

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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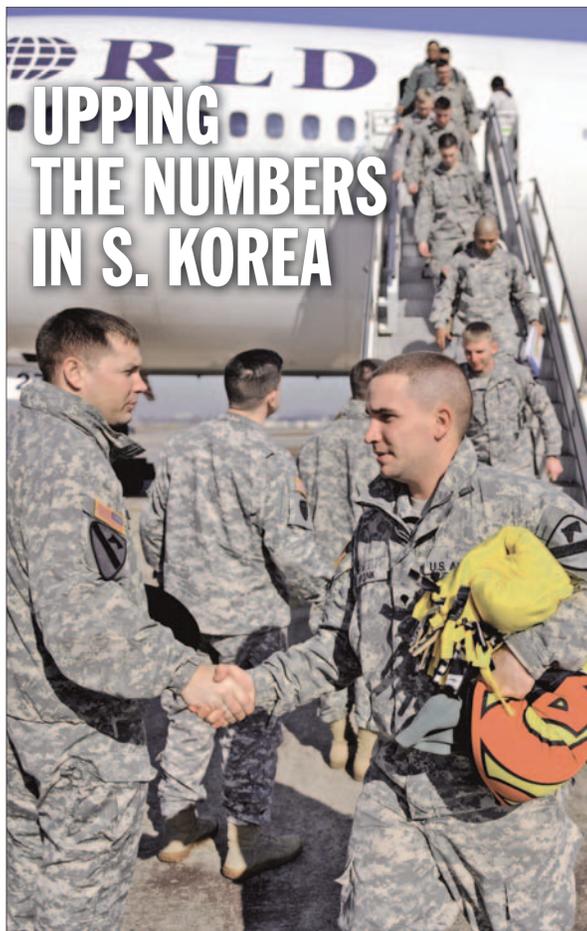


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## UPPING THE NUMBERS IN S. KOREA

Cavalry battalion deploys for 9-month rotation | Page 7

Senior leaders of the 2nd Infantry Division greet members of the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, as they arrive at Osan Air Base, South Korea, on Wednesday.

SIUTA B. IKA/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

## AF official outlines changes to ICBM force

By JON HARPER  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON—Air Force Secretary Deborah James has outlined a series of changes she wants implemented to fix what she called a “systemic problem” in the nation’s intercontinental ballistic missile force.

During a speech at an Air Force Association breakfast Wednesday in Arlington, Va., James laid out recommendations



James

about how the Air Force could improve its nuclear enterprise, including changing the culture within the ICBM force, modifying launch officer evaluation criteria, spending more money to improve quality of life for missileers, and punishing those who don’t live up to the service’s ethical standards.

James came up with those recommendations following discussions with airmen during her recent visit to all three of the Air Force’s ICBM bases. James made the trip in the wake of revelations this month that missile launch officers cheated on monthly proficiency exams and others were implicated in an illegal-narcotics investigation.

At each location, James was briefed by wing commanders and participated in town halls with servicemembers, but she also conducted small focus groups with launch officers and enlisted personnel from which senior officers were excluded. Based on what she heard during those meetings, she said the command climate within the missile wings needs to change.

SEE ICBM ON PAGE 5

**QUOTE**  
OF THE DAY

**"For the size of a traveler's shampoo bottle, you can serve an entire urban high school and get them stoned."**

— Rachel O'Bryan, a lawyer with Smart Colorado, which opposed the legalization of marijuana, on concerns about the increased ease with which airline passengers can travel with the drug

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**TOP CLICKS**  
ON STRIPES.COM

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2. Cavalry battalion arrives in Korea for 'plus-up' deployment
3. Packed hearing explores new accommodations for religious freedom
4. At the State of the Union, a Ranger leads the way
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**MIDEAST**

**Afghan official optimistic Karzai will sign US pact**

By **KAY JOHNSON**  
*The Associated Press*

KABUL — President Hamid Karzai's national security adviser expressed optimism Thursday that the Afghan leader will sign a key U.S. security pact before leaving office this year, a positive sign after weeks of deadlock and anti-American rhetoric from the government.

Rangin Dadfar Spanta said there have been recent talks with the U.S. to try to resolve the issue.

"We are working very intensively together with the United States authorities to reach and sign this agreement soon," Spanta said. "I cannot go today into detail, but I don't know — since

two, three, four days, I am more optimistic compared to last week. Let us wait a few days more."

Washington has been frustrated by Karzai's refusal to sign the pact that would allow some U.S. troops to remain and keep training Afghan soldiers after the planned withdrawal of most troops by the end of this year. Without the agreement, American military trainers will be forced to pull out of Afghanistan, weakening the government's ability to fight the Taliban insurgency.

Also on Thursday, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel warned that at some point Karzai's indecision will interfere with Washington's need to plan the post-2014 mili-

tary mission that the Afghan president, he said, he favors.

"You can't just keep deferring and deferring, because at some point, the realities of planning and budgeting — it collides," Hagel told reporters flying with him to Poland.

However, Hagel said he respects Karzai's right to decide the matter as he sees fit, and noted that the United States' ability to influence Karzai's decision-making is "limited."

Along with elections to be held in April, the Bilateral Security Agreement is a pillar of the U.S.-led coalition's plan to end its 12-year mission in Afghanistan and to hand over full security author-



MASSOUD HOSSAINI/AP

**Afghan National Security Adviser Rangin Dadfar Spanta speaks Thursday in Kabul.**

ity to the Afghan government at the end of 2014.

Karzai repeatedly has declined to sign the document, saying he wants to wait to sign it after the country elects his successor in the April 5 presidential election.

If the deal falls apart, Afghanistan could lose up to \$15 billion per year in aid, effectively collapsing its fragile economy and making it unable to pay its 350,000-strong army and police.

**Afghans not equipped to manage aid, audits find**

By **HEATH DRUZIN**  
*Stars and Stripes*

KABUL — With an increasing amount of U.S. aid flowing directly to the Afghan government, two audits have shown that none of the country's ministries is set up to manage and account for the billions of American taxpayer dollars being sent its way.

In 2010, the U.S. Agency for International Development contracted with accounting firms Ernst & Young and KPMG to assess the 16 Afghan ministries' ability to manage U.S. funds, according to a quarterly report to Congress released Thursday by the top U.S. government watchdog in Afghanistan, the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

The firms made nearly 700 suggestions for changes in the way the ministries should account for aid money. A subsequent internal review of seven of the ministries by USAID found more than 100 "major risks" there, including "misappropriation of cash arising from payments of salaries in cash," SIGAR said in a separate audit of direct assistance to Afghanistan, which also was published Thursday.

"A SIGAR audit report published this quarter concluded that USAID has not fully implemented measures designed to fix significant problems within Afghan ministries that will receive over \$1 billion in direct, government-to-government assistance," John Sopko, special inspector general for Afghanistan reconstruction, wrote in the quarterly report to Congress.

The quarterly report said that USAID ignored its own requirements by continuing to provide direct assistance to the ministries and that it ignored recommendations to suspend direct assistance until the ministries implemented improved systems to ensure the money was used as intended.

Corruption remains rife in the Afghan government. Last year, Afghanistan was ranked at the bottom of Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index for the second year in a row, a major concern for international donors.

In a letter responding to the report, Donald Sampier, assistant to the USAID administrator for Afghanistan and Pakistan, questioned the release of what he

termed "sensitive" information.

His letter concurred with SIGAR's recommendations — which include developing a plan for risk assessment and mitigation and informing Congress of the results of ministry assessments — but said they already are being implemented.

"SIGAR's audit did not identify waste, fraud or abuse in USAID's direct assistance program," Sampier wrote. "While the audit report examines and calls attention to the risks USAID identified in the Ministries that could potentially impact direct assistance programming in Afghanistan, it fails to acknowledge the full range of risk mitigation measures USAID subsequently employed."

Sampier wrote that the Afghan government provided "unprecedented access" to auditors with the understanding that the reports would not be made public. USAID asked that SIGAR "not make public sensitive information that could damage our bilateral relationships with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan," Sampier wrote.

"Unfortunately, public release of these materials will likely re-

sult in reduced cooperation from the Afghan Government and could undermine our ability to conduct proper oversight of direct assistance programs in the future," he wrote.

A spokesman for Afghan President Hamid Karzai did not respond to requests for comment on the report.

Though the United States is rapidly withdrawing its military contingent from Afghanistan ahead of the Dec. 31 deadline for the departure of all foreign combat troops, it plans to continue spending billions of dollars to fund reconstruction efforts for years to come, and there are grave concerns about the proper spending of that money. The Afghan government is almost entirely dependent on foreign aid to fund its budget.

The U.S. has spent roughly \$100 billion on reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan. There have been tangible improvements in education, health care and infrastructure, but the massive program has been heavily criticized for lack of oversight and poor planning.

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## MILITARY

# System to police colleges on GI Bill benefits

By LEO SHANE III  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Federal officials on Thursday launched an online complaints system designed to root out colleges that take advantage of student veterans and their military education benefits.

Complaints will be reviewed by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the Department of Justice, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Federal Trade Commission.

The massive interagency effort will allow federal officials to use their findings to pressure schools into changing, or to go after harsher punishment if warranted.

Veterans' groups hailed the move as a game-changer.

"This is going to give us the

ability to identify problems and trends veterans are having, and name names," said Ryan Gallucci, deputy legislative director for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Lawmakers in recent years have expressed concerns about veterans' wasting GI Bill benefits at schools that provide shaky degree programs and few job prospects. The VA has distributed more than \$34 billion in post-9/11 GI Bill funds since that benefit began in fall 2009, making it attractive to unscrupulous schools.

Democrats on the Senate education committees have focused on for-profit schools, blasting them as targeting military and veteran students while providing poor postgraduation prospects.

"Prior to today, veterans and servicemembers had nowhere to go when they were subjected to aggressive and deceptive re-

cruiting by predatory, for-profit colleges, including being lied to about a school's accreditation, true tuition and fees," said Carrie Wofford, president of Veterans Education Success.

Veterans' groups such as the VFW and Student Veterans of America in recent months have declined to attack the for-profit higher education industry, saying that anecdotes of student problems aren't limited to any one set of schools.

Outside groups, including the American Legion, have launched their own complaints centers and assistance hotlines to better track some of those problems. Advocates are optimistic the new federal system will not only help better identify bad actors, but also force changes in their practices.

The move comes some 18 months after President Barack

Obama signed an executive order designed to promote "principles of excellence" for higher-education institutions receiving federal funds. VA officials said Thursday that collecting and investigating student complaints is part of a range of tools designed to make sure GI Bill funds are being spent wisely.

"The online complaint system empowers veterans and their dependents and provides them a direct line to VA and our partner agencies," VA Under Secretary for Benefits Allison Hickey said in a statement. "The feedback we receive from veterans, servicemembers and their families will help us strengthen enforcement ... to ensure students are receiving the education benefits they have earned and deserve."

Complaints are expected to range from student-life problems

—like course offerings and counseling availability — to possible criminal actions, including predatory loan programs and academic credentialing fraud.

The complaints system also covers problems with active-duty students who use Defense Department tuition-assistance programs. In a statement, Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Jessica Wright said the program "will ensure we have the right information to identify and address any negative practices."

The complaints system is available online through the VA website at [www.benefits.va.gov/gi-bill/feedback.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gi-bill/feedback.asp) and through the Defense Department at [www.militaryonsource.com/voluntary-education/content\\_id=274604](http://www.militaryonsource.com/voluntary-education/content_id=274604).

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MICHAEL S. DARNELL/Stars and Stripes

A paratrooper with the 4th Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, makes a landing during a training exercise on U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria on Wednesday.

## 'Heavy drop' has light landing for howitzer, Humvee

By MICHAEL S. DARNELL  
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWÖHR, Germany — Soldiers from the 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment sent a 4,000-pound machine hurtling toward the ground from 1,300 feet in the air.

The M119 howitzer landed seconds later, a small puff of powered snow the only evidence of its rapid descent.

The airborne soldiers were conducting a "heavy drop" exercise, in which they practice dropping large equipment — like the howitzer and the Humvee they used for this mission — at a remote location. After the equipment is safely settled, paratroopers from following aircraft land, secure it

and get it ready for combat.

The Humvee takes a matter of minutes and the howitzer can be ready to fire in approximately 20 minutes, said 1st Lt. Benjamin Hurley, an aerial delivery officer with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

"After the heavy drops land, they'll go to the howitzer and begin de-rigging it. It's really quick," he said, referring to unhooking the parachute.

It takes many seasoned hands to safely drop complex machinery from about 1,000 feet in the air and have it ready to go so quickly. Roughly 150 paratroopers landed during the exercise, many of them with dozens of jumps to their credit.

With this type of training mission, there

is often a soldier still learning the ropes.

Air Force Capt. Pete Dowling, an air liaison officer with the 2nd Air Support Operations Squadron in Vileseck, made his first jump during the exercise. The nerves one might think accompany a first-time leap from a plane are mostly myth, he said.

"In all honesty, I just wanted to get it over with," Dowling said. "My brother is in Afghanistan right now and he's got 13, 14 jumps under his belt. I'm just trying to catch up to him."

"It was a good, smooth exit. I was able to float on down to earth and prepare for a good landing ... I'm up and walking again. Can't complain."

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## Pentagon will review higher pensions for top officers

By TOM VANDEN BROOK  
USA Today

WASHINGTON — A Pentagon commission on military compensation will review a 2007 increase in pensions for three- and four-star officers that made the retirement pay of some officers higher than what they made on active duty, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told a Senate panel Tuesday.

Navy Adm. James Winnefeld said the commission will examine the change as it examines all compensation issues.

The pension change, largely unremarked on at the time, was first reported on by USA Today in 2012 and again this year in light of the cost-of-living cuts.

The Pentagon had requested the change in law for top brass in 2003 to help retain senior officers as the military was fighting wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and wanted to keep experienced officers on active duty.

Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., cited USA Today's report on Tuesday when she asked Winnefeld whether the changes to pensions for top brass, which boosted their pensions as much as 63 percent, should be reviewed.

A four-star general or admiral retiring with 40 years of experience would receive a pension of \$237,144, according to the Pentagon. Base pay for active-duty top officers is \$181,501, according to the Pentagon. Housing and other allowances can increase their compensation an additional third.

Winnefeld testified as part of a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing into a reduction in cost-of-living adjustments for military retirees younger than 62. The change, which was included in a budget deal struck late last year, would see pensions for veterans younger than 62 decrease 1 percent annually beginning in 2015. The COLA reduction was eliminated for disabled veterans.

MILITARY

# Defense analyst calls for US to expand Africa force

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany—The U.S. should send a 5,000-strong security assistance brigade to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help stabilize a country ravaged by more than a decade of war, a prominent U.S. military analyst recommends.

In a "memorandum" to President Barack Obama, Michael O'Hanlon, of the Brookings Institution, also urged the White House to send several hundred military advisers to Libya to help train that country's fledgling armed forces.

"The United States should, with a focused effort and in partnership with other states, make a significant push to improve security in Africa," O'Hanlon wrote in his Jan. 23 memo, which was posted on the Brookings website. "No massive deployments of U.S. troops would be needed, and in fact no role for American main combat units is required. But we should step up our game from the current very modest training efforts coordinated through Africa Command."

The recommendation comes at a time of increased concern about

instability in certain parts of Africa. The list of hot spots is long: Mali, Somalia and across ungoverned spaces in the Sahel region of western and north-central Africa, where extremists have taken root, armed in large part with weapons looted from Libyan armories during NATO's air assault on Moammar Gadhafi's regime in 2011.

In addition, ethnic divisions have exploded into bloody violence in South Sudan, the Central African Republic and the DRC.

AFRICOM has engaged in many of those hot spots, though U.S. military action generally takes the form of modestly sized training missions, intelligence-gathering operations and logistical support to French forces on the ground in places like Mali.

It seems unlikely that the Obama administration would follow O'Hanlon's recommendation. In his State of the Union speech Tuesday, Obama emphasized that as the war in Afghanistan winds down, he would send U.S. forces into conflict zones only as a last resort.

"I will not send our troops into harm's way unless it's truly necessary. Nor will I allow our sons and daughters to be mired in open-

ended conflicts," Obama said.

In the case of lawless eastern Congo, where thousands of people have been killed in the past decade despite the presence of U.N. peacekeepers, there are no clear national security risks at stake for the U.S. While the U.S. has provided some military training to support DRC troops in the past, sending a 5,000-strong brigade would be an unprecedented move in the region.

Asked about O'Hanlon's recommendation, Maj. Fred Harrell, an AFRICOM spokesman, said it would be "inappropriate" for the command to comment on any potential policy decision.

Thierry Vircoulon, the International Crisis Group's director for Central Africa, was skeptical that the U.S. military is capable of helping to bring stability to the Congo.

"I believe that, unfortunately, the problems of Congo are not the type of problems that can be addressed by the U.S. Army," Vircoulon said.

The DRC's problem, Vircoulon said, is "bad governance, bad governance, bad governance."

O'Hanlon also recommended that the U.S. send several hundred



JOHN VANDIVER/Stars and Stripes

**In 2011, the U.S. military trained a battalion of roughly 700 Congolese troops as part of an effort to professionalize a force that has a reputation for lawlessness. U.S. efforts in Congo have been limited mainly to training.**

troops to Libya to train that country's military. Since Gadhafi's fall, Libya has been in a state of virtual anarchy. The U.S. and Europe are drawing up plans to train government forces, but that will likely occur outside of the country.

O'Hanlon, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, acknowledges that increasing the U.S. military's profile in Africa could be a hard sell.

"At a time of national war fatigue and fiscal austerity, it may

be counterintuitive to propose increasing American involvement, particularly if it involves military commitment abroad. But for a modest investment, the United States and other countries may be able to make major strides toward improving the prospects for peace and stability on the continent."

O'Hanlon's full memorandum can be read at tinyurl.com/lorq3p.

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# Italy's new taxes, duties on US military mail cause dispute

By STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy—Italian customs agents in Rome have begun charging taxes and duties on packages entering the U.S. military mail system in the country, prompting a dispute over one aspect of basing agreements between the two countries.

The customs agents announced the change via a letter given to military mail officials at the Rome airport, said Chief Petty Officer Travis Simmons, a spokesman for the U.S. Navy base in Naples. The agents are holding two dozen packages bound for bases in Naples and Sigonella, Sicily, until the dispute is resolved, he said.

Italians have argued they are allowed to levy the new fees, while U.S. officials say long-standing basing agreements between the countries prohibit the taxes, Simmons said. Those include the 1951 NATO Status of Forces agreement covering the American presence in the country as well as various agreements for each base.

"It's just two different interpretations," he said. Navy representatives have met twice with customs agents and U.S. Embassy officials in Rome and will continue to try to resolve the issue, he said.

The base warned personnel earlier this week that shipped merchandise more than 22 euros, or about \$30, would be sub-

The merchandise shipped via the U.S. Military Postal System that may be subjected to a value-added tax and customs duties includes:

- Roasted ground coffee and surrogates.
- Master keys and utensils for combination locks.
- Plants and soil.
- Lottery tickets of any kind.
- Slot machines or parts thereof.
- Albums of any kind (for photographs, postcards, stamps, etc.).
- Artificial fruit and flowers and accessories for the same.

- Belts and other musical instruments and parts thereof.
- Capsules and cartridges.
- Clocks and watch supplies.
- Coins, bank notes and paper values.
- Corals mounted of any kind.
- Cider and chloroform.
- Photographic and cinematographic films exposed.
- Footwear of all kinds.
- Apparel and sewn clothing of every kind.
- Hair and hair products.

- Leather goods.
- Nutmeg, vanilla, sea salt, mineral salt and saffron.
- Playing cards of any type.
- Postage stamps in letters open or closed.
- Typewriter ribbons.
- Saccharine.
- Salted meat, smoked, or otherwise prepared.
- Toys which are not exclusively made of wood.
- Skins and furs, treated.

Source: U.S. Navy

## A variety of items now subject to Italian fees

ject to Italy's value-added tax and customs duties.

A flier distributed by the base included a list of items that could trigger the fees, ranging from common retail goods ("apparel and sewn clothing of every kind") to chemicals already banned from the mail system ("ether and chloroform") to such oddball articles as "typewriter ribbon" and "bells and other musical instruments and parts thereof."

Other military bases in Italy have not been affected by the new rules, Army and Air Force representatives said.

Most mail for bases in Vicenza and Aviano enters through Milan, they said, whereas all Navy packages arrive through the Fiumicino Airport just west of Rome.

Italy's value-added tax varies between 10 percent and 22 percent for most products, with a few items taxed at 4 percent. Food, water and other living necessities draw the lowest rates, while con-

sumer products like apparel and electronics are taxed at the highest rates.

The military mail system allows those based overseas to receive U.S. Postal Service and commer-

cial parcels from the U.S. at rates comparable to domestic shipping. Online shopping has become more common in recent years, and many large online retailers like Amazon.com recognize military addresses in their order forms.

Frustration over the new rule quickly appeared on Facebook pages after the announcement.

"So ... basically you can't order anything or receive gifts from friends via the mail," Charles Stevens wrote on the base page. "That's wrong!!!!"

Host nation tax issues occasionally crop up at other overseas military bases. The town of Rota, Spain, which hosts a U.S. Navy base inside a Spanish navy base, has long sought to tax buildings within the base as it does those outside, but its efforts have been blocked by Spanish courts.

Stars and Stripes reporter Jason Duhir covers military and air operations. beardsley.steven@stripes.com

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## MILITARY

## ICBM: Incentive pay, testing changes mulled for scandal-riven missile force

## FROM FRONT PAGE

"The need for perfection has created way too much stress and way too much fear about the future," James said. "I heard repeatedly, especially in the focus groups, that the system feels very punitive. It doesn't feel that you're incentivized for good but rather you're punished merely if anything bad should happen.

"I've also heard repeatedly that there's a level of micromanagement within this force."

She said more money needs to be spent on personnel who man the ICBM force because servicemembers at the missile wings view Defense Department leaders as officials who merely pay lip service to them.

"I also heard repeatedly that the airmen hear that the mission is important but we don't necessarily put our money or our attention where our mouth is [and] there's a difference between what we say and what they feel that we do," James said. "We need to put our money where our mouth is."

"So this is everything from perhaps we should have additional funding for manning levels to get them up, perhaps [for] military construction. I saw some leaking roofs; things of this nature. There might be some quality-of-life things [where we can] redirect some of our investments for this force.

"We need to examine the incentives, the accolades, the recognition that is available to the nuclear force," she said. "This gets into the realm of should we consider some sort of incentive pay or, you know, scholarships for certain types of work [or] should we [award] a medal or a ribbon. So we need to look at all of that."

James said the performance grading and promotion system for launch officers is flawed and needs to be more comprehensive.

"In the current environment, there's no room for error — no room for error all of the time," she said. "And yet when you're talking about training, the idea of training is learning and mistakes happen and you get better. That's what training is all about."

"But in this environment it sounded to me like everything was a test and that perfect test scores had become an important gauge — in some cases I heard the only gauge — allowing commanders to differentiate [among the launch officers]," she said. "This is wrong. We need to address this."

"And I think rather than making a 110 percent test be the make-it-or-break-it for these young people and the future of their careers, I think we need to look at a whole person concept [and] the totality of what they're doing with a test being an element [but] not a make-it-or-break-it element all the time."

### Being a good wingman does not mean protecting others who lack integrity.

Deborah James  
Air Force secretary

James suggested that commanders need to be punished for the cheating scandal.

"We clearly have to have accountability at all levels," she said. "For those involved — some of whom actually cheated, some of whom knew about it but didn't stop it — there needs to be accountability, and there will be. But we're also looking at the leadership."

"Part of what's going on now is we're doing this commander investigation," Lt. Gen. Stephen Wilson, the commander of Global Strike Command, said Thursday. "So [the Office of Special Investigations] will turn over their information to the team. ... At the end of that, we'll make recommendations on any personnel actions. We're looking at everything from squadron, group, wing and numbered Air Force levels."

James wants the Air Force to encourage missileers to inform on their peers anonymously so they won't be seen as ratting out their comrades who cheat.

"Airmen need to understand that being a good wingman does

not mean protecting others who lack integrity," she said. "And of course airmen have a responsibility not only to act with integrity in their own actions, but also to report wrongdoing that they see going on. And somehow that got a bit lost here."

"So we need to ... remind people that there are ways to report things both directly and through anonymous sources. I heard over and over again airmen don't want to be perceived as reporting on their buddies."

On Thursday, James told reporters at the Pentagon that the number of officers implicated in the cheating scandal has increased to 92, all of whom are stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont. All 92 have been temporarily de-certified and can no longer stand watch. She said the investigation is nearing completion.

James also said the number of servicemembers within the nuclear enterprise implicated in the drug probe has increased to 13.

Spurred by the recent scandals and poor performance and con-

duct among elements of the missile force, last week Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel ordered a 60-day review of the nuclear enterprise. Air Force leaders are expected to develop an action plan by the time the review is completed.

James will be a key player in the review, and she told reporters the focus areas she outlined will be examined during the effort.

James met with Hagel and other leaders of the nuclear enterprise at the Pentagon on Wednesday and shared her views, Pentagon press secretary Rear Adm. John Kirby told reporters.

"I think there was a general recognition that, yes, there are systemic issues and, yes, we need to start trying to solve them," Kirby said.

Kirby said corrective measures will be enacted "in the coming weeks and months," but it's too early to tell what the action plan will include or when specific initiatives will take effect.

"The work has just begun ... and I would be loath right now to characterize what it's going to look like," Kirby said. "I suspect it certainly will have a list of tasks that they believe need to be accomplished or checked or maintained, and then some recommendations moving forward."

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PACIFIC

# Congress to DOD: Probe tsunami-response ailments

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — Congress has instructed the Defense Department to launch an inquiry into potential health impacts on Navy first responders from Japan's March 2011 earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster.

The request, made in the explanatory statement from the House that accompanied the fiscal 2014 budget bill that passed Congress last week, comes as a growing number of sailors and Marines have joined a lawsuit against Tokyo Electric Power Co. While the instruction is not law, Defense Department officials said they were taking the request seriously.

"The Department treats reporting requirements included in committee reports seriously and tries to respond to all of them," Defense Department spokesman Army Lt. Col. Catherine Wilkinson wrote in a statement to Stars and Stripes last week.

The statement gives Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs Dr. Jonathan Woodson until April 15 to submit a report to the congressional defense committees that includes the number of sailors serving on the USS Ronald Reagan during Operation Tomodachi who were potentially exposed to increased levels of radiation; adverse medical conditions experienced by Reagan sailors since the operation; and actions taken before, during and after the operation to ensure sailors' safety.

Woodson also must include the number of sailors who participated in the operation who are still in the Navy, reservists who are separated and sailors who have since separated.

About 50 sick sailors and Marines have accused TEPCO of lying about the risk of exposure, luring American forces closer to the affected areas and lulling others at bases across Japan into disregarding safety measures. Those individuals claim to be suffering from exposure-related ailments such as unexplained cancers, excessive bleeding, thyroid issues and ailments including loss of muscle power, migraines and vision problems.

The suit was filed in federal court in San Diego in December 2012 seeking damages and funds to cover medical expenses. The original eight complainants were on the USS Ronald Reagan, but the suit has since expanded to include those who served aboard the USS Essex and the USS Germantown as well as attached Marines.

The explanatory statement does not request an inquiry into the health and safety of Marines who participated in the operation. "Recent reports of sailors who

## Hundreds sue makers of Fukushima nuclear plant

TOKYO — About 1,400 people filed a joint lawsuit Thursday against three companies that manufactured reactors at Japan's Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant, saying they should be financially liable for damage caused by their 2011 meltdowns.

The lawyers for the plaintiffs said the lawsuit, filed at Tokyo District Court, is a landmark challenge of current regulations that give manufacturers immunity from liability in nuclear accidents. Under Japan's nuclear damage compensation policy, only the operator of the plant, Tokyo Electric Power

Co., has been held responsible for the accident, which was triggered by a powerful earthquake and tsunami.

The 1,415 plaintiffs, including 38 Fukushima residents and 357 people from outside Japan, said the manufacturers — Toshiba, GE and Hitachi — failed to make needed safety improvements to the 4-decade-old reactors at the Fukushima plant.

They are seeking compensation of 100 yen (\$1) each, saying their main goal is to raise awareness of the problem.

— The Associated Press

have developed cancer and other health conditions linked to radiation exposure after serving on the USS Ronald Reagan during Operation Tomodachi, which provided humanitarian assistance following the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan in March 2011, are disconcerting," the statement said.

The statement directs Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus to use allocated funds — for example, \$200 million for its peer-reviewed medical research program, \$100 million for its joint warfighter medical research program or \$25 million for its peer-reviewed cancer research program — to research the health effects of radiation exposure and to ensure any health issues from the mission are fully addressed.

Mabus also is directed to report to the congressional defense committees on exposure-related research efforts.

Lawyers for the plaintiffs praised Congress for looking into the issue. "It feels like maybe there's light at the end of the tunnel," Paul Garner, lawyer for the plaintiffs, said last week. "But we shall see."

Garner said they plan to file an amended complaint Feb. 6 to address issues raised by a federal judge in the case late last year. He expects between 25 and 100 sailors and Marines to be added to the case, and that number could climb even after the amendment is filed.

"Their future is a dire one," Garner said. "We're pushing TEPCO to start a fund to help these people right now."

Congress isn't alone in taking notice. An online petition to "Help Irradiated Fukushima 'First Responders' from USS Ronald Reagan et al." was launched earlier this month on the community petition

site AVAAZ.org. The petition has 238 signatures from people as far away as Canada and Grenada.

"Scores of brave US sailors were seriously contaminated and made sick by Fukushima radiation while helping to save Japanese citizens during the 3/11/11 earthquake/tsunami," the petition reads. "But they were not told about massive radiation doses they suffered from the Fukushima melt-downs & explosions. Many are seriously ill and are suing Tokyo Electric Power. THEY NEED OUR HELP!"

When the disaster struck on



EUGENE HOSHIKO/AP

U.S. Navy crewmembers mop up the flight deck to remove radioactive contamination from the aircraft carrier the USS Ronald Reagan off the coast of Japan in March 2011.

March 11, 2011, the Reagan was on its way to Korea, according to Reagan sailors who participated in Operation Tomodachi. They turned around and immediately made their way for the Japanese mainland, passing through a sea of debris.

Sailors told Stars and Stripes that they believe they were as close as 5 miles off the coast of the stricken plant that spewed radiation into the air and the sea.

Sailors who were aboard the Reagan have claimed they were drinking contaminated desalinated seawater and were bathing in it until the ship's leadership told them via the public address system to stop because it was contaminated. They claim the ventilation system also was contaminated.

Furthermore, some claim they were pressured into signing forms confirming they had been given iodine pills when none had been provided.

The Defense Department and other organizations have said the radiation levels that troops were exposed to during Operation Tomodachi were safe. The Navy has acknowledged that the Reagan passed through a plume of radiation but said it was not harmful.

They have declined to comment on many of the other facets of the plaintiffs' case.

The scientific community is divided on the effects of low-level radiation.

Garner believes the number of sick servicemembers and the nature of their ailments speaks for itself. They are seeking at least \$40 million each in compensatory and punitive damages and more than \$1 billion for a fund to cover health monitoring and medical expenses.

"This is not going to disappear," he said.

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PACIFIC

# 1-12 CAV deploys to South Korea

By ASHLEY ROWLAND  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — A U.S.-based cavalry battalion, complete with tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles, has arrived in South Korea for a nine-month rotational deployment.

In a nod to the sensitivities on both sides of the Demilitarized Zone to changes in the U.S. force posture, officials are calling the additions only for defense and have been hesitant to discuss how the deployment affects American troop strength in South Korea.

A 2nd Infantry Division statement described the deployment as a “strictly defensive” movement that will increase readiness and strengthen U.S. and South Korean capabilities.

“The addition of a Combined Arms Battalion makes 2ID a more agile and lethal force more capable of deterring aggression and defending the Republic of Korea if called upon,” it said.

The battalion, commanded by a lieutenant colonel, includes a Headquarters and Headquarters Company, two companies of mechanized infantry, two companies of armor and a forward support company.

The approximately 800 members of the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment from Fort Hood, Texas, arrived Wednesday at Osan Air Base before traveling to Camps Hovey and Stanley, both north of Seoul. The unit brings with it about 40 M1A2 Abrams tanks and 40 M2A3 Bradleys, which will remain in Korea for follow-on rotations.

Earlier this month, Pentagon spokesman Col. Steven Warren described the rotational deployment as a long-planned “plus-up” that is part of the U.S. military and



SIJUA B. IKA/Courtesy of US Air Force

**Senior leaders of the 2nd Infantry Division greet members of the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, as the exit the aircraft at Osan Air Base, South Korea, on Wednesday.**

diplomatic rebalance to Asia.

“This gives the commanders in Korea an additional capability — two companies of tanks, two companies of Bradleys,” he said.

The U.S. military’s use of rotational forces in South Korea appears to be increasing.

Last September, it announced plans for a nine-month deployment of the 4th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., to Camp Humphreys. The air reconnaissance squadron includes about 380 soldiers and 30 OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters.

Adm. Samuel Locklear, head of the U.S. Pacific Command, told a Washington news conference last week that the decision to send a rotational armored unit was prompted by concerns over how to best maintain capabilities on the peninsula, not by changes in the

tactical or strategic environment.

“So it got played out like it was a big strategic move, but in reality, it was just part of the pre-planned decision we had made in the alliance to make sure we had the most capable forces on the peninsula and the way that — reflective of the way we rotate — we’re increasingly rotating and using forces in this century,” he said.

The U.S. military has maintained a force level of 28,500 in South Korea since 2008, when it halted a long-term drawdown to 25,000 troops at Seoul’s request.

However, the arrival of the 1-12 CAV — the first troop movement

of 2014, according to 2ID — and the increasing frequency of rotational deployments could point to more boots on the ground.

Because the deployment is considered a temporary duty assignment and not a change of duty station, its personnel are not counted toward U.S. Forces Korea’s overall force strength, according to the Eighth Army officials in South Korea.

USFK refused to comment this week on whether the use of rotational forces would affect current or future troop levels, saying only that South Korea officials are informed of the strength of units deploying to the country, including rotational units.

In a country where the presence of U.S. troops remains a sensitive topic and officials take pains to portray routine military exercises as nonthreatening to the North, South Korean officials have also been reluctant to address the U.S. troop levels.

A Ministry of National Defense spokesman said U.S. troop levels will remain at roughly 28,500 but could fluctuate slightly. Another ministry spokesman said there would be a temporary increase in troop numbers but refused to provide details.

Both said the rotational deployment was unrelated to concerns about the North Korean military threat.

Yoo Kyong Chang contributed to this story.  
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## More suspect barrels found near air base

By CHIYOMI SUMIDA  
Stars and Stripes

OKINAWA CITY, Okinawa — An additional 13 corroded barrels were found beneath a soccer field adjacent to Kadena Air Base’s primary and intermediate schools, the Japan Ministry of Defense said Thursday.

More than 20 dioxin- and herbicide-tainted drums were previously unearthed in another section of the field, shocking parents whose children attend the schools.

The latest discovery brings the total number of barrels found in the field to 47, a spokesman for the ministry’s Okinawa Defense Bureau said. The latest barrels were rusted, crushed and marked with unreadable English, he said.

The ministry plans to dig in three more spots on the field where earlier magnetic surveys detected buried metals.

The soccer field land, southeast of the present day Kadena Air Base, was used by the Air Force until 1986, when it was returned to Okinawa control. The 22 empty Dow Chemical Co. barrels already recovered were found to contain traces of dioxin, a common pollutant linked to cancer, reproductive and developmental problems, immune system damage and hormone imbalances.

Testing has concluded the hazardous materials from the drums has not spread to the soil in the soccer field or water in the area.

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STARS AND STRIPES

MILITARY

# Pentagon: Tests find cracks in F-35

By **TONY CAPACCI**  
Bloomberg News

WASHINGTON — Lockheed Martin Corp.'s F-35 jet developed cracks in testing of the fighter's durability and wasn't sufficiently reliable in training flights last year, the Pentagon's chief tester found.

On-ground testing of the Air Force and Marine Corps versions of the fighter revealed "significant findings" of cracks on five occasions in fuselage bulkheads, flanges, stiffeners and engine mounts "that will require mitigation plans and may include redesigning parts and additional weight," according to an annual report on major weapons by Michael Gilmore, director of operational testing.

Gilmore repeatedly has raised questions about progress of the \$391.2 billion F-35 program, the most expensive U.S. weapons system. This year's report, released Tuesday, may draw particular scrutiny because the Pentagon will propose increasing purchases to 42 planes in fiscal 2015 from the 29 Congress authorized this year.

Lockheed, the top U.S. contractor, drew 16 percent of sales from the F-35 last year. "That number will grow in 2014," Bruce Tanner, chief financial officer for the Bethesda, Md.-based company told reporters last week.

In a full-page discussion of durability testing and cracking, Gilmore disclosed an incident in late September when a bulkhead "severed." He said "analy-

sis and corrective actions" were continuing.

Aircraft based in Florida, Arizona, California and Nevada for pilot-training missions continue "to be immature" and rely "heavily on contractor support and workarounds unacceptable in combat operations," Gilmore wrote.

Reliability measures "are all below" target goals for the current stage of development, he said.

The aircraft's weight stabilized last year, with little margin for growth without exceeding contractually binding limits that would jeopardize meeting combat requirements, Gilmore said.

The Air Force model, which will be the most numerous of the 2,443 F-35s planned, was within

341 pounds of its 29,030-pound airframe weight requirement as of October. The Marine Corps version was within 202 pounds of its 32,577-pound goal with several years of development left.

"Managing weight growth with such small margins will continue to be a significant program challenge," Gilmore said.

The test report also outlined achievements, finding that flight tests performed by 18 jets to evaluate the aircraft's flying process and handling qualities "made the planned progress" and "nearly matched or exceeded" sortie goals through October.

Flights designed to evaluate the aircraft's combat systems and integration of weapons "made little progress and continued to fall behind" its goals, Gilmore said.

## German business club offering scholarships

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The Kaiserslautern chapter of the American-German Business Club is accepting applications for its annual scholarship.

The 1,000-euro scholarship (about \$1,400) is open to Americans and Germans who are studying business or plan to do so. To qualify, an applicant must study business or business-related courses at the Technical University of Kaiserslautern or study business-related courses at an accredited university while having residence in the Kaiserslautern, Pirmasens, Saarbrücken, Koblenz or Mainz areas.

Applicants must be at least a year away from finishing their degrees or be high school seniors who have been accepted to colleges or universities.

To apply, a student must submit a cover letter and a 500- to 750-word essay in English explaining how they would use their business studies to further German-American relations. Cover letters should be no more than one page. They should include the applicant's name, current and home addresses, email address, telephone numbers, name of current school, expected year of college graduation, and an outline of the current course of study and any pertinent cross-cultural experiences.

Both the cover letter and essay must be saved as Microsoft Word documents and sent via email to: ScholarshipAGBC@Kaiserslautern.com or hotmail.com. The deadline is March 30.

## \$9M accord reached over boy's brain injury

HONOLULU — Attorneys for a Virginia boy with cerebral palsy say his family and the Honolulu military hospital where he was born have reached a tentative \$9 million settlement.

The amount, put on the record in federal court in Honolulu on Monday, is subject to final approval by the U.S. Department of Justice, said Loretta Sheehan, one of the family's attorneys.

According to the family's lawsuit, Noah Whitney was born in 2010 at Tripler Army Medical Center, with "catastrophic brain injury" because of medical negligence.

Allegations in the lawsuit include failing to respond appropriately to signs and symptoms of uterine rupture and taking too long to perform a cesarean section. Laura Whitney arrived at the hospital on Sept. 7, 2010, with severe lower abdominal pain at about 35 weeks of pregnancy. The pregnancy was closely monitored because of previous miscarriages and the complicated birth of her first child, Evan. The lawsuit blamed the hospital for Noah's severe brain injury and said he "will require 24 hour per day care for the remainder of his life."

From staff and wire reports



HENRICK SIMOES/Stars and Stripes

A tied-arch suspension bridge is transported in Bahrain on Thursday.

## Bahrain bridge-moving project hits delays

By **HENRICK SIMOES**  
Stars and Stripes

MANAMA Bahrain — A 2,600-ton tied-arch suspension bridge that will connect Naval Support Activity Bahrain to 77 acres of new expansion land is on the move, but slower than officials had anticipated.

The initial plan to pre-position the bridge for a much-hyped move during the night from Thursday into Friday was delayed until Thursday morning while crews repaired a piece of equipment crucial to lift and move the approximately 400-foot bridge.

The bridge was lifted Thursday morning, but moving it has been stop-and-go because of unexpected issues.

The clock is ticking. Bahrain's Ministry of Works gave the U.S. Navy a seven-hour window to install the bridge overnight and to reopen the roadway, one of Bahrain's busiest, by 6 a.m. Friday. Fridays in Bahrain are the equivalent of Sundays in the United States, when traffic is minimal.

Naval Support Activity Bahrain, home to the U.S. 5th Fleet, has outgrown the capacity of the existing facilities and the bridge

is considered an important milestone in the base's growth. The expansion will provide space for a vehicle maintenance facility, a warehouse, a dining facility and two barracks to house about 1,000 sailors.

Army Corps of Engineers officials say the bridge project is the first of its kind in the Middle East District's history.

Even if Thursday night's installation is successful, the \$8 million bridge isn't scheduled to open until sometime in the summer.

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## Employment effort meets 100,000-vet hiring goal

By **GREGG ZOROVA**  
USA Today

A coalition of companies that vowed in 2011 to hire 100,000 veterans within a decade has made its goal seven years early, announcing today that 117,439 former servicemembers have since been provided jobs.

The group, calling itself the 100,000 Jobs Mission, has now promised to double its target to 200,000 veterans in jobs by 2020, according to the announcement.

"We have been able to make a difference in the lives of so many of our nation's veterans, and those veterans bring tremendous skills and experience to the workplace," said Maureen Casey, director of military and veterans affairs at JPMorgan Chase, one of the initial 11 companies to form the coalition. It has since grown to 131 companies.

Veterans, particularly of the Iraq and Afghanistan war era, struggle to find work. While unemployment rates among all veterans have been tracking lower than the overall jobless percentage, younger veterans have remained mainly at about 10 percent unemployment.

In addition to being part of the jobs initiative, JPMorgan says it will invest \$1 billion in higher-education efforts for veterans.

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## NATION



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALS/AP

Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, left, listens as CIA Director John Brennan, center, testifies Wednesday on Capitol Hill.

## Intel chief: al-Qaida wants to attack US

By Kimberly Dozier  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Syrian militant group tied to al-Qaida, the al-Nusra Front, wants to attack the United States and is training a growing cadre of fighters from Europe, the Mideast and even the U.S., the top U.S. intelligence official said Wednesday.

Director of National Intelligence James Clapper told the Senate Intelligence Committee that such al-Qaida groups in Syria have started camps "to train people to go back to their countries" — one of the newest threats emerging in the past year to U.S. security. He said "al-Nusra Front, to name one ... does have aspirations for attacks on the homeland." Clapper didn't elaborate or offer evidence of al-Nusra's desire to attack the U.S.

Clapper described the Syrian militants as one of the newest groups to join a diverse and widely dispersed network of al-Qaida-affiliated and other extremists bent on carrying out attacks in the U.S. He said more established groups like Yemen's al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula are more capable of carrying out attacks against the U.S., but described steep growth in numbers of fighters in Syria.

Clapper said out of an estimated 75,000 to 110,000 rebels battling the government of Bashar Assad in Syria, some 26,000 are extremists, and about 7,000 of them foreigners from some 50 countries, including Europe.

"Not only are fighters being drawn to Syria, but so are technologies and techniques that pose particular problems to our defenses," said committee chairwoman Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif. She warned Syria could become "a launching point or way station for terrorists seeking to attack the United States or other nations."

# Intelligence officials lambasted

## Members of Senate Intelligence Committee accuse chiefs of lying, obstruction

By Sean Cockherham  
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Members of the Senate Intelligence Committee lambasted the nation's top intelligence chiefs Wednesday, complaining of lies about gathering the phone records of Americans and failing to cooperate with Congress in an investigation of the CIA's controversial interrogation programs.

Committee members grilled Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and CIA Director John Brennan at the first intelligence committee hearing since President Barack Obama proposed reforms to the spy program.

Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., told them an ongoing "culture of misinformation" has undermined the public's trust in America's

intelligence leadership.

"That trust has been seriously undermined by senior officials' reckless reliance on secret interpretations of the law and battered by years of misleading and deceptive statements senior officials made to the American people," Wyden said.

He said the deception didn't help the fight against terrorism, but instead hid bad policy choices and violations of civil liberties. Wyden singled out Clapper's testimony to Congress last March that the National Security Agency does not collect data on millions of Americans, an assertion proved false by leaks by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

Clapper has since apologized, suggesting he misspoke. But five members of Congress, led by Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., called this

week for the White House to fire Clapper.

Clapper didn't address the charges of deception Wednesday. But he told the Senate panel that Snowden's leaks have damaged national security and exposed intelligence collection methods to terrorists.

"Snowden claims he's won and that his mission is accomplished," Clapper said. "If that is so, I call on him and his accomplices to facilitate the return of the remaining stolen documents that have not yet been exposed, to prevent even more damage to U.S. security."

Democratic Sens. Martin Heinrich, of New Mexico, and Mark Udall, of Colorado, said Brennan is failing to cooperate with the committee's probe of the CIA's post-9/11 detention and interrogation program.

## Terrorism suspect claims NSA spying goes too far

The Associated Press

DENVER — A terrorism suspect is challenging the constitutionality of the National Security Agency's warrantless surveillance program, saying in a court document that spying by the federal government has gone too far.

In the motion filed in federal court in Denver on Wednesday with help from the American Civil Liberties Union, Jamshid Muhtorov also requested that prosecutors disclose more about how surveillance law was used in his case. Muhtorov denies the charges he faces.

Surveillance under current law "is exceptionally intrusive

and it is conducted by executive officers who enjoy broad authority to decide whom to monitor, when and for how long," Muhtorov argued.

"The statute that authorized the surveillance is unconstitutional," Muhtorov said in his motion, citing constitutional provisions against unreasonable search and seizure.

The ACLU called the filing the first of its kind. Justice Department spokesman Brian Fallon declined to comment.

Muhtorov was accused in 2012 of providing material support to an Uzbek terrorist organization active in Afghanistan.

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NATION

# Reid seeking votes for a jobless benefits deal

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said Wednesday he is seeking votes for a new measure that would extend jobless benefits for three more months for people out of work the longest.

Reid, D-Nev., said he still lacks the 60 votes needed to end Republican delaying tactics against the measure. He told reporters that he has 58 or 59 votes and hopes his chamber will debate the package next week.

Democrats are pushing the bill amid an election-year effort to portray themselves as defenders of families struggling to make ends meet during the sluggish recovery from the Great Recession.

The proposal would cost a bit more than \$6 billion and be paid for by giving large corporations more time to meet their pension obligations, Democratic officials said.

That would raise federal revenue over the short term because it

would lower companies' pension fund contributions, which are tax-deductible. It would reduce federal revenue later as corporate pension contributions increase.

The bill's details were described by Democratic officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss private talks.

Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev., has been a leading Republican in efforts to round up GOP support for a compromise. Nevada's unemployment rate of 8.8 percent last month was one of the nation's highest.

"Sen. Heller is continuing to talk with his Democratic and Republican colleagues about a number of ideas to move unemployment insurance legislation forward," Heller spokesman Chandler Smith said.

The program expired on Dec. 28, cutting off benefits for more than 1 million long-term unemployed people.



CHARLES DHARAPAN/AP

Vice President Joe Biden, left, and House Speaker John Boehner, of Ohio, listen Tuesday as President Barack Obama gives his State of the Union address on Capitol Hill in Washington.

# Obama hopes myRA will be first step on retirement

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even proponents of President Barack Obama's new retirement-savings program readily concede it won't be a cure-all for a nation of people who are saving far too little for their golden years. Many Americans won't be able to participate initially, and those who do may find the benefits are modest.

Yet the Obama administration is hoping that the savings program — dubbed "myRA," for "my IRA" — will serve as a call to action, spurring Congress to take more sweeping steps to shore up retirement security as company pensions become a thing of the past. Given a presidential boost, like-minded lawmakers already are

pushing new legislation to vastly expand the number of Americans who put away cash for retirement.

"This is a small, first step," said Nancy LeaMond, AARP's executive vice president. "We think it is starting to generate a debate. Our hope is there can be action."

Aiming to help the roughly half of Americans with no retirement plan at work, Obama announced in his State of the Union speech Tuesday that the Treasury would create new "starter" savings accounts. The program is geared toward low- and middle-income Americans who lack the up-front investment that many commercial IRAs require. Starting with as little as \$25, savers could invest a little each month in Treasury bonds and then convert the

accounts into traditional IRAs once the savings grow.

The idea is actually contained in a broader retirement proposal that Obama has been asking Congress to take up for years in his annual budget request. Obama wants all workers to be automatically enrolled in IRAs unless they specifically opt out. Under one scenario, monthly paycheck deductions would be invested in bonds unless workers choose another option.

Congress hasn't acted on the proposal. So Obama is carving out the part he can accomplish without Congress and hoping that by raising the issue, lawmakers will feel pressure to act and the remaining pieces will fall into place.

# Republicans plan agenda as alternative to Obama's

McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Armed with fresh political momentum for the first time in months, House Republicans headed to a Maryland retreat Wednesday looking to shape a unified message on immigration, debt and health care that could offer voters an alternative rather than just persistent opposition to President Barack Obama.

The three-day workshop will say a lot about the party's plans and fate in 2014. The Republicans start with a powerful motivator — dogged opposition to Obama, whose approval ratings remain about 40 percent and who is proving a serious liability to Demo-

crats in more conservative states. Obama gave Republicans new ammunition in his State of the Union address Tuesday night, as he vowed to use his executive power to implement policies Congress won't. Republicans saw his action as a gift. They think they can express outrage while also looking statesmanlike.

"Rather than trying to write laws from the Oval Office, he should put down his pen, pick up the Constitution, and start working with Congress to solve the problems facing our nation," said Rep. Steve Scalise, of Louisiana, chairman of the conservative Republican Study Committee.

# After making a threat, NY official calls reporter to apologize

By DAVID B. CARUSO

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — U.S. Rep. Michael Grimm has never been shy about promoting himself as a tough guy.

When he ran for Congress in 2009, he highlighted his service in the Marines and as an undercover FBI agent. After his election, he brushed off allegations that he'd once brandished a gun during an early morning altercation at a New York City nightclub by saying he was armed but hadn't verbally threatened to kill anyone.

"That's not my personality. I don't need to speak that way," he told a writer for the New Yorker. "A guy with a gun who knows how to use it doesn't need to say anything."

The Staten Island Republican's temperament is at the forefront again after he was caught on camera threatening a television news reporter.

The confrontation occurred on a balcony in the Capitol following the president's State of the Union address Tuesday night. Grimm walked out of an interview with the New York City cable news station NY1 when reporter Michael Scotto tried to throw in a last question about a long-running FBI investigation into his campaign finances.

After Scotto finished his report, Grimm stormed back, leaned into Scotto and said, "Let me be clear to you. If you ever do that to me again, I'll throw you off this (expletive) balcony."

Scotto protested, saying he was

asking "a valid question."

Grimm glanced at the camera, leaned in again and said, "No. No. You're not man enough. You're not man enough. I'll break you in half. Like a boy."

Asked about it soon afterward, Grimm was defiant. In a statement, he said he felt Scotto had been disrespectful and unprofessional.

But after a morning of heavy public criticism, he phoned Scotto to apologize.

"He said he overreacted," Scotto told The Associated Press. "He showed that the behavior that he showed wasn't him. So I accepted the apology."

Later Wednesday, Grimm told a group of reporters that he would probably be getting an earful from his mother.



EVAN VUCCI/AP

NY1 political reporter Michael Scotto takes a phone call from Rep. Michael Grimm, R-N.Y., in Washington on Wednesday, a day after Grimm threatened Scotto.

## NATION

# 2 days after snow, Atlanta roads still dicey

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The snow and sleet had stopped falling and traffic was moving again around Atlanta following a crippling storm, but officials warned that ice-covered roads remained a threat for drivers Thursday morning.

State officials were concerned with subfreezing overnight lows potentially leading to layers of black ice coating roads that might appear to be safe.

Temperatures dipped into the teens overnight in the Atlanta

area. Although it was supposed to be in the high 30s Thursday, it was forecast to dip below freezing again before rising into the 50s on Friday.

Heeding the warnings, school districts and state and local governments stretching from north-west to coastal Georgia announced that offices and classrooms would remain closed Thursday.

A storm that dropped just inches of snow Tuesday wreaked havoc across much of the South, closing highways, grounding flights and contributing to at least a dozen

deaths from traffic accidents and a mobile home fire. Yet it was Atlanta, home to major corporations and the world's busiest airport, that was Exhibit A for how a Southern city could be sent reeling by winter weather that, in the North, might be no more than an inconvenience.

The Georgia State Patrol responded to more than 1,460 crashes between Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening, including two fatal crashes, and it reported more than 175 injuries.

At Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta

International Airport, more than 400 flights in and out were canceled by 6 a.m. Thursday, according to data from the flight tracking service FlightAware. Many of those flights were canceled before the day began.

Thousands of schoolchildren either slept on the buses that tried and failed to get them home or on cots in school gymnasiums. All were back home by Wednesday evening, officials said.

State transportation crews spent much of Wednesday rescuing stranded drivers and moving

disabled and abandoned vehicles that littered the interstates, medians and shoulders. Gov. Nathan Deal said emergency workers, police, and the National Guard would help drivers Thursday to recover their cars and would provide them with fuel if necessary.

Crews planned to use four-wheel-drive vehicles to take motorists to vehicles they abandoned to reclaim them Thursday. State officials also said they were creating a database to help motorists locate vehicles that were towed to impound lots.

## Ship on which hundreds fell ill back in port

By SAMANTHA HENRY

The Associated Press

BAYONNE, N.J. — Kim Waite was especially disappointed to fall ill while treating herself to a Caribbean cruise after completing cancer treatment. The London woman thought she was the only sick one as her husband wheeled her to the infirmary — until the elevator doors opened to reveal hundreds of people vomiting into bags, buckets or on the floor, whatever was closest.

"I started crying; I couldn't believe it," Waite said. "I was in shock."

Waite was among nearly 700 passengers and crewmembers who became ill during a cruise on Royal Caribbean's Explorer of the Seas. The voyage was cut short and the ship returned to port Wednesday in New Jersey, where it was being sanitized in preparation for its next voyage.

Long lines of weary travelers arrived to freezing temperatures in Bayonne as Waite and other passengers recalled days of misery holed up in their rooms with extreme

stomach cramps, vomiting and diarrhea.

"I've never wanted to go home so much in my life," Waite said. "I've never slept so much in my life, and I've got no sunbat."

Health investigators suspect norovirus, but lab results are not expected until later this week. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said its latest count puts the number of those sickened at 630 passengers and 54 crewmembers. The ship, scheduled for a 10-day cruise, was carrying 3,050 passengers.

If norovirus is to blame, it would be one of the largest norovirus outbreaks on a cruise ship in the last 20 years, the CDC said. A 2006 norovirus outbreak on a Carnival Cruise Lines ship also sickened close to 700.

Norovirus — once known as Norwalk virus — is highly contagious. It can be picked up from an infected person, contaminated food or water or by touching contaminated surfaces. Sometimes mistaken for the stomach flu, the virus causes bouts of vomiting and diarrhea for a few days.

The cruise line said most guests who fell

ill were up and about as the ship headed to port. It said seven people were still sick when the ship reached Bayonne, but none had to be hospitalized.

Royal Caribbean is providing all guests a 50 percent refund of their cruise fares and an additional 50 percent future cruise credit. It's also reimbursing airline change fees and accommodations for guests who had to change plans for traveling home.

Stricken guests who were confined to their staterooms are being provided a credit of one future cruise day for each day of confinement.

The ship will be sanitized, and no one will be allowed aboard for a period of more than 24 hours as an extra precaution, the cruise line said.

Explorer of the Seas is on New Jersey to depart at its originally scheduled time Friday afternoon on its next cruise, a nine-night trip with port calls in Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, a Royal Caribbean spokeswoman said.



MEL EVANS/AP

Passengers disembark from the Explorer of the Seas cruise ship to waiting buses after it docked in Bayonne, N.J., on Wednesday.

## California 'house of horrors' loaded with hundreds of live, dead snakes

The Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — The smell wafting from the house was bad, to put it mildly. It was the result of more than 200 dead pythons, 200 living snakes and a rodent infestation.

It was bad enough to send veteran investigators gasping for air. Bad enough to make normally poised TV reporters hold their noses. Bad enough to make much of a neighborhood gag.

"House of horrors: That's the best way to describe it," Sondra Berg, supervisor for the Santa Ana Police Department's Animal Services Division, said after coming out of the five-bedroom Orange County home of elementary school teacher William Buchman.

"I mean, there's so many dead snakes ... ranging from dead for months to just dead. There's an infestation of rats and mice all over the house. There are rats and mice in plastic storage tubs that are actually cannibalizing each other," Berg said.

Buchman, 53, was arrested for investigation of neglect in the care of animals, police Cpl. Anthony Bertagna said. He remained in



BRUCE CHAMBERS, THE ORANGE COUNTY (CALIF.) REGISTER/AP

Television reporters react to the stench emanating from a Santa Ana house with dead and decaying snakes inside while interviewing Sondra Berg, supervisor of Santa Ana, Calif., police animal services.

police custody late Wednesday.

Five months earlier, that smell had driven neighbors to complain about the home, with some of them

speculating there was a dead person inside.

"It got so bad as to where my wife would throw up," next-door

neighbor Forest Long Sr. said.

"She'd get out of the car and run

into the house," Long said he had once been

friendly with Buchman and that they would get together to watch televised sports.

But Buchman, who lost the mother who had lived with him a few years earlier and had since lived alone, stopped coming around about a year ago, Long said.

"Something changed in Bill. Yes, it did," he said. "Something triggered it because I couldn't even think that that was going on."

Buchman has not yet had a court appearance or been formally charged, and it wasn't clear if he had an attorney. The Newport-Mesa Unified School District, where he works, declined comment, saying it was a police matter.

Police served a warrant on the home Tuesday morning and found four of the five bedrooms stacked from floor to ceiling and wall to wall with plastic bins on wooden and metal racks, Berg said. They contained more than 400 snakes in all — 180 live ones and at least 220 dead ones.

Some of the snakes were little more than skeletons. Others, only recently dead, were covered with flies and maggots.

NATION

# Going through airport security with legal pot

Washington, Colorado have few ways to stop carry-on marijuana

The Associated Press

DENVER — Among the many oddities that have arisen from marijuana legalization in Washington and Colorado is this: It can be easier to get through airport security with a bag of weed than a bottle of water.

At Washington's airports, including Seattle-Tacoma International, there's nothing police can do to prevent travelers from flying with pot in their carry-on checked luggage. Provided it doesn't exceed the state legal limit of one ounce. Instead, airport officials say, officers simply recommend that travelers leave it in their cars, toss it or have a friend pick it up.

In Colorado, where the legal pot law gives property owners more authority to restrict the drug, some airports have banned marijuana possession and enacted penalties, including fines as high as \$2,500 and a jail stint at the airport in Colorado Springs.

"Carrying marijuana in a civilian aircraft is illegal under federal regulations," said airport spokeswoman Kim Melchor. "That's why we implemented the rule, to prevent marijuana from reaching a civil aircraft." She added that the airport has yet to levy a fine and that a drop-box where travelers can toss excess weed hasn't been used.

The situation underscores the difficulty officials in both states have as they try to prevent pot

**‘How do we invite people here, tell them they can use a product and then prosecute them when they try to leave the state?’**

Pitkin County (Colo.) Sheriff Joe DiSalvo

from leaving their borders — one of several conditions the Department of Justice imposed when it allowed the legal pot experiments to proceed.

An attorney with Smart Colorado, which opposed legalization, worried about tourists transporting tiny, concentrated products, such as hardened hash oil that has enough THC, pot's primary psychoactive chemical, for hundreds of uses.

"For the size of a traveler's shampoo bottle, you can serve an entire urban high school and get them stoned," Rachel O'Bryan said.

Voters in the two states approved legalizing marijuana for adults over 21 in 2012, but the laws don't allow people to take pot out of state. Federal law prohibits marijuana possession, on a plane or anywhere else. Anyone who touched down in the other 48 states where marijuana is illegal would also be violating state law.

TSA agents normally hand over pot cases to local law enforcement officers, who have little recourse in Colorado and Washington. At Sea-Tac, they rely on a "totality

of the circumstances" test to decide whether to make an arrest or investigate further. Port of Seattle spokesman Perry Cooper said. Is the passenger combative or assaultive, or carrying vast amounts of cash?

Detention might be warranted for some of those things, but not for the pot itself, he noted.

Airports say there have been few incidents where passengers have been stopped carrying marijuana. The Port of Denver banned pot at Denver International, with fines of up to \$999. No one's been fined yet.

At the urging of Pitkin County Sheriff Joe DiSalvo, Aspen's airport is installing an "amnesty box" where travelers can drop any leftover weed before taking to the skies. In the few cases where travelers have been caught trying to take pot on a plane, they have received polite reprimands and no legal consequences.

"How do we invite people here, tell them they can use a product and then prosecute them when they try to leave the state?" DiSalvo asked.



The firing squad execution chamber at the Utah State Prison in Draper, Utah, is shown in 2010.

# States consider taking a more old-fashioned approach to executions

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — With lethal-injection drugs in short supply and new questions looming about their effectiveness, lawmakers in some death penalty states are considering bringing back relics of a more gruesome past: firing squads, electrocutions and gas chambers.

Most states abandoned those execution methods more than a generation ago in a bid to make capital punishment more palatable to the public and to a judicial system worried about inflicting cruel and unusual punishments that violate the Constitution.

To some elected officials, the drug shortages and recent legal challenges are beginning to make lethal injection seem too vulnerable to complications.

"This isn't an attempt to time-warp back into the 1850s or the wild, wild West or anything like that," said Missouri state Rep. Rick Brattin, who this month proposed making firing squads an option for executions. "It's just that I foresee a problem, and I'm trying to come up with a solution that will be the most humane yet most economical for our state."

Brattin, a Republican, said questions about the injection drugs are sure to end up in court, delaying executions and forcing states to examine alternatives. It's not fair, he said, for relatives of murder victims to wait years,

even decades, to see justice served while lawmakers and judges debate execution methods.

Like Brattin, a Wyoming lawmaker this month offered a bill allowing the firing squad. Missouri's attorney general and a state lawmaker have raised the notion of rebuilding the state's gas chamber. A Virginia lawmaker wants to make electrocution an option if lethal-injection drugs aren't available.

If adopted, those measures could return states to the more harrowing imagery of previous decades, when inmates were hanged, electrocuted or shot to death by marksmen.

States began moving to lethal injection in the 1980s in the belief that powerful sedatives and heart-stopping drugs would replace the violent spectacles with a more clinical affair while limiting, if not eliminating, an inmate's pain.

The total number of U.S. executions has declined in recent years — from a peak of 98 in 1999 to 39 last year. Some states have turned away from the death penalty entirely. Many have cases tied up in court. Those that carry on with executions find them increasingly difficult to conduct because of the scarcity of drugs and doubts about how well they work.

In recent years, European drug makers have stopped selling the lethal chemicals to prisons because they do not want their products used to kill.

## Prosecutors will seek to execute Boston suspect

BOSTON — Federal prosecutors on Thursday announced they will seek the death penalty against Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 20, in the Boston Marathon bombing, instantly raising the stakes in what could be one of the most wrenching trials the city has ever seen.

Attorney General Eric Holder's decision to press for Tsarnaev's execution was widely expected. The twin blasts killed three people

and wounded more than 260 others, and 17 of the 30 federal charges against him — including using a weapon of mass destruction to kill — carry the possibility of the death penalty. "The nature of the conduct at issue and the resultant harm compel this decision," Holder said in a statement.

Tsarnaev has pleaded not guilty. A trial date has not been set.

The Associated Press

# Police: Heroin sold in McDonald's Happy Meals

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — An employee of a McDonald's restaurant in Pittsburgh was charged Wednesday with selling heroin in Happy Meals to customers using the coded request "I'd like to order a toy."

Authorities made the arrest after an informant told them that an employee was selling the drug. Customers looking for heroin were instructed to go through the drive-thru and say, "I'd like to order

a toy," said Mike Manko, spokesman for District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala Jr. The customer would then drive to the window, hand over the money and get a Happy Meal box containing heroin in exchange, Manko said.

Undercover agents set up a drug buy and arrested Shania Dennis, 26. Authorities said they found 10 bags of heroin in a Happy Meal box and recovered another 50 bags from the suspect.



# 9 bodies recovered after early morning Ky. house fire

The Associated Press

GREENVILLE, Ky. — An early morning blaze at a home in rural western Kentucky killed nine people, while two others escaped and are being treated for injuries, according to Kentucky State Police.

An adult who fled the fire at about 2 a.m. in the Depoy community of Mulhengen County told first responders that most of the family remained inside the house, Trooper Stu Recke said. Recke

said the remains of six people were recovered by the afternoon, and investigators were working to determine the cause of the blaze.

"Basically, it is a recovery effort," Recke said.

A family member, Ricky Keith, said a couple in their 30s lived in the house with their nine children, ranging in age from 16 to pre-school-aged. Recke said a father and daughter survived the fire, but he was unsure of their condition. Vanderbilt University Medical

Center spokesman Dagny Stuart said an adult and a child were taken to the hospital in Nashville, Tenn., but she could not provide details about their conditions.

Keith, who lives about a mile up a hill from the home, said the couple struggled financially with the father working construction and handling a paper route while the mother stayed home with the children.

## WORLD



Two satellite images show the Masha al-Arbaeen neighborhood in Hama, Syria, on Sept. 28, 2012, left, and again about two weeks later.

## Report: Syrian government razed thousands of residential buildings

By RYAN LUCAS  
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The Syrian government used controlled explosives and bulldozers to raze thousands of residential buildings, in some cases entire neighborhoods, in a campaign that appeared designed to punish civilians sympathetic to the opposition or to cause disproportionate harm to them, an international human rights group said Thursday.

The demolitions took place between July 2012 and July 2013 in seven pro-opposition districts in and around the capital, Damascus, and the central city of Hama, according to a 38-page report by Human Rights Watch. The New York-based group said the deliberate destruction violated international law, and it called for an immediate end to the practice.

"Wiping entire neighborhoods off the map is not a legitimate tactic of war," said Ole Solvang, emergencies researcher for HRW. "These unlawful demolitions are the latest additions to a long list of crimes committed by the Syrian government."

Human Rights Watch said many of the demolished buildings were apartment blocks and that thousands of families have lost their

**“Wiping entire neighborhoods off the map is not a legitimate tactic of war.”**

Ole Solvang  
Human Rights Watch

homes because of the destruction.

It said government officials and media have described the demolitions as part of urban planning or an effort to remove illegally constructed buildings. Human Rights Watch said its investigation determined that military forces supervised the demolitions, which in each instance targeted areas that had recently been hit by fighting and were widely understood to be pro-opposition.

There also is no indication that pro-government districts have been targeted for similar controlled destruction, HRW said.

The neighborhoods targeted were Masha al-Arbaeen and Wadi al-Jouz in Hama, and Qaboun, Tadamon, Barzeh and the Mezzeh military airport in Damascus, as well as Harran al-Awamid outside the capital.

The report includes satellite images of the neighborhoods before and after the demolitions, providing a window on the scale of the

destruction.

Buildings in the Hama neighborhood of Masha al-Arbaeen, a wedge-shaped district bordered by highways on three sides, are clearly visible in a photo dated Sept. 28, 2012. In a second photo from Oct. 13, the buildings have been pulverized into a white smudge, while the adjacent neighborhoods remain untouched.

Residents told HRW that the government bulldozers directed by the military moved in after the rebels retreated from the area in the face of an army offensive.

Another Hama neighborhood, Wadi al-Jouz, faced a similar fate.

HRW cited one woman who lived near Wadi al-Jouz who said the army came to her district afterward and announced over loudspeakers "that they would destroy our neighborhood like they destroyed Wadi al-Jouz and Masha al-Arbaeen should a single bullet be fired from here."

# Attacks across Baghdad kill 11

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Gunmen and suicide bombers staged a brazen assault on a government building in Baghdad, officials said, killing two people in the latest such attack in the heart of the Iraqi capital by militants trying to undermine further the Shiite-led government's shaky authority.

The firefight at a state-run transportation complex was one of several attacks that left 11 dead across the city and came as Iraq grapples with a stubborn insurgency in the country's western Anbar province. Government troops are trying to oust al-Qaida-linked fighters and their allies from cities in the area.

At least six gunmen were involved in Thursday's attack, Interior Ministry spokesman Saad Maan Ibrahim said. The attackers stormed the state-run Company for Transportation on Baghdad's Canal Street, where numerous government offices are located.

The police shot and killed four of the militants inside the building, while the other two blew themselves up at the entrance, Maan told The Associated Press in a phone interview. He also said the standoff ended with at least one employee and a policeman killed in the attack, but gave no details on how they died.

Iraqi troops sealed off the area as armed vehicles rushed to the scene. At least one army helicopter was seen hovering overhead.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attacks. Coordinated and brazen attacks against Shiites, security forces and government buildings are frequently the work of al-Qaida's affiliate in Iraq, which has been emboldened by the successes of its fellow militants in the civil war next-door in Syria and by wide-

spread Sunni anger at the Shiite-led government.

Last year, insurgents — some of their suicide bombers — unleashed a large and carefully planned assault on the Iraqi Justice Ministry that included car bombs and gunmen disguised as police, killing at least 24 people.

In that attack, for which al-Qaida took credit, about six gunmen wearing police uniforms stormed the ministry's building, and a one-hour battle erupted between the intruders and the security force. The security forces cleared the building after killing all the attackers.

Also Thursday, a parked car bomb ripped through a market in Baghdad's northern Kasra neighborhood, killing at least four people and wounding 11, a police officer and a medical official said. Another car bomb exploded at a bus station in Baghdad's eastern Ur neighborhood, killing five civilians and wounding 11, police and medical officials said.

All officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

The bombings in Baghdad occurred as Iraqi security forces and allied tribal militia fight to recapture parts of the Anbar provincial capital, Ramadi, and the city center of nearby Fallujah from al-Qaida-linked rebels and other groups. Clashes continued Thursday, with state TV saying at least 24 militants were killed. No other details were given.

Violence has escalated in Iraq over the past year. Last year, the country saw the highest death toll since the worst of the country's sectarian bloodletting began to subside in 2007, according to United Nations figures. The U.N. said violence killed 8,868 last year.

## Ukraine leader takes sick leave amid crisis

By JIM HEINTZ  
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukraine's embattled president is taking sick leave, his office said Thursday, a surprise development that left unclear how efforts to resolve the country's political crisis would move forward. Protesters have been calling for his resignation for two months.

Viktor Yanukovich, 63, has an acute respiratory illness and a high fever, a statement on the presidential website said. There was no indication of how long he might be on leave or whether he would be able to do any work. He wasn't known to have any previous health issues.

Yanukovich is still in charge of the country, spokesman Andriy Lashenko told The Associated Press. Under Ukraine's constitu-

tion, the president can't transfer his powers to anyone, he added.

The announcement that Yanukovich



Yanukovich

was taking sick leave prompted skeptical reactions and even the suggestion that it was a ruse to take him out of power — as in the attempted coup against Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991.

"I don't remember official statements on Viktor Yanukovich's colds. But I remember well when on Aug. 19, 1991, the vice president of the USSR, Gennady Yanayev, announced the serious

illness of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev," political commentator Vitaly Portnikov wrote on his Facebook page.

Gorbachev's purported illness was reported on Aug. 19, 1991, as hard-line Communists opposed to his reforms attempted an unsuccessful coup against him and held him under house arrest. Although the coup failed, it accelerated the collapse of the Soviet Union, which officially was dissolved four months later.

Yanukovich has faced two months of large protests that have often paralyzed Kiev, the capital. The protests started after he backed out of a long-awaited agreement to deepen ties with the European Union, but they quickly came to encompass a wide array of discontent over corruption, heavy-handed police and dubious courts.



EREM LUKATSKY/AP

A protester guards the barricades in front of riot police in Kiev, Ukraine, on Thursday.

## FAITH

# Does God care who wins the Super Bowl?

By KARA YORIO

The (Hackensack, N.J.) Record

**M**ore than 100 million people will watch the Super Bowl on TV, with another 78,000 packing MetLife Stadium, but will there be another set of eyes looking down on the Meadowlands? Could an Almighty fan be preparing to pull up a lounge chair a week from Sunday, take in the game and orchestrate the come?

More than 20 percent of Americans believe God has a say in who wins sporting events, according to a survey conducted this month by the Public Religion Research Institute.

Religion and sports, especially football, are deeply connected in American culture. Fans pray for victories, and many believe that players who pray are more likely to win. According to the institute's poll, 48 percent of Americans believe athletes of faith are rewarded with good health and success. That number jumps to 62 and 65 percent when asking white evangelical Protestants and minority Protestants, respectively.

So are the truly faithful rewarded with success on the field?

"It's one of those tricky questions," said former quarterback and current NFL Network analyst Kurt Warner, a devout Christian. "I believe God has your best interest in mind. How that correlates to winning and losing football games, I'm not fully sure."

Warner won and lost a Super Bowl in his 12-year NFL career, during which he played for the Rams, Giants and Cardinals.

"Do I believe that as a son of God that my life is important to him? No question about it," said Warner who was voted MVP when he led the St. Louis Rams to the Super Bowl title in 2000. "Where do we draw that line between what's important to him and what's not? I believe it's all important to him. But I don't know

how exactly that fits into winning and losing per se."

We put the question to some members of the clergy: Does God care who wins the Super Bowl?  
"No," said Rabbi Arthur Weiner, of the Jewish Community Center of Paramus Congregation Beth Tikvah. "And it's not a question of God (having) bigger things on his plate. We live in a world where we have a religious understanding that God cares about everything, but the truth is we don't believe that this is the kind of thing God needs to or should be getting involved with."

The Rev. George McGovern, of Oradell, N.J., an interdenominational Christian minister who is team chaplain for the Giants and Yankees, agrees.

"I don't think so," he said when posed the same question. "I hate to be his spokesman because he might care. I don't know. He hasn't revealed that to me. He might be a secret fan of one of the teams. ..."

"My thought is God is not nearly as concerned with the performance or the play on the field, as he is the hearts of the guys who are performing or playing on the field. What are their motives, effort, character; are they men of integrity? That kind of stuff is much more important to God than the scoreboard."

The effort that affects the scoreboard creates a gray area for some.

"My gut would say I don't think so," said the Rev. Warren Hall, director of campus ministry at Seton Hall University. "I do think what goes into it is what is the effort on behalf of who was playing. I think that is more so what makes an out-

come happen. So if, therefore, you want to say that effort was a strength given to a team by God, then we'd say well, yeah, God was part of that outcome."

Hall pointed out that people should remember that winning isn't the only reward. Losing can have its merits.

"Maybe I don't know what that benefit is just yet, maybe it's going to strengthen my character or maybe it's going to motivate me to be better," said Hall, who is teaching a course at Seton Hall on sports and spirituality. "I think we have to look a little more deeply."

Most sports fans don't think past wins and losses and some are uncomfortable with a player's public profession of faith, Hall said. At the same time, the truly faithful can be disappointed by their teammates who don't follow the life they proclaim.

"People are always watching," Warner said. "People always want to see if what you say is backed up by how you live, especially when it comes to faith. ... I guess that's what disappointed me the most, when you say one thing and then you saw a completely different kind of living. Nobody is perfect. We all misrepresent our faith at times or even numerous times but to say something very forthright and act outright contradictory, I always thought that would hurt the cause."

**Kurt Warner**

NFL Network analyst, Super Bowl MVP and devout Christian

Weiner agrees.

"I am not overly impressed when I see certain people who have not been paragons of virtuous or moral behavior doing some great athletic feat then praising God because it seems very contrived," he said. "But if it's an honorable person who's be-

haved nicely and played by the rules kicks a field goal or scores a touchdown and at that moment acknowledges his creator, I think it's a wonderful thing."

For Christian athletes, there is a natural intersection of sports and religion, McGovern said.

"The sports culture almost puts an athlete or coach in a place where his heart can understand the Gospel because his heart is being shaped by the nature of sport — discipline, teamwork, respect for authority," he said. "Those are three pillars of the religious life. ... All the things that go into making an athlete a good athlete and a great athlete are the same ingredients that go into a man living a life of faith."

McGovern believes feelings associated with faith are particularly intense in the NFL, where the emotion, violence and possibility of serious injury are so close to the surface. It's a level of vulnerability that, he said, few others can understand.

"My guess is there are guys who build these skyscrapers and they stand on these girders and they're 500 feet above the ground, I have a feeling they have some similar moments emotionally where they say, 'God please keep my balance, God I don't want to fall,'" he said. "When a human being is put in a very risky, dangerous situation, he tends to look up for help. That's just the way we're wired."

McGovern and Warner caution that people not read too much into the fact that faith seems to be announced after a win.

"When you thank God, I don't think it's necessarily always about 'Thank you for making me win today' as much as it is 'Thank you for the gifts you've given me, the place you've put me in,'" said Warner. "But that's how people are going to read into it — you win a game or make a play and say, 'Thank you Jesus.' (People) think why does Jesus care about him making that great play? I think a Christian or anyone expressing their faith is doing it in a bigger manner than just thank you for letting me make that play."



AP PHOTO; ILLUSTRATION BY BEY SCHILLING/Stars and Stripes

## WORLD

# US official: N. Korean nuke reactor restarted

By MATTHEW PENNINGTON  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—North Korea has followed through on its threat to advance its nuclear weapons program, the top U.S. intelligence official said Wednesday, while a research institute pointed to signs the communist country is preparing to launch bigger rockets.

Those developments will add to the international concern about the intentions of young leader

Kim Jong Un, amid scant sign that negotiations to curb North Korea's nuclear ambitions will resume anytime soon.

In written testimony to the Senate Intelligence Committee, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper said North Korea has expanded the size of the uranium enrichment facility at the Nyongbyon nuclear complex and has restarted a reactor that was used for plutonium production before it was shut down in 2007.

Those findings concur with assessments published last summer by think tanks that monitor North Korea's nuclear program using commercial satellite imagery. South Korean intelligence also has said the reactor has restarted.

"North Korea's nuclear weapons and missile programs pose a serious threat to the United States and to the security environment in East Asia," Clapper said. He said the North is committed to developing a long-range missile

that can threaten the U.S.

North Korea announced its intention to "adjust and alter" its existing nuclear facilities after an underground, atomic test explosion last February, backtracking from denuclearization commitments. That announcement came during a period of high tension when the North issued threats of a nuclear strike on the United States.

Tensions have eased some since then, and the North says it

wants to improve ties with South Korea. The North has said it is willing to resume, without preconditions, the six-nation aid-for-disarmament talks from which it withdrew in 2009.

But North Korea is denouncing upcoming U.S.-South Korean military exercises and appears to be moving away from the U.S. demand for a concrete demonstration of its commitment to denuclearization before the talks can restart.

## In North Korea, methamphetamine use carries little stigma

By BARBARA DEMICK  
Los Angeles Times

YANJI, China — After the North Korean coal mine where she worked stopped paying salaries, Park Kyung Ok tried her hand at business.

Buttons and zippers, candy and dried squid, fabric, plastic tarpaulins, men's suits and cigarettes.

"I sold just about everything," said Park, 44.

It wasn't until she started hawking methamphetamine in 2007, she said, that she was able to earn a living.

Methamphetamine — known as *orom*, or "ice" — is a rare com-

modity manufactured and sold in North Korea, where most factories sit idle, the equipment rusted or looted. The North Korean government once produced the drug, and others that are illicit in the West. Resourceful entrepreneurs have since set up their own small facilities, and evidence suggests that they are distributing the drug beyond the nation's borders.

Last month, five suspected drug smugglers — Chinese, British and Thai men among them — appeared in federal court in New York, extradited from Thailand, over a plot to smuggle 220 pounds of crystal meth to the United States. They said that their prod-

uct originated in North Korea.

A Harvard University researcher, Sheena Chestnut Greitens, has tracked 16 drug busts from 2008 to the present in China involving crystal meth from North Korea in quantities of up to 22 pounds.

"Meth is a product you can make in bathtubs or trailers," Greitens said. "You have a wide range of people involved in production and trafficking."

Park said she got into the meth business fresh from a divorce, while struggling to support her children and a disabled sister in Hoeryong, a hardscrabble mining town of 130,000 on the Chinese border.

Park used to travel to another North Korean city, Chongjin, to buy meth that she would carry back hidden in a candy box. She would sell it behind the counter at a bicycle parts store at the public market. Hidden among the spare parts were metal plates, burners and other drug paraphernalia.

She usually paid the equivalent of \$15 for a gram of high-quality product, which she would then cut with cheaper meth and divide into 12 smaller portions to resell for a few dollars' profit.

"It was just enough money that I could buy rice to eat and coal for heating," said Park, who was interviewed in China and, like most

North Korean defectors, used an assumed name.

North Koreans say there is little stigma attached to meth use. Some take it to treat colds or boost their energy; students take it to work late. The drug also helps curb appetites in a country where food is scarce. It is offered up as casually as a cup of tea, North Koreans say.

"If you go to somebody's house it is a polite way to greet somebody by offering them a sniff," said Lee Saera, 43, of Hoeryong, also interviewed in China. "It is like drinking coffee when you're sleepy, but ice is so much better."

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WORLD



PHOTOS BY MARKUS HELL, TARCOM.COM/AP

Boulder alley

The family living in a farmhouse in Ronchi di Termeno, in Northern Italy are likely counting their blessings after a huge boulder missed their home by less than a meter on Jan. 21. The barn was destroyed and the boulder came to rest in the vineyard. According to reports, the family living there was unharmed in the landslide. The boulder in the foreground is from a much older landslide. A second giant boulder, which detached during the same landslide, stopped next to the house.



Italian appeals court mulls verdict in third Knox trial

By COLLEEN BARRY  
The Associated Press

FLORENCE, Italy — An appeals court in Florence deliberated into the evening Thursday in the third murder trial of U.S. student Amanda Knox and her former boyfriend as she waited a continent away with, in her words, “my heart in my throat.”

Knox’s defense team gave their last round of rebuttals, ending four months of arguments in Knox’s and Italian Raffaele Sollecito’s third trial for the 2007 murder of her British roommate, Meredith Kercher, in the Italian university town of Perugia.

Knox’s lawyer Carlo Dalla Vedova told the court he was “serene” about the verdict because he believes the only conclusion from the files is “the innocence of Amanda Knox.”

Dalla Vedova evoked Dante, noting that the Florentine writer reserved the lower circle of hell for those who betrayed trust, as he asserted that police had done to Knox when they held her overnight for questioning without legal representation and without advising her that she was a suspect.

The panel of two professional judges and six lay jury members remained closed in chambers after more than nine hours of deliberations.

Knox, 26, awaited the verdict half a world away in Seattle, where she returned after spend-

ing four years in jail before being acquitted in 2011. In an email to this court, Knox wrote that she feared a wrongful conviction.

Knox’s absence does not formally hurt her case since she was freed by a court and defendants in Italy are not required to appear at their trials. However, presiding judge Alessandro Nencini reacted sternly to her emailed statement, noting that defendants have a right to be heard if they appear in person.

Sollecito, on the other hand, has made frequent court appearances, always in a purple sweater, the color of the local Florentine soccer club.

If convicted, Sollecito, who like Knox spent nearly four years in jail, risks immediate arrest.

The first trial court found Knox and Sollecito guilty of murder and sexual assault based on DNA evidence, confused alibis and Knox’s false accusation against Patrick Diya Lumumba, a Congolese bar owner, which resulted in a slander verdict that has been upheld on final appeal. A Perugia appeals court dismantled the guilty verdict two years later, criticizing the “building blocks” of the conviction, including DNA evidence now deemed unreliable by new experts, and the lack of motive.

Italy’s highest court ordered the third trial in a scathing dismissal of the appeals court acquittal.

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							30	31												

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WORLD

# Hard for women to respect elders in India

## Rural councils rebuked after using rape, honor killings as punishment

By ASHOK SHARMA AND NIRMALA GEORGE  
The Associated Press

**NEW DELHI** — In the hours after her 6-year-old daughter was kidnapped, screaming in terror as she was dragged away from home, Rimaila Awungshi appealed for help from the most powerful authority she knew — the council of elders in her rural Indian village.

In her anguish, Awungshi told the village leaders what happened. She was a single mother to a beloved little girl named Yinring, whose name translates as “living in God’s shelter.” Her ex-boyfriend had refused to marry her or care for their child. But as the years passed and he never found a wife, his family demanded custody.

“But I am poor, and I have no brothers, and the village authority doesn’t care,” Awungshi said in a telephone interview from her home in remote northeast India. Across much of rural India, these powerful and deeply conservative local councils are the law of the land. They serve as judge and jury, dictating everything from custody cases to how women should dress to whether young lovers deserve to live or die.

They often enforce strict social norms about marriage and gender roles.

These unselected and unregulated courts are coming under fresh scrutiny after police say a council of elders in West Bengal ordered the gang rape of a 20-year-old woman as punishment for falling in love with the wrong man.

“We are going back to the 16th century,” Pradip Bhattacharya, a politician in West Bengal, said as news of the gang rape ordered to spread in a country already reeling from a string of high-profile cases of sexual violence against women.

Village councils are common in India with vast rural communities, serving as the only practical means of delivering justice in areas where local governments are either too far away or too ineffective to mediate disputes. Often, the elders try to halt the march of

the modern world, enforcing strict social norms about marriage and gender roles.

In some of the most extreme cases, the councils have sanctioned so-called honor killings, usually against women suspected of out-of-wedlock sex. Known as khap panchayats in northern India, the councils act with impunity because villagers risk being ostracized if they flout the rulings.

The courts can be especially harsh toward women, enforcing the most conservative aspects of a patriarchal system that is deeply entrenched in Indian society.

India’s Supreme Court has lashed out at the khaps, saying they amount to vigilante justice, are “wholly illegal” and should be stamped out. On Jan. 24, the Supreme Court took up the West Bengal case, ordering an investigation on a “suo moto” basis meaning that the court acted on its own, without a request from either side in the case.

In many ways, the councils show how centuries of patriarchal traditions often clash with the values of a modern world in India. The growing numbers of financially independent young women who live on their own in cities would balk at even the most innocuous dictates by a village council, such as not wearing jeans or using cellphones.

The West Bengal case has revived long-standing criticisms of the khaps, with critics saying they are nothing more than kangaroo courts delivering medieval rulings.

According to police, at least 13 men attacked the woman in West Bengal — she lost count of exactly how many — on Jan. 20 after the elders in Subalpur village discovered her love affair with a Muslim man from a neighboring village.

The woman is a member of the Santhal tribe, and marrying a Muslim man from outside her community would be considered a violation of custom.

The man had visited Subalpur on Jan. 20 to propose marriage, but villagers caught him and tied



Santhal tribal women gather in a Indian village where a 20-year-old woman was gang-raped, allegedly on the direction of a village council at Subalpur, on Jan. 24. Police say the council of elders in the eastern state of West Bengal ordered the rape as punishment for the woman falling in love with the wrong man.

the couple to a tree while the council decided their fate, according to local reports.

Police official C. Sudhakar said the village council ordered the man and woman to each pay a fine of 25,000 rupees (\$400). The man’s family was able to pay, but when the woman’s family said they were too poor, the council ordered the gang rape, police said.

The woman escaped the village two days later and contacted police.

Twelve suspects and the head of the council have been arrested.

Four years ago, a nearby village council in West Bengal’s Birbhum district ordered a young woman paraded naked through the village. She was accused of falling in love with a man from a different caste.

The area is 110 miles north of Kolkata, the capital of West Bengal.

Nityananda Hembrom, the chief of West Bengal’s 6 million Santhals, said the village council is being unfairly maligned, and that there are not enough details about the case.

“Maybe the girl was assaulted,” he acknowledged. But he said the tribal community and lifestyle are under siege, and that he believes the council was acting against some sort of “cultural erosion.”

Some observers say a general election, expected by May, has given the village elders even more power because politicians know local leaders dictate how their communities vote. India is the world’s biggest democracy, with a population of 1.2 billion people.

Jagmati Sangwan, general secretary of the All India Democratic Women’s Association, said the village councils are so powerful because politicians court them for votes.

“The message is going round that you can do whatever you want and can go scot-free,” she said. “As a result conservative forces are feeling emboldened.”

Some of the most horrifying cases of local justice involve honor killings, often the culmination of threats and intimidation by a young couple’s families and community.

Narendra Singh’s brother and

sister-in-law were slain in 2007 in an honor killing after the couple fled their village and secretly married. Singh filed a murder case accusing the girl’s family of being behind the killing, enraging the village council.

After years of being shunned, Singh’s life only recently has returned to normal. “The council ruled that any villager found interacting with my family would be fined 25,000 rupees each,” said Singh. “Only 8 to 10 villagers out of a total of 10,000 kept some sort of contact with us.”

Awungshi, who has not seen her daughter even once, eight years after her ex-boyfriend’s family abducted her, says she thinks of the girl every day and regrets that the village elders did not help her.

She heard that her ex-boyfriend’s family has given the girl a new name, Yarmi, which means “gift.”

“She is 14 now,” Awungshi said. “I hope and pray she will come back to me on her own one day when she becomes a mother herself.”

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Family of injured man settles lawsuit with cops

**OH CINCINNATI** — The family of an Ohio man who suffered brain damage after police used a Taser stun gun on him while he was atop an 8-foot fence has settled their federal civil rights lawsuit for \$2.25 million.

Cincinnati attorney Al Gerhardt announced the settlement Wednesday between the Dublin family of Matthew Hook and the Columbus suburb of Perry Township, its board of trustees and a police officer.

Hook, then 23, was unarmed and fleeing police over a theft on Aug. 8, 2010. Perry Township Officer Shawn Bean stunned Hook in the back with a Taser as he climbed a fence, causing Hook to fall head-first onto the concrete below.

## Plane lands safely after losing wheel in flight

**CA EL MONTE** — A small plane that lost its nose wheel in flight landed safely at a Southern California airport.

Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor said the single engine, four-seat Diamond DA40 touched down at El Monte Airport around 11 a.m. Wednesday.

Gregor said the wheel fell off during the approach and landed in Pioneer Park, about a mile southwest of the airport.

No injuries were reported. The FAA is investigating.

## 911 operator charged with misconduct

**DE WILMINGTON** — Wilmington police have arrested a 911 operator they say told a suspect that police had been notified about a shooting.

Allshia Kennedy, 25, of Wilmington was also charged with official misconduct and hindering prosecution. Police said she was arrested Monday.

The News Journal of Wilmington reported that on Jan. 9, Kennedy took a 911 call from a woman calling to correct an address given to another dispatcher about a shooting.

The News Journal reported that according to an affidavit, Kennedy then texted her boyfriend, whom she suspected had been involved in the shooting. Court documents said Kennedy told her boyfriend that the shooting had been reported at his address.

Court papers show that Kennedy did not put the address into the 911 system.

## 19th-century barn offered, but no takers

**NH DURHAM** — Anyone who would have barn? You'd have to move it yourself, though, from its current site in Durham.

The 19th-century post-and-beam barn is in Durham's Historic District. Developer Orion Student Housing is planning to build a student housing and commercial complex nearby. Orion had offered it to anyone willing to haul it away.

## THE CENSUS

# 60

The percentage of the water in the Great Lakes that is now under ice, the largest amount of ice cover on the lakes in at least 25 years, according to the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Mich. The ice cover this winter is a stark contrast to that of last winter, when the five lakes had only 38 percent cover. The long-term average of the lakes is about 50 percent. Of all the lakes, Lake Michigan has the smallest amount of ice — about 38 percent. Lake Erie, the shallowest of all the Great Lakes, is almost entirely covered.



Two women walk on the frozen surface of Lake Erie near Cleveland on Tuesday.



CRAG RUTLE/AP

## Dancers take the floor

Patrons of the New York City Ballet walk past a massive photograph featuring more than 80 dancers arranged in an array of poses at the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center in New York on Tuesday. The work of French-born artist JR was made by staging a photo shoot of the artists lying down pushing and pulling on white crinkled paper.

But it's a challenge — and it's costly. The structures need to be taken apart piece by piece, loaded onto a truck, transported to the new site and put back together again.

One farmer apparently expressed interest, but dropped the idea after learning it would cost up to \$300,000 to relocate.

## School aide in modeling flap back on the job

**MA FITCHBURG** — A Massachusetts classroom aide who'd been placed on paid administrative leave after it was discovered she moonlighted as a bikini and lingerie model is back at work.

Fitchburg schools superintendent Andre Ravenelle said Kaitlin Pearson, 23, was notified Monday she could return to work, and she resumed her duties Tuesday helping special-needs students at an

elementary school. Ravenelle said in a statement that Pearson was reinstated after the school reviewed "all relevant information."

Pearson was suspended last week after someone anonymously sent a package of her racy photos to Ravenelle and the local newspaper.

The story ignited a debate on what was appropriate in teachers' private lives.

## Officials laud 'historic' joint cocaine seizure

**FL MIAMI** — In the early 21st morning hours of Jan. 22, almost a thousand miles from Miami, U.S. Coast Guard officers aboard a small, highly-equipped aircraft spotted a dot on the ocean surface, skipping over waves and traveling at high speed.

A Coast Guard helicopter aboard a British Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel in the vicinity doing a joint operation gave chase. After

warning shots were fired, a vessel carrying several Coast Guard officers caught up with the go-fast boat and boarded.

On Tuesday morning, law enforcement officials at the U.S. Coast Guard Miami Beach station showcased their catch: 45 bricks of cocaine wrapped tightly in nylon burlap sacks reading "refined sugar" in Spanish. The coke haul had a street value in excess of \$37 million.

The Coast Guard called the Jan. 22 mission "historic," not because of the size of the haul — though it is large compared with past high seas drug busts — but because of the combined effort of the Coast Guard and the British Royal Fleet.

## 2 charged in Bitcoin money-laundering plan

**NY NEW YORK** — U.S. prosecutors say two men are charged with conspir-

ing to commit money laundering by selling more than \$1 million in Bitcoins to users of the black market website Silk Road, which lets users buy illegal drugs anonymously.

Authorities said Charlie Shrem, 24, was arrested Sunday at New York's Kennedy Airport while Robert Faiella was arrested Monday at his Florida home.

Prosecutors say in a news release that Faiella sold Bitcoins to users seeking to buy illegal drugs on the site.

They say Shrem bought drugs on Silk Road and helped Faiella exchange more than \$1 million in cash for the tough-to-track digital currency Bitcoins so they could make illegal purchases.

Authorities have said Silk Road's San Francisco operator generated more than \$1 million in illicit business from January 2011 through September on the website before it was shut down.

From wire reports

BUSINESS/WEATHER

# Economy likely stronger at end of '13

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. economy likely grew solidly in the final quarter of 2013, momentum that's expected to carry into this year. Most economists think 2014 will produce the strongest growth since the recession officially ended in June 2009.

On Thursday, the government was to make its first of three estimates of economic growth for the October-December quarter.

Economists are forecasting an annual growth rate of 3.3 percent, after an even stronger 4.1 percent rate for July through September.

For all of 2013, analysts think the economy grew about 1.9 percent. That would be below the 2.8 percent growth for 2012 as measured by the gross domestic product. GDP represents the country's total output of goods and services.

For all of 2014, analysts are more optimistic. Many fore-

see GDP growth of 3 percent or better.

A key reason for their optimism is an improved outlook for the government sector. Overall growth was reduced by an estimated 1.5 percentage points in 2013 because of a drag from higher federal taxes and deep government spending cuts. Those effects are expected to subside in 2014.

This year, economists also think the economy will get a lift

from continued gains in hiring. Further steady job growth would give more households money to spend and would help lift consumer spending, which accounts for about 70 percent of economic activity.

In addition, U.S. manufacturers are expected to get a lift from rising global demand.

At home, housing construction and auto sales, which showed strength last year, are expected to register further gains in 2014.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Jan. 31)	\$1,3959
Dollar buys (Jan. 31)	€0.7164
British pound (Jan. 31)	\$1.6169
Japanese yen (Jan. 31)	101.00
South Korean won (Feb. 3)	1,044.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.6370
British pound	\$1.6510/0.6775
Canada (dollar)	1.1176
China (Yuan)	6.0605
Denmark (Krone)	5.4962
Egypt (Pound)	6.9667
Euro	\$1.3581/0.7263
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7563
Hungary (Forint)	238.44
Israel (Shekel)	3.4912
Japan (Yen)	102.254
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2826
Norway (Krone)	6.3236
Philippines (Peso)	45.29
Poland (Zloty)	3.1111
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7505
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2748
South Korea (Won)	1,080.26
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9011
Thailand (Bath)	32.98
Turkey (New Lira)	2.432

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

EUROPE GAS PRICES

Country	Super E10	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Germany	\$3.532	\$3.711	\$3.891	\$4.141
Change in price	-0.1 cents	-0.3 cents	-0.3 cents	+3.1 cents
Netherlands	..	\$4.659	\$4.950	\$5.004
Change in price	..	+0.3 cents	3.7 cents	+3.8 cents
U.K.	..	\$3.546	\$3.826	\$4.076
Change in price	..	+0.5 cents	-0.3 cents	+3.1 cents
Azores	..	..	\$4.482	..
Change in price	..	..	no change	..
Turkey	..	\$3.876	\$4.029	\$4.287
Change in price	..	no change	no change	no change
Guam	..	..	\$4.445	\$4.009*
Change in price	..	..	no change	+3.1 cents
U.S.	\$3.95	..	..	..
Change in price	no change	..	..	no change

PACIFIC GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan	..	\$3.460	..	\$3.889
Change in price	..	no change	..	+3.0 cents
Okinawa	\$3.479	..	..	\$3.899
Change in price	no change	..	..	+3.0 cents
South Korea	\$3.549	..	\$3.909	\$4.159
Change in price	no change	..	no change	+3.0 cents
Guam	\$3.539**	\$3.719	\$3.899	..
Change in price	-1.0 cents*	-1.0 cents	-1.0 cents	..

MARKET WATCH

	Jan. 29, 2014
<b>Dow Jones Industrials</b>	<b>-189.77</b>
15,738.79	
<b>Nasdaq composite</b>	<b>-46.53</b>
4,051.43	
<b>Standard &amp; Poor's 500</b>	<b>-18.30</b>
1,774.20	
<b>Russell 2000</b>	<b>-15.78</b>
1,122.45	

\* Diesel EFD \*\* Midgrade  
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INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	8.25
Federal funds market rate	0.07
3-month bill	0.06
30-year bond	3.62

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



Friday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	W/P	Chatanooga	49	18	Cir	Fort Wayne	29	21	Snow	Louisville	40	28	Cir	Pocatello	35	21	Cir	Sioux City	22	7	Cir
Ablene, Tex	74	46	Pdly	Cheyenne	25	14	Cir	Fresno	58	42	Cir	Lubbock	71	37	Pdly	Portland, Maine	34	17	Cir	Sioux Falls	14	-4	Cir
Akron, Ohio	33	21	Snow	Chicago	22	14	Cir	Goodland	22	16	Snow	Macon	56	22	Cir	Portland, Ore.	45	37	Rain	South Bend	25	18	Snow
Albany, N.Y.	35	16	Cir	Cincinnati	37	25	Cir	Grand Junction	37	25	Snow	Madison	12	2	Cir	Providence	37	22	Cir	Spokane	30	23	Pdly
Albuquerque	56	40	Cir	Cleveland	31	22	Snow	Grand Rapids	24	19	Cir	Medford	48	31	Cir	Pueblo	32	24	Cir	Springfield, Ill.	30	21	Cir
Allentown, Pa.	37	15	Cir	Colorado Springs	27	22	Cir	Great Falls	28	0	Cir	Memphis	53	34	Cir	Raleigh-Durham	49	18	Cir	Springfield, Mo.	48	32	Cir
Amarillo	50	27	Cir	Columbia, S.C.	52	21	Cir	Green Bay	19	2	Cir	Miami Beach	82	67	Cir	Rapid City	29	9	Cir	Syracuse	30	23	Pdly
Anchorage	30	24	Pdly	Columbus, Ga.	56	26	Cir	Greensboro, N.C.	48	18	Cir	Midland-Odessa	80	61	Pdly	Reno	42	25	Cir	Tallahassee	65	30	Pdly
Ashville	54	18	Pdly	Columbus, Ohio	33	24	Cir	Hartford	49	15	Cir	Milwaukee	16	6	Cir	Richmond	48	21	Pdly	Tampa	73	51	Cir
Atlanta	52	26	Cir	Concord, N.H.	34	10	Cir	Hartford Springfld	35	17	Cir	Mpls-St Paul	17	-14	Cir	Roanoke	48	16	Pdly	Tucson	60	41	Pdly
Atlantic City	44	19	Cir	Corpus Christi	78	57	Cir	Helena	30	5	Cir	Missoula	29	16	Cir	Rochester	35	22	Cir	Topeka	32	20	Cir
Austin	57	19	Cir	Dallas-Ft Worth	71	46	Pdly	Honolulu	89	68	Cir	Mobile	59	32	Cir	Rockford	18	8	Cir	Tulsa	58	39	Cir
Baltimore	42	20	Cir	Dayton	33	25	Cir	Houston	74	55	Cir	Montgomery	57	24	Cir	Sacramento	59	39	Pdly	Tucson	70	52	Cir
Baton Rouge	65	40	Cir	Daytona Beach	70	52	Cir	Huntsville	52	25	Pdly	Nashville	48	26	Cir	St. Louis	37	30	Cir	Tulsa	54	29	Cir
Biloxi	58	7	Cir	Denver	29	19	Snow	Indianapolis	34	25	Cir	New Orleans	65	43	Cir	St. Petersburg	71	54	Cir	Tulsa	54	29	Cir
Birmingham	54	24	Cir	Des Moines	23	8	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	58	33	Cir	New York City	38	24	Cir	St. Thomas	85	74	Cir	Waco	73	50	Pdly
Bismark	54	24	Cir	Detroit	30	22	Snow	Jacksonville	63	38	Cir	Newark	45	25	Pdly	Salt Lake City	37	24	Cir	Washington	46	29	Cir
Boise	37	24	Cir	Duluth	3	-18	Cir	Janeau	34	22	Pdly	Norfolk, Va.	45	25	Pdly	Salt Lake City	37	24	Cir	Wichita	33	25	Cir
Boston	36	22	Cir	El Paso	73	53	Cir	Kansas City	29	21	Cir	North Platte	26	14	Cir	San Diego	80	40	Pdly	Wichita Falls	60	41	Pdly
Bridgport	37	19	Cir	Elkins	37	11	Cir	Key West	78	71	Cir	Oklahoma City	43	35	Cir	San Antonio	76	51	Pdly	Wichita Falls	60	41	Pdly
Brownsville	75	57	Cir	Erie	30	24	Snow	Knoxville	49	18	Cir	Omaha	25	12	Cir	San Diego	62	57	Cir	Wilkes-Barre	33	17	Cir
Buffalo	33	22	Cir	Eugene	45	35	Rain	Lake Charles	67	47	Pdly	Orlando	73	53	Cir	San Francisco	57	45	Pdly	Wilmington, Del.	40	18	Cir
Burlington, Vt.	33	18	Cir	Evansville	41	29	Cir	Lansing	27	21	Cir	Paducah	44	31	Cir	San Jose	58	42	Cir	Yonkers	38	26	Pdly
Caribou, Maine	28	6	Cir	Fairbanks	-15	-15	Cir	Las Vegas	59	46	Cir	Pendleton	36	27	Cir	Santa Fe	54	36	Cir	Youngstown	33	21	Snow
Casper, Wyo.	28	13	Cir	Fargo	-17	-17	Cir	Lexington	40	27	Cir	Peoria	23	10	Snow	St. Marie	14	5	Cir				
Charleston, S.C.	54	28	Pdly	Flagstaff	40	32	Snow	Lincoln	25	13	Cir	Philadelphia	41	20	Cir	Savannah	58	31	Pdly				
Charleston, S.C.	40	19	Cir	Flint	27	20	Cir	Little Rock	55	36	Cir	Phoenix	71	56	Pdly	Seattle	44	38	Cir				
Charlotte, N.C.	50	19	Cir	Fort Smith	57	36	Pdly	Los Angeles	67	50	Pdly	Pittsburgh	35	24	Cir	Shreveport	69	44	Cir				

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 14th Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Wed., 85, Saugus, Calif.  
Lo: Wed., 26, Crane Lake, Minn.

# WEEKEND



Favorite moves  
of fitness pros

Page 40

## This time, it's personal

Best known for her work as part of the band Sugarland, Jennifer Nettles wants to get more intimate with fans through her first solo album

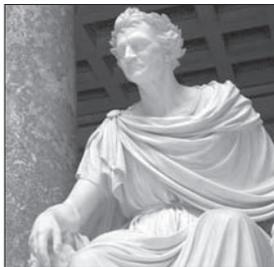
Music, Page 37



### Etched in stone

European greats immortalized in Bavaria

Europe travel, Page 28



### Organic goodness

Quick, tasty treats at Tokyo's Urth Caffé

Pacific travel, Page 34



# WEEKEND: GADGETS & CHARTS

## World View Clock re-imagines time

BY LAUREN LINDSTROM  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**T**odd Medema wants you to slow down and enjoy the view, even at the office.

The senior at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh created an app to reimagine the concept of time.

The World View Clock projects time-lapse photography behind a digital clock, showing users what iconic scenes around the world look like at the current time. It is available in a freestanding, tabletlike clock and in a smartphone app.

Medema, 21, said the idea for the product came after observing that the concept of time has changed.

"When I started looking at time on this scale of minutes," he said. "Time originally was based on the passage of the sun: sunrise, noon, sunset. So often we're stuck in an office without a window. We don't even know if the sun is still up because the lights are on."

The clock is meant for artistic enjoyment and to remind users that the functionality of telling time can be beautiful. The screen refreshes about once a minute with an image of what each scene looks like at the current time. Viewers can check the time over the course of the day and watch the sun rise and set.

The project is part of Fabricator IO, a startup Medema co-founded with fellow Carnegie Mellon senior Scott Martin.

Three scenes are currently available on the World View Clock: Pittsburgh; Austin, Texas; and Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming. San Francisco and Jerusalem are in production.

Medema plans to photograph New York, which he hasn't been able to do because of bad weather. He insists on clear days to get the best photos and to protect his equipment.

When deciding from what vantage point to shoot, he looks for iconic images associated with the area.

It's a lengthy process to put vast landscapes on a smartphone screen. A location shoot lasts 24 hours. Bad weather and technical failures can easily halt an attempt. He's had his share of adventures while out in the field. At Yosemite National Park, on an ultimately unsuccessful shoot, a bear ambled into the shot,

sitting 20 feet from him and his camera for more than an hour. He said he was concerned for his life at the time, but it now makes for a good story.

His camera takes one photo per minute, thanks to an automated device called an intervalometer. The result is 1,440 shots over one day. The files from one scene usually fill 20 gigabytes of data, larger than the capacity of many iPhone models. The files must be compressed to a size manageable for smartphones and tablets. He is experimenting with tiered storage, where downloaders can choose to download 24 images, and refresh one image per hour, to save space.

The standalone clock costs \$250 and can be purchased through the startup's website, worldviewclock.com. The app is available now for Android systems, and should be within days for Apple iOS.

The first location is free on both platforms. Additional scenes on Android cost 99 cents, while a premium World Traveler package for iPhones will cost \$1.99.

**ON THE COVER:** Jennifer Nettles, known for being part of the country duo Sugarland, is going it alone on the album "That Girl."

Courtesy of Universal Music Group

## GADGET WATCH



The Arsenal case from ZAGG makes use of military-grade construction to protect phones.

MCT

## Phone case gets serious with built-in lenses

BY GREGG ELLMAN  
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**T**he IZZI Orbit Pro iPhone 5/5s case has been out for a little while, but I got my first glance at it recently. It enables serious iPhoneographers can take their photos with the handheld device.

Structurally, the case is an incredibly strong outer shell of aircraft-grade aluminum. Built into the case is a stabilizing grip on the bottom with three tripod mounts, one for each side and the bottom. Your phone goes into a rubber shell, which then goes into the stronger outer shell.

What makes this device unique for photography is the four-lens pro-grade system mounted directly on the camera.

The rotating lens includes a telephoto, fisheye and macro. A fourth option of a wide-angle lens can be attained by screwing a small attachment onto the macro.

Specifically, you get a 180-degree fisheye view, a 67X wide-wide angle lens, a 2X optical telephoto lens and the macro for close-ups.

The case is bulky and you probably can't store it in your pocket, so it's not the best choice for an everyday case. But if you're on a vacation or a day of sightseeing, a switch to the Orbit Pro would be easy.

Its little brother, the IZZI Slim, is on the way and available for pre-order for \$99.99. The slim has the lens attachments but without the metal case construction and the tripod attachments.

Instead, it has a polycarbonate case (black or white choices) with the rotating lens attachments.

Online: izzigetgadgets.com; \$299.99, available in black, red and silver. A lanyard and lens cleaning cloth are included.

The TYPO keyboard case for the iPhone 5/5s is the first physical keyboard for an iPhone, according to the company.

At first glance, this keyboard is a spitting image of a standard BlackBerry keyboard, which is a great device for hardcore BlackBerry users to get into the iPhone world.

The backlit keyboard is built into a hard shell case, which has two pieces that slide together. When it's attached it makes your phone about a half-inch longer. But that's a good thing since it gives you a 40 percent larger screen because you don't have to mess with a virtual keyboard.

Online: typokeyboards.com, \$99; The product is currently on backorder, but the company is taking orders, which they expect to fill in mid-March.

ZAGG's new Arsenal case for the iPhone 5/5s protects as well as it sounds like it should.

The case's military-grade construction outer shell is made to endure small drops and splashes. A soft cushioned interior holds your phone in place.

An invisible SHIELD EXTREME screen protector is included to keep your valuable LCD shock resistant, hard protected and touch-screen sensitive.

Online: zaggs.com; \$49.99

The NUEVEU pouch case is a pretty simple design, but is great for cold season since it fights germs. Your "naked" (or minimally decal-protected) phone simply slides into the pouch. The interior of the pouch is antimicrobial-protected and lined with a microfiber-like cloth that cleans your phone from fingerprints, dust and dirt as it slides in and out.

The exterior case is made with cotton twill, canvas and leather.

Online: nueveu.com; \$45 for the iPhone 5/5s model

## ITUNES MUSIC

Top 10 albums on the iTunes Store for Jan. 29:

1. "Never Land," Andy Mineo
2. "Restoring Force," GI Mice & Man
3. "Frozen" (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack), Various Artists
4. "Thrive," Casting Crowns
5. "2014 GRAMMY Nominations," Various Artists
6. "Random Access Memories," Daft Punk
7. "Pure Heroine," Lorde
8. "Same Trailer Different Park," Kacey Musgraves
9. "Night Visions," Imagine Dragons
10. "Acoustic Sessions," Smith & Myers

— Compiled by MCT

## SPOTIFY MUSIC

The top streamed tracks on Spotify for Jan. 20-26:

1. Katy Perry, "Dark Horse"
2. Pitbull, "Timber"
3. A Great Big World, "Say Something"
4. Bastille, "Pompeii"
5. Lorde, "Royals"
6. OneRepublic, "Counting Stars"
7. Lorde, "Team"
8. Eminem, "The Monster ft. Rihanna"
9. Jason Derulo, "Talk Dirty -- feat. 2 Chainz"
10. Passenger, "Let Her Go"

— Compiled by The Associated Press

## ITUNES MOVIES

Top 10 movies downloaded from the iTunes Store for Jan. 29:

1. "Captain Phillips"
2. "Last Vegas"
3. "Ender's Game"
4. "Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa (Unrated)"
5. "Rush"
6. "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2"
7. "Blue Jasmine"
8. "Lee Daniels' The Butler"
9. "Afternoon Delight"
10. "The Counselor (Unrated Extended Cut)"

— Compiled by MCT

## VIDEO GAMES

Game Informer Magazine rank the top 10 games for February:

1. "Donkey Kong: Tropical Freeze," Wii U
2. "Tomb Raider: Definitive Edition," PS4, Xbox One
3. "Broken Age Act 1," PC
4. "The Banner Saga," PC
5. "Danganronpa: Trigger Happy Havoc," Vita
6. "OriiOlli," Vita
7. "The Walking Dead Season Two: Ep 1 -- All That Remains," PS3, 360, PC
8. "The Room Two," iOS
9. "Bravely Default," 3DS
10. "Lightning Returns: Final Fantasy XIII," PS3, 360

— Compiled by MCT

## APPS

Top 5 new paid apps for Jan. 29:

- ANDROID
1. Lumus -- Icon Pack
  2. Final Fantasy IV
  3. Deus Ex: The Fall
  4. Talon for Twitter
  5. Archangel

Top 5 paid apps for Jan. 29:

- APPLE
1. Minecraft -- Pocket Edition
  2. Hide N Seek: MC Mini Game With Worlds Multiplayer
  3. Slavin
  4. Heads Up!
  5. Notability

— Compiled by MCT

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  5. Notability

— Compiled by MCT

## WEEKEND

# CHECK IT OUT

## Events, entertainment and other ways to fill your free time

# 1

### More Bad Lip Reading, courtesy of the NFL

There's no doubt that those involved in this weekend's big football game are taking it very seriously. Those perhaps not so into the Super Bowl — or simply fans of anything silly — might appreciate the great NFL video created by the folks behind Bad Lip Reading.

If you're new to the concept, the clever creators sync the mouth movements of famous folks on video with ridiculous audio.

The latest compilation, "More NFL," offers almost four minutes of coaches and players getting the Bad Lip Reading treatment during the game, on the sidelines, in postgame interviews and during press conferences.

• Online at [tinyurl.com/n6w2c3u](http://tinyurl.com/n6w2c3u)



Screen grab from Youtube.com

With or without help from the experts at Bad Lip Reading, it's clear that NFL players aren't always serious.

# 2

### Kick back with some new DVD releases

You've got a lot of weekend to kill before the Super Bowl starts. Why not get into couch-potato mode early with some movies at home? In the absence of new releases in the theaters this weekend, we present some of the finest — or at least most infamous — now available: "Rush," "Last Vegas," "Bad Grandpa" and "The Fifth Estate."

• More new DVD releases on Page 39



# 3

### Jaguar dares to ask: Why are baddies Brits?

It's no secret that one of the best things about watching the Super Bowl is the commercials. Whether or not you'll be able to see them at game time, here's one that luxury car manufacturer Jaguar released early. This slick 1-minute ad features some excellent

the baddies from "Thor," "Iron Man 3" and "The Green Lantern."

• Online at [tinyurl.com/lja85wd](http://tinyurl.com/lja85wd)

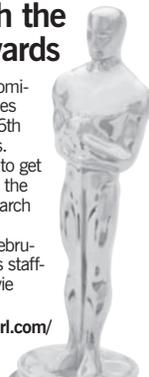


# 4

### Keep up with the Academy Awards

Now that we have the nominees, the Stars and Stripes is keeping up with the 86th Annual Academy Awards. Check our website often to get the latest on the movies, the stars and more as the March 2 ceremony approaches. And coming up in mid-February, find out what Stripes staffers think of the nine-movie best picture race.

• Read about it at [tinyurl.com/stripesOscars2014](http://tinyurl.com/stripesOscars2014)



WEEKEND: MOVIES

# From Disney to destitute

Hudgens finds her footing in edgier films like 'Gimme Shelter'

By ROGER MOORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Writer-director Ron Krauss ran through more than a few Hollywood starlets in trying to cast the homeless, pregnant teen, Apple, in his debut feature film "Gimme Shelter." He'd spent more than a year getting to know such women and those who ran the Several Sources Shelters in New Jersey. The project had become a cause to him, and he had to get this casting right.

"Finally, I sent a video link to some girls staying in a shelter and they looked at several additions," Krauss recalled. "They didn't know the young women auditioning. The girls didn't know 'High School Musical.' And they picked Vanessa Hudgens."

Hudgens, the former Disney Channel sweetheart, might have seemed an odd choice for the frumpy, pierced and pregnant runaway in search of a father she never knew. "Hollywood people I told went, 'That Disney girl? Are you crazy?'" Krauss says. But Hudgens, at 25, has been putting those Disney years far behind her with films as gritty, edgy and Rated as "Sucker Punch," "Spring Breakers" and "The Frozen Ground."

"There's nothing cooler than looking into a mirror and not seeing yourself," Hudgens says. "The scripts that you get are always similar to the last project somebody saw me in. But that just means that I want nothing to do with it. Like variety. I don't like being stagnant, sticking with the same thing."

She won't come right out and say it, but after a few years of "sweet girl" roles after the wildly popular "High School Musical" ended, movies such as "Beastly" and "Bandslam," Hudgens has set her mind to doing more adult roles in films that demolish that old image.

"Sucker Punch" saw her as an inmate in a mental institution whose escape



ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS/AP

Vanessa Hudgens plays a pregnant teen who runs away from her abusive addict mother in "Gimme Shelter."

is envisioning herself (and her fellow inmates) as scantily clad hookers avenging themselves on the evil men in their lives. "Spring Breakers" put her in another ensemble of young women behaving badly, cutting loose and committing crimes on spring break. "The Frozen Ground" showcased Hudgens as a teen prostitute who survives a serial killer attack.

For "Gimme Shelter," Hudgens whacked off her hair, gained weight, wore piercings and "lived in a shelter for three weeks," Krauss marvels. "I never thought a Hollywood actress could play this role, that the movie star would show through. But she had swagger to her; she can hide her beauty. She was showing a part of herself she's never shown before."

"Gimme Shelter," which is based on a true story about self shelters and girls staying in them as its backdrop, offered the actress the chance to work with James Earl Jones (as a priest) and Ann Dowd as the firm but compassionate operator of the shelter Apple winds up in. It's the sort of indie film where "You get to push yourself out of your comfort zone," Hudgens says. "It's work, but it's work that's fun. It's the

sort of thing you look for in order to grow."

"Gimme Shelter" comes out at a time when poverty is back in the national conversation. It's being embraced as a faith-based film, as the shelters it is set in are Catholic-sponsored and abortion is never a seriously considered option for a pregnant teen with no home, no job and few prospects.

Hudgens says she embraces the messages of the movie, "a script that had a lot of courage about it, I think. You've got abortion and child abandonment and homelessness and abuse. Tough subjects."

But after this latest walk on the dark side, Hudgens was ready to mix things up again for her next picture. She knows she might lose her longtime fans, alienating some as she tries to reach that broader audience that leads to career longevity. Her next film, "Kitchen Sink," is about a time "when zombies and vampires and humans are trying to co-exist in peace," Hudgens says, laughing.

"Every role you want, every change in direction you make, is always a hunt and a struggle, and that's the way it should be," she says. "You have to fight for the things you want. We're all trying to create our own path. So you admire what somebody else has done or is doing, but you want to write your own story."



INVISION/AP

**"I never thought a Hollywood actress could play this role, that the movie star would show through. But she had swagger to her; she can hide her beauty. She was showing a part of herself she's never shown before."**

Writer-director Ron Krauss on casting former Disney star Vanessa Hudgens as a homeless, pregnant teen in his new film, "Gimme Shelter"

# Indie film 'Dear White People': Art imitating life's racism

By JULIE WALKER

The Root

Dear white people: It's not OK to dress in black-themed party wear while students put on racist costumes and drink from cups that look like watermelons, especially to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Justin Simien, the writer and director behind the comedy "Dear White People," doesn't have to look far to illustrate how his movie parallels real life.

"Dear White People" premiered this year at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, the same week students at Arizona State University were suspended after throwing that offensive MLK Day party. The movie is set at Winchester University, a fictitious Ivy League school, where some of the white students put on an African-American-themed party com-

plete with blackface and Afro wigs. The film centers on four African-American students with very different ideas about being black, and experiences to match.

During the Sundance screening I attended, I overheard a white woman say to her friends that she felt "embarrassed" by the actions of the white students in the film. Simien said he's not trying to embarrass but instead is trying to open a dialogue through his humor.

"Whenever I tell people at Sundance that I'm here with 'Dear White People,' they say, 'Oh, well, I'm one of the cool ones,' and I tell them it's just the name of the movie. It's not an hour-and-a-half indictment of your people," Simien says.

Instead it could be taken as a 108-minute indictment of all people, because the black characters are also prejudiced in their own way. From homophobia to hating on Tyler Perry movies, Simien is

an equal-opportunity indicter, but by no means in a bad way.

Simien, 30, says that some of the inspiration for the script came from his own feelings while attending the predominantly white Chapman University in California after attending a magnet school in Houston.

Like one of the film's main characters — the gay, gigantic-Afro-wearing Lionel (played by Tyler James Williams) — Simien is trying to fit in. He made his first public announcement about being a gay black man during the Q&A at his Sundance screening, when an audience member applauded how diverse his characters were.

Another of his characters is Sam (Tessa Thompson), the biracial, militant, self-righteous activist who can be heard on her campus radio show saying, "Dear white people, the amount of black friends

required not to seem racist has just been raised to two. Sorry, your weed man Tyrone doesn't count." In the film, one white student calls her the pissed-off baby of Spike Lee and Oprah.

Though they have never met, Simien has been compared to Lee, especially because Lee made "School Daze," but it's a comparison that Simien does not want. After the screening, someone asked Simien if he was the next Spike Lee, and he said, "I'm the next Justin Simien." But Simien does credit Lee's "Do the Right Thing" and Robert Townsend's "Hollywood Shuffle" with showing him that it's possible to make these types of black films.

Of Lee he says, "He opened my mind and let me know I could make movies like this ... but in 'Do the Right Thing' he talks about how racism works, and in 'Dear White People' what I wanted to talk about is identity."

## WEEKEND: MOVIES

# The monster and the man

## In 'I, Frankenstein,' Aaron Eckhart searches for creature's humanity

By ROGER MOORE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

**A**aron Eckhart has some advice for monster movie and Mary Shelley purists who might quibble with "I, Frankenstein," his futuristic movie version of creature that features Eckhart as the monster almost 100 years in the future.

"Get on Twitter," he chuckles, suggesting the best place to complain. "They already ARE! Believe me."

None of that 19th century piecing together human body parts, harnessing of lightning, and jolting a creature to life in this "Frankenstein." The monster in "I, Frankenstein" is 200 years old and called "Adam." He's survived into a futuristic dystopia where he gets caught up in demon/gargoyle wars.

Sure, it's a genre picture, Eckhart laughs. But if he were to take to Twitter himself to try and sell it, here's his 144-or-so-character tweet:

"It's a monster movie with a human soul. Fans of this genre may care about that, but a lot of people just don't. They care about the action, the effects. If I'm selling this movie on a tweet, it's 'Man in search of his purpose.'"

Eckhart found that something

he could relate to. At 45, he's never broken out as a headliner, a box office attraction who can open a film based on his name alone. His screen presence is for-midable, thanks to a deep voice, soulful eyes and a face *Seattle Times* critic Moira Macdonald once said "looks as if a computer designed it... His jaw is absurdly square, his nose long and aristocratic, his eyes are small but glitter intelligently." He broke into movies with the help of playwright-director and friend Neil LaBute ("In the Company of Men") and had scattered success in the 15 years since.

Supporting roles in blockbusters from "Erin Brockovich" to "The Dark Knight" films (as Harvey "Two-Face" Dent), leads in more daring fare such as "Thank You for Smoking," "Towelhead" and "Rabbit Hole" have never added up an escapee from B-movies or action films ("Olympus Has Fallen"). Still, he takes on even the genre pictures with as much good humor as he can muster.

"I've never been an actor who lets himself get shoved into a corner," Eckhart says. "I don't really have a body of work that shows me as who I am and what I believe. I'm not showing that. I've never been one of those actors."

He's serious enough to work



Ben King, LONSGATE/AP

Two hundred years after his shocking creation, Dr. Frankenstein's creature, Adam, still walks the Earth. But when he finds himself in the middle of a war over the fate of humanity, Adam discovers he holds the key that could destroy humankind in the action thriller "I, Frankenstein," starring Aaron Eckhart.

out a back story to his character, even if that character is as iconic as Frankenstein's monster.

"He's been rejected by his father and has to work out his place in the world. He's a survivalist, made that way by being cast out by his father to live in the mountains. He basically learned from the animals. In Mary Shelley's novel, he's always on the edge of society, on the periphery looking in. In our movie, he's had 200 years of learning and gaining skills and becoming articulate. I needed to delve into Mary Shelley's version of him, figure out why she created him. What does she want to say? Is that still relevant today? It is. This is an archetypal man's journey through life asking himself those

same questions every man must ask — "Where did I come from, why am I here, and where am I going?"

Eckhart is one of those character actors who turns up in several films a year, most years. And "I'm making a lot more movies in 2014. Hey, it's not like I love to work or anything. I just can't afford not to."

"There's a sequel to the hit "Olympus Has Fallen" titled "Gerard Butler, tentatively titled "London Has Fallen." And "I just finished 'Incarnate,' another genre movie. I play a wheelchair-bound alcoholic exorcist. That was a lot of fun."

If he's forced to find a connection, a through-line to a career that takes him from cynical

villains ("The Rum Diary") to stoic soldiers ("Battle Los Angeles"), sad-eyed romantics ("Love Happens," "Rabbit Hole") to characters-with-a message ("Towelhead"), it is this — a shared humanity.

"If I'm going to go to all the trouble of making the movie and you're going to go see it, is there a lesson to be learned from the film about how you can become a better person?"

"Movies are about entertaining, first of all, the fantasy that we lose ourselves in. But they're also about storytelling and growing. So I look for the humanity in the character, the lessons we can learn from his journey." Even if the character is covered in make-up, a 200-year-old monster.

## After nearly 200 years, Frankenstein's still going strong

By BRETT WEISS

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

**T**he Frankenstein monster first lumbered into movie screens in 1818 in Mary Shelley's novel "Frankenstein; Or, The Modern Prometheus," which many consider the first science-fiction story.

"Frankenstein" is a gothic horror yarn relating the tale of a mad scientist who discovers the secret of life, fashions a monster out of spare parts and is cursed by his curious, hideous creation. Shelley's masterpiece has spawned numerous feature films, the latest being "I, Frankenstein."

Like other "Frankenstein"

interpretations, "I, Frankenstein" draws inspiration from Shelley's Frankenstein but plays fast and loose with the details.

This got us to thinking about the many ways the Frankenstein monster has appeared in popular culture over the years, from books to TV to film.

**Frankenstein in film**

You can watch the 1910 Edison Studios version of "Frankenstein" on YouTube. After that, pick up (on DVD or Blu-ray) the trio of "Frankenstein" films Universal produced during the 1930s: "Frankenstein" (1931), "The Bride of Frankenstein" (1935) and "Son of Frankenstein" (1939), each starring Boris Kar-

loff in his signature role as the sympathetic creature.

Also check out "Young Frankenstein" (1974), Mel Brooks' funniest film; and "Mary Shelley's Frankenstein" (1994), a flawed but compelling adaptation of the novel starring Robert De Niro as the creature.

**Frankenstein on TV**

In 1973, Dan Curtis, who created the vampire soap opera "Dark Shadows," produced "Frankenstein," a made-for-TV movie shown over two nights as part of ABC's "The Wide World of Mystery" anthology series. The movie felt like a stage play, was shot on video and had a tiny budget, but it adhered fairly closely to Shelley's novel, with

Bo Svenson as the articulate and verbose monster.

In addition to the obvious — Fred Gwynne's comedic turn as Herman Munster in "The Munsters" — the classic creature has reared his ugly head in "Tales of Tomorrow," "Route 66," "The X Files" and countless other programs.

**Frankenstein in print**

Mary Shelley surely had no idea her creepy creation would inspire countless other novels, including "Frankenstein Lives Again" (1981) by Donald F. Glut, "I Am Frankenstein" (1996) by Dean C. Anderson, and the five-volume series collectively known as "Dean Koontz's Frankenstein."



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Frazee (PG-13) Thur & Fri 16:00  
13:30, 15:45, Sun 13:30, Mon-Wed 16:00  
I, Frankenstein (PG-13) Thur 17:45, 20:30, Fri 17:45, 22:45, Sat 18:00, 22:45, Sun 18:00, 20:15, Mon & Tue 17:45, 20:30, Wed 17:45

**Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Thur 16:00, Fri & Sat 17:00, 22:45, Mon-Wed 18:00

**Ride Along (PG-13)** Thur 16:00, 18:00, 20:30, Fri 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, 22:30, Sat 13:30, 15:30, 17:45, 20:15, Mon-Wed 16:00, 18:00, 20:30

**The Hobbit: The Desolation Of Smaug (PG-13)** Sat & Sun 14:00

**The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13)** Sat & Sun 14:00

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Check movie listings for base theaters at [stripes.com/military-life](http://stripes.com/military-life)

## WEEKEND: VIDEO GAMES



# I Want Candy

## 'Candy Crush Saga': A user's tale of addiction

By BARBARA ORTUTAY  
The Associated Press

**M**any people remember where they were when man first walked on the moon. I remember where I was when I passed Level 86 of "Candy Crush Saga," the maddeningly addictive game that involves matching bright-hued virtual candies to have them disappear, only to be replaced by more.

I had spent nearly two weeks trying to complete that level over the holidays — on the plane, on the subway, in the car with my family. I was matching candies in bed when I first woke up and before falling asleep. I tried to conquer the sweets on the couch when I should have been wrapping presents. I even brought my phone, um, to the toilet. Don't you?

So it was a moment to remember when, walking up the stairs at the Columbus Circle subway stop in New York City during a slushy January commute, the words "sugar crush" appeared on my screen, signaling that I had passed Level 86. In my head, fellow commuters stopped in their path to cheer my accomplishment. I am not sure this was actually the case.

I'm on Level 95 now. There are currently about 500 levels, but more are constantly being added. It recalls Sisyphus, the mythical Greek king forced by the deities to roll a stone up a mountain, only to see it fall back down. Forever.

I'm reading less and spending less time with friends and family, but I keep telling myself that I can quit any time. Really, I can. All it takes is holding a finger on the "Candy Crush" app for a few seconds until a black "x" appears on the top left corner. Then it's one tap to delete. Any time.

The other day, a friend and I spent

a pleasant evening drinking wine and sharing empanadas at a cozy Chilean bar. Afterward, we boarded the subway and she declared it was "Candy Crush! time!" I felt a sense of relief and a tingling rush course through my body. We sat in silence, crushing candies until we got to our respective stops.

### How did it come to this?

It started innocently enough. Preparing for a long bus ride from New York to Philadelphia in November, I downloaded "Candy Crush" after months of mocking people who play it. I'd encounter them on my morning commute, methodically tapping their phones while I occupied myself with more highbrow activities, such as scanning through the day's news or reading a book.

Not anymore. I'm on Team Candy now.

The other day, a guy sat next to me on the subway. There was no secret handshake. He simply glanced at my phone and exclaimed "Daaaaaang, that 'Candy Crush,' huh?" I said yes, no kidding. I saw that I was ahead of him in the number of levels completed and therefore was a better and more successful human being. "Just wait 'til you get to Level 86," I warned. I thought to myself after he left, wait until you get to the chocolate, which spreads like the plague until you run out of room to crush more candy.

The game is free. The first few levels are easy while you get the hang of things. Swipe with a finger to line up three, four or five candies in a row, and they disappear. There are ways to create special candies with special powers that do special things.

The best one comes after you line up five of the same color. It's often called the color bomb. It's a chocolate ball with

sprinkles. Swipe it against any other candy, and it will shoot every other candy of that color into the netherworld. Poof.

You get five lives, five chances to fail. There are a few options to get more, including asking your Facebook friends (no, thanks), paying for more (no, thanks), or waiting. Wait 30 minutes and you get a new life.

I have not spent any money so far, tempted as I have been. You have to draw the line somewhere.

I play on my iPhone, although there are versions available for Android and Facebook. A Web version pits you against strangers online. I sometimes resort to that when I'm out of lives on the iPhone.

### Descent into the vortex

There are plenty of other addictive mobile games out there. There's "Tetris," of course, which I played on my brother's GameBoy back in the day. There's "Bejeweled," but the sparkly gems never held the same appeal for me as "Candy Crush." And I don't even like candy.

I'm not alone. "Candy Crush" was the most downloaded free app on both iPhones and Pads in 2013, beating Facebook, Google Maps and YouTube.

It's also the app that made the most money on both. Put another way, even with cheapskates like me, plenty of players are spending the 99 cents here and there to get more lives or other perks. It's also the No. 1 application on Facebook going by both monthly and daily users, according to research firm AppData.

There are thousands of guides, cheats and in-depth tips online by people who make my obsession with the game seem like child's play.

Good luck. Now if you'll excuse me, I am one quest away from Level 96.

Developed for Facebook and smartphones, "Candy Crush Saga" is the maddeningly addictive game that involves matching bright-hued virtual candies in a row to have them disappear, only to be replaced by more.

CANDY CRUSH/AP

## WEEKEND

## Europe

## THE EUROPE EXPERIENCE



VIRGINIA MATO/AP

At the In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres, Belgium, visitors walk by a photo of German soldiers engaged in battle during World War I.

## SEE THIS:

## In Flanders Fields Museum

Interested in visiting the In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres, Belgium? You might want to get there before August, when the entire world will mark the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I. The museum had record attendance in 2013, with more than 300,000 visitors, and expects far greater numbers between 2014 and 2018.

It is located inside Ypres' Town Hall, which was destroyed by artillery fire during the war and rebuilt. As the museum gained popularity, it outgrew its original space and was renovated and reopened in June 2012, doubling in size. More than 500 original objects and documents are on display, and interactive kiosks help visitors discover the stories of everyday people of all ages who experienced the war.

The museum is open Tuesday through Sunday. On all days but Wednesdays, morning visits are by appointment only. Afternoon hours are 1-5 p.m. Find details at [inlandersfields.be](http://inlandersfields.be).

## TOP TRAVEL PICKS

## Chinese New Year

According to the Chinese calendar, Jan. 31 marks the beginning of the new lunar year, which happens to be the year of the horse. On this weekend and the next, European cities with sizable Chinese populations will be celebrating; here's a taste of what's on tap:

- **Amsterdam:** Festivities take place in the Nieuwmarkt and Zeedijk parts of town, with Saturday being the most event-packed day. A procession, complete with lion dances and fireworks, kicks off at 1 p.m. from the Fo Guang Shan Temple, making its way along the Geldersekade. Visitors to a special Ming exhibition at De Nieuwe Kerk can try free dim sum at 1 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Details: [tinyurl.com/omge80w](http://tinyurl.com/omge80w)

- **Dublin:** A carnival takes place from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday on Meeting House Square in Temple Bar, where visitors of all ages can enjoy the dragon and lion dances, Tai Chi and martial arts displays, and dance and music by Chinese performers. Other activities include an Asian cooking demonstration and arts-and-crafts workshops for children. More information at [tinyurl.com/oxwlg2d](http://tinyurl.com/oxwlg2d)

- **London:** Festivities take place on Sunday, beginning with a parade that sets off from Charing Cross Road at 10 a.m., making its way through the city's West End. At noon in Trafalgar Square, Chinese artists will



Karen Bradbury

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

show their acrobatic and dancing skills, including a lion dance performed on high poles and a variety show featuring child performers. A second stage, on Shaftesbury Avenue in Chinatown, will host performances of local and rising talent. Traditional food and craft stalls will be set up alongside Chinatown's numerous restaurants. For details, see [chinatownlondon.org](http://chinatownlondon.org)

- **Paris:** Celebrations take place Feb. 9. The center of activities is the 13th *arrondissement*, where a parade begins at 1 p.m. from 44 avenue d'Ivry. Visitors can watch dragon and lion dances, along with colorfully and traditionally costumed performers. Read more at [tinyurl.com/ke49fb3](http://tinyurl.com/ke49fb3)

## Beer in Brugge

The Brugge Beer Festival, running Saturday and Sunday, shouldn't disappoint in terms of



Courtesy of Dublin Chinese New Year Festival

Members of several troupes perform a traditional Chinese dance at the 2013 Dublin Chinese New Year Festival.

variety: If you were to sample just one of the beers per day that will be available, you'd need more than a year to work your way through them all.

Those craving new taste sensations will find in the lineup 60 beers created within the past 12 months and 29 "scoops," referring to beers making their debut at the festival. In all, some 76 brewers will guide enthusiasts through their creations. Cooking demos of dishes made with beer complement the program.

As this increasingly popular event has outgrown its old home, the fest will take place in the Beurshalle, located on Beur-

splein. The site is easily reached by public transportation.

Those who want to arrive in style may hire one of the horse-drawn carriages of the Van Steenberghe brewery. The carriages will depart regularly from the city's central train station. While riding, passengers can enjoy a sample of the brewer's Augustijn beer.

Entry to the hall is free, but the purchase of a sampling package is necessary to enjoy the beers. Ten euros gets you a mandatory tasting glass, a guide with a description of all the brews on offer and three tokens. Additional tokens go for 1.50 euros each.

One token is exchanged for about two-thirds of a cup of beer.

Hours are noon to 10 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday.

Plan your outing with a visit to [brugsbierfestival.be](http://brugsbierfestival.be)

## Daredevils in Davos

Saturday's big event in Davos, Switzerland, is the FearNada gathering, a treat for those who appreciate good food, music and, above all, adrenaline sports.

The athletic component of this outing consists of a race for skiers, snowboarders and whatever other means one might employ to get down the slope of the Pischachi ski resort. Participants can choose their own paths down the mountain, but they need to pass through several checkpoints. Times are not recorded; the victors are simply those first to the finish.

The downhill bike run, unlike the ski race, takes place along a designated, groomed course.

A dress code applies for the evening program. The theme for this year's party at the Montana in Davos Dorf is "Rockabilly." A concert will follow dinner and the crowning of Mr. and Ms. FearNada.

A "day trippers" package allowing for race participation, dinner and the concert costs 100 Swiss francs (about \$110); day passes for those wishing to view the spectacle are 25 francs.

For details, see [fermnad.ch](http://fermnad.ch). Information is in German.



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

WEEKEND: QUICK TRIPS

Europe



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL S. DARNELL/Stars and Stripes

Walhalla is built out of marble and dolomite stone, and sits majestically atop a hill overlooking the Danube River in Donaustauf, Germany.



ON THE QT

DIRECTIONS

Address: Walhalla Verwaltung, Walhalla Strasse 48. (GPS keywords: Walhalla, Regensburg)

TIMES

9 a.m.-5:45 p.m. April-September; 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m. October; 10-11:45 a.m./1-3:45 p.m. November-March; closed Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31 and Shrove Tuesday.

COSTS

Entrance: 4 euros adults; 3 euros for those over 65, disabled, students and military with ID; free for children under 18 accompanied by parents. Self-tour booklet costs 5 euros.

INFORMATION

Website: walhalla-regensburg.de/english; Phone: (+49) (0)9403-961-680.

— Michael S. Darnell

# Germany's hall of the fallen

## Notable European figures immortalized at Walhalla

By MICHAEL S. DARNELL  
Stars and Stripes

Nestled in the heart of Bavaria, on the banks of the fog-blanketed Danube River, lies a hidden gem, perfect for amateur historians and sightseers alike.

Walhalla — named for the Norse mythical haven where the souls of deceased warriors would be brought to rest — is a monument to the mostly German citizens who have carved out the region's history.

The monument is a white-pillared hall that sits atop a

grassy hillside in the village of Donaustauf, and it houses marble busts of famous German, Austrian, Swiss and Dutch citizens.

Within its walls, the likenesses of ancient kings and queens sit alongside busts of more modern luminaries such as Albert Einstein and Richard Strauss, the famed German composer.

In the midst of the smaller statuary sits a full-size sculpture of Ludwig I, the king of Bavaria, who was responsible for the creation of the monument. Ludwig began planning the monument as far back as 1807, but a suitable builder wasn't found until

See more photos of Walhalla's sculptures and busts  
[stars.com/go/walhalla](http://stars.com/go/walhalla)



1827, when notable architect Leo von Klenze was chosen to lead the project. Walhalla wasn't completed until 1847, making it one of Europe's relatively newer historical sites.

Since then, 191 historical figures have been enshrined at Walhalla, either with a bust or an inscribed tablet. History buffs can pick up a walking tour guide on site that gives a brief biography of each person represented.

For travelers unimpressed by

historical figures, the site itself is a marvel of construction and simplistic beauty well worth the visit. During the summer, visitors can take a boat down the Danube where they'll be greeted by Walhalla as it's really meant to be seen, an architectural wonder that springs from the surrounding forest with gleaming pillars and detailed trim.

Those who venture to Walhalla during the winter can still see this view, but they'll have to brave the steep climb down — and back up — 358 marble steps. Be forewarned, while the climb is most definitely worth

the resulting view, it's not for the injured or out-of-shape. There is also an approach accessible on foot and by wheelchair all year round.

The entire monument can be seen in less than an hour, making it a perfect stop for people interested in a trip to the countryside, or for sightseers heading to nearby Regensburg.

Walhalla might not be the most famous tourist destination in Germany, but it's an absolute must for travelers looking to take a quick trip to one of the most beautiful sites in Bavaria.

darnell.michael@stripes.com



Left and center: A total of 191 historical figures are enshrined at Walhalla, either with a bust or an inscribed tablet. Right: Bavarian King Ludwig I commissioned the building of Walhalla as a monument to German descent. Since its creation, the monument has expanded to include famous people from Holland, Austria and Switzerland.

## WEEKEND: FOOD &amp; DINING

## Europe



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

**Above:** Hot oolong tea is served at Zimtblüte in Einsiedlerhof, Germany. It offers a variety of Asian food, including Chinese, Thai and Vietnamese — some of it spicy.

**Left:** Chicken breast with green curry, coconut milk and vegetables with rice is one of several Thai dishes available at the eatery.

## After Hours: Germany

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
Stars and Stripes

The two red chili peppers pictured on the menu next to the chicken curry entree gave me reason to pause.

The menu key said two peppers means “very spicy,” compared with “spicy” for one red pepper.

I like curry with a bit of a kick but not the “Help, my tongue is on fire!” kind.

Starting back at me on the two-page “Thai dishes” section of the menu at Zimtblüte, an Asian food restaurant in Einsiedlerhof, Germany, were columns of double red chili peppers. Apparently there was no such thing as mild curry. Happily, I was told by one of the servers that the spice level of most dishes can be adjusted, up or down.

So I requested “medium spice” and waited — all of about 10 seconds.

That’s how fast the food arrived. Ten seconds might be an exaggeration, but it was definitely less than 10 minutes, causing me to wonder what sort of magic just happened in the kitchen to make the food appear seemingly moments after I shut the menu.

The speediness of service is one of the best things about Zimtblüte, as certain as the sweetness of the restaurant’s signature homemade iced tea.

It’s possible to get in and out in less than an hour, making Zimtblüte a good option for lunch during the work week — and a not-so-fearsome undertaking for families with small children.

Of course, if the food tasted bad, no one would care about the service.

But that’s not the case, from what I have experienced while dining at Zimtblüte on many occasions.

Zimtblüte means “cinnamon blossom” in German, named

## ZIMTBLÜTE

**Location:** Weilerbacher Strasse 110, Kaiserslautern-Einsiedlerhof, Germany.

**Directions:** From Vogelweh, drive east on the L395, turn right on Jacob Pfeiffer Strasse and head toward Ramstein Air Base. Zimtblüte is on the left, next to Hacienda Mexicana restaurant and before the entrance to the Mannheim-bound A6 highway.

**Hours:** 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday to Sunday; closed Mondays.

**Food:** A variety of Asian food, including Chinese, Thai and Vietnamese.

**Dress:** Casual.

**Costs:** Lunch specials from

11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday to Friday (except for German holidays) cost 5.90 euros to 7.50 euros. Meals from the regular menu range from 7.50 euros for fried rice to 16 euros for udon noodle soup with king prawns.

**Information:** Menu is in English and German. English spoken. Phone: (+49) (0) 631-58047. On Facebook at Zimtblüte-KMC.

**Miscellaneous:** Takeout available. Small children’s play area. Birthday, promotion and going-away parties are welcome, with reservations in advance.

— Jennifer H. Svan

after a member of the restaurant owners’ family. For years, the place was called Lucky Chinese. But after it changed hands several years ago from mother

to son, the establishment was reinvented with a new name, a renovation and a slightly updated menu.

The son is Gwo-Yueh Rudolf



Vegetarian spring rolls sit next to a steaming bowl of rice at Zimtblüte.

Kuo, who runs Zimtblüte with his wife, Thi-An Hong, along with extended family members and close friends, from the wait staff to the cooks. The family also runs an Asian food imbiss inside Globus also called Zimtblüte.

The Einsiedlerhof restaurant has been in the family since 1985, when Tsui-Lan Hu — Kuo’s mother — opened it after moving to Germany from Taiwan.

Anyone who frequented Lucky Chinese would remember Hu. She was a fixture at the front counter, taking (and often suggesting) orders and plying patrons waiting for takeout with her homemade sweet tea.

“Tell your friends we are open Thanksgiving,” I remember her telling me before the holiday several years when I was picking up food.

Once, when I was wavering over a “to-go” menu choice, she suggested the sesame chicken breast.

It was superb. When the restaurant reopened under its new name, I ordered the sesame chicken.

This time, it didn’t knock my socks off, so, with a sad sigh, I concluded I was not a fan of the new restaurant.

But I returned. And on one of those subsequent visits, Zimtblüte bloomed a bit brighter in my eyes. Now I’m a Zimtblüte junkie.

Until recently, I was hooked on one dish, ordering the vegetarian fried rice every time. (With its spiceless quality, it was also kid-friendly.)

What’s amazing about this meal is that the plethora of vegetables — spinach, broccoli, bell pepper, bean sprouts and shredded carrots — mixed in with a sizable portion of scrambled egg made me forget there ever was such a thing as fried rice.

On my last visit to Zimtblüte, a kids-free work outing, I decided it was time to kick my fried rice habit and order something on the wide side.

I settled on the chicken with green curry, vegetables and coconut milk. It was spicy, to the point where I regretted having finished my oolong tea, but nothing I couldn’t handle.

The food tasted fresh and the creamy coconut milk, teamed with an array of vegetables from eggplant to bamboo shoots, made it my new favorite dish.

“We want to make it better,” Hong said of her family’s efforts to improve upon the Lucky Chinese era.

Hong, who speaks Vietnamese, German and English and is learning Chinese from her 5-year-old son, said Zimtblüte is popular among Americans, which comprise about 90 percent of the restaurant’s clientele.

“Americans love sweet tea,” she said. “My mom (in-law) is really proud about that.”

## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Europe

## Cruising Chinatown Paris

Colorful and vibrant Quartier Chinois offers a feast for the senses

By ELISA MALA  
The Associated Press

Ask a Parisian about the city's Chinatown and you're likely to get an answer that's uncharacteristically reticent. "It's not exactly where I'd bring someone," natives will say politely. It's the rare person who will say what most locals feel: "There's nothing to see there."

It's true that the high-rise buildings of the Quartier Chinois (Chinese Quarter), as it's formally known, seem somewhat soulless, especially compared with nearby monuments, such as the Eiffel Tower and Arc de Triomphe. The Quartier Chinois also feels quieter and less crowded than Chinatowns in places like New York and San Francisco.

But this is the largest Chinatown in Europe, and its hidden charms include, among other things, an impressive diversity, drawing on the heritage of French colonies including Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos as well as other parts of Southeast Asia. For visitors adventurous enough to wander off well-worn tourist tracks, the Quartier Chinois' vibrancy awaits with something for all five senses.

## Sights

A must-stop is Tang Freres, 48 Avenue d'Ivry, one of the largest Asian supermarkets in Europe, which offers a dizzying hodgepodge of produce, spices and meats and even rice cookers.

Produce is the main draw at the smaller and more easily navigable Thai Fruits Center, 189 avenue de Choisy, as well as unusual beverages, such as canned bubble tea from Taiwan and Bourbon-brand beer from Reunion, the French-speaking island off the coast of Madagascar.

On the outskirts, the shopping center at Les Olympiades, 44 avenue d'Ivry, is a popular gathering spot, with stalls hawkking bric-a-brac from Asia. There's even a Buddhist temple there.

## Sounds

Easily spotted by the eye-popping mural painted onto one of its facades, the Notre Dame de Choisy, 27 avenue de Choisy, is a modern Catholic church that offers the occasional concert along with regular Mass.

## Scents

Durian, the notoriously pungent Southeast Asian fruit, makes its way into tarts at Patisserie Choisy, 62 avenue de Choisy. Less adventurous eaters



PHOTOS BY FRANCIS MONI/AP

People pass a McDonald's and an Asian market in the Quartier Chinois, or Chinese quarter, in the 13th district of Paris, the largest Chinatown in Europe. The neighborhood draws on the heritage of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and other parts of Southeast Asia.



can sample pastries with milder flavors, such as pandan leaf and coconut, or pick up steamed buns with savory meat fillings. Wash it all down, if you dare, with durian-flavored bubble tea at Teawan, 129 Avenue de Choisy (4 euros for a small, 5 for large.)

## Tastes

Don't miss the mouth-watering and surprisingly inexpensive *banh mi* sandwiches at Hoa Nam, 51 Avenue d'Ivry, where flavorful vegetables and meats on fresh baguettes can be had for 3 euros. For another quick bite, the cafeteria-style offerings at Tang Gourmet, 188 Avenue de Choisy, include dumplings, rolls and rice-and-meat plate combos.

For a hearty sit-down meal, follow the hordes to Pho Banh Cuon 14, 129 Avenue de Choisy, a Viet-

namese noodle place whose runaway success has inspired many imitations in the area. The real deal has lines flowing out the door, though casual and efficient service make for short waits.

For Chinese cuisine, Sinorama, 23 Rue du Docteur Magnan, has long been a neighborhood institution. The Cambodian fare at Mondol Kiri, 159 avenue de Choisy, is among the pricier options, but also offers the most upscale ambience and experience in the vicinity. And for the trendy, Lao Lane Xang, 102 avenue d'Ivry, pairs Laotian cuisine with modern decor.

## Touch

Pick up a paddle and test the ping-pong tables at Parc de Choisy. In the spring or summer, take your shoes off and feel the grass beneath your feet.



Above: People practice tai chi at Parc de Choisy at the Chinese quarter in the 13th district of Paris.  
Left: An outdoor stand offers a variety of fruits.

## KNOW &amp; GO

To get to the Chinese Quarter, take the 5, 6, or 7 Metro lines to the Place d'Italie station or the 14 to Olympiades. Stroll down the triangle that's formed by the forking of the two main arteries, avenue de Choisy and avenue d'Ivry. For the biggest slice of the action,

head there from Wednesday through Sunday; as in other areas of the city, many places are closed on either Mondays or Tuesdays. It's located in the 13th *arrondissement* and is not to be confused with a smaller Asian enclave in Belleville.

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WEEKEND: TRAVEL

Europe

# Keep germs at bay when you're away

By JILL SCHENSUL  
The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

**E**arly this week, a Royal Caribbean cruise liner was forced to head to shore early after a stomach bug rapidly spread throughout the ship, resulting in more than 300 passengers suffering from vomiting and diarrhea.

While the odds are against anyone confined to a ship where a virus is running rampant, travelers can improve the odds that they will remain healthy in most circumstances, according to Rosanne Galle, nurse practitioner at the Enlightened Traveler, a travel medicine program in North Jersey.

"There are some very simple things you can do that make so much of a difference," she said. Hand-washing is No. 1, she said. "Using common sense is another."

Here is a sampling of techniques to help keep bugs at bay:

**Flying**

- With all those packed planes and quick turnarounds, assume that your plane hasn't been thoroughly sanitized. We've all read the studies about the bacteria residing on reused blankets and pillows. Then there are the germ-laden in-flight magazines and safety cards. That tray table never looks wiped off. Bring sanitizer (under 3 ounces) and wipe off any surface you are in contact with.
- Bring your own pillow and

reading material. If you want to look at the safety card, use tongs.

- Do not stick your hand into the seat-back pocket. Flight attendants report having found everything from dirty diapers to used vomit bags there.

**Cruise ships**

- In exotic or sketchy ports of call, ask the crew for reliable places to eat and drink.
- Use those hand sanitizers.
- Wear flip-flops on decks.
- Drink only bottled water.

**Hotel rooms**

- Bring antibacterial wipes or sprays and wipe down the remote control, doorknobs, faucet handles and phone.
- Wash water glasses with hot water for at least two minutes. Uses hotel cups only if they are disposable and individually wrapped. Better: pack your own.
- Brush your teeth with bottled water.
- Always wear socks or slippers in the hotel room.
- Inspect the sheets for anything that doesn't seem just-out-of-the-laundry — or evidence of bugs. Take the bedspread off the bed and don't touch it again.
- While it might be impractical to bring your own sheets, bring a pillowcase. The head is the most likely entrance portal for infection.
- For that reason, do not shower with your mouth open.
- Let the shower run awhile before using it, and wear flip-flops to protect your feet.

**Food and drink**

- Avoid raw seafood unless you can confirm how long it's been sitting out.
- Make sure hot food is truly hot, as lukewarm temperatures can cause bacteria to thrive.
- Make sure food that is supposed to be cold is really cold,

such as mayonnaise and dairy products. Especially in warmer climates, these can turn quickly.

- Drink only bottled water.

**Out and about**

Clean the steering wheel of a rental car or your own car if someone else has parked it. Do

not run your hand along hand rails.

Wrap toilet paper over the toilet handle in a public bathroom. Use a paper towel at the sink to turn off the water. If the whole bathroom looks grimy, avoid the sink and use hand sanitizer. When exiting, open the door with a paper towel.



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WEEKEND



# THE PACIFIC EXPERIENCE



Kyodo News/AP

## LIGHTS IN THE DARK: NAGASAKI LANTERN FESTIVAL

This festival, now through Feb. 14, takes place at different sites around Nagasaki in southwestern Japan, including Chinatown. See the approximately 15,000 glowing lanterns, as well as spectacular lion and dragon dances. For more: [www.at-nagasaki.jp/foreign/english/rantfes](http://www.at-nagasaki.jp/foreign/english/rantfes)

## CHECK THIS OUT: SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL

The Sapporo Snow Festival returns for its 65th iteration Feb. 5.

The weeklong event, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Feb. 7-11, is at three sites in Sapporo, Japan, and features snow-themed rides, food, and snow sculptures for the more than 2 million visitors every year.

The 1.5-km Odori site is home to the festival's famous snow sculptures, is lit until 10 p.m.

The Susukino site is located in Sapporo's largest entertainment district and has approximately 100 sculptures lit until 11 p.m. until the next-to-last day of the festival; on the last day of the festival the sculptures are lit until 10 p.m.

The Tsu Dome site has family-oriented fun with snow slides, a snow rafting station, and even more snow sculptures. Inside the dome are food stands and an event stage. The Tsu Dome site will be open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Online: [www.snowfes.com/english](http://www.snowfes.com/english)  
— Stars and Stripes



AP

A snow statue looms over spectators at Sapporo Snow Festival in Sapporo, Japan, in 2005. The festival this year is Feb. 7-11.

## IN CONCERT

Bruno Mars — set to perform at the Super Bowl halftime show on Feb. 3 — will have shows in Seoul, South Korea, on April 8 and in Chiba, Japan, on April 12 and 13.

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# WEEKEND: TRAVEL

# Pacific



Stars and Stripes

## RING IN THE NEW YEAR: Yokohama Chinatown

One place to celebrate the Lunar New Year is in Yokohama, Japan, now through Feb. 14. The East Gate entrance to Yokohama Chinatown, above, is next to Motomachi Chukagai station. Enjoy firecrackers and Chinese dragon dance performances on the streets of Chinatown on Jan. 31, and Chinese acrobatics and Chinese dragon dance performances at the Yamashita Park special stage Feb. 1, 2, 8, 9 and 11.

## ON BASE

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

### Japan

**Atsugi** ITT Tours has a dinner at Gotemba Kogen Resort on Feb. 14 and an overnight ski trip to Hakuba on Feb. 15. **Yokosuka** Tours is headed to the Takamachi Snow Festival on Feb. 15 and Gotemba winter illumination on Feb. 16. Get away for a dinner for two and a stay at Tama Hills Lodge at **Yokota** Air Base. Take **Yokota's** Samurai Fitness Center & Annex We Heart Fitness Challenge on Feb. 15. Register online at [www.YokotaSupport.com](http://www.YokotaSupport.com) or 8:30 a.m. on competition day. Check out the 38th Sumo Tournament on Feb. 9 with a trip from **Zama's** Outdoor Recreation Center.

### Guam

Coral Reef Fitness Center at **Andersen** Air Force Base will hold a Valentine 5K night run Feb. 12 at 6 p.m. Hike to Ascen Falls with Naval Base Guam's Outdoor Recreation and Rentals.

### Okinawa

Camp **Foster** Tours has a trip to see Ryukyu Golden Kings basketball on Feb. 8 and a Valentine's dinner cruise on Feb. 14. Camps **Courtney** and **Kinser** have a Valentine's Day family night Feb. 13, and a dinner on Feb. 14. Marina's at **Kadena** has a Valentine's Day dinner and cruise on Feb. 14, 15 and 16.

To see your events here: [SSPEDTlibrary@stripes.com](mailto:SSPEDTlibrary@stripes.com).



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WEEKEND: FOOD & DINING

Pacific



An organic Moroccan mint boba, served blended at the Urth Caffe, costs 650 yen.



PHOTOS BY ERIC GUZMAN/Stars and Stripes

The Urth Caffe, an organic coffee bar located in Shibuya-ku near Tokyo's Daikanyama station, offers a variety of healthful meals and beverages. It has both indoor and terrace seating and is pet-friendly.

# After Hours: Japan

BY ERIC GUZMAN  
Stars and Stripes

The Urth Caffe, which started as an organic coffee bar near California's Manhattan Beach in 1991, landed in Tokyo in 2013, bringing with it an assortment of organic dishes and beverages for health-conscious eaters looking for a quick blast of caffeine and a snack.

Located in Sarugakucho, Shibuya-ku, the cafe offers both indoor and terrace seating and has tables large enough to accommodate highchairs and strollers. The outdoor dining area is pet friendly, so patrons who would like to bring their furry friends are more than welcome.

Urth Caffe offers everything from apple and raisin oatmeal to tostadas, listing a cup of chicken soup as the lowest-priced item on the menu at 700 yen (about \$7). The prices top out at 1,850 yen with the lox pizza.

The beverage list rivals that of any coffee chain worth its weight in organic grounds, offering nearly 60 drink options to take hot, cold, iced or blended. Aside from the teas and coffees that the cafe is known for, there are also organic beers available by the bottle.

Though each menu item is accompanied by a picture, there



Urth Caffe's lox pizza, sized for one person, costs 1,850 yen.

are English menus available upon request, and the staff can assist with any language hiccups.

Located only a five-minute walk from Daikanyama station, the Urth Caffe is a great option for those in Shibuya who want quick fare but don't want to sacrifice healthfulness.

guzman.eric@stripes.com  
Know of a restaurant or entertainment spot you'd like to see reviewed in After Hours? Email Paul Alexander at alexander.paul@stripes.com.

## URTH CAFE

Address: 8-9 Sarugakucho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo.  
Station: Daikan-yama, main exit.  
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Web: urthcaffe-japan.com.  
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— Eric Guzman



A prosciutto panini goes for 1,500 yen at the coffee bar.

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## WEEKEND: TRAVEL

## Pacific



PHOTOS BY KAZUHIKO MAKITA/The Yomiuri Shimbun

# A trip through time

Kaifeng citizens relax on the shores of Bao Gong Lake in Kaifeng, one of the oldest cities in China. During the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127), the city's population exceeded 1 million, and prospered as both the capital and the world's largest city at the time.

## The spirit of 11th-century leader Bao Zheng lives on in Kaifeng, China

By KAZUHIKO MAKITA  
The Yomiuri Shimbun

**K**aifeng, in China's Henan Province, is one of the oldest cities in China. During the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127), the city population exceeded 1 million, and it prospered as both the capital and the world's largest city at the time.

Bao Zheng, who was governor of Kaifeng during China's Northern Song Dynasty in the 11th century, has held lasting appeal among Chinese people as an incorruptible hero who championed political justice.

At the edge of Bao Gong Lake in the old part of the city, the Memorial Temple of Lord Bao enshrines Bao Zheng, also known as Bao Gong.

Although the temple was constructed in 1987, it was modeled after the architectural style of the Song Dynasty, and provides a solemn atmosphere. Visitors walk through a garden to the main hall, where a bronze statue of a seated Bao stands nearly three meters (about 9 feet) tall. The formally attired governor sits squarely with a steadfast stare as if to say Bao will not overlook injustice.

A wooden panel emblazoned with four Chinese characters hangs above the statue. It reads "Zheng-da-guang-ming," meaning just and honorable. Many visitors put their hands together or kneel in prayer in front of the statue. A 36-year-old man from Heilongjiang Province gazing at the statue, said, "I've admired Bao as a fair official since I was a child."

A governor at the time would be responsible for duties performed by judges today. The popular image of Bao

among Chinese people is that of an ally of the common man, who stood against cruel bureaucrats in deciding one difficult case after another. This image owes a lot to the influence of repeatedly broadcast TV dramas about Bao, which were drawn from theatrical plays and novels produced after the governor's time.

Some are even moving to incorporate Bao's spirit into current judicial education.

However, Yu Xiaoman, an associate professor at School of Act, Henan University, cautions that the historical figure Bao does not necessarily accord with the Bao of TV dramas. Bao was excellent in his studies and passed the difficult examination for government service to become a bureaucrat in his 20s, going on to become an elite official and climbing rapidly through the ranks.

According to Yu, although Bao was no doubt a man of integrity, there are no historical materials that attest to Bao being the heroic champion of justice TV drama viewers know.

"Bao was deified as an ideal public official in the people's imagination during the Yuan Dynasty, a time when people's lives were thrown into chaos by a rapidly changing society," Yu said.

In the Memorial Temple of Lord Bao, there is a stone monument on which names of previous governors of Kaifeng are inscribed. Where Bao's name should be, the text is indented and nearly impossible to make out. "This part was worn away by the many people who have touched Bao's name to follow his example," said Zhou Xiaoqing, 20, a guide at the temple.



Visitors offer their prayers before a statue of Bao Zheng at the Memorial Temple of Lord Bao in Kaifeng, China. Bao was governor of Kaifeng during China's Northern Song Dynasty in the 11th century.

Bao's deep-seated popularity might reflect popular dissatisfaction with corruption among bureaucrats and a nontransparent judiciary. Sun Xiuhua, 76, who claims to pay respect at Bao's statue every day without fail, proudly said Bao, who was free from corruption, was the people's pride in Kaifeng.

**BEST IN PACAF**  
2009, 2010, 2011, 2012

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## WEEKEND: MUSIC

# Major player

## British rock wunderkind Jake Bugg off to an impressive career start

By CHRIS RIEMENSCHNEIDER  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

**I**t's the kind of hit song that takes on new life in concert, with rowdy, caution-to-the-wind lyrics that spawn boisterous singalongs. Now if British rock wunderkind Jake Bugg could only teach American audiences the proper hand salute alluded to in his breakout hit "Two Fingers."

"It's great when everybody starts singing along and all that, but over there they always throw up their fingers the wrong way," Bugg explained with a friendly laugh. "That's cool, though. I got nothing against the peace sign."

England's biggest new rock star at a mere 19, Bugg is actually singing about the backwards-turned two-finger gesture that is his country's answer to flipping the bird. You know, the sort of gesture he would want to make to all the British tabloid photographers who stalked the "new Dylan" singer when he was dating "new Kate Moss" model Cara Delevingne last year.

Bugg's thick Nottingham accent and mannerisms offered an equally sharp dose of Britishness in a recent phone interview from London, where he was resting up at a hotel while waiting to shove off for his current U.S. tour.

"It's got PlayStation," he happily reported of his temporary London digs. "I'm basically homeless at this point, but it's all right. I'm getting to see the world instead."

Bugg went from playing a BBC-sponsored new-talent slot at 2011's Glastonbury Festival — back when he was still living with his mum — to an act listed near the top of major festival lineups on both sides of the Atlantic in 2013. In between, his self-titled debut album landed a No. 1 U.K. chart position and earned oodles of critical praise stateside.

While his raw delivery and nasal singing style vaguely recollect a young Bob Dylan, Bugg more accurately draws a line from American rock and English skiffle acts of the 1950s-60s, to 1980s-90s Brit-rockers such as the Smiths and Oasis (whose Noel Gallagher has sung the young lad's praise).

One more way he resembles Dylan and early rock 'n' rollers:

Bugg didn't go to two three years between albums, like a lot of today's burgeoning new acts do. His sophomore album, "Shangri La," arrived in November, just a year after the first one, with omnipresent producer Rick Rubin's credit stamped on it.

"I wasn't making a statement. I just wanted to get the record out when it was done," he said flatly.

"Shangri La" is named after the renowned beachside studio/house in Malibu, Calif., which Rubin bought a year or two ago from Beej Chaney of the Suburbs.

In the '70s, Shangri La played host to Bob Dylan, Eric Clapton and The Band (the kitchen interview scenes in "The Last Waltz" were filmed there). Kanye West also worked there with Rubin on the "Yeezus" album.

"You can't help but think what it was like back in the day when The Band were working there and all that," Bugg said, "but for me, it was really strange and wonderful in a different way."

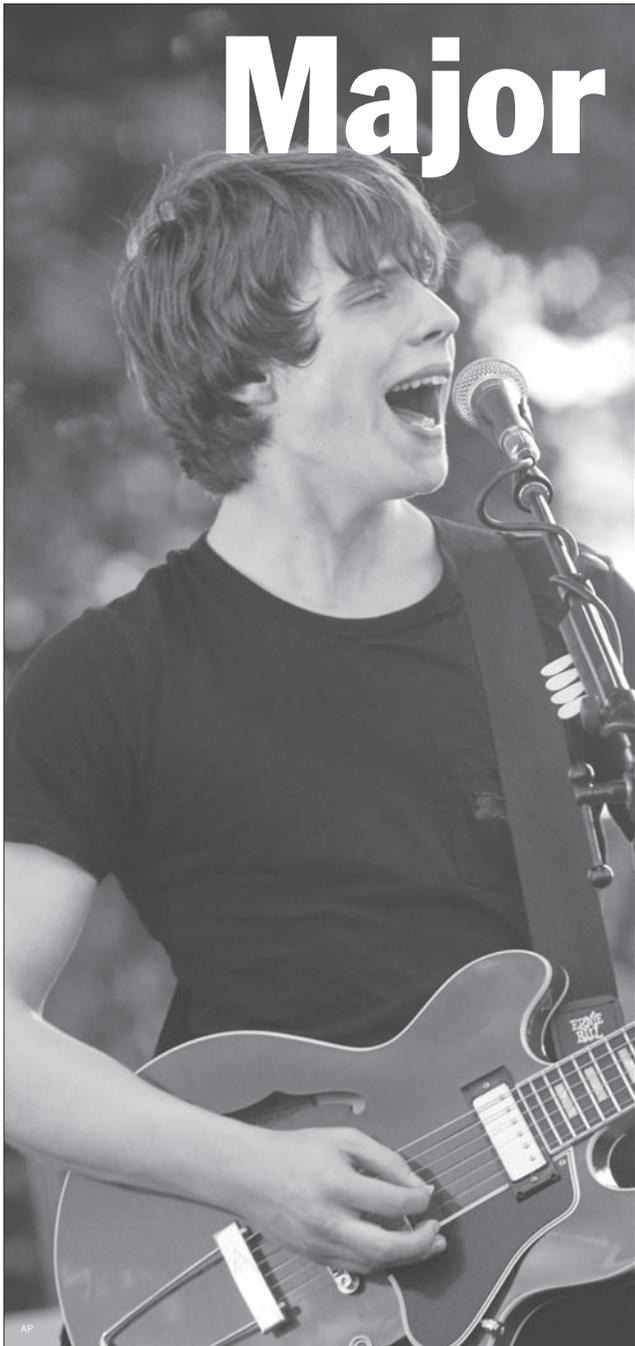
"Going to Los Angeles to record was a wild thing for me, but then (Shangri La) is way out there and sort of cut off from the rest of the world. After traveling around the world for a year, the peaceful setting of it was really a strange feeling for me personally, in a good way."

Aside from a couple of lovely forays into mellower territory — the dramatic "A Song About Love" is especially a keeper — there's little that's peaceful about the songs on the new album. Bugg continues to write in gritty detail about the juvenile-delinquent adventures and crime-filled hardships he experienced in Clifton, a section of Nottingham lined with low-income housing.

Ironically, Bugg said, he's one musician whose life actually is more sedate and wholesome now that he's living the rock-star dream. That's quite an admission from the kid whose breakout song ("Two Fingers") opens with the line, "I drink to remember. I smoke to forget."

"It's harder to misbehave now," he claimed. "The schedule and routine keep you in line, and there are always people around me now who will tell me if I'm doing anything really bad."

At least he still has PlayStation for a vice.



## WEEKEND: MUSIC

That  
GIRLNettles strips  
down sound  
on solo debut

By KRISTIN M. HALL  
The Associated Press

**C**ountry singer Jennifer Nettles is a bit nervous about starting over. She's spent years drawing fans and accolades as a part of Grammy Award-winning Sugarland, but now that duo is on hiatus while she sets off on her solo career.

"I think any time one takes the risk of reinvention and really puts herself out there in a new way, there are fears," Nettles said. "And for me, people said, 'Are you nervous? Are you scared?' Yeah, I am scared in the way that one gets when something is important."

Her new album, "That Girl," is like the debut of an up-and-coming singer-songwriter that highlights her powerful vocals paired with simple backing music. Although she's wanted to record a solo album for years, the success of Sugarland, which won the Country Music Association's vocal duo category for five years straight, meant that she had to be careful with her timing of this album.

"The more success one has, the more responsibility I think comes with that. ... 'Cause I love Sugarland and what I've done with Sugarland and the music that Kristian (Bush) and I have made, so I wanted to be able to protect that and set myself up as smartly and as prepared as possible," Nettles said.

She wrote many of the songs while pregnant with her first child, Magnus, and then took her family to California to record with producer Rick Rubin, who has worked with artists as different as Jay Z and Johnny Cash.

"He is super diverse," Nettles said of Rubin. "He is very much a song-focused producer. In the sense that he not only wants to serve the song, but that he wants the song to be its best, and he is really good at that."

Although primarily known as a country singer, the album allows her to experiment with her



## Jennifer Nettles

That Girl (Mercury Nashville)

As lead singer in the contemporary country duo Sugarland, Jennifer Nettles and partner Kristian Bush kept growing increasingly experimental over four albums. For her first solo album, "That Girl," Nettles takes a different tack, stripping her songs to their basics — both sonically and emotionally.

Nettles is blessed with a voice that features a wide range and a distinct, vinegary tone. But it's her ability to connect with a song's emotional content that makes her stand out most. "That Girl" shows off that quality remarkably well, whether she's singing an open-hearted ballad like "This Angel," a playful yet meaningful bopper like "Moneyball" or a complicated confessional like the title cut.

Producer Rick Rubin balances spare acoustic arrangements with inventive rhythms and orchestrations. Even the most dramatic moments shine because of a deft, light touch, from the Latin rhythms of "Jealousy" to the way horns come in on "This One's For You" to low drums and strings are introduced in "Me Without You."

"That Girl" is a 1970s-style creative statement, recalling classic Carole King and Linda Ronstadt rather than any of her country or pop contemporaries. It's a reminder of how powerful music can be when it comes from the heart — and tilts more toward talent than technology.

— Michael McCall  
The Associated Press

songwriting and style, such as her first single, "That Girl," a sultry, bass-heavy number.

"I definitely want my fans to get to see a new side of me," Nettles said. "I want to have them hear a new part of me vocally and a new part of me as a songwriter and to do something ... more intimate and personal to me than a collaboration would be, with anyone, not just Sugarland."

WEEKEND: BOOKS

# Author still marveling at success

Gillian Flynn tinkering with the plot as she adapts popular novel 'Gone Girl' to screen

By AMY DRISCOLL  
The Miami Herald

With the runaway success of "Gone Girl," Gillian Flynn has arrived.

After more than a year on bestseller lists, her deliciously poisonous ode to a marriage gone bad is heading to the big screen with Ben Affleck starring, David Fincher directing and Flynn writing the screenplay. Her previous novel, "Dark Places," is also being made into a movie, starring Charlize Theron. And she's only written three books.

Gillan, formerly a TV critic for Entertainment Weekly who was laid off in 2008, is now perched atop the literary pile. Two weeks ago at the Key West Literary Seminar, she found herself amid long-established authors who are now easily her peers, such writers as Judy Blume, Sara Paretsky, Carl Hiaasen, Laura Lippman. As fans lined up to talk to her — she good-naturedly agreed to a quick video thanking a book club for reading her book — someone thrust a copy of the most recent

EW into her hands. On the cover? "Gone Girl," the movie. Her movie.

"It's insane. It really is," she says with a bemused smile. "I was very shy and awkward kid. Painfully shy. I always wanted to be a writer, but I wasn't exactly booming with self-confidence. [The Key West Literary Seminar was one of those times where I wish I could go back and say, 'You're going to meet Judy Blume, and you're going to talk about her books with her. And Joyce Carol Oates. It's gonna be OK, kid. Like, it's going to be all right.'"]

It's been more than all right. "Gone Girl" hit a sweet spot in publishing, a suspense novel with such artfully crafted twists and turns that a New York Times reviewer compared the author to legendary psychological thriller writer Patricia Highsmith.

Flynn's pop culture roots are never far from her writing — and that might be why she's been so successful. The basis for "Gone Girl" isn't unique. It's about a marriage that goes horribly, publicly wrong. But Flynn brings a fresh eye to the concept through the use of revenge,



Gillian Flynn

secrets and a critical look at the personas we construct for each other and ourselves. By combining our modern-day, reality-show culture with a universal theme of relationships, she puts her finger on something that resonates.

"There's something to talk about for everyone. The gender roles we play, the domestic roles we play. There's the push and pull between husbands and wives and how do marriages go wrong. I think people are fascinated by that," she says. "You know,

people who are in good marriages fear that, because they have seen good marriages go bad."

She says she has not, despite rumors, completely rewritten the ending for the film.

"You have to dismantle a book in order to put it back together as a movie. And it was fun to take all the different puzzle pieces and figure out what's going to make it in the new puzzle and what can be left behind."

And though she notes she has done a lot of rewriting for the script, "they hired me because they liked the book so... reports have been greatly exaggerated that everything is completely different."

Flynn knows a lot about the ways popular culture is increasingly creating and manipulating our world. That viewpoint is solidly on display in "Gone Girl."

"We're so saturated that we repeat things to each other; the chatter becomes very similar. We use movie references. I remember the first time I saw the Mona Lisa in person and I was like, 'No. Because you'd see it — it's been big jigsaw puzzles. It's been on posters. Like, I waited in line for this? And there are many

things like that, that you've seen so many times."

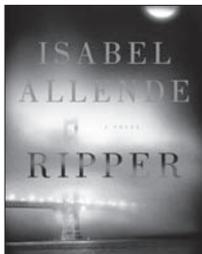
But she's also quick to recognize the strength of what she calls the "democratization" of culture that allows us to feel OK combining the popular with the classic. When she forgot her book for this trip, for example, she bought two at the airport: Rachel Kushner's "The Flamethrowers" and Charles Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities."

"It's somewhat of a psychotic mix," she jokes. "But there's been a nice democratization — people will not only read this highbrow thing. You can acknowledge that more mainstream things are worthwhile."

Flynn still has the eye of a critic, and dislikes anything that feels too calculated.

"I don't read a book on, is it perfectly good, is it perfectly put together? To me it's, is there a voice, is there a point of view? Do I feel refreshed when I read it and energized, as opposed to feeling that I've read it before but it's been done perfectly."

Flynn is a writer who always feels like they're writing from a genuine place and not pandering to what they think we want."



Ripper

By Richard Alende

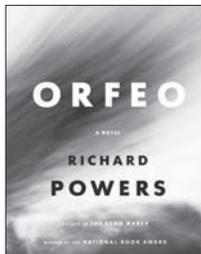
Chilean author Isabel Allende's magical realism approach has earned her lyrical novels such as "The House of the Spirits" and "Of Love and Shadows" critical acclaim and solid spots on bestseller lists.

But Allende's style fails her in her first crime novel. "Ripper" succumbs to an overwrought plot, weak characters and uninteresting details that derail the story.

The meandering plot's conclusion comes not as a compelling reveal but as a preposterous letdown.

Allende's brand of magical realism works well in her other inventive novels, but fails in this sluggish foray into crime fiction.

— Oline H. Cogdill  
Sun Sentinel



Orfeo

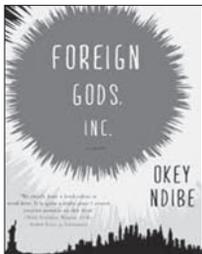
By Richard Powers

Surging back and forth between Els' past and present, "Orfeo" brilliantly captures the utter strangeness of the creative enterprise, the urge to make something out of nothing. Once trained as a cellist, Richard Powers understands that music is, by its very nature, dangerous and subversive. To reach transcendence, you must risk, break rules, court misunderstanding and rejection.

Powers brings his characters to life through vivid dialogue and language sometimes musical and always attentive to detail. Els' first love, Clara, is a sly muse who encourages him to compose. Els' wife, Maddy, pays the price for his commitment to music, then makes him pay with divorce.

Her daughter, Sara, shapesifts from little-girl companion to sullen teenage adversary to devoted middle-age caretaker.

— Dan Cryer/Newsday



Foreign Gods, Inc.

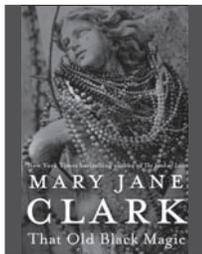
By Okey Ndibe

"Foreign Gods, Inc." is a magnificent fable of a novel.

Okey Ndibe, author of the previous novel "Arrows of Rain," begins this book in New York, where Ike lives a frustrating existence. He has a degree in economics, but his thick African accent prevents him from getting a job in the financial industry. Ndibe's portrait of New York immigrant life is mostly flat and unconvincing. But "Foreign Gods, Inc." springs to life the moment the cab driver Ike lands in Africa.

Consider the wonderful pidgin poetry of the porter who carries Ike's luggage through customs in the Lagos airport. When Ike explains in grammatically correct English that he's not going to bribe the customs agent about to inspect his bags, the porter warns: "Oga, dis no be matter of big grammar: If you blow grammar, customs go vex for you."

— Hector Tobar/LA Times



That Old Black Magic

By Mary Jane Clark

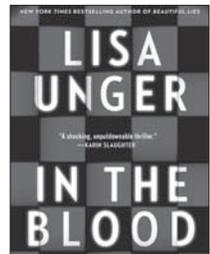
Cake decorator and amateur sleuth Piper Donovan goes to New Orleans to spend a few pleasant days as a guest baker in a renowned pastry establishment. Instead, she finds herself in the middle of a murder spree.

The Big Easy is the perfect creepy locale for a mystery. Cemetery, above-ground tombs, and the bakery that Piper is visiting sells voodoo old cookies.

Enhancing the local color are intriguing characters such as a tour guide working on a doctoral dissertation on nursery rhymes and a descendant of a Civil War-era plantation owner.

But who's behind the bloodshed in the city's famed French Quarter? Mary Jane Clark hides the culprit and motive so well that even the seasoned armchair detective might not guess the truth before Piper comes face to face with the murderer.

— Waka Tsunoda/AP



In the Blood

By Lisa Unger

Lana Granger appears to be running away from a traumatic event in her past. A soon-to-be college graduate, she's in need of extra money and takes a babysitting job for a boy named Luke.

When her best friend, Beck, disappears, the police suspect Granger since she was the last person to see him alive. As the authorities dig deeper, they discover Granger lied about her alibi, and that she has connections to a dead body found a year earlier.

What the police don't understand is that Granger cannot tell the truth about what happened on either of those occasions. The lies have been flowing so constantly they have become truth.

And then Luke begins to show signs of hostility.

Nothing is what it seems as Lisa Unger pulls off some beautiful surprises in this intriguing thriller.

— Jeff Ayers/AP

## WEEKEND: ENTERTAINMENT

## NEW ON DVD

“Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2”: Inventor Flint Lockwood (Bill Hader) must save the world again in this animated sequel. The original “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs” was a sweet treat of an adaptation of the 1982 book by Judi and Ron Barrett. From the visual smorgasbord — especially Lockwood’s secret laboratory where such electronic gimmicks of the 1980s “Simon” game and an Atari joystick create the “Iron” look — to the food jokes, the movie worked for all ages. The sequel comes across like eating leftovers.



COURTESY OF JAAP BUITENDIJK/MCT

“Rush,” starring Chris Hemsworth, was recently released on DVD.

“Rush”: Director Ron Howard’s film — the story of one of the greatest rivalries in Formula 1 racing — is as sleek and streamlined in design as a Ferrari. And it’s driven to its conclusion by high-octane performances supplied by Chris Hemsworth as the life-loving racer James Hunt and Daniel Brühl as the fiercely focused driver Niki Lauda. The problem is that the lack of an emotional center leaves “Rush” feeling like it is stuck in second gear.

“Last Vegas”: The film’s proof that some things that happen in Las Vegas should stay in Las Vegas. Even the stellar cast of Robert De Niro, Michael Douglas, Morgan Freeman and Kevin Kline can’t save this painfully predictable comedy from coming across like watching a landlocked version of “The Love Boat.” Screenwriter Dan Fogelman has assembled a series of stories for the four men that play out so obviously, the finale can be predicted before the group checks into their hotel.

“Bad Grandpa”: Johnny Knoxville disguises himself as a senior citizen to pull pranks. “Bad” is really not the right adjective to describe “Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa.” Words such as “uninspired,” “juvenile,” “stupid,” “slow,” “a waste of time” and “lame” are better ways to express this total failure from the twisted mind of Knoxville. But what might surprise you is that this film fails not because of the lowbrow humor. It’s the abysmal filmmaking.

Also new on DVD Jan. 28:

“Metallica: Through the Never”: A routine task for a Metallica roadie becomes a surreal odyssey.

“Vera, Set 3”: Brenda Blethyn stars in the series based on the novels by Ann Cleeves.

“The Fifth Estate”: Story goes from the early days of Wikileaks to its end after a series of information leaks.

“The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross”: Henry Louis Gates Jr. recounts the full trajectory of African-American history.

“The April Fools”: Jack Lemmon and Catherine Deneuve star.

“Lincoln@Gettysburg”: Look at a major turning point in American history.

“The Agatha Christie Hour: Complete Collection”: Ten tales of intrigue and romance from the mystery writer.

“Collision”: After a deadly accident in the Sahara, newlyweds must survive the journey back to civilization.

“Treme: The Complete Fourth Season”: New Orleansians continue to rebuild in the aftermath of Katrina.

“Downton Abbey Season 4”: Episodes include return of Shirley MacLaine and new guest star Paul Giamatti.

“Nicholas Sparks Limited Edition DVD Collection”: Seven films based on the author’s novels.

— Rick Bentley/The Fresno Bee

# ‘Acting has always come naturally to me’

## ‘Last Man Standing’ star has a booming career — at just 17

By DAVID HILTBRAND  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

For Kaitlyn Dever, time is passing too quickly. She recently turned 17, for Pete’s sake.

“I’m the opposite of all my friends,” says the little scene stealer from Tim Allen’s comedy “Last Man Standing.” “They can’t wait to be 18 and driving and heading off to college. I’m kind of panicking. I wanted to be 16 a little longer.”

If your career were booming like hers, you might want to stop and smell the residuals, too.

In addition to “Last Man Standing,” on which she plays flinty youngest daughter Eve, she recently reprised her role as the dangerously resourceful Kentucky teen Loretta McCready on “Justified.” Loretta is the firecracker who dared shoot Mags Bennet (Margo Martindale), the kid who keeps drawing the protective instinct out of Raylan (Timothy Olyphant).

At the moment, Dever is backstage on the “Last Man” soundstage, waiting for a table read. She’s sitting in what serves as the classroom for her and Flynn Morrison, 8, who plays Boyd on the show.

“I’m a junior learning Algebra 2,” she says, “and I’m in with a third grader.”

Lately, she has been playing hooky a lot. But she has a note from her agent.

Dever has been splitting her time between the sitcom and the set of “Men, Women & Children,” an Ivan Reitman comedy with Emma

Thompson, Adam Sandler and Jennifer Garner, now filming in Texas.

It’s one of five films she has done in the past two years, including the forthcoming “Lagies” with Keira Knightley.

It’s unusual for a network to give a series contract player so much latitude, but ABC realizes what they have in Dever and makes every effort to accommodate her.

“She’s a massively skilled actress,” says “Last Man’s” executive producer Tim Boyle. “It may get to the point where she’s at a Jennifer Lawrence level, where we can’t hold onto her, but we want it to last as long as possible.”

The fact that “Last Man Standing” runs with clockwork efficiency affords Dever more away time. The lead, Allen, is a seasoned pro, and he brought over an old hand from “Home Improvement,” director John Pasquin, who stresses rehearsal. The result is quick tapings.

“It’s great for the (studio) audience,” Dever says. “It keeps them happy and awake. If you have to do multiple takes, they tend to fade.”

It would be easy to call Kaitlyn precocious, but she has had her eyes on this particular prize since she was a child in Dallas. “I’ve always been good at doing impersonations,” she says. “When I see a person on TV, within three minutes, I can do all their mannerisms and their voice. Acting has always come naturally to me.”

“I kept begging my parents to let me take acting classes,” she says. “I came home from the first day of classes and said, ‘Mom, that was the best day of my life!’”

Kaitlyn Dever is Eve Baxter on the sitcom “Last Man Standing.” The show airs Thursdays on AFN-Family.

Bob D’Amico/ABC



## WEEKEND: HEALTH &amp; FITNESS

## Free fitness

Supplement your workout with these exercises

BY LESLIE BARKER

The Dallas Morning News

**G**otta love January. Beguiling and bewitching, she beckons with possibilities of fitness, of health, of habits broken and of others made. For some, it brings the elusive hope of something that will help us achieve those goals:

The one perfect exercise.

It works every muscle! It's user-friendly! Improves cardio! Makes you look buff! It's a tantalizing idea, but it's not gonna happen, says Dr. Benjamin Levine, director of the Institute for Exercise and Environmental Medicine at Texas Health Presbyterian. "It would be naive to assume one perfect exercise could do it all."

So does that call for packing up your gym bag or relegating your Christmas workout shoes to the corner? Of course not — no more than you'd eliminate a favorite and seemingly perfect meal from

your diet because it didn't contain all the proper food groups.

Instead, think smorgasbord based on your own personal aspirations, Levine says.

"People have multiple goals that are important to them individually — endurance, strength, muscle tone, mortality, functional capacity, competitiveness. They're all very reasonable," Levine says.

"You get yourself in more trouble worrying whether one is better than the other," he says, "rather than how to work a variety into your life."

That doesn't mean a committed fit person doesn't have favorites. So we asked Dallas-area trainers what they'd deem as the most (or at least closest-to) perfect exercise.

They stressed to learn proper technique; otherwise, the exercise can do more harm than good. Plus, they agreed that you need to make them part — not all — of your workout.



## BURPEE

**The pro:** Jonathan Pylant, director of DFW and San Antonio Camp Gladiator boot camps (Further support comes from theoforfitness.com website, which calls burpee "the one exercise to rule them all.")

**The reason:** It works four major areas of the body: the front region (chest and shoulders); posterior chain (back, glutes, hamstrings); core (front and back); and legs, he says. Adding a pushup also helps work arms.



**How to do it:** Stand straight, arms at sides. Bend your knees and lean forward slightly, putting your hands on the ground in front of you. Kick your legs behind you so you're in plank position. Add a pushup if you'd like, then kick your legs so your knees are under you. Throw your arms above your head and jump, returning to starting position.

**Variation:** While in plank position, with legs either straight or bent, add a push-up. To tone it down a little, instead of kicking both legs back, move one at a time.

## LUNGE

**The pro:** Lee Goggin, personal trainer at SWEAT gym

**The reason:** It uses a large number of muscles and joints, strengthening hamstrings, glutes, quadriceps, hip adductors, ankles, knees and hips. It can be done anywhere and is one of the most versatile exercises you can have in your toolbox, he says.

**How to do it:** Stand straight, hands on hips. Bending your right knee, take a big step forward so your knee is over the middle of your foot; do not bring your knee past your toe. Keeping your back straight and shoulder blades pulled together, lean forward.

When you're in position, push up on your right leg slowly into standing position, keeping your foot flat on the ground. In a smooth motion, stand up and repeat on the other side.

**Variations:** Do them going up stairs. Or hold a weight or kettle bell in the opposite hand of your bent leg.



## PUSHUP

**The pro:** Ryan Lehman, personal trainer and Pilates instructor at Studio 6

**The reason:** It's an "essential exercise" that works the full body, he says.

**How to do it:** Position your body on the floor so your elbows are bent, your hands under your shoulders, your legs back and your belly drawn in. Slowly lower yourself to the ground and use your arms to push yourself up.

**Variations:** Keep elbows wide or tight; hands wide or together. Or stagger your hands so one is lower than the other. Modify by doing them on your knees or off a countertop. Make them tougher by using only one arm or leg, or clap between each.



## PLANK

**The pro:** Erin Bedell, personal trainer at SWEAT

**The reason:** It generates core strength in the abdominals, hip flexors and back. With a few tweaks, it can be versatile.

**How to do it:** Get in push-up position, keeping your body in a straight line and your elbows

straight. "Make sure you are pulling your belly button in and that your head and neck are in correct alignment. Hold for 30 seconds and build up to a minute."

**Variations:** Bend your elbows, lower to your forearms and hold. "From there, the possibilities are endless: planks with leg lifts, plank to pushup position, planks with hip raises," she says.

## EXHALATION SQUAT

**The pro:** Bill Neal, professor of physical education at Richland College

**The reason:** You're using your center of gravity, he says. "That's your power source."

**How to do it:** To do this variation on a traditional squat, exhale completely. Then

holding your arms straight in front of you and keeping your feet shoulder-width apart, bend your knees as you lower your body. Go as deeply as you can, keeping your feet flat on the ground and knees facing forward. Then use your pelvis, not your quadriceps, to raise your body to standing position.

The exhalation squat helps open your hip flexors, which can help prevent such issues as knee and prostate problems, he says.

**Variations:** Use a countertop or chair for balance.

**Jonathan Pylant, director of DFW and San Antonio Camp Gladiator boot camps, both based in Texas, demonstrates a series of exercises — which can be done anywhere — that can be used to supplement most workout routines.**

PHOTOS BY BRAD LOPEZ  
DALLAS MORNING NEWS/MCT



## WEEKEND: FAMILY

## SPOUSE CALLS



Photos courtesy of Carrie Waller

**Clockwise from left: Military wife and watercolor artist Carrie Waller, inset. She painted "Love Letters" while her husband was deployed to Afghanistan in 2012. The painting features a photo she took of her husband holding their son's hand the day he left.**

**"Elephant Walk" commemorates the C17 elephant walk in Charleston, S.C., while the family was stationed there in 2013.**

**Waller experiments with light and shadows in "Incandescent."**

# Drawing from life

## Military wife builds artistic career with each new experience, location

Carrie Waller's life as a military wife will never paint her art career into a corner. The interior decorator, mural painter, art teacher, blogger, watercolorist and mom to two little boys seeks new outlets for her talent wherever she goes.

"I decided I would do something creative, always," Waller said, and she has. Creative thinking is as integral to her career pursuits as it is to her artwork.

When she married her Air Force husband, she gave up an interior design job to relocate to Ramstein Air Base, but she held on to her ambitions.

"I wouldn't ever have passed up moving to Germany," she said. "My career just took a whole different trajectory."

Interior design positions were

predictably scarce on base, she said, so she became an art teacher and muralist. She taught painting through youth programs, the skills center and to home-schooled students. She signed an Army contract to paint murals at base facilities.

"I realized I can make my own thing," she said. "I was proud of myself ... for figuring out my own way without relying on my husband or waiting for a GS position to open up."

By the time she moved again, Waller had learned opportunities were abundant for artists with initiative. She waited for weeks to move into her house in South Carolina, but she didn't sit around waiting for a job.

"Day 1 at the hotel, I'm looking in the phone book for mural artists and immediately went to work for a lady and became a partner in a mural business," Waller said.

"I was painting murals in dream homes on the beach. It was pretty amazing. I loved that experience."

Two babies and a few assignments later, Waller wanted to stay



**"I painted this one because I was really interested in painting the light coming through all of the green bottles," said Waller of her painting "Green Bottles." "I loved the stained glass effect and the different shapes and colors that resulted."**

home with her children, so she began painting as a serious pursuit. She focused on watercolor, created a home studio and began blogging about her artwork.

"I was at home with two little

kids, and I had no art friends," she explained. "I started reaching out to moms who were artists."

The blog had another purpose too: connecting her with opportunities to show and market her paintings.

"To sell your work you need to have some kind of bond. People want to know you," Waller said.

Marketing is especially important for an artist who has to re-establish herself in a new community every few years.

Waller said having a professional online presence as an artist, utilizing social media and proactively creating contacts are essential.

"You have to start immediately," she said. "I don't care if you're still in boxes, start searching out art organizations. Search out galleries. Make a list, start at Day 1 of what you would like to accomplish. I research everything before we're even there. Start contacting artists in that area. Don't be afraid to reach out."

Waller's method shows impressive results. Her website includes a list of art magazines that have published her paintings and international shows where her work has won awards. Last year she curated a show in Washing-

ton, D.C., of artwork by military spouses.

Waller said the mobility of military life has shaped her career for the better.

"It has pushed me to think outside of where I am," she said. "I figure out the best opportunities, locally, nationally and internationally. Just like with moving all the time you have a larger world view. That's what it's given me in the art world, a larger world view, and I just go for it."

Waller said she likes to take ordinary objects and make them extraordinary in her watercolor paintings.

Her paintings are often domestic — glass bottles, toys and books, even light bulbs — and she said her subject matter and inspirations change with each place she calls home and with each season of her life.

"Everywhere we go there are different places, different inspirations, different artists. We're about to move to Japan. I'm really excited about what that's going to mean," she said.

"Everywhere I go, I hope it sends me in a whole new direction that I wouldn't have ever thought of before."

Terri Barnes writes Spouse Calls weekly for Stars and Stripes. Contact her at [sponsecalls@starsandstripes.com](mailto:sponsecalls@starsandstripes.com) or at [starsandstripes.com/go/spousecalls](http://starsandstripes.com/go/spousecalls).



Terri Barnes

WEEKEND: CROSSWORD AND COMICS

NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

IT'S ALL RELATIVE By DANIEL A. FINAN / Edited by Will Shortz

- ACROSS
1 Apply quickly
7 Wall \_\_\_
13 Gringos' land
20 Place with wheels and deals
21 Summit planner
22 Worse
23 Woodworking tool
24 Untrustworthy sort
25 What players do at the start of a game of tag
26 Some bling
27 One for the 'no' column
29 Most Cypriots, ethnically
31 Messages
32 Like some eagles and tites
34 Lt. Abner's surname
36 Company with the Havoline brand
38 Notre dame, e.g.
39 Valdez of coffee advertising
40 Period of the Cenozoic Era
42 Language suffix
45 Servings of mashed potatoes, e.g.
47 Writer Kipling
48 Let go
49 Cynic Bierce who once defined "alone" as "in bad company"
52 Swear off
53 Potentially dangerous
55 Sapling
56 Relax
58 Goes in
59 Stairway post
60 Twinkie filler
62 'Back to the Future' villains and deals
64 Amo: I love u: \_\_\_ : I hate
65 'The Merry Drinker' painter
66 Pop singer Del Rey
67 In need of a lift
70 'Adoration' subjects in a Leonardo painting
74 Maine college
75 Irish county and seaport
77 Have troops in
79 [What a bore]
81 Martin Sheen's real family name
83 Tops off?
85 Pam of 'Jackie Brown'
86 Takeout choice
87 All riled up
88 Part of London where Eliza Doolittle is from
90 One side of an 1899-1902 war
91 Smidgen
92 Source of ivory
93 Uzbekistan's \_\_\_ Sea
94 About a quarter of the population of Sicily lives on its slopes
96 Gaelic tongue
98 Title girl in a Chuck Berry hit
99 Make enforceable
100 Opportunity
101 Learn well
104 Take blows for
107 A line in an A-line?
109 Punk offshoot
110 'Be supported by'
112 Movie director who was himself the subject of a 1994 movie
114 Gold-medal gymnast Mary Lou
115 \_\_\_ in kangaroo
116 Powell's successor on the Supreme Court
117 Some starting help
118 'Keep going!'
119 Love to hate?
120 Canon parts
121 On the receiving end of a Dear John letter
14 See 82-Down
15 Fine point
16 Bone: Prefix
17 Moreno of 'West Side Story'
18 Ticked (off)
19 Goofs
28 'Yesiree!'
30 Dreamcast maker
33 Resumé datum
35 \_\_\_ in kangaroo
37 Boomers' kids
40 Sip on
41 Limit
42 99-Down, relatively
43 \_\_\_ gut"
44 Breyers alternative
46 Rest in a hammock, say
47 Wanders
48 Abb. at the start of a memo
49 He's 2, for one
50 He "will never speak unless he has something to say," in a song
51 3-Down, relatively
52 8-Down, relatively
54 "Bambi" doe
57 Air-freshener scent
61 Cleaner's supply
63 One who might yell, "Go home!"
66 Rested in a hammock, say
68 Gets up there
69 Nap
71 Taking a certain tone
72 Fuel-economy authority, for short
82 14-Down, relatively
84 Indian wrap
89 Depots: Abbr.
90 Built-in part of a tank top, maybe
92 Block party?
93 See 12-Down
95 See 42-Down
96 "Make it stop!"
97 Observed Yom Kippur
98 Italian grandpa
99 Funeral delivery of old
101 \_\_\_ stupid question ...
102 Vitamin a.k.a. para-aminobenzoic acid
103 Director Gus Van \_\_\_
105 In a hammock, maybe
106 Gershwin biographer David
108 Many a 'Yelp' link
111 Big Apple N.L. team
113 Fielding feats: Abbr.
115 Cable inits. for a cinephil

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-120 and black squares.

- 73 See 6-Down
74 Cartoon sound
75 Hubbub
76 Macros, e.g.
77 Words of remembrance, briefly
78 Michael of "Arrested Development"
79 80 McFlurry flavor
82 14-Down, relatively
84 Indian wrap
89 Depots: Abbr.
90 Built-in part of a tank top, maybe
92 Block party?
93 See 12-Down
95 See 42-Down
96 "Make it stop!"
97 Observed Yom Kippur
98 Italian grandpa
99 Funeral delivery of old
101 \_\_\_ stupid question ...
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105 In a hammock, maybe
106 Gershwin biographer David
108 Many a 'Yelp' link
111 Big Apple N.L. team
113 Fielding feats: Abbr.
115 Cable inits. for a cinephil

GUNSTON STREET



"Gunston Street" is drawn by Basil Zaviski. E-mail him at gunstonstreet@yahoo.com, and visit gunstonstreet.com.

RESULTS FOR ABOVE PUZZLE

Grid with crossword answers filled in.

Stripes BLOGS advertisement featuring 'KNOWLEDGE IS POWER', 'THE RUPTURED DUCK', 'PACIFIC SPORTSBLOG', 'PACIFIC STORM TRACKER', and 'OMBUDSMAN'.

## FACES

## Justin Bieber charged with assault

The Associated Press

Justin Bieber was charged with assault for allegedly hitting a Toronto limousine driver several times in the back of the head last month. The news broke just after the Canadian pop star's attorney entered a separate not guilty plea in Florida to drunken-driving and other charges.

The 19-year-old turned himself in to a Toronto police station Wednesday evening, arriving amid a crush of media and screaming fans. He was charged with one count of assault and is scheduled to appear in court in Toronto on March 10.

Police allege Bieber was one of six people picked up by a limousine from a nightclub in the early-morning hours of Dec. 30, and there was an altercation while en route to a hotel.

Police said during the altercation one of the passengers hit the limo driver in the back of the head several times.

"The driver stopped the limousine, exited the vehicle and called police," a state-

ment said. "The man who struck him left the scene before police arrived."

Howard Weitzman, Bieber's attorney in California, said his client is innocent and declined to comment on the allegations against Bieber or any potential defense, saying it was now a matter for the court to handle. Weitzman said he expects the case to be treated as a summary offense, the equivalent of a misdemeanor in the U.S.

Brian Greenspan, Bieber's Canadian attorney, did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

Toronto police said in late December that they were looking into allegations that a member of Bieber's entourage assaulted a limo driver who was ferrying the singer and several others. Police said at the time it was unclear whether Bieber was involved.

### Elton John, Lady Gaga get GLAAD Media Award bids

Elton John, Lady Gaga and the movie

"Dallas Buyers Club" are among the nominees for awards presented by the gay advocacy group GLAAD.

The 25th annual GLAAD Media Awards honor outstanding images of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in categories including music, movies, TV and journalism.

On Thursday, GLAAD announced 93 nominees in the English-language categories, with cable channels earning 28 bids and broadcast networks receiving 11. Netflix earned its first nomination for the series "Orange Is the New Black." There are 37 Spanish-language nominees.

The GLAAD Media Awards will be presented in Los Angeles and New York this spring.

### Other news

■ Oxfam International says Scarlett Johansson's support of an Israeli company operating in the West Bank was incom-



THE CANADIAN PRESS, NATHAN DENETTE/AP

**Justin Bieber is swarmed by media and police officers as he turns himself in to city police in Toronto on Wednesday. Bieber was charged with assault.**

patible with her role as an Oxfam Global Ambassador. Oxfam's statement followed Johansson's announcement Wednesday that she was resigning her Oxfam role because of a "fundamental difference of opinion." Oxfam says it accepted her resignation.

■ A judge in Los Angeles has reinstated a lawsuit by Nicolette Sheridan over her firing from "Desperate Housewives."



## Lamar on Macklemore's wins: 'It's well-deserved'

The Associated Press

Kendrick Lamar is taking a philosophical approach to being shut out at the Grammy Awards. Lamar, one of Sunday night's top nominees with seven nods, won none, prompting four-time winner Macklemore to send a text of apology later that night after winning best rap album.

"It's well-deserved. He did what he did, man," Lamar told XXL magazine. "He went out there and hustled and grinded. Everything happens for a reason. The universe comes back around. That's how it go."

Lamar made the remarks after a performance of "Backstreet Freestyle" at rapper Dom Kennedy's show Tuesday night in New York. They come two days after The Recording Academy's voters gave Macklemore & Ryan Lewis three trophies in the rap categories, angering some in the hip-hop community. Macklemore & Ryan Lewis also won best new artist.

There was an effort by the academy's rap committee to exclude Macklemore & Ryan Lewis from the rap categories,

but it was overruled and the Seattle duo won best rap album for "The Heist" and best rap song and rap performance for "Thrift Shop," featuring Wanz — a pop hit that sold more than 7 million copies.

Macklemore said before the awards that he felt Lamar's "good kid, m.A.A.d. city" should win best rap album. He posted to Instagram a text he sent to Lamar following the awards that said in part: "It's weird and sucks that I robbed you."

XXL also asked Lamar if he felt the Grammys undervalued hip-hop. Only three rap acts — Jay Z, Macklemore and Lewis, and Lamar — performed during the telecast. All three were show highlights for different reasons.

"I definitely feel like they should always have more of the culture up in there, for sure, because we definitely stand out just like any other genre," Lamar said. "We part of the world. We part of the movement. So I think any awards, including the Grammys, should always push for more hip-hop because it's music as a whole, it's not just splitting different regions. Everything moves as far as sound and vibrations, and that's how it goes. And we are a part of that."

**Kendrick Lamar was shut out at the Grammys on Sunday.**

JORDAN STRAUSS, INVISION/AP

## Nomination for 'Alone Yet Not Alone' for best song Oscar is revoked

By STEVEN ZEITCHIK  
Los Angeles Times

Citing direct campaigning that created "the appearance of an unfair advantage," the Motion Picture Academy has revoked an Oscar nomination for "Alone Yet Not Alone," the tune from the eponymous faith-based movie that had been nominated for original song.

The academy said that Bruce Broughton, a music branch executive committee member who wrote the song's music, had emailed members of the branch during the voting period, a rule violation. No new nominee will be named; only four nominees will be eligible for the Oscar.

In a release Wednesday, the academy said the board of governors had made the decision in a

vote Tuesday night after concluding that Broughton "had emailed members of the branch to make them aware of his submission during the nominations voting period."

In the statement, academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs said the actions were a perception problem, though she stopped short of saying that it actually had led to the song being shortlisted.

"No matter how well-intentioned the communication, using one's position as a former governor and current executive committee member to personally promote one's own Oscar submission creates the appearance of an unfair advantage," she said.

When it was announced as one of the nominees two weeks ago, "Alone Yet Not Alone" raised eyebrows among pundits and carp-

ing among non-nominated rivals. The song, whose lyrics were written by Dennis Spiegel, came from an independent movie about 18th-century colonists that few had heard of.

The academy has revoked nominees' tickets before because of campaigning-based rule violations. But the revocation of a nomination is extremely rare, if not unprecedented.

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OPINION

Why Silicon Valley sticks up for Snowden

By PETER SWIRE

**I**s Edward Snowden a whistle-blower or a traitor? There is a vast cultural divide between Silicon Valley and Washington on this issue, and the reasons reveal much about the broader debates about what to do in the wake of his leaks.

In terms of my own perspective, I have written about privacy and the Internet for two decades, working closely with both civil liberties groups and Internet companies. On the government side, I first worked with intelligence agencies in the late 1990s when I chaired White House task forces on encryption and Internet wiretap laws.

As a member of President Barack Obama's Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies, I spoke with numerous people in the intelligence community. Not one said that Snowden was a whistle-blower. The level of anger was palpable.

Part of the anger arises from the daily routine of working with classified materials. Merely carrying a cellphone into a secure facility by mistake amounts to a security violation. Thousands of security officers enforce the rules, and people can and do get fired when they are not scrupulous with classified materials.

Intelligence officers see Snowden as a serial destroyer of classified secrets. He plotted for months to violate the law on a massive scale. He has tipped off foreign adversaries about numerous programs that will require countless hours of work to reverse; many will not regain their previous effectiveness.

Even though Snowden rejected all the existing options for a whistle-blower — including congressional committees or avenues within the National Security Agency — the view from Silicon Valley and privacy groups is much different. Last fall, I

asked the leader of a Silicon Valley company about the whistle-blower-vs.-traitor debate. He said that more than 90 percent of his employees would call Snowden a whistle-blower.

Part of that reaction is based on the view that this robust national debate about NSA programs would not be happening had Snowden not leaked what he did.

The Silicon Valley concern about the NSA arises to some extent from a philosophy of anti-secrecy libertarianism. A well-known slogan there is that "information wants to be free."

The technology community's anger mounted when the media reported that the NSA had undermined at least one international encryption standard. The ability to export strong encryption was a hot-button issue in the 1990s, when the NSA argued that use of such encryption would enable terrorists and enemies to communicate in an "advanced persistent threat." A coalition of techies, privacy groups and Internet companies in 1999 persuaded the federal government to permit the export of strong encryption. Last year's media reports awoke dormant fears among techies that the NSA was creating a fundamentally insecure Internet.

The anger increased when the media reported that the NSA had tapped into the communications lines used by providers of the online "cloud." In response, Microsoft counsel Brad Smith wrote that "government snooping potentially now constitutes an advanced persistent threat." That is a term of art previously used primarily to describe cyberattacks by China. The major tech companies then bought full-page newspaper ads to express their serious concerns.

The gap between anger at Snowden and anger at the NSA shows the tension between the government and much of the

tech world. But which side is correct?

After wrestling with the issue, I think Snowden could have been a conscientious objector — but he has thus far failed the test. A central element of nonviolent dissent is to move society's conscience by taking personal responsibility. Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. went to jail for their beliefs, but Snowden ran away.

Going to jail is, of course, a lot to ask of a person. But Snowden knowingly set himself above the law, claiming a higher morality. Full clemency, without any jail time, would create a bad precedent in holding others in the intelligence community accountable, should they break security rules.

Snowden's fate aside, the culture clash holds lessons in how to blend the government and tech perspectives. The president has issued a directive that foreign policy, economic and privacy considerations must henceforth be included in sensitive decisions about intelligence collection. As shown by a new agreement between the Justice Department and technology companies, there will be greater transparency about government access to communications.

Fundamentally, the traitor-or-whistle-blower debate comes down to different views of what values should be paramount in governing the Internet we all use. The Internet is where surveillance happens to keep our nation safe. It is also where we engage in e-commerce and express ourselves in infinite ways. The goal is to create one communications structure that safeguards diverse, important values.

Peter Swire is a professor of law and ethics at the Georgia Institute of Technology's Scheller College of Business. He was a member of President Barack Obama's Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies and was the chief counselor for privacy in the Office of Management and Budget from 1999 to 2001. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Situational awareness set Obama's modest goals

By DOYLE MCMANUS

Los Angeles Times

**T**he rap against President Barack Obama's State of the Union address on Tuesday was that his agenda, once ambitious and transformational, has suddenly turned modest.

Instead of an ambitious sweeping change, the president proposed holding a summit meeting on working families and extracting a promise from colleges to admit more low-income students — not exactly sweeping solutions to middle-class stagnation and college debt.

What happened to the visionary politician who promised that his inauguration would mark the moment the rise of the oceans began to slow?

Simple: Reality has sunk in. In year six of Obama's presidency, modest proposals are the most appropriate offering. At the moment, the president has much to be modest about.

Any ability Obama might have had to navigate Washington's poisonous political culture to forge consensus on sweeping initiatives vanished when Republicans took over the House of Representatives in 2010.

The president's sway has ebbed even further since his re-election in 2012, thanks to the chipping away at his insurance program and the economy's stubborn failure to produce enough new jobs.

With Obama's job-approval rating stuck well below 50 percent, Republicans in Congress see plenty of reasons to oppose him but only danger in helping him.

Structure spending, raising the minimum wage, even the least cause of gun control. But he listed all of those in his speech last year — and achieved none of them.

That's why the president's embrace of things he can do without Congress makes sense. Expect to see more executive orders, more White House summits and more private sector arm-twisting.

Obama's chief maker, Dan Pfeiffer, deployed two phrases to dramatize this new strategy. The president "has a pen," he said, meaning the power to issue executive orders, and he "has a phone," meaning the ability to persuade corporate CEOs, college presidents and others to do things that Congress won't.

This will be "a year of action," Pfeiffer added — as opposed, presumably, to a year of stalled initiatives on Capitol Hill.

Obama offered insight into how he has accepted his newfound limits in an interview with the New Yorker's David Remnick.

"We cannot remake the world entirely during this little stretch that we have," the president said. "At the end of the day, we're part of a long-running story. We just try to get our paragraph right."

That doesn't mean he'll quit trying, and bipartisan legislation on one big issue might still be possible: immigration reform. House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, has said he wants to try to pass a series of immigration bills this year, and Obama says he's willing to make a deal.

But expect downsize ambition to be the order of the day. Obama might still like to see a federal minimum wage of \$10.10 an hour. But because that seems unlikely to pass the Republican House, it looks as if he'll have to settle for the far more mod-

est change he announced Tuesday: raising the minimum wage by executive order to \$10.10 for federal contract workers.

That may be frustrating for a president who lamented in his speech that "corporate profits and stock prices have rarely been higher, and those at the top have never done better. But average wages have barely budged. Inequality has deepened. Upward mobility has stalled."

"Our job is to reverse these trends," he declared.

But failing in that, as he seems likely to do, the president promised Tuesday to look for incremental ways to chip away at the gap between the rich and the rest.

And he will console himself with earlier victories. Already, at the White House, there's a sense that the main work of the Obama administration is mostly complete.

"If you look at the whole eight years ... the biggest and most important thing is coming back from the brink of economic disaster — one of Obama's aides told me this week. "And then health care. Those are the biggest changes we will see if we look back 10 years from now."

"Immigration will fall into that category, if we get it," the aide added. Other priorities such as preschool education and job training programs aren't likely to grow beyond a few micro-initiatives.

Still, if Obama can make his health care program work, avoid new economic or international problems and help his party retain control of the Senate — no small tasks — he could count 2014 as a success.

So why's he looking down? But gauged by what's doable in the second term of a presidency, it is also a realistic one.

Doyle McManus is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

## OPINION

## What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

### What Obama can accomplish Chicago Tribune

State of the Union addresses are about big ambitions, and Tuesday night's didn't disappoint. President Barack Obama's many priorities — job creation, middle-class earnings, infrastructure spending and all the others — are the unfinished business of a president aware (and no doubt uneasy) that, in three years, he belongs to history.

How many of those aspirations can he achieve? Of 24 proposals in last year's address, Washington Post fact-checkers rate five as accomplished, four as partially completed and 15 — notably gun control, immigration reform and a minimum wage increase — as dead letters. At first glance, this year's prognosis wouldn't be that upbeat. The Obamacare rollout soured many Americans on government-as-change-agent. Twitvich members of Congress avoid gold votes in election years. And Obama's approval ratings have tumbled ...

Tuesday night, Obama didn't dwell on his lost 2013. There was an oblique nod to his gridlock with Congress last year: "Let's make this a year of action." The subtext: He has to wonder whether, if his signature bill overhauled the federal budget, his presidency totals one year of managing through a financial crisis, followed by a biblical seven years of lean.

That's why his staffers have been broadcasting the message that Obama will try to circumvent Congress by marshaling his executive orders. Both parties have done that although it's often a frustrating way to rule. Congress can thwart (or refuse to fund) executive orders that lack the force of law. Subsequent presidents can undo those orders as breezily as they were written.

Listening to Obama, though, we heard two takeaways that should be his realistic agenda before the acceleration of presidential campaigning in 2015 certifies his lame-duckery. The point isn't that he can get Congress to do his bidding; he cannot. On these two issues, though, he can help Republicans and Democrats realize that it's in their best interests to do as he asks. ...

That's a spectacularly accurate if too limited prediction of all that a reform to federal taxes and transfer programs could do for Obama's presidency. In his opening, Obama was saying the right things about the unsustainable of entitlement benefits; in budget wrangles with Republicans he has agreed to Medicare reforms.

Imagine the potential power of a president who'll never run again gathering his economic priorities into a presidency agenda. A path to debt reduction, encouragement to hire more workers, elimination of tax deductions and credits that tend to benefit the wealthy, incentives to drive new growth. In one afternoon, Obama's policy team could draft an omnibus plan for financial aid, operations, expanding the nation's workforce and assuring that today's benefits will exist for tomorrow's retirees. Stable and lower tax rates, paid for by scaling back those runaway deductions and credits, would benefit individuals and employers alike.

Obama's presidency, efforts at a "Go Big" finance deal always have flopped. Now, as a second-term with goals he wants to accomplish, he's liberated. He can bundle his proposals in bows appealing to both parties. Granted, with Obama inclined to govern by executive order rather than just with Congress, that wouldn't be easy. But it could be done. Democrats

and Republicans proved that with their tax me package late in Ronald Reagan's presidency.

Immigration reform, coupled with a rescue of federal finances and entitlement programs? Good for Obama, good for the historians who'll grade him — and good for the future of America.

### Get rid of fishy descriptions

#### The Kansas City (Mo.) Star

Your dinner has arrived, a nice piece of fish, delicately cooked, served perhaps over a bed of rice or, wow, maybe quinoa.

Was it wild salmon you ordered? Would you be surprised and disappointed to learn that you got coho instead?

As the nonprofit organization Oceana has put it: "Recent studies have found that seafood may be mislabeled as often as 25 to 70 percent of the time for fish like red snapper, wild salmon, and Atlantic cod, disguising species that are less desirable, cheaper or more readily available."

Seafood fraud has been documented in recent years by newspapers, Consumer Reports and others. Now two senators want the Obama administration to do something about it.

Sen. Edward Markey, a Democrat from Massachusetts, and Roger Wicker, a Mississippi Republican, recently wrote to President Barack Obama urging action on seafood fraud.

"Seafood is ripping off consumers," they wrote, "posing health risks by disguising species that may be harmful for sensitive groups, and harming our oceans by making it easier for illegally caught product to make its way into the U.S. market."

A big part of the problem, according to a 2009 report from the Accountability and Inefficiencies Office, involves a lack of coordination and communication by three agencies most responsible for seafood inspections: the Food and Drug Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Customs and Border Protection. The report also noted the confusion and inefficiencies to note that the Department of Agriculture has jurisdiction over catfish.

Upward of 90 percent of all seafood consumed domestically is imported, the senators noted, but the FDA inspects less than 2 percent of those products.

In 2011 Oceana conducted a study of seafood in the Los Angeles market — fish sold at grocery stores and restaurants, including sushi purveyors — and reported that 55 of all samples it collected were mislabeled, and every fish sold with the word "snapper" in the label, 34 out of 34, was misidentified and out of whack with FDA guidelines.

Markey and Wicker say they will work toward solutions in Congress, but expressed hope that Obama's agencies would do a better job of working together on the fraud.

Fish consumers deserve accurate descriptions of what's on their plates.

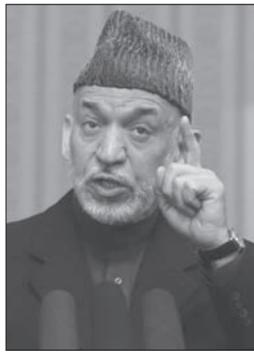
### Karzai makes progress harder

#### The New York Times

President Hamid Karzai, of Afghanistan, seems to have decided that there is nothing lost, and maybe something to be gained, in destroying his relationship with the United States. While such behavior may serve his interests, it does not serve that of his long-suffering country.

An image of a funeral in Afghanistan that the government tried to a recent American airstrike actually took place in 2009.

Karzai has long been at odds with the United States. In the last week, his government distributed an inflammatory, falsified dossier, including graphic photographs, to try to document accusations that the American-led NATO coalition had caused great carnage, including civilian deaths, when it conducted airstrikes in Afghanistan on Jan. 15. The Times found that much of the same material had been posted on a Taliban website and that at least



MASSOUD HOSSAIN/AP

**Afghan President Hamid Karzai said he will not sign a security pact with the U.S. unless Washington and Pakistan launch a peace process with Taliban insurgents.**

two of the photos were more than a year old. No one disputes that civilians died in the attack, which hit Wazhgar, a village in a valley with Taliban fighters, but coalition and Afghan officials differ on the death toll. The coalition says two children were killed when two compounds producing the heaviest Taliban fire were destroyed; the Afghans say 12 to 17 civilians were killed.

Karzai — like most citizens of his country — is fed up with airstrikes and especially civilian deaths, an understandable frustration after a dozen war-torn years. But, according to the United Nations, most civilians are killed by the Taliban. Instead of dealing with the issue honestly, Karzai is increasingly using it to demonize the U.S. Over American protests, he is said to be pushing forward with plans to release 37 detainees, who are regarded by the coalition as dangerous insurgents. He has refused to sign a security agreement that would allow some residual American troops to remain after the bulk of the forces withdraw by the end of this year.

Some Afghans have pushed back against Karzai's conciliatory and destructive ways, but not enough. The candidates running to succeed him owe voters a vision of how they will improve governance and work more productively with the United States and its allies, who have spent billions of dollars to underwrite Afghanistan's economy and will be asked to do more in the years to come.

### Try new approach to free Bae

#### The Seattle Times

American prisoner Kenneth Bae wants the U.S. government to help get him out of North Korea. The former Lynnwood resident issued his plea recently in a news conference, the first time authorities there have let him speak to reporters.

The United States has tried and should keep trying. The State Department's special envoy for human rights issues, Ambassador Robert King, was invited to Pyongyang last August to negotiate for Bae's freedom. The regime rescinded its offer at the last minute.

Under heavy guard and wearing a gray uniform with the number 103 on his chest, Bae apologized for his crimes. He also revealed he might soon be returned to prison after months of treatment in a hospital for various ailments.

The 45-year-old tour operator's nightmare began in November 2012 while he was escorting five Europeans into North Korea. Bae was detained, then sentenced to 15 years in a labor camp for "hostile acts" against the government.

Speaking on CNN this month, Bae's mother and sister from Washington state

expressed fears that anything they say about this latest prison video may be misinterpreted by the North Koreans. They echoed Bae's apology and said they are worried about his health. His wife and three kids need him home.

For months, U.S. officials maintain they've worked with the Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang and requested amnesty for Bae on humanitarian grounds. An offer to send an envoy still stands.

The U.S. government should also consider what's worked in the past, too. On separate occasions, former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton traveled to North Korea to bring home American prisoners.

Last month, Merrill Newman, an 85-year-old Korean War veteran and tourist, was released after he confessed (under duress) to crimes committed during his time serving in the U.S. military.

The North Koreans could show the same mercy to Kenneth Bae, but they may need a stronger nudge from Washington, D.C.

### Many should pay restitution

#### Los Angeles Times

When she was 8 years old, a Pennsylvania girl identified only as Amy was raped repeatedly by an uncle, who compounded the crime by photographing the encounters — some of which involved acts ordered up by consumers of child pornography and sending the images out over the Internet. More than 70,000 copies have been found on various confiscated computers.

The uncle went to prison in 1998 and was ordered to pay \$6,325 in restitution to cover Amy's psychological treatment at the time, which helped her heal from the trauma of the 2007. Amy learned that the photographs remained in wide distribution, a revelation that she argues — quite reasonably — caused further emotional damage, affecting her ability to attend college and to work. It's impossible to imagine her anguish at knowing those images are still out there. But if the state estimates that restitution, including lifetime therapy, will cost \$3.4 million.

Who should be responsible for paying that restitution lies at the heart of a case argued last week before the Supreme Court, a case that raises significant questions about criminal culpability and collective guilt.

A Texan named Doyle Paroline added two Amy photos to his large collection of illicit material in 2008 and, after he was caught the next year, pleaded guilty to possession of child pornography. He was sentenced to two years in prison; Amy then filed papers seeking restitution, one of some 250 filings across the country that have led to nearly \$1.8 million in restitution orders.

A Texas district court ruled against Amy in the Paroline case, but an appeals court reversed that ruling. In a recent ruling that Paroline should make full restitution — that he should pay the entire \$3.4 million — because, as part of the uncountable audience of people who have viewed the photos, he is "equally and severally" responsible for the damage Amy suffering. It would be up to Paroline to decide whether he wanted to go after his fellow offenders for their share.

This is where a bad situation gets murky. Clearly the uncle, as the creator and distributor of the photographs, bears the most responsibility. But the thousands of copies of illicit photographs make Paroline liable for all the damage Amy has suffered?

That is a reach. Paroline's behavior is indefensible, and he could well owe Amy some portion of the restitution. There also is something to be said for giving the victim her own say and letting the criminals fight among themselves. But picking one porn viewer out of that vast array to bear the full cost is unreasonable. ...

Sometimes, justice requires being fair even to those who don't deserve it. And justice in this case means rejecting the argument that Paroline must pay for all his fellow criminals.

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

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

ACROSS

- 1 Ump
- 4 Asian nation
- 8 Brubeck of jazz
- 12 Ostrich's cousin
- 13 Chills and fever
- 14 Toolbar symbol
- 15 "Rocky Horror" dance
- 17 Neuter
- 18 Had night visions
- 19 Omega precursor
- 21 Witness
- 22 Computer use period
- 26 Compare
- 29 Firmament
- 30 Pop
- 31 Beezlebub's specialty
- 32 Old French coin
- 33 Sentence component

55 Illuminated

DOWN

- 1 Part of AARP accessories
- 2 Eastern potentate
- 3 Rant and rave
- 4 Sheriffs, e.g.
- 5 Marble type
- 6 "— American Cousin"
- 7 Samarai ritual suicide
- 8 Finger or toe
- 9 Expert
- 10 Encyc. spine abbr.
- 11 Conclusion
- 12 Agent supporter?
- 13 Conclusion
- 14 For fear that
- 15 Tease
- 16 Tokyo's old name
- 17 Right angle
- 18 Anger
- 25 Vortex
- 26 Toy brick name
- 27 Terrible guy?
- 28 What a sporan
- 29 Costa del —
- 30 Tracemark for Mr. Rogers
- 31 Stately dance
- 32 Parisian pal
- 33 Fix a patchy lawn
- 34 Urge
- 35 Street urchin
- 36 Irritate
- 37 "The King —"
- 38 For fear that
- 39 Tease
- 40 Tokyo's old name
- 41 Right angle
- 42 Anger

Answer to Previous Puzzle

- 34 Four qts.
- 35 Puncturing tool
- 36 Lette a corneback
- 37 Prompt
- 39 Solifery
- 40 Farrow or Hamm
- 41 Star-related
- 45 Preserve
- 48 Mountain or Pacific
- 50 Between tasks
- 51 Huron neighbor
- 52 Egos' counterparts
- 53 Kid's toy
- 54 Tear

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

I-31

CRYPTOQUIP

BZF PQLAFB TYXBNPFLX QLF  
 XN AFFC NC KYHVCU MLFCTZ  
 TZFFXF BZQB BZFH'EE

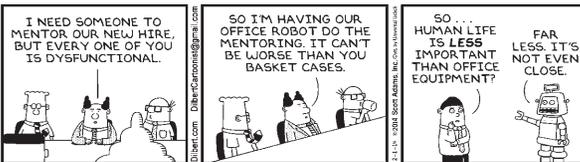
PQAF Q KLVP EVCF MNL VB.  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU'RE TAKING A LONG BATH, I RECKON YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL NOT TO SET OFF THE SOAK DETECTOR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals L

Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



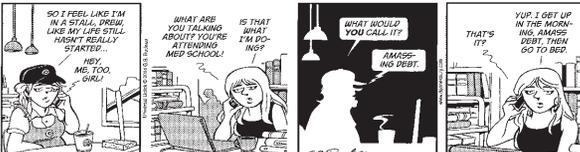
Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Doonesbury



Fort Knox



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	
12							13						
14							15						
16						17	18				19		
		20	21					22	23				
24	25	26		27			28		29		30	31	
32		33						34					
35						36					37		
		38	39							41			
42	43			44	45					46	47	48	49
50					51				52	53			
54										55			
56										57			

ACROSS

- 1 Cries loudly
- 6 Packed down
- 12 Prestige
- 13 Diamond judge
- 14 Less ruddy
- 15 Register
- 16 Complaint
- 17 Requests
- 19 Indispensable
- 20 Kin of IMHO
- 22 Storefront abbr.
- 24 Conk out
- 27 A really long time
- 29 Wings
- 32 Gulliver's creator
- 35 Sought restitution
- 36 Verifiable
- 37 Sch. org.
- 38 CSA soldier
- 40 "— a Kick Out of You"
- 42 Playground game
- 44 Ladder component
- 46 Stereo setup
- 50 Excuses
- 52 Looked lecherously
- 54 Decalves by coaxing
- 55 Exit
- 56 Move unsteadily
- 57 Biblical verb

DOWN

- 1 Foundation
- 2 Rue the run
- 3 Slight odor
- 4 Golfer Trevino
- 5 Good poker hand
- 6 Ivory tooth
- 7 Lancaster sect
- 8 Gasoline stat
- 9 Fire
- 10 Pennsylvania part
- 11 Say it isn't so
- 12 "Cash —"
- 18 Administer an oath of office
- 21 Angkor —
- 23 Uncooked
- 24 Dance club VIPs

- 25 Debtor's letters
- 26 Pep up
- 28 Got cozy
- 30 Sternward
- 31 Greek H
- 33 Citric beverage
- 34 Get a gander
- 39 Pickling solution
- 41 Yonder
- 42 Diplomacy
- 43 Lotion additive
- 45 Cold War initials
- 47 Enrages
- 48 Celebration suffix
- 49 Psyche sections
- 51 Wager
- 53 Swelled head

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

2-1 CRYPTOQUIP

RT ZCTKBTDNHA GHEPVM

NREN RPM RUVT PMD'N

EQMUHBNTHA ZPHNRA, QBN P

REJT MKBEHPW TJPWTDGT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE MARKET CUSTOMERS ARE SO KEEN ON BUYING FRENCH CHEESE THAT THEY'LL MAKE A BRIE LINE FOR IT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals H



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Hybrid 4G LTE EDGEST

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SoftBank 302SH



Effective Cost

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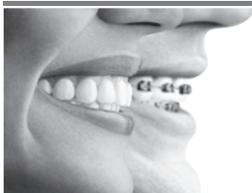
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# SCOREBOARD

## Sports on AFN

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## Deals

### Wednesday's transactions

**BASEBALL**  
**Major League Baseball**  
**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER** — Suspended Philadelphia LHP Christopher Torres (10-1) for 30 days for a second positive test for a drug of abuse under the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

**KANSAS CITY ROYALS** — Acquired OF Carlos Peguero from Seattle for a player to be named and cash considerations. Designated LHP Everett Teaford for assignment.

**LOS ANGELES ANGELS** — Announced the additions of orthopedic surgeons Dr. Robert Grunert and Dr. Michael F. Shephard to its medical staff.

**MINNESOTA TWINS** — Agreed to terms with RHP Matt Guerrier on a minor league contract.

**NEW YORK YANKEES** — Agreed to terms with RHP Bruce Billings, INF Rocco Baldi, OF Robert Lutz, RHP Brian Gruber, RHP Chris Leroux, OF Russ Canzler, INF Scott Sizemore, OF Yungwoon Son and INF Zelig Wheeler on minor league contracts.

**TEXAS RANGERS** — Claimed LHP Jose Bautista off waivers from Tampa Bay. Designated RHP Chaz Roe for assignment.

**CINCINNATI REDS** — Agreed to terms with INF Francisco Santana on a minor league contract.

**INFLUENZA CARDINALS** — Agreed to terms with INF Daniel Descalso on a one-year contract.

**NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**  
**CLEVELAND CAVALIERS** — Assigned G/F Sergio Karaszew to Canton (NBA D-League).  
**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** — Named Aldrich O'Toire "Murry" and Jeremy Teeter to the coaching staff.

**FOOTBALL**  
**National Football League**  
**ARIZONA CARDINALS** — Signed K Danny Hrapman to a reserve/future contract.

**BALTIMORE RAVENS** — Named Steve Berman to the coaching staff and Brian Priddy line ends coach.

**BUFFALO BILLS** — Named Jim Hostler as offensive line coach.

**Miami Dolphins** — Announced assistant coaches Brian Grabiner and the team have mutually parted ways.

**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS** — Named Brendan Daily defensive assistant coach.

**San Francisco 49ers** — Named Ethan Casson chief revenue officer.

**ST. LOUIS RAMS** — Fired defensive coordinator Tim Walton.

**Canadian Football League**  
**TORONTO ARGONAUTS** — Acquired QB Zach Collaros.

**WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS** — Acquired DE Matt Hillman from Hamilton for the rights to WR Giovanni Aprile.

**Hockey**  
**National Hockey League**  
**ANAHAIM HUCKLES** — Agreed to terms with D Mark Fistric on a three-year contract extension.

**DALLAS STARS** — Signed F Ryan Garlow to a three-year contract extension.

**NEW YORK RANGERS** — Agreed to terms with the team will officially change their franchise name to the New York Islanders beginning at the start of the 2014-15 season.

**WINNIPEG JETS** — Assigned D Paul Postma to St. John's AHL on a conditioning loan.

**SOCCER**  
**Major League Soccer**  
**LA GALAXIES** — Formed LA Galaxy II to compete in USL PRO.

**NEW YORK RED BULLS** — Re-signed D Jonny Evans.

**PHILADELPHIA UNION** — Announced the resignation of coach Brian Burckhardt.

**FLORIDA** — Announced men's freshman basketball F, Chris Walker from the University of North Carolina.

**FRESNO STATE** — Named Lou Major football coach.

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN** — Named Doug Smith as head coach.

**INDIANA STATE** — Named Barrett wide receivers coach and Chad Lunsford tight ends coach.

**MISSOURI STATE** — Named Brian Brown assistant softball coach.

**WAGNER** — Named Jason Houghtaling associate head coach/offensive coordinator.

**YVESHA** — Named Ira Miller men's tennis coach.

## Tennis

### GDF Suez Open

Thursday  
 At Stade Pierre de Coubertin

Purse: \$710,000 (Premier)  
 Surface: Hard-Indoor

**Singles**  
 Elna Svitolina, Ukraine, def. Galina Voskoboeva, Kazakhstan, 6-1, 6-2.

Kirsten Flipkens (8), Belgium, def. Yvonne Hlavackova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-2.

Andrea Petkovic, Germany, def. Kristina Mladenovic, France, 6-2, 6-2.

Sara Errani (3), Italy, def. Karin Knapp, Italy, 6-4, 6-3.

**Doubles**  
 Monica Niculescu, Romania, and Klara Zakopalova, Czech Republic, def. Vera Dushvina, Russia, and Arantxa Parra Santonja, Spain, 6-2, 4-1, 4-1.

Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, and Kveta Peschke (3), Czech Republic, def. Klaudia Jans-Ignacik, Poland, and Raquel Olalla, Romania, 6-4, 6-1.

**Wednesday**  
**First Round**  
 Elna Svitolina, Ukraine, def. Roberta Vinci (6), Italy, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.

Kirsten Flipkens (8), Belgium, def. Mona Barthel, Germany, 6-2, 6-2.

Galina Voskoboeva, Kazakhstan, def. Stefanie Vogels, Switzerland, 5-7, 7-5, 7-6(3).

Kristina Mladenovic, France, def. Simona Halep (5), Romania, 6-4, 6-4.

**Second Round**  
 Maria Sharapova, Russia, def. Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, 6-0, 6-1.

Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, def. Sara Suarez Navarro (7), Spain, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

**Doubles**  
**Quarterfinals**  
 Sara Errani and Roberta Vinci (1), Italy, def. Alice Corinze and Caroline Garcia, France, 3-6, 6-4, 10-5.

### Pattaya Women's Open

At Dusit  
 Pattaya, Thailand

Purse: \$250,000 (Int'l.)  
 Surface: Hard-Outdoor

**Singles**  
 Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, def. Tadeja Majerič, Slovenia, 7-6(4), 6-3.

Lucy Karsone, Australia, def. Elena Lertkitkarnsri, Thailand, 6-3, 6-3.

Alison Van Uytendaele, Belgium, def. Dulhendera Rajapaksa, Sri Lanka, 6-3, 6-4.

Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, def. Sabine Lisiecki, Germany, walk-over.

Anna Georges, Germany, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (2), Russia, walk-over.

**Quarterfinals**  
 Noppawan Lertcheewakarn, Thailand, and Anna Zvonareva, Russia, def. Ekaterini Panagouli, Greece, and Aleksandra Krunic, Croatia, 6-3, 6-2.

Andrea Hlavackova, Czech Republic, and Martina Hingis, Switzerland (2), Spain, def. Chang Liang, China, and Nika Kunikundla, Thailand, 6-4, 6-2.

Viktoriya Kuznetsov, and Anastasia Rodionova (3), Australia, def. Kimiko Date-Krumm (4), and Ajia Tomljanovic, Croatia, 7-5, 6-1.

## AP spotlight

**Jan. 31**  
 1941 — Joe Judge lands on Red Burman in the fifth round at Madison Square Garden to retain the world heavyweight title.

1950 — High school pitcher Paul Pettit wins his first major league contract for \$100,000. He did so, Pittsburgh has to purchase his contract from a film producer who had signed him to an over-the-hill contract as an athlete/corner.

1952 — The Pittsburgh Pirates and the New York Yankees trade for an over-the-hill pitcher. The Pirates send Red Skis to the Yankees for \$35 in the second quarter of the deal. The Yankees send Red Skis to the Pirates for \$42 in the Super Bowl. Four MVP Dodger winners pass for four touchdowns and a record 340 yards. Timmy Smith rushes for a record 240 yards.

1953 — The Denver Nuggets scores a career-high 45 points, hands out 12 assists and grabs 11 rebounds in a 123 win over New Jersey. The 5-foot-11 guard becomes the youngest player to lead a triple-double.

1998 — The Dallas Cowboys win the Super Bowl, beating Buffalo 27-17 and giving the Bills their third straight loss in the title game.

1998 — Martina Hingis, 17, becomes the youngest player to open a year to defend a Grand Slam title, capturing her second Australian Open with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Conchita Martínez.

1999 — John Elway gets his second straight Super Bowl win, leading the Broncos 42-10 in the Super Bowl. Four MVP Dodger winners pass for four touchdowns and a record 340 yards. Timmy Smith rushes for a record 240 yards.

2004 — Justin Henin-Hardenne wins the first Grand Slam title, capturing her dominance in finals against another top-ranked player, Kim Clijsters, 6-4, 6-3 in win in the Australian Open women's title match.

2004 — Carolina ties an NHL record for wins in a month, going 13-1 in January after an 8-2 win over Montreal.

## Pro hockey

### NHL Eastern Conference

**Atlantic Division**

Team	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	52	14	5	117	155	115
Tampa Bay	53	17	9	117	151	117
Montreal	53	20	9	114	147	119
Ottawa	53	26	5	111	134	114
Washington	53	23	10	106	137	116
Buffalo	52	14	8	106	112	101

**Metropolitan Division**

Team	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	55	23	3	117	128	118
N.Y. Rangers	55	23	3	114	139	120
Philadelphia	53	24	9	114	139	120
Carolina	53	24	9	114	139	120
N.Y. Islanders	53	24	9	114	139	120
Washington	53	24	8	113	138	123
New Jersey	52	21	8	105	157	138
Minnesota	51	27	8	105	157	138

**Western Conference**

**Central Division**

Team	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	50	19	13	79	159	155
St. Louis	52	36	11	77	189	119
Colorado	52	34	5	113	137	117
N.Y. Islanders	52	29	20	113	137	117
Dallas	53	24	8	104	154	157
Minnesota	52	25	5	104	154	157
Winnipeg	55	25	5	102	152	162

**Pacific Division**

Team	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	55	39	11	83	184	134
San Jose	54	34	14	86	185	142
Los Angeles	55	37	9	83	139	143
Vancouver	55	29	19	83	139	143
Phoenix	52	37	11	75	149	166
Calgary	53	27	14	75	149	166
Edmonton	52	37	11	75	149	166

**Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.**

**Best of 7 series**

Boston 6, Florida 2

Philadelphia 5, Detroit 0

Washington 5, Buffalo 4, OT

Montreal 3, Carolina 0

New York 2, New Jersey 2

Nashville 4, Winnipeg 3

Washington 4, Phoenix 2

Chicago 4, Chicago 0, OT

Chicago 4, Anaheim 2

**Wednesday's games**

N.Y. Rangers 2, N.Y. Islanders 1

Edmonton 2, Vancouver 2

Chicago 5, Vancouver 2

**Thursday's games**

Montreal at Boston

Philadelphia at New York

Washington at Columbus

Chicago at Ottawa

New Jersey at Dallas

Minnesota at Colorado

Phoenix at Tampa Bay

Buffalo at Phoenix

Philadelphia at Anaheim

Pittsburgh at Los Angeles

N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers

St. Louis at Carolina

Washington at Detroit

New Jersey at Nashville

Chicago 4, Anaheim 2

**Saturday's games**

Edmonton at St. Louis

Tampa Bay at Montreal

Philadelphia at Los Angeles

Ottawa at Toronto

Chicago at Columbus

Nashville at St. Louis

Phoenix at Philadelphia

## College basketball

### Top 25

**Wednesday**

1. Arizona (21-0) beat Stanford 60-57.

2. California (20-0) beat Missouri 51-42.

2. Syracuse (20-0) beat Wake Forest 67-57; North Carolina 77-57.

4. Florida (12-1) did not play.

5. Mississippi State (Thursday).

6. Texas (22-0) did not play.

Next vs. Evansville, Saturday.

7. Kentucky (18-1) did not play.

Next vs. Baylor, Saturday.

8. Kansas (16-4) beat No. 16 Iowa State 82-81.

9. Oklahoma State (19-2) did not play.

Next vs. Baylor, Saturday.

9. Villanova (18-2) did not play.

Next vs. Temple, Saturday.

10. Kentucky (18-4) did not play.

Next vs. Purdue, Thursday.

10. Michigan (15-5) did not play.

Next vs. Missouri, Saturday.

12. Louisville (17-3) did not play.

Next vs. No. 12 Cincinnati, Thursday.

13. Cincinnati (19-2) did not play.

Next vs. No. 12 Louisville, Thursday.

14. Wisconsin (17-4) lost to Northwestern 66-56.

Next vs. No. 24 Ohio State, Saturday.

15. Iowa (16-5) did not play.

Next at Illinois, Saturday.

16. Iowa State (15-4) lost to No. 8 Kansas 92-81.

Next vs. No. 23 Oklahoma, Saturday.

16. Wichita State (17-4) did not play.

Next at No. 2 Syracuse, Saturday.

17. Memphis (16-4) did not play.

Next vs. Saint Joseph's, Saturday.

19. Saint Louis (19-2) beat Richmond 77-69.

Next vs. George Mason, Saturday.

20. Creighton (18-3) did not play.

Next vs. Saint Joseph's, Saturday.

21. Missouri (17-3) lost to St. Bonaventure 65-55.

Next at Saint Joseph's, Saturday.

22. Memphis (16-4) beat UCF 69-59.

Next vs. Saint Joseph's, Saturday.

23. Oklahoma State (17-4) did not play.

Next at No. 12 Cincinnati, Saturday.

24. Oklahoma State (16-5) lost to Penn State 71-67.

Next vs. No. 14 Wisconsin, Saturday.

25. Texas (16-4) did not play.

Next vs. No. 6 Kansas, Saturday.

**Top 25 schedule**

**Saturday's games**

No. 1 Arizona at California

No. 2 Syracuse vs. No. 17 Duke

No. 3 Michigan State vs. No. 10 Indiana

No. 4 Wichita State vs. Evansville

No. 5 Michigan State vs. Colorado State

No. 6 Kansas at No. 25 Texas Tech

No. 7 Michigan State vs. Georgetown at Madison Square Garden

NBA

# Durant leads OKC in rout of Heat

## LeBron loses duel despite 34-point effort

By **TIM REYNOLDS**  
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Down by 18 points midway through the opening quarter, Kevin Durant and the Oklahoma City Thunder looked well on their way to witnessing a rout.

That's exactly what happened. And they enjoyed every moment.

Durant remained sizzling with 33 points, Serge Ibaka added 22 and the Thunder roared back from an abysmal start they trailed 22-4 early to embarrass the Miami Heat 112-95 on Wednesday night, erasing that big deficit out of the gate by outscoring the two-time defending champions by 43 points over a 33-minute span.

"They were ready for us to come in and play," Durant said. "They hit some tough shots early on, a few three's, and we didn't panic. We just tried to stay together and that's what we did. Our bench was great in getting us back in that game."

The Thunder led by as many as 25, and shot 16-for-27 from three-point range. Miami was 3-for-19 from beyond the arc.

Durant has now scored for 30 points in 12 straight games, matching the league's longest such streak since Tracy McGrady did it in 14 consecutive outings in the 2002-03 season. The Thunder extended their winning streak to nine, inching them closer to Indiana in the race for the league's best record. And the Oklahoma City bench outscored Miami's reserves 39-21, with Jeremy Lamb scoring 18 and Derek Fisher going 5-for-5 from three-point range for his 15 points.

"There's no running away from it," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Other than the first eight minutes of the game they out-classed us tonight. They absolutely deserved this win."

LeBron James scored 34 points for Miami, his 1-on-1 duel with Durant not really amounting to much on a night where the Heat allowed 25 points off turnovers and blew an 18-point lead for just the fourth time since he, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh became



ALAN DIAZ/AP

Miami Heat forward LeBron James puts pressure on Oklahoma City Thunder forward Kevin Durant during the fourth quarter on Wednesday in Miami. The Thunder rallied from an 18-point deficit to win

**"It would have been fun to clear the court and watch them go 1-on-1."**

**Scott Brooks**  
Thunder coach

teammates nearly four years ago.

Bosh scored 18 points and Wade added 15 for Miami.

"We played well to start the game," James said. "We played well all the way until like the second quarter. From that point on they did what they want to do."

Much of the buzz going into the night was about the MVP race, and how this might be the season that Durant finally catches James for the league's top individual award.

Head-to-head, they weren't separated by much. But for just the fourth time in 17 meetings between their teams, Durant came out on top.

"It would have been fun to clear the court and watch them go 1-on-1," Thunder coach Scott Brooks said.

Ibaka opened the scoring with a jumper, and the Heat answered with an immediate 18-0 run, not even needing 5 minutes to get

what appeared to be complete control. With 6:20 left in the opening quarter, Bosh made a pair of free throws to make it 22-4.

That pretty much ended the Heat highlights for the evening.

By the end of the first, the Thunder were within nine. Lamb scored 13 in the second quarter alone, helping Oklahoma City take a 55-50 lead into the break, with the Thunder already having scored 19 points off turnovers.

The third quarter, Durant and the Thunder put it away.

Durant and James seemed to be playing a little game of 'Can you top this?' in that period, both finishing with 12 points in the 12 minutes. The difference was, Durant was getting plenty of help, and James wasn't getting much.

"Rucker Park, that's what was going through my head," Durant said, referring to the New York basketball landmark where he scored 66 points in a game during

## Did you know

Thunder forward Kevin Durant has finished second to LeBron James in league MVP voting each of the past two seasons.



SOURCE: The Associated Press

the summer of 2011. "It was fun... I'm sure the fans got what they wanted to see with that one."

Said James: "It's fun competition. It's been a while since I was able to do something like that."

Fisher connected on a three-pointer to end the quarter, pushing Oklahoma City's margin to 16, and the Heat had no answers in the fourth.

"We have some work to do," Spoelstra said. "We're like everybody else in the league. Nobody is infallible. We have some things to improve on. We know the things we have to improve on. We're not there yet."

## Scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

#### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	24	21	.533	—
Brooklyn	20	23	.465	3
New York	18	27	.400	6
Philadelphia	15	32	.326	9½
Boston	15	33	.313	10½

#### Southeast Division

Miami	33	13	.711	—
Atlanta	23	21	.523	8½
Washington	22	23	.489	10
Charlotte	20	27	.426	13
Orlando	12	35	.255	21

#### Central Division

Indiana	35	9	.795	—
Chicago	23	22	.511	12½
Detroit	17	27	.400	17½
Cleveland	16	29	.356	19½
Milwaukee	8	37	.178	27½

### Western Conference

#### Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	33	13	.717	—
Houston	33	17	.664	3
Dallas	26	21	.553	7½
Memphis	24	20	.545	8
New Orleans	19	26	.422	13½

#### Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	37	10	.787	—
Portland	33	13	.717	3½
Minnesota	22	22	.511	13
Denver	22	22	.500	13½
Utah	16	29	.356	20

#### Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	31	15	.688	—
Phoenix	27	18	.600	4½
Golden State	27	19	.587	5
L.A. Lakers	20	28	.418	16
Sacramento	15	30	.333	16½

#### Tuesday's games

New Orleans 100, Cleveland 89
Detroit 103, Orlando 87
New York 114, Boston 88
Houston 97, San Antonio 90
Memphis 98, Portland 81
Washington 98, Golden State 85
Indiana 104, L.A. Lakers 92

#### Wednesday's games

Oklahoma City 117, Miami 95
Toronto 98, Orlando 83
Philadelphia 96, Boston 94
Detroit at Atlanta, op.
Minnesota 88, New Orleans 77
Phoenix 126, Milwaukee 117
Houston 117, Dallas 115
Charlotte 101, Denver 98
Chicago 96, San Antonio 86
Memphis 89, Sacramento 89

#### Thursday's games

Phoenix at Indiana
Cleveland at New York
L.A. Clippers at Golden State

#### Friday's games

Milwaukee at Orlando
Atlanta at Philadelphia
Memphis at Minnesota
Oklahoma City at Brooklyn
Sacramento at Dallas
Toronto at Denver
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers
Golden State at Utah

#### Saturday's games

Brooklyn at Indiana
Oklahoma City at Washington
Philadelphia at Detroit
Minnesota at Atlanta
Cleveland at Houston
Milwaukee at Memphis
Atlanta at New Orleans
Sacramento at San Antonio
Miami at New York
Charlotte at Phoenix
Toronto at Portland
Utah at L.A. Clippers

#### Sunday's game

Orlando at Boston
-------------------

### Calendar

**Feb. 14-16** — All-Star weekend, New Orleans.  
**Feb. 20** — Trade deadline, 3 p.m. EST.  
**April 15** — Last day of regular season.  
**April 19** — Playoffs begin.  
**May 20** — Draft lottery.  
**June 5** — NBA Finals begin.  
**June 16** — Draft entry withdrawal deadline.  
**June 26** — NBA draft.

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## OLYMPICS

# Pushing the envelope

## Snowboarder White goes for more gold in slopestyle and halfpipe at Sochi Games

By EDDIE PELLIS  
The Associated Press

**T**he question hovers over Shaun White — not so much the way a black cloud might linger but more like a whiff of smoke he casually can bat away.

What if he's not good enough?

Instead of avoiding those sort of conundrums, the world's best snowboarder pursues them.

■ On the halfpipe, where he spent the better part of a year trying a trick he couldn't master but nonetheless emerged a favorite for a third straight Olympic gold.

■ On the slopestyle course, where he eagerly took up the challenge presented by the Olympic overlords, who gave him a chance to win two gold medals in Sochi.

■ Even on the concert stage — with a guitar in his hand — where White and his band will soon tour the country to promote their newly released album.

Much as they watch him do tricks on the mountain, fans will come to listen to the superstar play and see if he can make it as a rocker. Part of the thrill is knowing there's at least a chance that he cannot.

"I like it. I like the fact that these things are there," the 27-year-old action sports icon said.

White heads to Sochi as arguably the most famous athlete competing. "It's going to push me to do things I never would've done before," he said.

White concedes there's more at stake this time — that he's had to grow up since the last time he hit the grand stage, in Vancouver four years ago.

Back then, he had the gold medal wrapped up with one run left — the so-called victory lap that meant nothing. White used it to stomp his biggest trick, the Double McTwist 1260. It was one of the most electric moments of the Olympics: Totally unnecessary as far as the scoreboard went. But as necessary as far as he was concerned.

"I've got to imagine he did it for himself, for everyone else, for the sport," said Jake Burton, the godfather of snowboarding and one of White's mentors. "He's got very high expectations for himself. I think the progression of the sport is one of the things he expects of himself."

Along those lines, White spent several months, starting in the spring of 2012, trying a triple cork — three head-over-heels flips. Nobody had ever done it in a halfpipe — White couldn't either.

Yet he didn't recoil from releasing an unflinching portrayal of that setback in a self-produced documentary — a story that ends with a success: White's co-opting, then improving upon, a 1440-degree spinning jump that one of his key rivals, Iouri Podladtchikov, pulls off first. Podladtchikov, aka the "I-Pod," named it the "Yolo."

White's longtime coach, Bud Keene, describes the very calculating process the Olympic champion uses when he decides which tricks he'll focus on.

"He looks at the world standard, extrapolates it into the future based on how far the competition can push until game time, then adds 50 percent to that level," Keene said. "Basically, his formula for the Olympics is to show up 1½ times better a rider as his nearest competition. That way, if he has a bad day and they have a good day, he can still win."

It's an even tougher hill to climb in slopestyle, a trick-filled trip down the mountain that White more or less left behind for a half-dozen years to focus on the halfpipe.

When the International Olympic Committee added it to the program, presenting White a chance to win two golds, he never hesitated to throw his board into the ring. He did it knowing he'd be one of only a handful of riders who will try both disciplines — and did it knowing there are dozens of competitors who have been focusing on slopestyle exclusively while White's time has been divided.

"All these competitors in slopestyle, they haven't really had to deal with me," he said. "I'm hoping I can surprise them a little bit. Show them something new."

It's always something new with him. Clothing lines. Snowboard gear. Mountain bikes. Gum flavors.

Put them all together, and it's no wonder White has a 63 percent awareness among the general population, according to a survey by the global marketing research firm, Repucom. Seventy-four percent of people aware of White identify him as a trendsetter and 81 percent say he is influential in today's society. It helps explain how White can move the needle with something as mundane as, say, a haircut.

These days, he sports a sleeked-back look that's more suited to the red carpet than the slopes and bears little resemblance to the unkempt, tomato-red locks that were once his trademark. He donated his hair to Locks of Love, which serves financially disadvantaged kids who lose their hair for medical reasons.

"I didn't get the magnitude of this decision until afterward, but I didn't really ask anyone," he said. "I just did it. It was something I wanted to do. I felt like it was a weight lifted. I felt like it was time. One of the best decisions I've ever made."

The two-month leadup to the Olympics has been grueling — filled with at least one significant injury (left ankle) and one big crash (in Mammoth, Calif.).

He skipped the Winter X Games, where he would have gotten

the best look at his main competition and they could've seen him.

Instead, he trained privately, his eye fixed squarely

on Sochi and the goal ahead: Two gold medals.

Improbable, some might say, but a challenge the world's best snowboarder

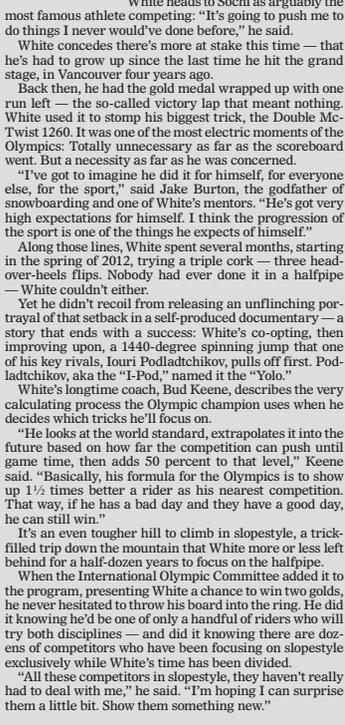
wouldn't shy away from.

"I've never really lowered my sights from that," White said. "It's driven me this far. At any competition, it's a risk you take that you might not win it, that someone might be better than you. But when you get into this, you know you're putting yourself up for that from the very beginning."

**Shaun White is back for his third Olympics, having already won gold in 2006 and 2010 in the halfpipe. This time, though, White also tackles the discipline of slopestyle, hoping to win two gold medals in Sochi.**

ANDREW P. SCOTT, DALLAS MORNING NEWS/KRT

sochi  
2014



# HIGH SCHOOL



HANNAH MAY GREER HICKS/Special to Stars and Stripes

**M.C. Perry guard Naomi Ziola dribbles past Zama defender Ariel Hicks during a game in December. The Samurai girls are making a rare trip to play international schools in the Tokyo area.**

## Perry making unusual trip to play in Tokyo

By DAVE ORNAUER  
Stars and Stripes

Matthew C. Perry basketball makes a journey into rarely charted territory this weekend, and at least one of the coaches is looking forward to it.

Only once before have the Samurai visited a Kanto Plain international-school campus, much less two. That changes Friday when the Samurai boys visit Christian Academy Japan, then on Saturday the boys head to St. Mary's, and girls — their first trip to face Kanto Plain international competition — to Seisen International.

Perry is a Division II school, while CAJ, Seisen and St. Mary's are Division I, but coach Dewayne Pigge' thinks his Samurai boys team is up to the test.

"I believe we're competitive enough to compete with international schools in Tokyo," Pigge' said. Perry, behind guards Jon Cadavos and Vincent Ermitano and post player Jarell Davis, is 8-5 overall this season and 4-5 in DODDS Japan.

Both schools are about 45 minutes to an hour away from Yokota, where the Samurai teams will bunk overnight Friday.

"It is something new for Perry, having not played (in the) Kanto

Plain. I think it's a challenge for us in preparation" for the Far East tournament next month, which the Samurai will host.

Perry's girls, fueled by center Ani Erhart and guards Briana Drake and Naomi Ziola, are seeking their first win of the season after dropping their first 11. Seisen is 8-2 and CAJ 1-5. It's the last long-haul trip for Perry's teams this season.

Elsewhere on the hardwood, Kinnick and E.J. King head to snow country for a weekend DODDS Japan series at Edgrem.

Okinawa's teams continue their industrious schedule of recent weeks, most notably Kubasaki, whose boys and girls welcome Maehara and Haebaru on Friday and Orok and Kita Nakagusuku on Saturday.

The only game scheduled in Korea — where the Lunar New Year is being observed — pits Daegu at Humphreys on Saturday.

Guam High's boys, who have matched the best start in school history at 5-0, seek to keep that

ledger perfect Friday at home against John F. Kennedy (5-1) and Saturday at St. Paul (3-2).

The only mat action this weekend is the Kanto Plain Invitational, the final meet of the regular season featuring the six Kanto Plain wrestling schools at CAJ. Kinnick is coming off a DODDS Japan meet at Zama where it won 10 titles and won going away.

"We still have some issues to fix, we need to get better at each weight," Red Devils coach Gary Wilson said. "But we had a good week of practice. We're as ready as we can be. We just need to work on a few things."

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**Dave Ornauer**  
Pacific sportsblog  
Check in for frequent updates stripes.com/pacblog

## Game of the week

### Wrestling: Kanto Plain Invitational Tournament

**When** — 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014.

**Where** — Christian Academy Japan, Tokyo.

**What** — Final regular-season tune-up for the six Kanto Plain wrestling schools before their annual Kanto Plain Association of Secondary Schools finals on Feb. 8 at St. Mary's International School and the DODDS Pacific Far East meet Feb. 13-15 in Yokota. The other three schools competing are American School In Japan and DODDS Japan entries Zama and Nile C. Kinnick.

**Wrestlers to watch** — As with many prior meets between

the schools, the Kanto Invitational will feature three returning Far East Tournament champions in Ryan Vasconcellos (122 pounds last year, 135 this year) and Jeffrey Koo (168, 180) of St. Mary's and Eric Overton (129) of CAJ.

**Also** — In their last meet on Jan. 23, a dual meet at ASUJ, Vasconcellos trimmed down to 129 and faced Overton. Vasconcellos won by technical fall and St. Mary's routed CAJ 43-19.

— Dave Ormauer, Stars and Stripes

## Three more key matchups

### Basketball Perry vs. International school at Tokyo

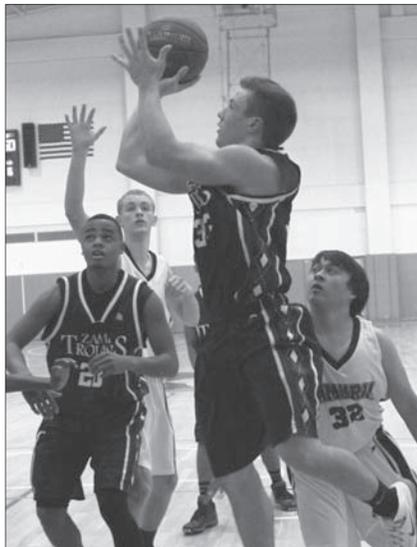
M.C. Perry's boys and girls basketball teams, which play at the small-schools level, make a rare visit to Tokyo-area Division I international schools. They each go to CAJ on Friday, then the boys head to St. Mary's and girls to Seisen on Saturday. Perry and Seisen used to compete together in Far East Division II tournaments, but haven't played since Seisen resumed competing at the D-I level in the mid-2000s.

### Basketball Kinnick and King at Edgrem

Kinnick and E.J. King make the pilgrimage to Misawa Air Base, where the Edgrem Eagles lie in wait. It's the last long-haul journey for the Cobras and next-to-last for the Red Devils during the regular season before their Far East tournaments Feb. 17-20.

### Basketball Kubasaki vs. Japanese teams

Kubasaki's boys and girls have a full house of games scheduled against Japanese teams, as Maehara and Orok come calling on the Dragons boys and Haebaru and Kita Nakagusuku visit the Dragons girls. The latter is a familiar foe for the girls; Kubasaki beat Kita Naka in last week's 8th Okinawa-American Friendship Tournament semifinal.



HANNAH MAY GREER HICKS/Special to Stars and Stripes

**Zama's Jason Chianerra shoots between M.C. Perry defender R.J. Buldoc and Zama teammate Michael Patterson during a playing game at Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan. Perry's boys are competing international schools in Tokyo this weekend.**

## Schedule

**Japan**  
Boys basketball  
Friday, Jan. 31  
St. Mary's at ASUJ, M.C. Perry at CAJ  
Friday, Jan. 31-Saturday, Feb. 1  
Kinnick and King at Edgrem  
Saturday, Feb. 1  
ASUJ at YIS and St. Maur, M.C. Perry at St. Mary's  
Girls basketball  
Friday, Jan. 31  
M.C. Perry at CAJ  
Friday, Jan. 31-Saturday, Feb. 1  
Kinnick and King at Edgrem  
Saturday, Feb. 1  
St. Maur at ASUJ, M.C. Perry at Seisen

**Wrestling**  
Saturday, Feb. 1  
Kanto Plain Invitational at CAJ  
**South Korea**  
Basketball, Blue Division  
Saturday, Feb. 1  
Daegu at Humphreys

**Okinawa**  
Boys basketball  
Friday, Jan. 31  
Maehara at Kubasaki  
Saturday, Feb. 1  
Orok at Kubasaki  
Girls basketball  
Friday, Jan. 31  
Gushikawa at Kadena, Haebaru at Kubasaki

Saturday, Feb. 1  
Kita Nakagusuku at Kubasaki  
Monday, Feb. 3  
Maehara at Kadena

**Guam**  
Boys basketball  
Friday, Jan. 31  
FDMS at HCA, JFK at Guam, GW at Okkodo, St. John's at ND, Southern at St. Paul

Saturday, Feb. 1  
St. John's at FDMS, Guam at St. Paul, GW at SSHS, HCA at ND, Southern at JFK

**Softball**  
Saturday, Feb. 1  
Okkodo at JFK, AOLG at GW, Southern vs. SSHS at Okkodo



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# HIGH SCHOOLS: DODDS EUROPE

## Game of the week

### Boys basketball: Kaiserslautern at Ramstein, Wednesday

The homestanding Raiders landed a long-awaited blow on the Royals on Tuesday with a 74-66 victory. The rematch, this time down the autobahn in Ramstein's gym, should be every bit as competitive as the Royals look to reassert the ownership they've enjoyed over their neighbors for years.

In addition to the rivalry, Wednesday's game has implications for the stretch run of the Division I regular season.

Kaiserslautern (4-2) is in the midst of the busiest portion of its schedule. Tuesday's win over Ramstein marked the start of a five-game stretch over

11 days, an extremely heavy slate by DODDS-Europe standards. The team that comes out the other side could be seasoned and confident or fatigued and humbled by defeat.

The Royals, meanwhile, are currently grappling not just with Kaiserslautern but reigning D-I champion Wiesbaden. The Warriors beat Ramstein 78-62 on Saturday, and the teams will tangle again on Saturday. Already 0-2 on their four-game divisional gauntlet, the Royals need to beat at least one of the two to maintain anything close to championship-level swagger.

## Other key matchups

### Girls basketball SHAPE at Brussels Saturday

Defending Division III champion Brussels has a well-deserved reputation for punching above its weight class. The Brigands can further that perception Saturday against the Division II Spartans.

While both teams have considerable talent across their lineups, the game's marquee matchup is between star guards Gina Rhett and Ali DeFazio. Both were at the top of their games last weekend and will need to be again to further their teams' active win streaks.

Rhett and DeFazio each poured in a combined 36 points in Friday and Saturday victories as SHAPE swept Alconbury and Brussels handled Menwith Hill.

The wins improved Brussels to 6-1, and the Brigands appear the favorite to repeat as D-III champion. The Spartans, meanwhile, are locked in battle with a wide range of Division II foes including AFNORTH, Hohenfels, Ansbach, Naples and Aviano.

### Wrestling Patch, Vilseck, Hohenfels at Wiesbaden

Patch and Wiesbaden, two legitimate contenders for the Division I team championship, can look across the mat at each other and find some of the best competition they'll see all season, including the European tournament.

The Warriors are loaded with European contenders in Joseph Spiszer (138 pounds), Steven Brown (160), Brett Witsi (170), Justin Vatcher (182), Hunter Lunasin (220) and Adam Beasley (285).

The Panthers are also stacked with Matthew Bolduc (106), Christopher Matzke (113), Robert Gall (132), Zachary Bolduc (138), Daniel Alvarado (170), Steven Ashbaugh (182), Andrew Brabazon (195) and William Miller (220).

The main event, however, will occur at 152 pounds, where Patch phenom Jaden Fields will encounter Wiesbaden's duo of Brayden Lamb and Alex Wieman. The three are expected to mix it up with Ramstein's Eric Carter at the Feb. 14-15 European championships.

# Patch shooters eye title

BY GREGORY BROOME  
Stars and Stripes

The 2013-14 DODDS-Europe marksmanship championships take place Saturday at Wiesbaden.

**Here's a look at the contenders:**  
**Patch:** The Panthers have been the dominant team this season and look poised to take their title back from Vilseck. The numbers in their favor are startling.

Patch is the only team to post more than 1,400 team points in a meet this season. The Panthers did it four times in five tries; they scored 1,397 in their other.

The Panthers won their five regular-season meets by an average of 135 points.

Patch shooters are the only competitors in DODDS-Europe to score at least 288 individual points in a meet. Four Panthers — Maggie Ehmann, Caelyn Miller, Lucas Gilliland and Erika Hoffman — have hit that number. Ehmann and Miller both scored a 290 on Dec. 7.

**Ansbach:** The Cougars enjoyed three team victories this season, dropping just the first and last meets. Despite that disappointment last Saturday, in which the Cougars actually finished third behind Vilseck and Hohenfels, the team won the regular-season eastern conference points race with 6,714 points to Vilseck's 6,706.

A solid core group including Kaitlynn Carson, Hanna Eckert, Anastacia Henry and Brian Sowders gives the Cougars a realistic chance at a team title.

**Vilseck:** Last season's Falcons team won the European title behind the force of will of a group of long-denied seniors. This year, the team experienced the inevitable letdown from that euphoria.

For a young team in a self-described "rebuilding year," however, Vilseck acquitted itself quite well. The Falcons hung with

Ansbach and Hohenfels throughout, and earned a win over both last Saturday to cap the regular season. Senior Meraleigh Randle posted a 285 to claim individual honors in that same meet, while runner-up Kaitlin Wood, Chandler Johnson and Kiara Faleali also cracked the top 10.

**Hohenfels:** The Tigers won the eastern conference meet on the first weekend of the season, scoring 1,322 points to edge Ansbach and Vilseck. Though their scores held steady, or even improved, over the following four weeks, the rest of the field surpassed them, and they didn't win another meet.

While the team has fallen behind, ace shooter Katherine Gamble gives Hohenfels a good shot at glory on Saturday. Her score of 287 puts her in rare company with Baumholder's Rachel Holliday and the Patch contingent. Michelle Wiley and Isaac Mayfield have also made regular top-10 appearances this season.

**Baumholder:** The Bucs finished second to Patch on five straight occasions in the regular season. Their closest brush with an upset came Dec. 14 in a 72-point defeat that saw Baumholder post a season-high 1,325 points.

Always consistent, Holliday broke out in a big way Jan. 11 with an elite score of 287. The team's other top shooters include Tristan Maddox and Kris Martinez.

**Wiesbaden:** The newest faces on the marksmanship scene are quickly becoming familiar to their DODDS-Europe foes.

The Warriors bested fellow recent addition Alconbury to take the third and final European championship berth allotted the western conference. Wiesbaden edged Alconbury for third place in four of five meets, each time finishing behind Patch and Baumholder.

Though opposing coaches expect the Warriors to contend in

the future, this year probably won't be their year. Max Petrunyak, Josh Yarbrough, and Antonia Mualley represent the home team's best chance at a surprise.

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## Schedule

### Basketball

**Friday**  
Menwith Hill at Alconbury  
Rota, Baumholder at AFNORTH  
Wiesbaden at Bitburg  
Black Forest Academy at Kaiserslautern

Ansbach at Hohenfels  
Aviano at Florence  
Vicenza at Marymount  
AOSR at Sigonella

**Saturday**  
Menwith Hill at Alconbury  
Rota, Baumholder at AFNORTH  
SHAPE at Brussels  
Lakenheath at Colham  
BFA at Kaiserslautern  
Ramstein at Wiesbaden  
Vilseck at Ansbach  
Schweinfurt/Bamberg at Hohenfels  
Aviano at Florence  
Vicenza at Marymount  
AOSR at Sigonella

**Wednesday**  
Kaiserslautern at Ramstein (boys)  
Ramstein at Kaiserslautern (girls)

### Wrestling

**Saturday**  
SHAPE, Alconbury, Brussels, AFNORTH at Lakenheath  
Ansbach, BFA, Kaiserslautern, Baumholder, Bitburg at Ramstein  
Patch, Vilseck, Hohenfels at Wiesbaden  
Vicenza, Aviano, Sigonella, AOSR at Naples

### Marksmanship

**Saturday**  
European championships at Wiesbaden



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# SUPER BOWL



JACK DEMPSEY/AP

Denver Broncos tight end Julius Thomas, left, wide receiver Demaryius Thomas (88), and wide receiver Wes Welker (83) have given quarterback Peyton Manning, right, an abundance of options. No team in the history of the NFL ever had as many players (5) catch at least 60 passes or reach the end zone 10 or more times until the Broncos.

## Take your pick With five strong receiver options, Manning spreads the wealth

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — The “Legion of Boom” secondary led by All-Pro Richard Sherman and Earl Thomas may be able to slow down, say, Demaryius Thomas, in the Super Bowl. That doesn’t mean Peyton Manning will have to tap the brakes on Denver’s Lamborghini offense.

Manning doesn’t have just one go-to receiver like most quarterbacks.

He has five.

The Seahawks will match up the NFL’s top pass defense this season against the best passing offense of all time in the Super Bowl at East Rutherford, N.J.

“That’s the matchup everybody is going to be talking about, Peyton Manning vs. the Legion of Boom,” Hall of Famer and Fox color analyst Troy Aikman said. “I’m excited to see it. That’s why I spoke about how disappointing it would be if conditions keep that part of it from happening the way we’d like to see because of the impact the weather may have on the passing game.”

Even if wintry weather curtails his passing prowess, Manning can downshift as easily as he can dial up a deep pass. With the bunch formations and picks and rubs that got under Bill Belichick’s skin, the turbo-charged Broncos have morphed into a yard-chewing, clock-eating machine in the playoffs.

With Manning dinking and dunking his way downfield, Denver’s three most time-

**‘It’s hard to catch a break with him.’**

**Richard Sherman**  
Seahawks CB

defenses have answers for.

“It’s hard to catch a break with him, catch a tendency or something that you can jump,” Sherman said of Manning, who sports a 40-1 TD-to-interception ratio in the red zone this season, including the playoffs — and that one interception bounced off his receiver’s chest, no less.

Of all the records Manning and the Broncos set this season, the one that stands out to Denver wide receivers coach Tyke Tolbert is this: No team in NFL history ever had five players reach the end zone 10 or more times until Demaryius Thomas (4), Knowshon Moreno (13), Julius Thomas (12), Eric Decker (11) and Wes Welker (10) did it this season.

“That tells you about the players we have on our team, the way Peyton spreads the ball out, how anybody can score at any given time,” Tolbert said.

No other team has ever had more than three players hit double-digit TDs.

This quintet helped the Broncos break the once-unfathomable 600-point barrier

consuming drives of the season have all come in the last two weeks, 7-minute masterpieces that rendered Philip Rivers and Tom Brady sideline spectators.

He simply has more outlets than

and each of them also caught 60 or more passes. No team had ever had five players do that before, either.

Manning says his unprecedented 55 TD passes and 5,477 yards through the air are only temporary records which will be surpassed by Brady or Drew Brees in no time — or by any number of other quarterbacks if owners get their way and expand the regular season to 18 games. But Tolbert thinks the 5-10 guys have nothing to sweat.

The beauty of the Broncos’ offense is in its balance.

Manning targeted his three starting receivers almost identically: Demaryius Thomas (8.87 times a game), Welker (8.54), Decker (8.5). Julius Thomas, whose dozen scores broke Hall of Famer Shannon Sharpe’s club record for tight ends, was targeted 6.42 times per game.

“Peyton doesn’t discriminate,” Decker said.

“He doesn’t force passes,” Demaryius Thomas said.

“He just takes what the defense gives him,” said Julius Thomas, the tight end who caught 65 passes for 783 yards after catching just one pass in his first two seasons.

“He just goes down the line and finds whoever is singled up,” offensive coordinator Adam Gase said.

“Or whoever’s wide open,” suggested backup tight end Jacob Tamme, who was left all alone for a TD in Denver’s win over New England last week.

“Yeah, that’s the truth, we’ve got a lot of

weapons on our offense,” said fellow fill-in Bubba Caldwell, who caught two TD passes against San Diego last month when Welker was sidelined. “If you shut down one guy, we’ve got like four or five other guys that we can go to at any other time.”

The common thread among Manning’s many targets, including Moreno, who had three TD catches to go with his 10 TD runs, is a refreshing unselfishness in an age where prima donnas so often demand passes and attention.

“To be an outstanding team, you have to be selfless, not selfish,” Broncos coach John Fox said. “I think that speaks to the character of those guys in that room. They don’t get all pouty about things like that.”

Manning wouldn’t put up with such shenanigans anyway.

“The only thing that makes all of us happy is if we win games, whether that’s blocking all day and having zero catches or whatever it is,” Welker said.

That’s what Decker did before breaking out for eight TDs in December, his blocks on screens springing Demaryius Thomas, who led the league’s receivers with 715 yards after the catch.

“Our whole goal is like that and Decker knows that at any point in time that day can be your day,” Tolbert said. “Like when we went to Kansas City, I mean, who’d have thought he’d have four touchdowns? But any day a guy can go out there, it can be a receiver, it can be a tight end, it can be a running back, any day can be your day.”

## SUPER BOWL

# Manuel Seattle's last link to 2006 game

## Assistant coach was safely before getting hurt in loss to Pittsburgh

The Associated Press

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Marquand Manuel took a step back. All he wanted to do was watch the celebration.

Eight years ago, Manuel — then a safety for Seattle — was joyous on the field after the Seahawks reached their first Super Bowl by beating the Carolina Panthers in the NFC title game.

So when the Seahawks were back celebrating again two Sunday's ago after beating San Francisco, the enjoyment for Manuel was just in watching.

"The easiest thing is to make sure the guys cherish the moment," said Manuel, now an assistant defensive coach for the Seahawks on Pete Carroll's staff. "It's not about what you did yesterday, it's about what you did today."

Manuel has a unique distinction as Sunday's Super Bowl analyst Denver approaches. Manuel is the only player or coach who was on Seattle's only other Super Bowl team that lost to Pittsburgh 21-10 in Detroit in February 2006.

And for Manuel there is a feeling of coming full circle because the other time he went to the Super Bowl with Seattle, he was left watching and not by choice. "I never got hurt," Manuel said. "And it happened."

It was midway through the second quarter when Manuel was injured tackling Pittsburgh's Hines Ward on an 18-yard, end-around run. Manuel appeared to get tangled up with equipment beyond the sideline boundary at the end of his tackle.

That left former practice squad player Etric Pruitt as Seattle's

free safety for the final 2½ quarters. Pruitt, then in his second season from Southern Mississippi, was signed to the active roster in November that season and had played in 11 career games. And Manuel knew immediately after Willie Parker raced 75 yards for a touchdown early in the third quarter to give Pittsburgh a 14-3 lead that Seattle was in trouble.

"I got hurt 8 minutes into the second quarter on a fluke play that I've made a million times and I'm not able to come back. [The] 75-yard run doesn't happen. The halfback pass never happens. Now you're talking about a 14-10 game which is totally different. Now it's a slugfest and the best team wins and I would have put money on our offense to score points," Manuel said. "From that standpoint it always sat with me. It always sat with me that if I were had the opportunity, and that's what I try and instill to the players is take advantage of it because it's been eight years and I'm just getting back and it's not promised to anybody."

Manuel had gotten a chance to start that season after Ken Hamlin was lost for the season because of head injuries sustained during a fight outside a Seattle nightclub in October. But the ending in the Super Bowl was also Manuel's ending in Seattle. He went on to play for Green Bay, Carolina, Denver and Detroit before retiring after the 2009 season.

Coaching had always been a thought — his nickname in the locker room was coach — but what happened in the Super Bowl crystallized that Manuel wanted to help instruct the next genera-



John Lok/Seattle Times/KRT

**The Seahawks' Marquand Manuel, shown here as a safety at the 2006 Super Bowl, is the team's only remaining player or coach who took part in that 21-10 loss to Pittsburgh. Manuel is an assistant defensive coach as the team prepares for the Broncos in Super Bowl XLVII on Sunday.**

tion of players.

It's an odd stroke of coincidence that he ended up with the Seahawks. He was working as a coaching intern during the 2011 season at his alma mater of Florida, then jumped at the chance to join the Seahawks as an assistant special teams coach in 2012. He started working with the defense this season.

"I didn't think I would be drawn to it as much as I was at the end of my career," Manuel said.

"It's like a teacher and you're not just teaching guys based on your knowledge and your experience but you're learning to learn and seeing guys who have trouble and you can visualize those things. I think that's the part that's the most joyous for me."

Not surprising, he's been a sounding board for his players since beating San Francisco. Manuel and linebackers coach Ken Norton Jr. are the only coaches with Super Bowl playing

experience.

"Most of our conversations have been done way prior to this, leading up to the type of season we want to have," Norton said. "The guys are really, really good, they're really mature, they listen well, they have really taken it all in, they understand the hard work they have done to get to this point and they're really enjoying it but again they're really focused on playing football."

# Seahawks return to practice on Lynch's rest day

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It was back to business at the Super Bowl.

With the wackiness of media day out of the way, the Seattle Seahawks and Denver Broncos hit the practice field Wednesday for their first full workouts this week leading up to Sunday's big game. After the training camp Marshawn Lynch got his usual Wednesday off, the only Seahawks player not to participate as the team practiced indoors at the New York Giants' team facility in East Rutherford, N.J. "This is the day we rest Marshawn," coach Pete Carroll said. "Wednesday is always a rest day for him. We've been doing that for years and it's always worked out great."

Wide receiver Doug Baldwin was a full participant after being held out of all three practices last week with a hip injury. Defensive tackle Brandon Mebane was also a full participant after an ankle injury slowed him last week.

The Broncos worked out in pads for nearly two hours after a 30-minute walk-through session, practicing on the synthet-

ic turf outdoor field at the New York Jets' training facility in Florham Park, N.J.

"It was great," Broncos coach John Fox said after a practice in which the temperature dipped to 21 degrees. "We're pretty much weather-proof. We practice in this stuff all the time."

Here's a quick look at a few of the other Super Bowl story lines from Wednesday:

**1 Mum Marshawn:** A question about Skittles, his favorite candy, couldn't even get Lynch to be chatty. The Seahawks running back abruptly ended his media availability — again — walking away from a throng of reporters while escorted by a member of the New Jersey State Police after about 7 uncomfortable minutes in which he answered just a few questions.

Lynch created a stir at media day Tuesday by talking for only 6½ minutes.

He writhed in his seat and leaned his head back at times Wednesday as a few dozen reporters tried to get Lynch to open up during the players' 45-minute availability at the team hotel.

**2 Security issues?:** Federal and local authorities have heightened security and studied intelligence about recent attacks on mass transit in Russia, even though there have been no specific terror threats against the Super Bowl.

Trains, buses and cars taking fans from New York and parts of New Jersey to the stadium and back again "are going to be scanned, they're going to be checked, they're going to be swept," said Col. Kick Fuentes, head of the New Jersey State Police.

This year's Super Bowl has the distinction of relying on mass transit to take up to 30,000 fans to the game, so the deadly bombings in the southern Russian city of Volgograd have raised worries.

**3 Road to the Super Bowl:** Times Square has transformed from the Crossroads of the World to Super Bowl Boulevard.

The popular tourist spot in midtown Manhattan now includes a toboggan run, the centerpiece of a Super Bowl-themed outdoor street fair. Hundreds of people watched as the shiny silver Vince Lombardi

di Trophy made its debut in a glass case. **4 Pursuing Peyton:** This Super Bowl could have featured Peyton Manning as the quarterback of the Seahawks.

In March 2012, coach Pete Carroll and GM John Schneider waited in a private plane in Denver, wondering if Manning would accept a request to meet with the brain trust of the Seahawks to see if that could be a potential landing spot for the free-agent quarterback.

Manning decided to go to Denver and the Seahawks ended up drafting Russell Wilson.

**5 Weather watch:** It appears MetLife Stadium won't be covered in snow for the Super Bowl.

It'll still be plenty cold on Sunday, but the bone-chilling temperatures many were concerned about might not be too much of a worry, either. According to the National Weather Service, Sunday's high temperature is expected to be 38 degrees. With the opening kickoff scheduled for about 6:30 p.m. EST, the mercury could drop into the 20s by the time the game ends.

# SUPER BOWL

## SEAHAWKS-BRONCOS MATCHUP

By **BARRY WILNER**  
The Associated Press

Matchups for the Super Bowl on Sunday between the Seattle Seahawks and Denver Broncos at MetLife Stadium:

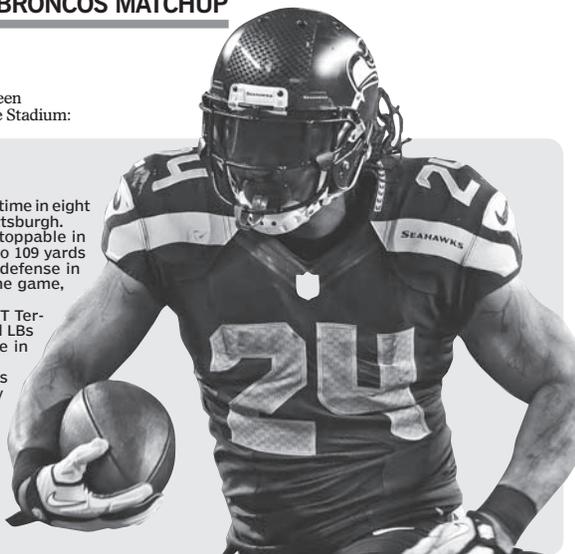
### When the Seahawks have the ball:

**Beast Mode.** And big plays. That's what got the Seahawks to the big game for the second time in eight years, although nobody is left from that team which lost to Pittsburgh. RB **Marshawn Lynch (24), right**, has been pretty much unstoppable in the playoffs after a late-season slump. He powered his way to 109 yards and a 5.0 average per rush against San Francisco's staunch defense in the NFC title game. His 40-yard TD run got Seattle back in the game, and he ran all over New Orleans the previous week.

Denver has stepped up defensively on the ground, led by NT Terrence Knighton (94) — yep, "Pot Roast vs. Beast Mode" — and LBs Danny Trevathan (59) and Wesley Woodyard (52), and will be in excellent shape if it can slow Lynch.

Where the Seahawks sometimes struggle is keeping pass rushers off QB Russell Wilson; he was sacked four times by San Francisco. Phillips led the Broncos with 10 sacks during the season and has two more in the playoffs, while Ayers also has become dangerous.

Denver's battered secondary handled Tom Brady quite well for the AFC championship, so it should ride a wave of confidence into the Meadowlands. Veteran DBs **Champ Bailey (24), below**, Tony Carter (32) and Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (45) will have a tougher time against these receivers than they did against New England.



### Coaching

Seattle's **Pete Carroll, right**, and Denver's John Fox both took over moribund franchises. Now look where they are.

No team is more aggressive, especially on defense, Carroll's specialty, than the Seahawks. He had some success in a previous head coaching stint with the Patriots, then went to USC and won two national titles. Since returning to the pros, Carroll has done a brilliant job turning the Seahawks into a championship contender.

Fox, who missed a month of the schedule after heart surgery, is smart enough to keep the reins very loose on Manning. His background is in defense, where the Broncos struggled until recently. His players and assistants credit his energy and easygoing manner with helping steer them through a season of potholes to get to the Super Bowl.



### Intangibles

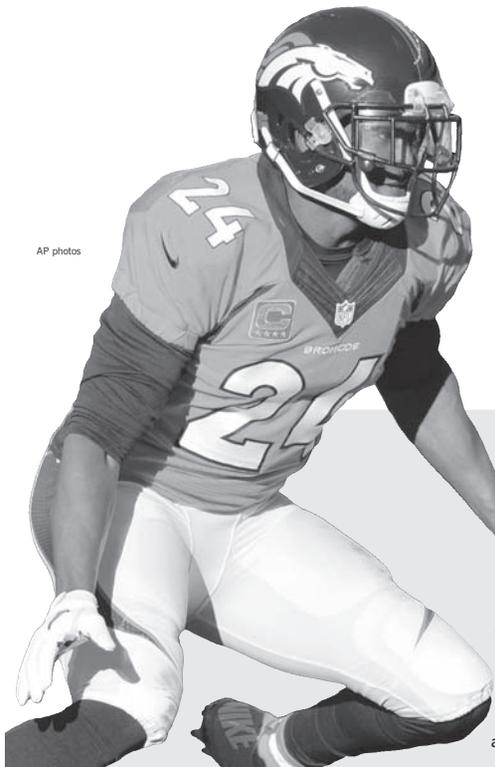
Manning's legacy overrides many other elements of this game. He's already proven to be among the greatest regular-season players the NFL has seen. But he is only 1-1 in Super Bowls; hey, even his younger brother, Eli, is 2-0 in them.

Eli will be on hand in his stadium to root on Peyton, who was in Indianapolis two years ago when his bro beat the Patriots for his second championship.

There's also the possibility, perhaps remote, that Peyton will emulate Broncos boss John Elway and retire should he win a second ring. Elway said he doesn't see that happening.

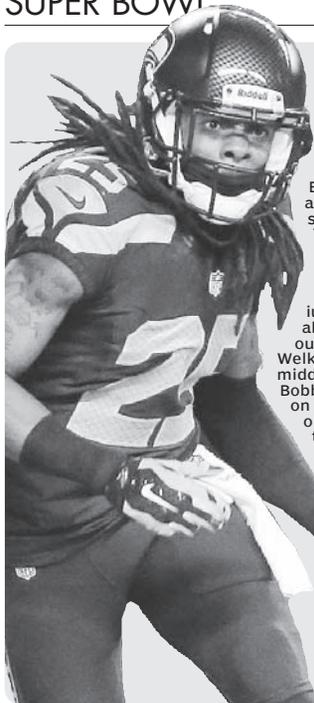
The Seahawks lost in their only previous Super Bowl, which adds to the franchise's hunger. They also recognize that in Super Bowls featuring potent offenses against stingy defenses, the defensive team usually wins.

Carroll coached in the Meadowlands in the 1990s as defensive coordinator, then head coach of the Jets. That didn't end well, and he could erase a few demons with a victory.



AP photos

# SUPER BOWL



## When the Broncos have the ball:

The Seahawks ranked first in overall defense this year, yielding a league-low 231 points. All Denver did was score 606, shattering the previous NFL mark.

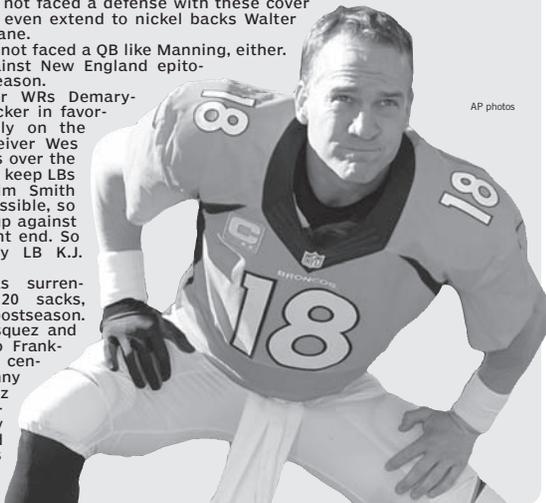
Even juicier for this Super Bowl, Seattle was tops against the pass, which, of course, is a **Peyton Manning (18)**, below, specialty. This is likely where the game will be decided. If Seattle's unequaled secondary led by All-Pro cornerback **Richard Sherman (25)**, left, and safety Earl Thomas, supported by terrific S Kam Chancellor and emerging CB Byron Maxwell can handle Manning's myriad receivers in man coverage, the Seahawks get a huge edge. Denver has not faced a defense with these cover skills, and those talents even extend to nickel backs Walter Thurmond and Jeremy Lane.

Of course, Seattle has not faced a QB like Manning, either. His 400-yard game against New England epitomized his sensational season.

Manning will look for WRs Demaryius Thomas and Eric Decker in favorable matchups, especially on the outside, and for slot receiver Wes Welker and TE Julius Thomas over the middle. The Seahawks like to keep LBs Bobby Wagner and Malcolm Smith on the field as much as possible, so one of them could wind up against the dynamic Denver tight end. So might the now-healthy LB K.J. Wright.

Denver's line has surrendered a mere 20 sacks, none in the postseason.

RG Louis Vasquez and RT Orlando Franklin and center Manny Ramirez are particularly stout, and will need to be against Seattle's deep D-line rotation.



AP photos

## Special Teams

Denver PK **Matt Prater**, below right, broke the NFL record with a 64-yard field goal and might have the strongest leg in the league. He shouldn't be bothered much by the swirling winds should they blow through MetLife Stadium.

Seattle's Steven Hauschka also is very reliable, although his range is not like Prater's. But he has made 17 of 18 field goals from 40 yards or longer.

With Denver's offense clicking, Britton Colquitt has punted just once in the playoffs.

Seattle P Jon Ryan excels at putting the ball inside the 10.

If Percy Harvin is healthy, it adds a lot to Seattle's return teams: a game-breaker any time he touches the ball. Golden Tate is a solid punt returner with a penchant for gambling and Doug Baldwin had a 69-yard kickoff runback against the 49ers.

Denver's Trindon Holliday also can break open big returns, but must show he can hang onto the ball.



## Rosters

### Denver Broncos

No.	Player	Pos	Ht	Wt
2	Zac Dystert	QB	6-3	221
4	Britton Colquitt	P	6-3	205
5	Matt Prater	K	5-10	195
11	Trindon Holliday	WR	5-5	170
12	Andre Caldwell	WR	6-0	200
17	Brook Osweiler	QB	6-8	240
18	Peyton Manning	QB	6-5	230
20	Mike Adams	S	5-11	200
21	Ronnie Hillman	RB	5-10	195
18	Peyton Manning	QB	6-5	230
20	Mike Adams	S	5-11	200
24	Champ Bailey	CB	6-0	192
22	C.J. Anderson	RB	5-8	224
23	Quentin Jammer	CB	6-0	204
29	Michael Huff	S	6-0	211
30	David Bruton	S	6-2	217
31	Omar Bolden	S	5-10	195
32	Tony Carter	CB	5-9	175
33	Duke Ihenacho	S	6-1	207
34	Marquise Cole	CB	5-10	195
36	Kayvon Webster	CB	5-11	198
45	D.Rodgers-Cromartie	CB	6-2	193
46	Aaron Brewer	LB	6-5	230
51	Paris Lenon	LB	6-2	240
52	Wesley Woodyard	LB	6-0	233
53	Steven Johnson	LB	6-1	237
54	Brandon Marshall	LB	6-1	238
56	Nate Irving	LB	6-1	245
57	Jeremy Mincey	DE	6-4	265
59	Danny Trevathan	LB	6-1	240
60	Steve Vallos	C	6-5	310
65	Louis Vasquez	C	6-5	335
66	Manny Ramirez	C	6-3	320
68	Zane Beadles	G	6-4	305
70	Vinston Painter	OT	6-6	309
73	Chris Kuper	G	6-4	303
74	Orlando Franklin	T	6-7	320
75	Chris Clark	T	6-5	305
77	Winston Justice	T	6-6	317
80	Julius Thomas	TE	6-5	250
81	Joel Dressen	TE	6-4	245
83	Wes Welker	WR	5-9	185
84	Jacob Tamme	TE	6-3	230
85	Virgil Green	WR	6-2	230
87	Eric Decker	WR	6-3	214
88	Demaryius Thomas	WR	6-3	229
90	Shaun Phillips	DE	6-3	255
91	Robert Ayers	DE	6-3	274
92	Sylvester Williams	DT	6-2	313
94	Terrance Knighton	DT	6-3	335
96	Mitch Unrein	DT	6-4	306
97	Malik Jackson	DE	6-5	293
98	Stone Fua	DT	6-1	310

### Seattle Seahawks

No.	Player	Pos	Ht	Wt
3	Russell Wilson	QB	5-11	206
4	Steven Hauschka	K	6-4	210
7	Tavaris Jackson	QB	6-2	225
9	Jon Ryan	P	6-0	217
11	Percy Harvin	WR	5-11	184
15	Jermaine Kearse	WR	6-1	209
19	Bryan Walters	WR	6-0	190
20	Jeremy Lane	CB	6-0	190
25	Richard Sherman	CB	6-1	240
24	Marshall Lynch	RB	5-11	215
25	Cliff Avril	CB	6-3	195
26	Michael Robinson	RB	6-1	240
28	Walter Thurmond	CB	5-11	190
29	Earl Thomas	S	5-10	202
31	Kam Chancellor	S	6-3	232
33	Christine Michael	RB	5-10	221
35	Deshawn Shead	CB	6-2	220
40	Derrick Coleman	RB	6-0	233
41	Byron Maxwell	CB	6-1	207
42	Chris Maragos	S	6-10	200
49	Clint Gresham	C	6-3	240
50	K.J. Wright	LB	6-4	246
51	Bruce Irvin	LB	6-3	248
53	Malcolm Smith	LB	6-0	226
57	Mike Morgan	LB	6-0	241
55	Heath Farwell	LB	6-0	235
56	Cliff Avril	DE	6-3	260
54	Bobby Wagner	LB	6-0	241
60	Max Unger	C	6-5	305
61	Lemuel Jeanpierre	C	6-5	301
64	J.R. Sweezy	WR	6-3	286
67	Paul McQuistan	G	6-6	315
68	Breno Giacomini	T	6-7	318
69	Clinton McDonald	DT	6-2	297
72	Michael Bennett	DE	6-4	274
73	Michael Bowie	T	6-4	332
74	Gaylin Hauptmann	T	6-3	300
76	Russell Okung	T	6-5	310
77	James Carpenter	G	6-5	321
78	Alvin Bailey	T	6-3	320
79	Red Bryant	DE	6-4	323
81	Golden Tate	WR	5-10	202
82	Luke Willson	TE	6-5	252
83	Ricardo Lockette	WR	6-2	230
86	Zach Miller	TE	6-5	255
87	Kellen Davis	TE	6-7	265
88	Douglas Baldwin	WR	5-10	189
91	Chris Clemons	DE	6-3	254
92	Brandon Mebane	DT	6-1	311
93	O'Brien Schofield	LB	6-3	242
95	Benson Mayowa	DE	6-4	292
97	Jordan Hill	DT	6-1	303
99	Tony McDaniel	DT	6-7	305

SUPER BOWL

# Something's gotta give

## League's No. 1 offense takes on top defense in showdown for the ages

By **BARRY WILNER**  
The Associated Press

for a juicier matchup.

Manning's Denver Broncos went 13-3 to earn the top seed in the AFC, scoring more points (606) than any team in league history, with 55 of their touchdowns coming on his passes, shattering Tom Brady's record. They used home-field advantage to beat San Diego and New England for their first appearance in the Super Bowl since John Elway had the Manning role in the 1999 game.

**SEE SHOWDOWN ON PAGE 63**

**NEW YORK**  
Manning,

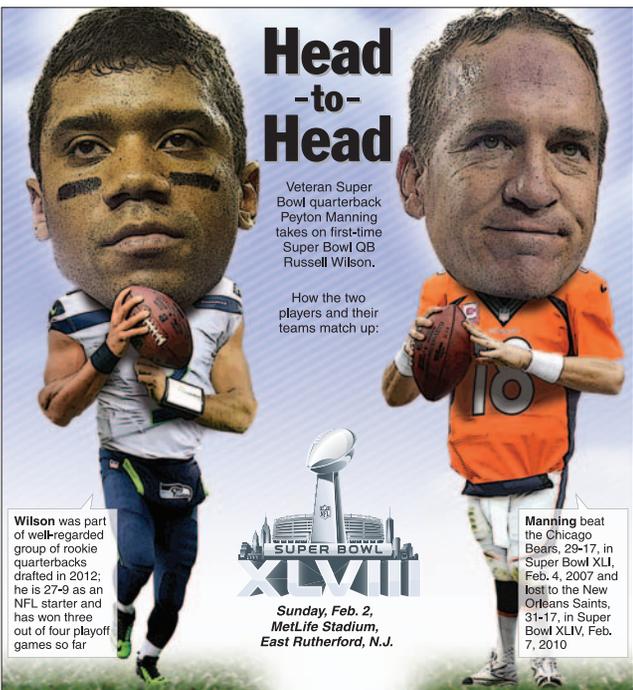
**P**eyton Manning, Seattle Seahawks, immovable.

A classic. At least that's how the first outdoor Super Bowl in a cold-weather city shapes up. The NFL and its followers — those frozen fans in the Meadowlands next Sunday, and more than 110 million watching on TV — couldn't have asked

# Head-to-Head

Veteran Super Bowl quarterback Peyton Manning takes on first-time Super Bowl QB Russell Wilson.

How the two players and their teams match up:



Wilson was part of well-regarded group of rookie quarterbacks drafted in 2012; he is 27-9 as an NFL starter and has won three out of four playoff games so far



Sunday, Feb. 2, MetLife Stadium, East Rutherford, N.J.

Manning beat the Chicago Bears, 29-17, in Super Bowl XLI, Feb. 4, 2007 and lost to the New Orleans Saints, 31-17, in Super Bowl XLIV, Feb. 7, 2010



PAUL KITAGAKI JR./AP, above; MARK HARRISON/MCT, right

Above, Seattle cornerback Richard Sherman tips the ball away from San Francisco wide receiver Michael Crabtree during the final minutes of the NFC championship game. At right, a 747-8 freighter painted in the livery of the Seahawks is unveiled at the Boeing flight line in Everett, Wash.

### Russell Wilson

Passer rating	Rank*			
101.2	7			
Yds	Att	Cmp	TDs	Ints
3,357	407	257	26	9

## The Quarterbacks

*Comparison of the starting quarterbacks' regular season stats*

### Peyton Manning

Passer rating	Rank*			
115.1	2			
Yds	Att	Cmp	TDs	Ints
5,477	659	450	55	10

### Seattle Seahawks

Head coach Pete Carroll

2013 Record				
W	Pct.	Finish		
13	3	.813	1st—NFC West	

2013 Rankings				
Offense	Rank	Yards/game		
Total offense	17	339.0		
• Rushing	4	136.8		
Passing	26	202.2		
Defense	Rank	Yards/game		
• Total defense	1	273.6		
Rushing	Tie-7	101.6		
• Passing	1	172.0		

**Edge**

\*At least 20 passing attempts

### Denver Broncos

Head coach John Fox

2013 Record				
W	Pct.	Finish		
13	3	.813	1st—AFC West	

2013 Rankings				
Offense	Rank	Yards/game		
• Total offense	1	457.3		
Rushing	15	117.1		
• Passing	1	340.2		
Defense	Rank	Yards/game		
Total defense	19	356.0		
Rushing	Tie-7	101.6		
Passing	Tie-25	254.4		



# SUPER BOWL

# Showdown: Best defense historically beats out top offense

FROM BACK PAGE

The Seahawks had the same record to rule the NFC before downing New Orleans and San Francisco, using a relentless defense reminiscent of the 2000 Ravens. They allowed only 231 points — the Broncos scored 230 in their first five games.

Something has to give in MetLife Stadium.

"You would want that challenge," says Seahawks All-Pro cornerback Richard Sherman, who already grabbed the limelight for a postgame diatribe on national TV following the win over San Francisco. "We really embrace that. As a defense, we respect the heck out of Peyton Manning, but as a true competitor, as competitive as our team is, you wouldn't want to have it any other way. You want the best of the best, otherwise you don't feel like you're getting the biggest challenge of your life."

Seattle will be challenged, make no mistake about that.

"Just still trying to get to know them, but from what I've seen so far, it's certainly an excellent defense," Manning said, and that was before he saw everything the Seahawks can do to stop opponents.

"It's the Super Bowl, so it's going to be tough," adds Pro Bowl tight end Julius Thomas. "Nothing is going to come easy. I'm pretty sure you're going to see two teams playing as physical as possible. This is for all the marbles, so I'm pretty sure it will be a tough game all around."

This is the sixth time the NFL's top offense in points faces the top defense in the Super Bowl. Who has had the edge?

The defense, winning four of those five games: Green Bay over Kansas City in the very first one; Pittsburgh over Dallas in 1979; San Francisco over Miami in 1985; and the New York Giants over Buffalo in 1991. The one exception came in 1990, when the Broncos had no chance against Joe Montana, Jerry Rice and company, losing 55-10 in the biggest romp in Super Bowl history.

Only once have the teams ranked first in yards gained and allowed met in the Super Bowl. That was 11 years ago when defense-minded Tampa Bay routed Oakland 48-21. The Buccaneers had five interceptions, scoring on two, and yielded 11 first downs.

But this is the first time the leader in yards gained and points scored faced the team that was most miserly in both categories.

Denver averaged 37.9 points and 457.3 yards per game, and in the postseason is gaining 435, scoring 25 points. That decline in lighting up the scoreboard hasn't mattered because the Broncos' defense has played so well.

Seattle gave up 14.4 points and 273.6 yards a game in 2013. For the playoffs, the numbers are 16 points and 365 yards. Don't fret, Seahawks fans, about the yardage allowed in the last two weeks: a bunch of those came as New Orleans was playing catchup in the divisional round.

What adds so much spice to this offense-defense confrontation is Manning's brilliant adaptability.

## By the numbers

**231**

Points allowed by the stingy Seattle defense this season.

The Broncos scored 230 points in their first five games alone.

**5**

Times the NFL's top offense and defense have squared off in the Super Bowl. The defensive team has won four of those five meetings.

**16**

Average points allowed by the Seahawks this postseason, up slightly from their regular-season average of 14.4.

**25**

Points the Broncos have averaged this postseason after averaging 37.9 points and 457.3 yards per game in the regular season.

SOURCE: The Associated Press



Ed ANDRUSKA/PA

**Broncos head coach John Fox will make his second attempt at a title when Denver takes on Seattle on Sunday. Fox was head coach of the Carolina Panthers in 2004 when they lost to the New England Patriots 32-29 in Super Bowl XXXVIII at Reliant Stadium in Houston.**

## How extreme cold affects athletes' bodies

As of Jan. 28, the forecast for Super Bowl XLVIII on Feb. 2 predicts a high temperature of 39, warmer than earlier forecasts. Kickoff temperature is expected to be in the low 30s, with possible wind chill making it feel like 20.

### Effects on players and equipment if it's 10 during a game

In average conditions, a player's skin temperature is 71.6, with a core temperature of 98.6.

After 30 minutes at 10, core temperature is still 98.6; the body maintains this by burning glucose in the blood at five times the normal rate.

After 15 minutes, assuming no warming methods have been applied or gloves worn, skin temperature has dropped to 35.6; this impacts grip strength, cutting it in half from 125 pounds per square inch to 60.

During cold conditions, the cardiovascular system pumps less blood to the body's extremities

### Official ball made by Wilson

Polyurethane bladder holds air pressure

Cotton and vinyl lining adds shaping strength

Leather exterior, dimpled texture added

The ball will tighten when it's this cold; its diameter will shrink by about 1/20th of an inch; air pressure in the ball drops by 20 percent, from 13.5 pounds per square inch to 11



It's not true that we lose half our body heat through the head; we actually lose only 10 percent that way; but wearing a helmet is not going to keep a player warm



Completions fall by roughly 2 percent; Broncos QB Peyton Manning completed an average of 28 passes per regular season game



Plants will fly on average 8.9 feet less far; field goal accuracy drops by about 1.7 percent



▲ Broncos wide receiver Wes Welker

Reaction times fall by 45 percent; a reflex that would take 0.79 seconds under normal conditions can now take 1.46 seconds



"He understands that defenses see looks and they see similarities and recognize formations and recognize personnel," says Sherman, who led the NFL in interceptions with eight and clinched the win over the 49ers by tipping a pass that teammate Malcolm Smith picked off. "And he keeps it mixed up. If you have a quarterback like that, it's hard to catch a break with him, catch a tendency or something that you can jump."

"He finds so many different ways to attack you, so once he finds a crack in the armor, he continues to nick at it until he makes it a hole."

On the other hand, Denver hasn't faced anything close to the physicality Seattle will bring. It begins with a deep rotation up front, flows back to a somewhat overlooked linebacking group — Bobby Wagner will be the best player at that position in this game, and he got no Pro Bowl love — and ends with the best secondary on the planet.

That defensive backfield led by Sherman and fellow All-Pro Earl Thomas at safety will be tested, naturally, by what got Denver all those fancy stats: Manning throwing to Demaryius Thomas, Eric Decker, Wes Welker and Julius Thomas. Because the Seahawks prefer man coverage, the essence of this matchup will be in those clashes.

Or will it? All of this talk about Broncos running wild with the ball and Seahawks swooping in to make tackles for losses ignores the existence of a Seattle offense and a Denver defense.

Who knows? Maybe one of those units will steal the show.

"We have the No. 1 offense, they have the No. 1 defense," Broncos defensive end Shaun Phillips says. "But we're looking at it as a challenge for us. Just like they're looking at it as a challenge for them. They want to outplay our offense and we want to outplay their defense."

Talk about tough choices. AP Pro Football Writers Arnie Stapleton and Howard Fendrich, and Sports Writer Tim Boud contributed to this story.

# SPORTS



**Tune in live on AFN-Sports**

Midnight Sunday, Central European Time  
8 a.m. Monday, Japan & Korea Standard Time

Denver Broncos (15-3)



Seattle Seahawks (15-3)

# Instant classic

On Sunday, the NFL's most **prolific offense** will square off against the league's most **relentless defense**.

## Something's gotta give.

Page 62

### **A guide to the big game**

Matchups, rosters  
and what to watch  
for when each  
team has the ball

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