand up, move around, drop, rush, play in different positions — was one of the things that made me want to come here in the first place."

# Work: 49ers' Harbaugh impressed with Okoye

FROM BACK PAGE

"I have a long way to go," Okoye said. "If I'm satisfied, I'm selling myself short. I'm enjoying the whole process. It's crazy, really. I can't watch tape from last year. I wince a lot. I feel like a different player."

He lined up for pass rushing drills Saturday for the first time and overwhelmed Jonathan Martin, who is learning a new position. He wasn't quite as successful against eight-year veteran Joe Staley.

"That's why it's good to go up against the best left side in the league," said Okoye said. "It's all part of the learning process. It's going to be tough, but I expect to beat people."

**'The bull rush, right now, is a real strength.'**

**Jim Harbaugh**  
49ers head coach on Okoye's talent

The 49ers currently list 10 defensive linemen on their roster, including six with two years or less of experience. Rookie Kaleb Ruse is on the physically unable to perform list.

Okoye and second-year pro Tank Carradine lived and worked out together for most of the offseason, developing a close relationship.

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NFL

# Reed again gives Bills cause to celebrate

## Prolific WR rose from D-II college to key weapon in Buffalo's 'K-Gun'

By JOHN WAWROW  
The Associated Press

### Did you know

**T**here are two things of which receiver Andre Reed is most certain in preparing to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame this weekend.

The eight-year wait to hear his name called really didn't feel that long. More important, the timing of the announcement in February, was fitting given the sudden uncertainty hovering over his beloved Buffalo Bills.

Jim Kelly, the Hall of Fame quarterback and face of the franchise, is in a weakened state while battling cancer. And Ralph Wilson, the team's Hall of Fame owner, died in March. The Bills are on the market, with concerns of the franchise potentially relocating under a new owner.

As a result, Reed views his induction as something capable of providing anyone who's ever had a connection to the Bills a joyous diversion by giving them a reason to celebrate Saturday night.

"This is bigger than me," Reed said. "We all know what's going on with the team and all that stuff. This is like a breath of fresh air. I'm glad I'm at the forefront of this, because there's something to be happy about."

Going from Kutztown State, a Division II school in Pennsylvania, to Canton, Ohio, Reed sparked more than a few celebrations during his 16-year NFL career, the first 15 spent in Buffalo.

When he retired after the 2000 season, Reed ranked third on the NFL list with 951 catches, fourth with 13,198 yards receiving and sixth with 87 touchdowns receiving. He was an integral part of a Kelly-quarterbacked and Marv Levy-coached team that won four consecutive AFC championships from 1990-93, but each time lost in the Super Bowl.

The team was built by former general manager Bill Polian, and has now produced six Hall of Famers and passed him by. "I mean, there was no better receiver in football than Andre Reed when he played, and only Jerry Rice, in my humble opinion, is in the same breath."

Reed's induction was considered by many long overdue.

"Thank goodness," said Polian, who worried whether Reed's chances had passed him by. "I mean, there was no better receiver in football than Andre Reed when he played, and only Jerry Rice, in my humble opinion, is in the same breath."

**"I mean, there was no better receiver in football than Andre Reed when he played, and only Jerry Rice, in my humble opinion, is in the same breath."**



Andre Reed will be the 30th member of the Hall of Fame born in Pennsylvania, the most of any state.

SOURCE: profootballhall.com

my humble opinion, is in the same breath."

Though Rice had the numbers and Super Bowl rings, Reed helped revolutionize the slot receiver position.

Despite a wiry, 6-foot-2, 190-pound frame, Reed was fearless in going across the middle to make catches in traffic in what was dubbed the Bills' "K-Gun" no-huddle offense.

"He was a slot receiver long before there was such a position," Polian said, noting that defenses first used linebackers to cover Reed. "He had to go in there in that traffic and do very heavy work."

Reed was driven to prove himself after going mostly overlooked before the Bills drafted him with the 86th pick in 1985.

He can still recall being seated on the same flight as Smith — the Bills' No. 1 draft pick — on his first trip to Buffalo.

"I was young and raw," Reed recalled. "I came from humble beginnings. I'm not saying nobody else did, but I had to be better than everybody else to get that eye looking at me."

The attention finally found him. Reed was a seven-time Pro Bowl selection. He became Kelly's most trusted target, with the two hooking up 663 times to set an NFL record, which was eventually broken by the Indianapolis combination of Peyton Manning and Marvin Harrison in 2004.

Former teammate-turned-broadcaster Steve Tasker recalled how Reed maintained his competitive desire after he retired.

That was apparent in 2002, during a flag football game for charity between teams headed by Kelly and former Dolphins quarterback Dan Marino.

"As we break the huddle, Andre can't help it. He goes: 'Hey, right here, bro.'" Tasker said with a laugh, recalling how much Reed



MARK DUNCAN/AP

**Buffalo Bills wide receiver Andre Reed retired in 2000 with 951 catches for 13,198 yards and 87 touchdowns. Reed says the eight-year wait to get into the Hall of Fame didn't feel that long.**

wanted the ball even in a game with nothing on the line. "Jim stands up and says, 'Are you joking?' It was just like clockwork. It was hilarious."

For Reed, the Hall of Fame festivities will serve as a reunion and includes Kelly, who is strong enough to make the trip.

"It's going to be real special to see him there," Reed said. "It's like your whole family being there."

The only one missing will be Ralph Wilson.

"He's going to be the only person, the most important person, that's not going to be there," Reed said. "But we all hold that spirit. And we all hold what he meant to football, what he meant to Buffalo."

### By the numbers

# 951 7 663

Receptions during Andre Reed's 16-year career, third most when he retired in 2000. His 13,198 yards was fourth most.

Number of consecutive Pro Bowl selections for Reed from 1989-95. He also was a four-time All-AFC choice.

The number of passes Reed caught from Jim Kelly, an NFL record until broken by Peyton Manning and Marvin Harrison.

**Bill Polian**

Bills GM who built team that won four straight AFC titles

SOURCE: The Associated Press





MLB

# Diamondbacks top Reds in 15 innings

By Joe Kay  
The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — As the game went one with no hint that either team was capable of scoring, Arizona catcher Miguel Montero became philosophical.

"I knew eventually it was going to go one way or the other," he said.

Whenever it goes really long, the Diamondbacks always win.

Nick Ahmed's RBI single with two outs in the 15th inning sent the Diamondbacks to a 2-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Monday night and kept their franchise perfect when the innings pile up.

Arizona is 13-0 all-time in games of at least 15 innings.

"You get into a game like this, everybody is trying to end it," manager Kirk Gibson said. "You tell yourself not to do it, but that's the reality of it."

Ahmed's single off J.J. Hoover (1-8) gave the Reds their ninth loss in 10 games since the All-Star break, a slump that has dropped them below .500 for the first time since June 21. The offense has been the problem, scoring only 17 runs in those 10 games, by far the fewest in the majors.

"There's not a whole lot to say," catcher Devin Mesoraco said. "Everybody's trying. They're giving good efforts before the game. We're just not doing our jobs on the field."

"Just nothing was falling in for either team, really," Ahmed said.

The Reds struck out 18 times and stranded nine runners, wasting a lot of chances to end it in nine innings.

"We've just got to be better than we've been with runners in scoring position," manager Bryan Price said. "I can't be critical of the effort, but we're not producing. The tide will turn. It's just frustrating."



AL BEHRMAN/AP

**Cincinnati Reds second baseman Kris Negron, top, is upended by Arizona Diamondbacks' Didi Gregorius at second base in the seventh inning of Monday's game in Cincinnati. Gregorius was forced out at second and Negron threw to first to complete the double play. The Diamondbacks won 2-1 in 15 innings.**

## Did you know

The Arizona Diamondbacks are 13-0 in their franchise history in games that last at least 15 innings.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

Price batted Jay Bruce second for the first time since 2011, trying to get his lineup out of the slump. Bruce went 0-for-4 with three strikeouts and a pair of walks.

Oliver Perez (1-1) gave up a hit and a walk in two innings. Addison Reed got his 25th save in 30 chances.

Cincinnati's Aroldis Chapman fanned the side in the ninth, extending his major league record for a reliever to 44 consecutive games with at least one strikeout. One of his pitches was clocked at 104 mph.

Mesoraco led off the second with his 17th homer off rookie Chase Anderson, ending a streak of three straight games at Great American without a homer — the longest in the ballpark's 12 seasons. Montero singled home the tying run in the fourth off Homer Bailey, who gave up five hits in eight innings.

Anderson allowed three hits and matched his career high with eight strikeouts in seven innings, retiring the last 11 batters he faced.

Arizona right fielder David Peralta saved a run in the fourth with a diving, backhand catch of Brayson Pena's fly ball. He doubled up Chris Heisey at first base.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

**Toronto Blue Jays' Melky Cabrera (53) is congratulated by teammate Jose Reyes after his second two-run homer of the game against the Boston Red Sox during the sixth inning on Monday in Boston. Cabrera finished with 5 RBIs as the Blue Jays won in a rout, 14-1.**

## Roundup

# Blue Jays rout Red Sox

Cabrera hits 2 HRs, 5 RBIs as Toronto moves closer to AL East lead

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Melky Cabrera's second homer sailed over the left field wall and smashed a car window across the street.

Just a little extra damage in a game when the Toronto Blue Jays hammered the Boston Red Sox.

Cabrera homered from both sides of the plate and drove in five runs, R.A. Dickey pitched three-hit ball for seven innings and the Blue Jays won 14-1 on Monday night.

"He didn't know" his three-run homer in a nine-run sixth inning had cracked the windshield, Cabrera said through a translator. "He saw that after the game."

Dickey's knuckleball was so good, he could have done without some of those runs.

"I kind of wish they could divide them up over, like, three starts," he said. "(I) almost kind of wish we'd only scored two runs because I felt like I had that kind of knuckleball tonight and saved this outing for when I gave up five, but I'll take it."

The Blue Jays won for the sixth time in seven games and moved within 2½ games of division-leading Baltimore in the AL East. The Red Sox lost one day after stopping a five-game slide that began in Toronto with three losses.

Cabrera homered into Boston's bullpen in right field after Jose Reyes led off the game with a walk. Cabrera made it 9-0 in the

sixth with his 14th of the season. Ryan Goins had four hits and four RBIs for Toronto.

Dickey (9-10) had a season-high 10 strikeouts, allowed a run and walked one as he won for the third time in 10 starts. But against the Red Sox he's 3-0 with 21 strikeouts and two walks this season.

Clay Buchholz (5-7) left the game after allowing the first three batters to reach in the sixth with a run scoring on a double by Goins.

"They hit the pitches I was missing with," Buchholz said. Felix Doubront came in and faced 10 batters, allowing six runs, six hits and two walks. He got his only outs on a sacrifice fly and a forfeit.

Everyone in the Blue Jays' lineup except Reyes scored in the sixth, and Munenori Kawasaki scored twice. Toronto's 14 runs matched its season-high against Cincinnati on June 20.

Goins had given the Blue Jays a 4-0 lead with a two-run double in the fourth.

Dickey retired the first six batters and struck out at least one in each of his seven innings. He allowed a double in the third to Stephen Drew, an infield single in the fifth to Shane Victorino and an RBI single in the sixth by David Ortiz that made it 13-1.

**Rangers 4, Yankees 2:** Yu Darvish struck out eight in seven innings for his 10th victory and J.P. Arencibia had a tiebreaking two-run single for host Texas in a

victory over New York.

**Braves 2, Padres 0:** Ervin Santana (10-6) threw eight scoreless innings ad had 11 strikeouts and Evan Gattis homered for the first time in more than a month as host Atlanta blanked San Diego.

**Marlins 7, Nationals 6:** Jeff Baker hit a two-out RBI single to cap a four-run rally in the ninth inning as host Miami beat Washington for its fifth straight win.

**Astros 7, Athletics 3:** Chris Carter, Jason Castro, Marc Krauss and Matt Dominguez each hit a home run to help host Houston beat Oakland and snap a five-game slide.

**Cubs 4, Rockies 1:** Tsuyoshi Wada earned his first big league win, pitching seven strong innings to lead host Chicago by Colorado. Anthony Rizzo drove in two runs to back Wada (1-1), who was making his third career start.

**Mets 7, Phillies 1:** Travis d'Arnaud went 3 for 4 with a three-run homer and Bartolo Colon made his second straight strong start as host New York beat Philadelphia.

**Rays 2, Brewers 1:** Jake Odorizzi won his third consecutive start and James Loney had two RBIs to lead host Tampa Bay past Milwaukee.

**Pirates 5, Giants 0:** Vance Worley tossed a four-hitter for his first career shutout as visiting Pittsburgh pounded Madison Bumgarner early in a win over struggling San Francisco.

## OLYMPICS

## Marketing agreement an obstacle for US bid

By **EDDIE PELLIS**  
The Associated Press

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — If Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco or Washington is picked to host the 2024 Olympics, the U.S. Olympic Committee will pay the price for winning. One of its first tasks will be to hand over millions in sponsorships to the victorious city's newly formed organizing committee.

It's one of those costly facts of life in the Olympics thanks to the Joint Marketing Program Agreement that a country's Olympic federation must sign when it puts a city up as a candidate to host the Games. It also played into the failures of New York and Chicago in the last two U.S. attempts to land the Olympics.

The last two American bids have included agreements that didn't conform to the International Olympic Committee's guidelines, which call for

around 90 percent of the host federation's domestic sponsorship to be channeled to the new organizing committee. The USOC, not backed by any government funding, has balked at the terms because it would have trouble making up for the millions it gives away.

"A lot of countries might say it's not an issue," said Jim Scherr, the CEO of the USOC when New York finished fourth in the 2012 bidding. "They know if the Olympic committee loses money, the government will step in and make up the difference. You put it on the government's tab and call it a day."

Not so in the United States. In meetings last week with leaders of the four potential bid cities, USOC leaders spent a good amount of time explaining the JMPA. The USOC will decide early next year whether to bid for 2024.

"I acknowledge it's been a contentious issue in the past, both with New York and Chicago," CEO Scott Blackmun said. "I can tell you we're working hard to change our relationship with each bid city. We want to work with them to develop a structure that makes sense for us and them."

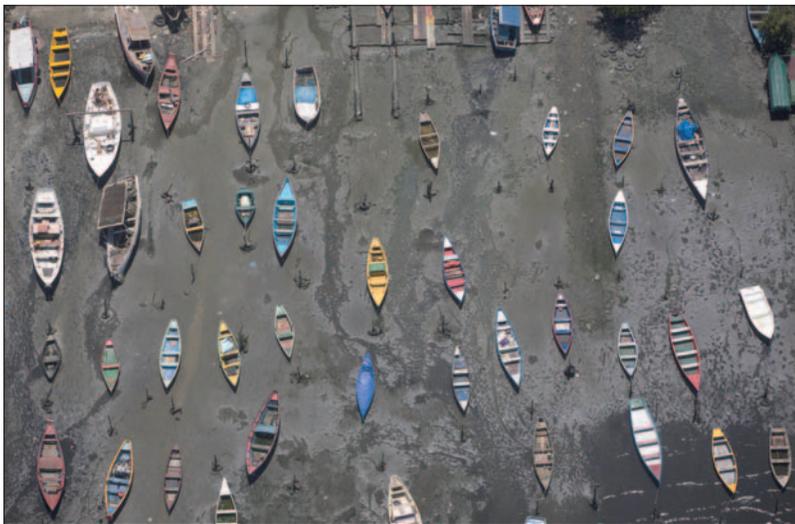
Most Olympic committees have been quick to sign the JMPA, knowing the surge in interest sparked by a home Olympics will lure new sponsors and, more importantly, that their national governments will step in to make up the difference.

But in the United States, the sponsorship market is considered close to tapped out and the federal government has a long history of not providing funding to the USOC.

The USOC is optimistic its improving relationship with the IOC will provide some leeway if it bids for 2024. In 2012, the USOC and IOC came to terms over a long-simmering feud about revenue sharing, with the USOC agreeing not to take as big a portion of the money the IOC receives from sponsors and TV.

When that deal was resolved, the USOC said it would start looking into bidding for the Olympics again.

AP Sports Writer Stephen Wilson contributed to this report.



FELIPE DANA/AP

Small boats sit on the shore of Guanabara Bay near Rio de Janeiro on Nov. 19, 2013. Rio dumps almost 70 percent of its untreated sewage into its surrounding waters, which fouls the bay with human waste and floating debris.

# Rio gets its first test

## Sailors compete in polluted water of Guanabara Bay

By **STEPHEN WADE**  
The Associated Press

**RIO DE JANEIRO** — Sailors, coaches and the mayor of Rio de Janeiro acknowledge the problem: Guanabara Bay, the venue for sailing at the 2016 Olympics, is badly polluted. Some liken it to a sewer.

The water is filthy after years of untreated waste being poured into the enclosed bay, a mess officials say will take at least a decade to fix.

From a distance, the venue is picturesque, framed between Sugarloaf Mountain and the Christ the Redeemer statue. This is the image Rio organizers want the world to see.

Yes, the venue will make for good television. The conditions for the athletes? That's another story.

"A few days ago, one of the sailors had to jump in the water and the first thing he did after coming up was take a bottle of water and wash his mouth and face," said Ivan Bulajic, a former Olympian who coaches the Austrian team. "When you feel this water on your face you feel uncomfortable. You have no idea what's in it. I think no sailor is comfortable sailing here. I guess you can get seriously ill."

But sail they will, starting Sunday with the first test event of the Rio Games. The weeklong regatta will feature all 10 Olympic classes, with 216 boats and 321 com-



FELIPE DANA/AP

Austria 49er class sailors Nikolaus Resch, right, and Nico Delle Karth, train Sunday on the waters of Guanabara Bay between Niteroi and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

petitors from 34 nations.

Rio dumps almost 70 percent of its untreated sewage into the surrounding waters. Cleaning the bay was part of the pitch to land the Olympics, with officials pledging to cut the flow by 80 percent by 2016.

But Rio's state environment secretary, Carlos Francisco Portinho, has acknowledged in a best-case scenario the reduction will be only 50 percent.

Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes acknowledged two months ago that the problem would not be solved for the Olympics. "I'm sorry that we did not use the games to get Guanabara Bay completely clean," Paes said. But he added he was "not afraid for the health of any of the athletes. It's going to be fine."

A series of stopgap remedies are being

put in place — rubbish boats to retrieve floating debris, and barriers to stop sofas, wooden chairs and plastic bags from entering the bay in the first place.

Rio state environment officials said in the first three months of the year, three boats retrieved 33 tons of solid waste. Ten will be operating for the test event.

The other problem is less visible: untreated human waste, which can't be retrieved and leaves a stench all around the bay.

"At low tide, it smells like sewage water. It smells like a toilet," said Austrian sailor Nikolaus Resch, who finished fourth at the London Olympics in the 49er class with teammate Nico Delle Karth. "You see people going for a swim. I would never — under free will — go in the water here."

## NBA/SPORTS BRIEFS

## NBA eager for new Clippers ownership

## Judge's ruling paves way for wife of Sterling to sell team to Ballmer

BY BRIAN MAHONEY  
The Associated Press

The NBA and the Los Angeles Clippers are ready to move on, even if Donald Sterling wants to keep fighting.

Move on to Steve Ballmer, who paid a record price for the team and is now a step closer to finally owning it.

The Clippers are a potential powerhouse team next season, with two All-Star players and one of the league's best coaches. The only thing that could've messed it up was ownership.

That no longer appears to be a concern after Monday's ruling in Los Angeles, where Superior Court Judge Michael Levanas sided with Sterling's estranged wife, Shelly Sterling, who negotiated the sale to Ballmer for a record-breaking \$2 billion. Donald Sterling was trying to block the sale.

Now it could all be completed within two weeks.

The league wanted to work with Ballmer, who made clear his desire to own with the astonishing price he paid. The former Microsoft CEO was nearly an NBA owner last year before owners chose to keep the Kings in Sacramento, rather than allow them to be sold to a group that included Ballmer, and moved to Seattle.

He got another chance after Donald Sterling was recorded making racial remarks to a female friend. NBA Commissioner Adam Silver then banned Sterling for life and fined him \$2.5 million, and said he would urge owners to force Sterling to sell.

Instead, Shelly Sterling made the deal with Ballmer, which could have fallen through if Levanas had ruled she didn't have the authority. And the Clippers' high hopes might've crumbled just as quickly.

Now they will go into next season flying high, just the way they play with Paul throwing alley-oop passes to big men Blake Griffin and DeAndre Jordan. They will have an owner who's already proven he won't be afraid to spend, a sharp contrast to the famously frugal Sterling, who never particularly cared to spend his billions on his basketball team.

**‘I suspect the NBA is ready to move very quickly. They want to get rid of Sterling like a canker sore.’**

**Bruce Givner**  
L.A. tax attorney

That's just part of the reason Sterling was long considered one of the worst owners in sports and his team one of its biggest laughingstocks. But the Clippers had zoomed past the Lakers as the best team in Los Angeles in their three years since acquiring Paul and are perhaps on their way to becoming one of the best in the league.

They won 57 games last season, the most ever, before the Sterling recording was released during their first-round playoff series against Golden State. The Clippers pulled that out in seven games but who knows what toll, if any, dealing with the Sterling fallout took, and they were ousted by Oklahoma City in the next round.

An unusual provision of the ruling bars Donald Sterling from seeking a court-ordered delay of the sale as he appeals. His lawyers plan to seek permission from an appellate court to file an appeal, and with lawsuits pending



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Shelly Sterling, left, the estranged wife of Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling, right, can sell the team to former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer for \$2 billion, a judge ruled Monday.

in state and federal courts, Monday's ruling is unlikely to end the bizarre saga.

But it gave the NBA, the Clippers and Ballmer hope that it all could be finished soon.

"I think the sale is going to go through," said Bruce Givner, a Los Angeles tax attorney who handles celebrity cases. "I suspect the NBA is ready to move very quickly. They want to get rid of Sterling like a canker sore. Nobody wants him around except the people that are charging legal fees to continue this charade."

Associated Press writer Brian Melley and AP Special Correspondent Linda Deutsch in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

## Key dates

**April 25** — Recordings emerge and quickly spread of Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling denouncing his young girlfriend for bringing black men to Clippers games.

**April 29** — Sterling gets a lifetime ban and \$2.5 million fine from NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, who called the remarks hateful and deeply offensive.

**May 12** — Sterling tells CNN he's not a racist and apologizes for his remarks then starts fresh firestorm with disparaging comment about Magic Johnson and HIV.

**May 13** — Shelly Sterling, Donald Sterling's estranged wife, tells NBC's "Today" show that she fears Donald Sterling is in early stages of dementia.

**May 29** — Shelly Sterling reaches agreement to sell the team for \$2 billion to former Microsoft CEO Steve

Ballmer. She says she has the authority under the family trust after two doctors found her 80-year-old husband had symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

**June 4** — Donald Sterling agrees to sign off on sale.

**June 9** — Donald Sterling pulls support for deal, vows long court fight to keep team.

**July 7** — Probate court trial begins on legality of sale.

**July 8-9** — Donald Sterling gives caustic, combative testimony during trial, shouting at lawyers for both sides and saying Shelly Sterling duped him. He calls her a pig when she tries to approach him after her testimony.

**July 28** — Probate judge rules against Donald Sterling, says deal to sell team can go forward.

— The Associated Press



CHUCK BURTON/AP

The Los Angeles Lakers announce Monday that Byron Scott is their new head coach.

## Briefly

## It's official: Lakers confirm Scott's their coach

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Lakers confirmed Byron Scott is their new coach Monday night.

The Lakers finally made the long-anticipated announcement in a news release. Scott will be introduced at a news conference Tuesday at the Lakers' training complex.

Scott told reporters last week end he had been hired by the Lakers, who have been without a coach since Mike D'Antoni resigned April 30. Scott is the 25th head coach in the 16-time NBA champions' franchise history. General manager Mitch Kup-

chak said he conducted "an extensive and thorough search" with owner Jim Buss.

Scott is 416-521 as a head coach for New Jersey, New Orleans and Cleveland, reaching two NBA Finals with the Nets. He has won three division titles, and he was the NBA's coach of the year in 2008.

## Dodgers acquire Barney in trade with Cubs

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Dodgers acquired second baseman Darwin Barney in a trade with the Chicago Cubs on Monday.

Barney won a Gold Glove in

2012 after tying the major league single-season record with 141 consecutive errorless games. But he was designated for assignment last Tuesday after hitting .230 with 16 RBIs in 72 games this season.

The last-place Cubs sent Barney and cash to NL West-leading Los Angeles for a player to be named.

## Cardinals' Abraham charged with DUI

ATLANTA — Authorities say Arizona Cardinals linebacker John Abraham was arrested on a drunken driving charge a month ago in the Atlanta area.

Abraham has been absent from the team's training camp since Friday.

DeKalb County Jail records show that the 36-year-old was taken into custody June 29 and released the same day.

The records show Abraham was charged with driving under the influence involving alcohol, as well as stopping, standing or parking in a prohibited place.

Records from the jail do not indicate whether the case had been resolved as of Tuesday, nor do they list an attorney for Abraham.

The Cardinals have said only that Abraham has been absent from camp for personal reasons.

# SPORTS



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Judge's ruling paves way  
for sale of Clippers | Page 31

Lawrence Okoye, a rugby player and British track and field Olympian, injured his knee in the first preseason game last season and expects to make great strides in becoming a dominant defensive player for the San Francisco 49ers this year.

MARIUS BECKER, DPA VIA ZUMA PRESS/MCT

NFL

## Work in progress

Briton Okoye preparing for rigors of football

BY RICK EYMER  
The Associated Press

**B**ritain's Lawrence Okoye speaks as if he is hoping to win a contest for the Oxford University debate team. That very well may be next on his list of things to accomplish.

The rugby player turned track and field athlete turned NFL player has been accepted to the prestigious English educational institution, where he intends to study law, and has a spot reserved until 2017.

Playing defensive end for the San Francisco 49ers is the latest of his engagements and he's given himself over to sculpting his body into a precision instrument for the football field.

"Training is different in regards to weightlifting," Okoye said. "But there is a lot of carryover. It's about getting winded and how well you perform when you're fatigued."

He has impressed 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh, among others.

"He's really playing with a lot better pad level," Harbaugh said Sunday. "He's playing lower, and the bull rush, right now, is a real strength. He's a strong man with long arms."

Okoye, who the British record in the discus and represented the country at the 2012 London Olympics, lost last season to a knee injury. He's ready to make huge strides this year.

"It's great to be back in pads," he said. "It's been a long journey. I've tried to spend as much time as possible working out."

Okoye hurt his knee during a preseason game last August and never made it back to the field until training camp.

Okoye grew up a promising rugby player through high school before taking up the discus in 2010. He turned his attention to football after reaching the Olympics final, where he placed 12th.



San Francisco 49ers defensive lineman Lawrence Okoye practices a drill during a training camp session on Thursday in Santa Clara, Calif.

"I enjoy the collision aspect of it," Okoye said. "Rugby was a big deal for me and football was a sport I could let loose a little bit."

The 49ers like his raw talent at a position where injuries took a toll last year. Despite his lack of experience — his first taste of football was at a regional NFL combine — Okoye understands the level of commitment it takes to play at an elite level.

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