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Effort to transfer Gitmo prisoners stalled at Pentagon
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**COST TO FIGHT
 THE ISLAMIC STATE
 SO FAR:**

**ALMOST
 \$1 BILLION**

NEW REPORT BREAKS DOWN THE LIKELY PRICE OF FIGHTING EXTREMISM

Page 5

An F-22 Raptor refuels prior to strikes on Islamic State targets in Syria on Friday.

Russ SCALP/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Afghan security accord signed

Nearly 10,000 US troops will remain in country in long-awaited agreement

By **JOSH SMITH**
 AND **STOBODAN LEKIC**
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghanistan's new government took a big step toward rebuilding relations with Washington, signing a long-delayed security deal on Tuesday that sets the terms for nearly 10,000 U.S. troops to remain past the December deadline for the withdrawal of coalition combat forces.

U.S. leaders swiftly welcomed the signing of the deal and hailed it as heralding a continuing partnership to defeat al-Qaida and its insurgent supporters.

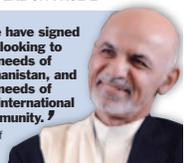
Hanif Atmar, Afghanistan's national security adviser and former interior minister, inked the accord for the Kabul government. Ambassador James Cunningham signed on behalf of the United States.

The ceremony took place in a gilded hall in the presidential palace, with flags of Afghanistan, the U.S. and NATO framing the dignitaries. In attendance were the new Afghan president, Ashraf Ghani, and his rival and runner-up in the election, Abdullah Abdullah, who now serves as a chief executive officer in the new unity government.

SEE DEAL ON PAGE 2

“We have signed this looking to the needs of Afghanistan, and the needs of the international community.”

Ashraf Ghani



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“What to some is war, to others is profit.”

— Alexei Polezhai, who sells water heaters and wood-burning stoves in Kiev, Ukraine, on the possibility of the country's first winter without Russian gas deliveries

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WAR/MILITARY



MASSOUD HOSSAMI/AP

Afghanistan's national security adviser Hanif Atmar, sitting right, and NATO ambassador to Afghanistan Maurits Jochems, sitting left, sign the NATO-Afghanistan Status of Forces Agreement as Afghan president Ashraf Ghani, center right, and chief executive Abdullah Abdullah, center left, watch in Kabul on Tuesday.

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Deal: NATO agrees to send as many as 3,000 allied troops to join US forces

FROM FRONT PAGE

Their presence only one day after each took office underscored the importance of the signing and their commitment to the partnership with the U.S. and NATO.

The relationship between Kabul and Washington had frayed in the months since former Afghan President Hamid Karzai last year backed down on a pledge to sign the deal, leaving that task to his successor.

NATO representatives signed a separate Status of Forces agreement to allow a contingent of 2,000 to 3,000 allied troops to join some 9,800 U.S. forces in training and advising the Afghan security forces in 2015.

Leaders on both sides hailed the agreements as a chance to put their relationship on a new footing as the NATO-led coalition prepares to end its combat operations at year's end.

“We have signed this looking to the needs of Afghanistan, and the needs of the international community,” Ghani said during the ceremony. “It is a very balanced agreement.”

President Barack Obama called

the deal an “invitation from the Afghan Government to strengthen the relationship we have built over the past 13 years.”

“The BSA reflects our continued commitment to support the new Afghan Unity Government, and we look forward to working with this new government to cement an enduring partnership that strengthens Afghan sovereignty, stability, unity and prosperity, and that contributes to our shared goal of defeating al-Qaida and its extremist affiliates,” he said in a statement released by the White House.

Referring to the BSA as “an important step forward,” Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said in a statement that “these agreements will enable American and coalition troops to continue to help strengthen Afghan forces, counter terrorist threats and advance regional security.”

Both Obama and Hagel paid tribute to the work of American troops during more than a decade of war in Afghanistan.

“This day was only possible because of the extraordinary service of our men and women in uniform

who continue to sacrifice so much in Afghanistan on behalf of our security and the Afghan people,” Obama said. “The American people are eternally grateful for their efforts.”

The security accord is critical to the continuing presence of U.S. and international troops because it lays out key requirements, including the exemption of U.S. troops from prosecution in Afghan courts. Failure to reach such an agreement in Iraq led to the full withdrawal of all U.S. forces from there in 2011.

The U.S. has been keen to maintain a small force, primarily to advise and assist Afghan security forces so they can stave off persistent attacks from Taliban militants and ensure that 13 years of war and lost lives were not for naught.

“This agreement was concluded to ensure the peace, stability and defense of Afghanistan,” Ghani said. “If our territory faces a serious threat or danger, according to the agreement we can ask the United States and NATO for help together.”

Cunningham said the two coun-

tries had made great progress in bringing stability to Afghanistan.

“Our close defense and security cooperation will provide the foundation for Afghanistan to continue its impressive development and to build on the achievements of the past (and) also contribute to stability not only in Afghanistan but throughout the region,” he said.

NATO's outgoing secretary-general, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, also hailed the agreement in a statement released from Brussels. He said the new NATO-led mission, called Resolute Support, could start as planned on Jan. 1.

“The conclusion of these agreements opens a new chapter for cooperation between NATO, our partners and the Afghan National Security Forces,” Rasmussen said on the last day of his tenure.

In September, the U.S.-led coalition still had 41,000 troops in Afghanistan—two-thirds of them Americans. That is down from a peak of more than 140,000 three years ago.

Zubair Babakarkhali contributed to this report. smith.josh@stripes.com Twitter: @joshonsmith keic.slodoba@stripes.com

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MILITARY



A guard keeps watch from a tower overlooking the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay U.S. Naval Base, Cuba, in 2010.

Obama's goal of closing Gitmo stalled at Pentagon

By NEDRA PICKLER
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The transfer of prisoners out of Guantanamo Bay has ground to a halt amid a slow Pentagon approval process, causing deep frustration within the administration and raising doubts that President Barack Obama will be able to fulfill his campaign promise to close the offshore prison for terrorism suspects.

A detainee sent back to his native Algeria in March is the only prisoner to have moved out this year, beyond the controversial exchange of five Taliban members in return for long-held captive U.S. Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl.

The slow pace is the result of the law that gives Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel — not the commander in chief — the final authority to transfer any of the 149 terrorism suspects being held at Guantanamo. Pentagon officials say they must carefully consider the risks before signing off, given that others have returned to terrorism.

The White House has reminded the Pentagon that recidivism risks must be weighed against the danger to the United States in keeping the Cuban prison open. Obama has said Guantanamo's continued operation hurts U.S. standing overseas and is a recruitment tool for terrorists.

"The president would absolutely like to see more progress in our efforts to close Guantanamo," Obama counterterrorism adviser Lisa Monaco said. "He wants it closed. He's pushing his own team very hard, raising it weekly with me, with Secretary Hagel, with Secretary (of State John) Kerry. He also wants Congress to act to remove the restrictions in place that are making it even harder to move forward."

For years, Congress used its budget power to block Obama from making transfers. The president announced in May 2013 that he was appointing special envoys for Guantanamo closure at the State and Defense departments to move prisoners out "to the greatest extent possible." Congress responded by lifting some of the complicated restrictions for transfers, allowing them when Hagel determines steps have been taken to reduce the risk that detainees will re-engage in the fight.

"My name goes on that document. That's a big responsibility," Hagel said earlier this year. "I'm taking my time. I owe that to the American people; I owe that to the president."

Hagel was responding to a question about the months that had passed since Uruguay offered to take six detainees. Hagel eventually signed off after a call from White House chief of Staff Denis McDonough, according to administration officials. Meanwhile, controversy grew over the deal in Uruguay, and officials there say it is now unlikely to proceed before their fall election.

Ian Moss, who works in the office of State Department envoy Clifford Sloan, said Uruguay and the U.S. are "absolutely committed" to making the transfer, but he can't say when. "We are actively engaging a wide variety of governments and working diligently to transfer each of 79 detainees currently approved for transfer," Moss said.

Administration officials say the State Department has reached or is finalizing agreements with foreign governments to accept about two dozen detainees. An administration official said 11 of those deals have included Hagel's signature, some for many months.

"Many countries are willing to help, but willingness is not everything," said Paul Lewis, the Pentagon's envoy for Guantanamo closure. He said Hagel is "absolutely committed to close Guantanamo," but under the law Pentagon officials have to closely examine security in the receiving country, including whether detainees who have been previously released have returned to the fight or could move over a porous border. "We're being careful and deliberative."

Administration officials described a viewpoint among some who work on detainee policy in the military that Guantanamo should remain open indefinitely rather than risk that a detainee will return to terrorism. Some detainees have been released and then recaptured, including June's arrest in Spain of a former prisoner accused of recruiting militants for the Islamic State group.

"My name goes on that document. That's a big responsibility. I'm taking my time. I owe that to the American people; I owe that to the president."

EPA: Army must move faster to help homes near toxic base in Ga.

By SHANNON McCaffrey
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

FOREST PARK, Ga. — It's been more than a month since the U.S. Army tested the air in Chad Partin's Forest Park home for toxic chemicals and known carcinogens seeping off nearby Fort Gillem, a now-closed base where Army personnel regularly dumped solvents into the soil.

Partin still hasn't been told the results. And he's fearful for his 4-year-old son.

"It absolutely worries me, because even if the results come back negative, what about the air my son is breathing when he plays outside?" he said. "What about the creek behind my house?"

On Wednesday, impatient federal regulators moved to help Partin and other residents get answers. Warning of an imminent danger to human health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ordered the Army to move faster in testing homes, informing residents of the results and providing help to those homes where risky levels of hazardous chemicals are detected.

The EPA gave the Army 10 days to respond.

The order is the third attempt to get the Army to act on behalf of residents. Gov. Nathan Deal wrote a letter to prod Army officials Sept. 4 and state regulators at the Environmental Protection Division also urged quick action after tests revealed a threat to public health.

State officials said the Army has already missed a key deadline, which gave the service 21 days to install mitigation measures, like ventilation systems — in homes with high levels of contaminants.

"EPA believes that an Order is necessary to protect the health of the community and the environment," said a statement from the federal agency.

The Army said it is considering how to address the EPA order and will host a series of public information sessions to address community concerns.

"Prompt action to address risks to human health resulting from the Army's past activities at Fort Gillem remains our top priority for this cleanup effort," the Army said.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution began reporting on the environmental problems at the base last year. At the time, the EPA was considering making a portion of the base a Superfund site, a designation that would have put it on a list for federal funds created for the cleanup or eradication of toxic waste.

It backed off the threat as state and Army officials appeared to make progress in the cleanup efforts.

That effort will affect a planned redevelopment, which officials here worry has badly needed jobs to Clayton County.

Grocery giant Kroger has planned a distribution center on a portion of the base, which closed in 2011.

Fort Gillem, south of Atlanta, was for decades an Army transportation hub where many military vehicles were repaired and housed. There is a mustard bomb

buried on the base but the military maintains it was deactivated. With no laws forbidding it, workers on the base freely dumped motor oil and industrial solvents, saturating the soil and groundwater with hazardous chemicals that have now spread off the base in several plumes. The most worrisome is one that oozes 1 mile into an adjacent residential neighborhood.

Residents there have long warned not to drink the well water. State officials last this summer finally persuaded military brass to conduct vapor intrusion studies of air in the homes near the base to see if chemicals in the groundwater had spread into the air residents breathe.

The initial results were alarming. The EPA said in its order Wednesday that data has been evaluated for 17 homes and that at least nine homes warrant immediate mitigation. Six require monitoring and two require additional testing. Air samples have been collected at 56 homes and business so far, the EPA said. Dozens more homes must still be tested.

Among the chemicals found in the homes that need attention is 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, a volatile organic compound used as an additive in aviation fuel engine oil. Acute exposure can lead to headaches and fatigue. Chronic exposure can affect the reproductive system and developing fetus.

The EPA filed the order Sept. 24 under the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act, which is designed to address imminent and substantial endangerment to public health due to past waste-handling activities. The executive director of Greenlaw, an Atlanta-based legal environmental advocacy group, applauded the EPA's move.

"Residents need to be informed and engaged in this process," the group's executive director, Stephanie Stuckey Benfield, said.

“Even if the results come back negative, what about the air my son is breathing when he plays outside? What about the creek behind my house?”

Chad Partin
Forest Park, Ga.,
for nearly
1 mile into
an adjacent
residential

PACIFIC

Apaches take center stage at Garuda Shield

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

PUSLATPUR MARINE BASE, Indonesia — This year's Garuda Shield exercise in Indonesia has included large doses of jungle-training tactics and integrating Stryker operations from two armies.

But it was aviation — particularly four Apache attack helicopters shipped to the remote east end of the nation's Java Island — that stood out in the monthlong training between U.S. and Indonesian army units.

The exercise culminated with a combined-arms, live-fire assault on imaginary insurgents that included U.S. Apaches, Black Hawks and Strykers operating side-by-side with the Indonesian army's Russian-made assault helicopters and its own version of Strykers.

Indonesia's armed forces, known as TNI, next year will receive the first of eight Apaches, the newest Echo version of the aircraft, with the rest expected to be delivered by 2017. Some media have reported that Indonesia's chief of staff plans to deploy four Apaches to the Natunaland in the South China Sea as a hedge against China's increasingly assertive claims in those waters.

‘Their neighbors are starting to upgrade to Apache fleets, and I think they want to keep up. It’s a huge plus for them.’

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jesse Brenay Sr., Apache pilot

The four Apaches brought here for Garuda Shield are being flown to the city of Surabaya for a massive military parade Oct. 7, which marks the 69th anniversary of the founding of the TNI. The event is somewhat of a last hurrah for outgoing President Prabowo Subianto, a former army general who was elected in a close race to Joko Widodo — who has promised to increase defense spending in the country with the world's largest Muslim population.

Although the Indonesian aviators didn't get to actually fly Apaches, they did take the first steps in familiarizing themselves with the aircraft.

“We started out in what we call a crawl-walk-run scenario, where we begin with the academics, something that we would consider as basic familiarization on a medevac aircraft,” said Lt. Col. Hunter Marshall, commander of the 25th Aviation Regiment. “In terms of talking about the Apache, we'd do a classroom block, walk out to the flight line and get out to see the aircraft. Then we'd work through planning, how to do missions together.”

Marshall described the Indonesian fliers as “all highly proficient aviators,” adding that if the TNI chooses its Apache pilots for that pool, “they'd certainly have a good chance of starting.”

During air-assault planning, the



PHOTOS BY WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

Indonesian and American helicopters churn up dust during the final live-fire assault that culminated the Garuda Shield exercise in Indonesia in September. The joint national assault included Apaches, Blackhawks and Strykers.



Left: U.S. Army Sgt. Dale Morrell, a technical inspector, describes some of the features of the Apache attack helicopter to 1st Lt. Albert Taroreh, a flight engineer with the Indonesian army, on Friday. Right: Lt. Col. Michael Trotter, commander of 2nd Battalion, explains the features of the Raven aerial drone to a group of Indonesian officers visiting the Garuda Shield exercises on Sept. 24.



Apache and its unique capabilities were always worked into the scenario, Marshall said.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jesse Brenay Sr., one of the Apache pilots who flew in the final live-fire assault, worked side by side with the Indonesian aviators. The Apache's new technology will require the Indonesian pilots to adjust their tactics and techniques, he said.

“The way they fight will change,” Brenay said. “That’s kind of what we’re demonstrating, trying to train them up.”

The communication systems in the Apache will also better integrate them with their ground forces.

“So we’re teaching air-ground integration very heavily,” he said. “It’s kind of a new concept to them. It’s something we’ve done very well in the past 13 years in Iraq and Afghanistan, so we’re passing on lessons learned.”

Apache integration is “a big reason we’re out here,” Brenay

said. “It brings them up in status in this region because their neighbors are starting to upgrade to Apache fleets, and I think they want to keep up. It’s a huge plus for them.”

Japan, South Korea and Singapore are among countries that have purchased Apaches from Boeing.

Brenay described piloting the helicopters in Indonesia as “kind of culture shock to us” because they’ve primarily flown them in the high altitude of Fort Carson, Colo.

“This is really the first time we’ve brought these Echoes down to sea level outside of Hawaii and run them through and see what they can do,” he said. “They’ve been pretty impressive.”

Another Army pilot, Capt. Josh Brown, was enthusiastic about Indonesia buying Apaches, but of greater significance than those aircraft is U.S. and Indonesian forces learning to operate effi-

ciently together, whether that’s in combat or for humanitarian or disaster relief.

The coordination between the two armies, whether in the air or on the ground, demonstrates “how we’re going to do business in the future,” said Lt. Col. Michael Trotter, commander of 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment, from Lewis-McChord, which contributed many of the elements at Garuda Shield.

“We are not going to fight another war alone,” Trotter said. “We are going to have to be partnered, whether it’s for a combat operation or when requested by a host-nation government for assistance, whether humanitarian assistance or disaster relief. We can walk away from this exercise feeling very, very confident.”

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Cost of anti-Islamic State mission already near \$1B

By DAN LAMOTHE
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The United States has likely spent between \$780 million and \$930 million in its military campaign against the Islamic State militant group so far, and it will likely cost between \$200 million and \$320 million per month going forward if conducted with about 2,000 U.S. servicemembers on the ground, according to a report published Monday.

Those costs would grow to between \$350 million and \$570 million per month if the pace of the airstrikes increases and 5,000 U.S. troops are deployed, according to the report, released by the independent Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington. On an annual basis, lower-intensity air operations could cost \$2.4 billion to \$3.8 billion per year, the report said. The annual cost would jump to between \$4.2 billion and \$6.8 billion if the pace of airstrikes increases and is sustained.

The report was released after the U.S. reported completing about 220 airstrikes in Iraq since Aug. 8, and about 40 more in Syria since they began there early Sept. 23. In addition to the airstrikes, the U.S. Navy also has launched at least 47 Tomahawk cruise missiles, which each cost more than \$1 million, into Syria.

Airstrikes have been conducted thus far by fighter jets, "attack aircraft" like the AC-130 gunship, drones and the B-1B bomber. At this point, the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps all have played



Russ Scalp/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

An F-22A Raptor taxis in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility prior to strike operations in Syria.

a hand.

The United States is starting to see help it didn't have previously in the fight against the Islamic State. Partner Arab nations have been carrying out airstrikes in Syria with U.S. oversight, and France, Britain and other nations have recently pledged support for the campaign in Iraq or have already joined it. Nevertheless, here are three scenarios laid out by CSBA analysts for the future:

1. A continued air campaign of similar scope: \$200 million to \$320 million per month. The United States was carrying out about 60 air sorties per day to conduct surveillance over Iraq before it expanded operations into Syria, meaning even more are likely needed now. As time progresses, it's likely that the amount of

airstrikes the U.S.-led coalition carries out will dwindle, but the aerial intelligence gathering will continue.

2. A larger air campaign: \$350 million to \$570 million per month. This assumes two things: the U.S. bumping up its campaign to about 120 surveillance flights and 150 airstrikes monthly while expanding its presence on the ground to about 5,000 servicemembers.

3. "Boots on the ground": \$1.1 billion to \$1.8 billion per month. This scenario has been ruled out by President Barack Obama. It assumes an even larger air campaign and 25,000 U.S. servicemembers on the ground in Iraq and Syria, as some have advocated. About 80 percent of the cost with this scenario would come from sustaining the ground forces.

Carl Vinson nears Persian Gulf, will relieve Bush group

By JON HARPER
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson is headed to the Persian Gulf to conduct air operations against militants in Iraq and Syria, the Navy's top official said Tuesday.

"It's almost there," Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus told reporters at a media roundtable in Washington.

The Carl Vinson, along with the rest of its strike group, will relieve the USS George H.W. Bush, which has been stationed in the Gulf since June.

In August, F/A-18 jets flying off the Bush carried out the first airstrikes against the Islamic State terrorist group in Iraq. Navy and Marine Corps aircraft have conducted about 25 percent of the more than 260 bombing missions over Iraq and Syria since the air campaign began Aug. 8, Mabus said.

U.S. officials have said that the military campaign against the Islamic State could last for years.

"We can stay for as long as we need to stay based on the normal rotation of our ships," Mabus said Tuesday. "It is sustainable for as long as we need to be there."

U.S. military operations in the Middle East have sometimes required several aircraft carriers to be on station in the region. Mabus said multiple carriers aren't needed at this point, but he left the door open for more to be sent.

"Right now we can do whatever we need to do with one carrier,"

but, "if there are more missions, we'll take a look at that," he told reporters.

Operations against the Islamic State have cost the Navy about \$100 million, including weapons used and extra jet fuel burned, Mabus said. Last week, the cruiser USS Philippine Sea and the destroyer USS Arleigh Burke launched dozens of Tomahawk missiles against terrorist targets in Syria. Each Tomahawk costs more than \$1 million.

The Bush and the Bataan amphibious ready group, which is also in the Persian Gulf, have been away from their homeports since February. Mabus said the Bataan won't return home until November after it gets relieved by the Iwo Jima amphibious ready group.

Both ships' deployment schedules have been extended to deal with the ongoing crises, following a trend that has developed in recent years. Navy officials are concerned about the wear and tear on crews and ships. To compensate, the Navy will give troops bonus pay if they're at sea for more than 220 days.

"If the deployment goes past that, we think you should get something extra for it," Mabus said.

The Navy boss said he understands people's frustrations with extended deployments, but crises can't be avoided.

"The world gets a vote," he said, "and sometimes you're going to have to extend."

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WAR ON TERRORISM

From 'no strategy' to massive air assault

Administration's Islamic State game plan swiftly coalesced

By KAREN DEYOUNG
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — After keeping his promise to avoid American involvement in extended wars for nearly six years, President Barack Obama last week began a military engagement that he acknowledged is likely to far outlive his time in office.

The launch of airstrikes in Syria and expanded U.S. action in Iraq, at the head of a dozens-strong coalition of nations, is by far the biggest commitment of U.S. might Obama has made, far beyond 2011's limited air action in Libya or the operation that killed Osama bin Laden.

Yet his decision seemed all but inevitable as Islamic State militants publicly executed U.S. hostages and it became clear that extremist advances in Iraq — whose survival is key to a host of U.S. objectives in the Middle East — could not be reversed without direct intervention in Syria. Once decided, the plan commenced with head-spinning speed.

Barely a month ago, there wasn't even a plan.

To Obama's frustration, according to participants in extended national security discussions of Syria in late August, advisers who recognized that something had to be done had presented him with a disparate collection of actions but no coherent blueprint that would address military, diplomatic and political aspects of the problem and could be explained to an increasingly worried American public.

There were proposals — but no agreement — to attack the Islamic State in Syria. There were plans, ignored by Congress as it left on summer vacation, to ramp up aid and training for U.S.-backed rebels fighting on the ground. Everyone agreed that more aggressive international action had to be taken to stop the flow of foreign fighters and money to the militants.

Also, governments in the region, some of them barely speaking to each other, needed to take responsibility for protecting their neighborhood.

"We don't have a strategy yet," Obama said at an Aug. 28 news conference. While political and media attention focused on the acknowledged lack of a plan, the

White House quickly emphasized the "yet."

Less than two weeks later, the president announced that the strategy was ready. "America will lead a broad coalition to roll back this terrorist threat," he said in a Sept. 10 speech to the nation. "That means I will not hesitate to take action against ISIL (the Islamic State) in Syria as well as Iraq."

On Sept. 16, a Tuesday, Obama approved the U.S. Central Command's operational plan.

That weekend, the final partner nations in the region signed off on participation, senior U.S. and foreign officials said. On Sept. 22, U.S. and Arab warplanes let loose a barrage of bombs against the Islamic State's Syrian redoubts, the first salvo in what Obama said would be an extended campaign in both Syria and Iraq.

For a president who is sometimes criticized for drawn-out decision-making and a reluctance to act, the swiftness of the move from "no strategy" to a massive, extended air assault was stunning, no less because it followed what even some current and former senior members

of the administration saw as extended presidential dithering while Syria disintegrated and extremist groups there grew to become a direct terrorist threat, not only to Iraq and the wider Middle East but also to the United States.

Senior administration officials had offered many reasons for caution in the years since the region began to fall apart, including profound U.S. war fatigue. Obama had said repeatedly that he did not believe U.S. airstrikes would substantially change the trajectory of a raging three-way civil war among the forces of Syrian President Bashar Assad, the so-called moderate rebels and a bewildering



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVALS/AP

President Barack Obama speaks in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington on Friday. His plan to fight the Islamic State came together quickly in the face of the group's growing threat.

array of extremist groups. Justification for action was also considered questionable on both domestic and international legal grounds.

But there were rapid and ominous changes in August. Although limited U.S. airpower was deployed to help Iraq roll back Islamic State

forces that had swept over the Syrian border, military assessment teams had concluded that the effort would not succeed as long as the extremists had havens and steady resource streams inside Syria.

U.S. and European intelligence agencies were seeing a rapid increase in the number of Western passport holders among the thousands of foreigners arriving to join the Islamic State. The recognition that they could easily re-enter their home countries — a danger — along with the videotaped Islamic State beheading of American captive James Foley and the threat of more executions — had begun to rapidly shift U.S.

public and congressional opinion in favor of action.

At the same time, the selection of a new, more inclusive Iraqi government and their own fears of rising militancy had given regional powers, particularly in the Persian Gulf, new impetus to join a fight against the Sunni extremists, as long as the United States was also willing to put skin in the game.

As these factors coalesced, Obama decided to do so, provided he had a comprehensive strategy, according to several senior administration officials who agreed on the condition of anonymity to discuss closed-door planning over the 25 days between Aug. 28 and Sept. 22.

The day after Obama's late-August news conference, a Friday, Secretary of State John Kerry — a longtime and strong advocate of more aggressive U.S. action in Syria — brought his own policy team together on a conference call.

"We need to get the White House our theory of the case," he told them.

The team worked throughout the weekend on what emerged as an eight-page strategy document outlining progress on Iraqi government formation and five mutually reinforcing "lines of effort" that spanned the Iraq-Syria border: a military plan including airstrikes against the Islamic State in both

countries; training and equipment for Iraqi security forces and Syrian rebels; humanitarian assistance to those displaced in both countries; coordinated international action against foreign fighters and militant funding sources; and countermessaging against Islamic State propaganda.

By Tuesday, Sept. 2, the previously undisclosed document had been delivered to the White House as Obama departed for a trip to Estonia and a NATO summit in Wales. On the summit margins, Kerry and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel presented the outline to NATO allies and Australia.

"All the countries agreed to return to their capitals and develop specific proposals in one or more of the strategic areas," a senior official said.

That Thursday, Lisa Monaco, Obama's chief counterterrorism adviser, briefed a small group of reporters at the White House. The emerging "lines of effort" were "all in place, but they need to be built out," she said. "And they need more assistance, frankly, from our regional partners."

At MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Fla., planners for CENTCOM examined targets developed with air surveillance reports Obama had ordered during the summer and started planning an operation.

SEE STRATEGY ON PAGE 7

On Sept. 22, U.S. and Arab warplanes let loose a barrage of bombs against the Islamic State's Syrian redoubts, the first salvo in what President Barack Obama said would be an extended campaign in both Syria and Iraq.

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WAR ON TERRORISM

Airstrikes hit militants near Turkey



BURHAN OZBILICI/AP

Syrian refugees arrive at the Turkey-Syria border near Suruc, Turkey, on Monday.

By **BASSEM MROUE**
The Associated Press

BEIRUT — U.S.-led coalition airstrikes targeted fighters' vehicles and artillery pieces of the Islamic State group on both sides of the Syria-Iraq border Tuesday, including around a beleaguered Kurdish town near the Syrian-Turkish that is under assault by the militants, activists said.

British jets launched their first airstrikes against Islamic State targets in Iraq on Tuesday, four days after Parliament gave the go-ahead for Britain to join the air campaign. Royal Air Force Tornado GR4 aircraft carried out two strikes, one against a heavy weapon position and a second against an armed pickup truck in support of Kurdish forces under attack by Islamic State fighters in northwestern Iraq, a British statement said.

The aerial campaign, which began last week in Syria and last month in Iraq, aims to destroy the extremist faction known as the Islamic State that has seized control of a huge chunk of territory stretching from northern Syria to the western outskirts of

the Iraqi capital.

Despite the coalition airstrikes, the militants have pressed their offensive on the town of Kobani, also known by its Arabic name of Ayn Arab, and surrounding villages near Syria's border with Turkey. The fighting has created one of the single largest exoduses in Syria's civil war, now in its fourth year: More than 160,000 fled the area into Turkey the past few days, the U.N. humanitarian chief Valerie Amos said.

"Their fear is so great that many people crossed heavily mined fields to seek refuge," she told the U.N. Security Council.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Tuesday's strikes hit Islamic State fighters east and west of Kobani. The Local Coordination Committees, another activist group, also confirmed the airstrikes on the town's outskirts. Both groups attributed the strikes to the U.S.-led coalition.

The U.S. Central Command said U.S. fighter jets and drones conducted 11 airstrikes Monday and Tuesday in Syria, including three near the Syria-Turkish border that destroyed one artillery piece, dam-

aged another and knocked out two rocket launchers. It said another strike northeast of Aleppo destroyed four buildings occupied by Islamic State militants. Two strikes destroyed vehicles, artillery and a tank in eastern Syria and near the Iraq border.

Kurds and militants battled Tuesday on Kobani's eastern edge, said Ahmad Sheikh-o, an activist operating along the Syria-Turkey border. He said that members of the local Kurdish militia destroyed two tanks belonging to the Islamic State group. Militants have been hitting the town with mortars and artillery shells.

Also Tuesday, Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Bulent Arinc says parliament will vote on a motion that would allow foreign forces to make incursions into Syria and Iraq from its territory to protect refugees and secure Turkey's border.

Parliament will renew mandates Thursday that allow Turkey's military to carry out operations in Syria and Iraq. Arinc said Tuesday the new permit would also allow the use of Turkey's territory by foreign troops.

Strategy: US realizes tide wouldn't be turned in Iraq if Syria wasn't addressed

FROM PAGE 6

The goal was to integrate Persian Gulf warplanes into the effort. Those nations had long promised in theory that they would contribute while privately despairing that Obama would ever move beyond endless talk tests on the Syria problem and take military action.

The Gulf monarchies had listened with cynicism to Obama's news conference and to his promise that his plan, once it was ready, would include partner nations.

No one had yet discussed a plan with them, and there had been no request for participation.

"We've already been consulting for three years," one senior Arab official said at the time. "Our point to them is, if you're serious, come and tell us what you're going to do and we'll do it with you."

As the NATO summit ended Sept. 5, Kerry flew to London for a late-night meeting with United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahyan. Obama was ready, Kerry said, and wanted the UAE and its neighbors with him.

The conversation, along with telephone calls to other regional leaders over the next few days, brought some tentative commit-

ments, locked in the following week when Kerry traveled to the region. His first stop, on Sept. 10, was Baghdad, where he congratulated the newly formed Iraq government — the final component that would bring the Sunni Arab partners fully into the mix and allow Obama to announce his strategy.

In an address that night from the White House, Obama told the American public that "we will conduct a systematic campaign of airstrikes against these terrorists." In military action and the other elements of the plan, he said, "America will be joined by a broad coalition of partners."

"This is where Kerry wanted to be, over the last year and a half, during all the hours of meetings and relationship building" in the region, a senior State Department official said. "It was the turning point."

Over the past two years, Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had been the military's most outspoken naysayer on airstrikes targeting Assad's forces in Syria. Not only did Syria have a robust air defense system, located primarily in the heavily populated western part of the

country, but both Dempsey and Hagel questioned the purpose of air attacks and what would come next.

‘They (the militants) had advanced pretty quickly from something we were watching to something we were really concerned about.’

unnamed defense official

against the Islamic State — was something altogether different.

"First of all, ISIL doesn't have an air defense system," the official said.

At the same time, it was the military's own assessment that the tide would not be turned in Iraq — the primary focus of U.S.

efforts — as long as Islamic State forces had havens in neighboring Syria, where they had established recruitment and training and command-and-control centers, and where they were bringing in millions of dollars a day from black-market oil sales, extortion and hostage ransoms.

"They had advanced pretty quickly from something we were watching to something we were really concerned about," the defense official said. "Everyone realized that Syria was HQ for them."

Options for Syria strikes "had been developed for a while, but at a low level" at U.S. Command, the official said. But it was not until the end of August, with Obama's

tasking for a comprehensive strategy, that they shifted into high gear. Input from the intelligence community added to the strike list a group affiliated with al-Qaida and located in western Syria.

As the operational plan against the Islamic State developed, and Kerry firmed up the regional commitments, CENTCOM Commander Gen. Lloyd Austin III began calling his Persian Gulf military counterparts.

Although Obama was briefed on the plan and approved it during a visit to Tampa on Sept. 16, it was not until that weekend that the Arabs transmitted their final list of contributions to the Syria operation, the defense official said.

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NATION

Beheading suspect to face murder charge

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Alton Nolen told relatives after his release from prison on drug and assault charges last year that he wanted to focus on getting his life in order.

But postings on the Facebook page of Nolen, 30, suspected of beheading a woman at an Oklahoma food distribution center, suggest that shortly after his release in March 2013, he became more interested in spreading the message of his newfound Islamic faith.

"I spoke to him once he was released, and when we spoke, there was nothing of the sort," said Nolen's cousin, James Fulson, 29, of Fort Worth, Texas. "I don't believe he was converted (to Islam) in prison."

Cleveland County District Attorney Greg Mashburn said he expected to charge Nolen on Tuesday with first-degree murder in Thursday's killing of Colleen Hufford, 54, at the Vaughan

'In no way, shape or form did he represent Islam in this foolish act.'

Saad Mohammad

director of information for the Islamic Society of Greater Oklahoma City

Foods plant in Moore, Okla.

Moore Police Sgt. Jeremy Lewis said Nolen, who had just been fired from the company, walked into the facility's administrative office and attacked Hufford with a large knife, eventually severing her head. Nolen then repeatedly stabbed Traci Johnson, 43, before he was shot by Mark Vaughan, a reserve sheriff's deputy and the company's chief operating officer, police said.

Nolen's mother and sister posted a video message on Facebook over the weekend saying they were shocked and saddened by the allegations against him.

"My son was raised up in a loving home. My son was raised up believing in God," his mother,

Joyce Nolen, said in the video. "Our hearts bleed right now because of what they're saying Alton has done."

Nolen was brought up attending a nondenominational Christian church in the southeast Oklahoma community of Idabel, and several members of his family were upset about his recent conversion to Islam, Fulson said.

As recently as February, Fulson told The Associated Press, when he talked to Nolen there was no mention of his conversion.

The Facebook page that Fulson confirmed was his cousin's includes pictures of Nolen, bearded and wearing a prayer cap, outside a mosque, as well as his thoughts on Islam. Beginning in

January, he began appending his posts with the phrase "InfoFromAMuslim." Most of his recent posts concerned religion.

Oklahoma prison records show Nolen was released from prison after serving two years of a six-year sentence on charges that included assaulting a police officer and possession of cocaine with intent to distribute.

Nolen received no misconduct reports during his incarceration at five separate facilities, Department of Corrections spokesman Jerry Massie said. Nolen also completed two programs while he was in prison — a transition program that helps inmates adjust to civilian life and one that teaches inmates coping skills and how to control their anger, Massie said.

Nolen, who remained hospitalized Monday, has been interviewed by Moore police, who declined to say what information they were able to obtain from him.

Police have also asked the FBI



Alton Nolen

to help investigate Nolen after co-workers told authorities he had recently started trying to convert several employees to Islam.

A spokesman for an Oklahoma City Islamic group said Nolen had attended services at a mosque where sermons were delivered condemning such attacks.

"In no way, shape or form did he represent Islam in this foolish act," said Saad Mohammad, director of information for the Islamic Society of Greater Oklahoma City.

Suspect linked to '09 assault, slaying in Va.

The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — They both were walking alone, separated from their friends late at night on or near the University of Virginia campus. One was found dead nearly five years ago. The other is still missing.

Now police believe they have found a link between the 2009 slaying of Morgan Harrington and the Sept. 13 disappearance of Hannah Graham: forensic evidence found in the arrest of a hospital worker and former taxi driver who fled the state when he learned police wanted to question him about the Graham case.

Jesse L. Matthew Jr., 32, was arrested on a beach near Galveston, Texas, last week and was brought back to Virginia to face a charge of abduction with intent to defile — or sexually molest — the 18-year-old sophomores from months ago.

If convicted, he could face up to life in prison. His bond hearing is set for Thursday.

Virginia State Police said Monday that Matthew's arrest provided a new forensic link for investigators to pursue in the Harrington investigation. In a written statement, they called it a "significant break" but did not elaborate on the

precise nature of the evidence.

Harrington, 20 a Virginia Tech student from Roanoke, attended a Metallica concert at John Paul Jones Arena on Oct. 17, 2009. She left during the concert and vanished. A farmer found her remains three months later in an Albemarle County hayfield, which was among the places searched shortly after Graham disappeared, police have said.

Graham disappeared after meeting friends for dinner and attending two off-campus parties. She left the last one alone and was captured on video surveillance walking or running past a pub, a service station and onto Charlottesville's Downtown Mall, where police say witnesses reported seeing her with Matthew at a bar. Graham had sent friends several text messages, including one saying she was lost.

Matthew was a defensive lineman on the Liberty University football team from 2000 to 2002. He was accused of raping a student on campus, but the charge was dropped when the person declined to move forward with prosecution, Lynchburg Commonwealth's Attorney Michael Doucette said.

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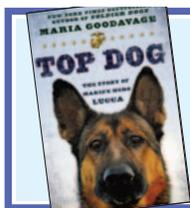
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NATION



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Secret Service Director Julia Pierson testifies Tuesday before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee in its examination of a security breach at the White House.

Secret Service takes onus for security breach

BY ALICIA A. CALDWELL AND JOSH LEDELMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Facing blistering criticism from Congress, Secret Service Director Julia Pierson acknowledged on Tuesday that her agency failed in executing its plan to protect the White House when a man with a knife entered the mansion and ran through half the ground floor before being subdued.

"It's unacceptable," Pierson told lawmakers. But her promised review of how the storied but blemished agency carries out its mission of protecting the president — and how it failed to intercept the intruder much earlier — left lawmakers from both parties cold.

"I wish to God you protected the White House like you protected your reputation here today," Democratic Rep. Stephen Lynch told her at a hearing.

Calm but defensive in testimony before the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, Pierson disclosed there have been six fence-jumpers this year alone, including one just eight days before Army veteran Omar J. Gonzalez scaled the fence on Sept. 19.

"I'll make sure that it does not happen again," she said, declaring that she took full responsibility for the failures.

President Barack Obama and his daughters had left for Camp David, Md., shortly before the intrusion; Michelle Obama had gone to the retreat earlier in the day.

"The fact is the system broke down," declared committee Chairman Darrell Issa, R-Calif. "An intruder walked in the front door of the White House, and that is unacceptable."

Lawmakers from both parties were aghast, too, about a four-day delay in 2011 before the Secret Service realized a man had fired a high-powered rifle at the White House. The Washington Post recently reported that some Secret Service officers believed immediately that shots had been fired into the mansion but they were "largely ignored" or afraid to challenge their bosses' conclusions that the shooting was not directed at the White House.

The recent intruder ran through the White House, into the East Room and near the doors to the Green Room before being apprehended. This, after he made it past a guard stationed inside the White House. On the way to the East Room, the intruder would have passed a stairwell that leads to the first family's residence. It was unclear what security would have been in place to prevent Gonzalez from attempting to go up to the family quarters.

Pierson said Tuesday that the front door to the White House now locks automatically in a security breach. She said that on Sept. 19 a Secret Service guard was attempting to lock one of the doors manually when the intruder knocked the agent down.

In the hours after the Sept. 19 incident, Secret Service spokesman Ed Donovan said Gonzalez had been apprehended just inside the North Portico doors.

Obama, Modi say they will set new US-India agenda

By JOSH LEDELMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and new Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said Tuesday that "it is time to set a new agenda" between their countries, addressing concerns that the world's two largest democracies have grown apart.

The leaders met in the Oval Office on Tuesday, the centerpiece of Modi's two-day visit to the White House, and described their agenda in an op-ed that appeared on The Washington Post website. They said they will explore ways to expand collaboration on trade, investment and technology "that harmonize with India's ambitious development agenda, while sustaining the United States as the global engine of growth."

"The true potential of our relationship has yet to be fully realized," the leaders wrote. "The advent of a new government in India is a natural opportunity to broaden and deepen our relationship. With a reinvigorated level of ambition and greater confidence, we can go beyond modest and conventional goals. It is time to set a new agenda, one that realizes concrete benefits for our citizens."

Obama hosted Modi for a private dinner the Monday — despite the fact that Indian leader, a devout Hindu, was fasting.

Typically, visiting heads of



EVAN VUCCI/AP

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives at the White House on Tuesday.

state spend just a portion of a day at the White House meeting with Obama and other U.S. leaders. The rare second day of attention from Obama underscored the White House's desire to give a warm welcome to a man once barred from even entering the U.S.

Now the leader of the world's largest democracy, Modi was the top elected official in the Indian state of Gujarat more than a decade ago when religious riots there killed more than 1,000 Muslims. When Modi later requested a visa to visit the U.S., Washington said no. Modi has denied involvement in the violence.

Obama and Modi wrote they also plan to discuss shared intelligence on terrorism and regional concerns, including Afghanistan.



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NATION

Ruling in pot firing case might have ripples



AP

Brandon Coats is a quadriplegic medical marijuana patient who was fired from his job after failing a drug test.

By **SADIE GURMAN**
The Associated Press

DENVER — Pot may be legal in Colorado, but you can still be fired for using it.

Brandon Coats, a quadriplegic medical marijuana patient who was fired by the Dish Network after failing a drug test more than four years ago, says he still can't find steady work because employers are wary of his off-duty smoking.

In a case being closely watched around the country, Colorado's Supreme Court on Tuesday will hear arguments in Coats' case, which could have big implications for pot smokers in the first state to legalize recreational sales of the drug. The case highlights the

clash between state laws that are increasingly accepting of marijuana use and employers' drug-free policies that won't tolerate it. "Attitudes are changing toward marijuana. Laws are going to have to change, too," Coats told The Associated Press. "I'd like for this to enable people like me to find employment without being looked down upon."

Coats, 35, was paralyzed in a car crash as a teenager and has been a medical-marijuana patient since 2009, when, after a doctor's urging, he discovered that pot helped calm violent muscle spasms that were making it difficult to work.

Coats, who worked for three years as a telephone operator with Dish, was fired in 2010 for

failing a random company drug test. He said he told his supervisors in advance that he probably would fail the test.

Coats said he was never high at work, and Dish did not allege he was ever impaired on the job. But pot's intoxicating chemical, THC, can stay in the system for weeks.

The company argues that because pot remains federally illegal, medical marijuana isn't covered by the state law, and a trial court judge and Colorado's appeals court agreed.

A patchwork of laws across the country and the conflict between state and federal laws has left the issue unclear. Twenty-three states and Washington, D.C., allow medical marijuana, but courts have ruled against employees who say

their pot use is protected. Colorado's constitution says that employers don't have to amend their policies to accommodate employees' marijuana use. But Arizona law, for example, says workers can't be punished for lawfully using medical marijuana unless it would jeopardize an employer's federal contract.

The outcome of Coats' case could affect future lawsuits by employees fired for smoking recreationally, said Denver law and employment attorney Vance Knapp. If Dish prevails, other employers will likely cite the case in defending themselves, he said.

A Coats victory, he added, "would turn employment policies into chaos."

Wal-Mart: Morgan didn't wear seat belt

The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Actor-comedian Tracy Morgan and other people in a limousine struck from behind by a Wal-Mart truck on a highway in June are at least partly to blame for their injuries because they weren't wearing seat belts, the company said in a court filing Monday.

The filing was made in federal court in response to a lawsuit Morgan filed in July over the accident, which killed his friend James McNair, who was accompanying the former "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" star back from a show in Delaware. Morgan spent several weeks in rehab with rib and leg injuries.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., based in Arkansas, said in the filing that the passengers' injuries were caused "in whole or in part" by their "failure to properly wear an appropriate available seatbelt restraint device," which it said constitutes unreasonable conduct.

An attorney representing Mor-

gan and the other plaintiffs called Wal-Mart's contentions "surprising and appalling."

"It's disingenuous," attorney Benedict Morelli said. "It's not what they said they were going to do initially, which was take full responsibility. I'm very upset, not for myself but for the families I represent."

The lawsuit seeks a jury trial and punitive and compensatory damages. It says the retail giant should have known that its truck driver, Kevin Roper, had been awake for more than 24 hours before the crash and that his commute of 700 miles from his home in Georgia to work in Delaware was "unreasonable." It also alleges the driver fell asleep at the wheel.

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Brooke Buchanan said in an email that the company "continues to stand willing to work with Mr. Morgan and the other plaintiffs to resolve this matter."

Cop: Ferguson shooting too quick for camera

FERGUSON, Mo. — The shooting of a police officer over the weekend exposed a vulnerability of new body cameras sweeping the region, a top commander said Monday. Sometimes things unfold too fast to push the record button.

"So there was no video of what Lt. Col. Al Eichhoff described as a harrowing face-to-face encounter in which the officer, whose name was not released, was hit by a slug in the arm and returned fire that apparently missed.

"There's no time to put the camera on when you're in a foot pursuit," Eichhoff said, noting that what happened did not violate the department's policy on use of the devices. "He was focused on calling in on his radio."

The officer stopped by the Ferguson Community Center about 9

p.m. Saturday as part of routine patrol duties and spotted a man running from the back of the building. The officer lost sight of him during a foot chase and was ambushed at the crest of a hill.

The man pointed a gun "inches from the officer's chest," Eichhoff said. The officer deflected the man's hand and was shot once in the left arm. The officer told investigators he believes he fired three shots back, Eichhoff said.

About three weeks ago, Ferguson police officers began using body cameras that were donated after controversy and riots followed another officer's fatal shooting of an unarmed teenager. Typical of such units, the camera monitors constantly but saves video only after the button is pushed.

The suspect ran into woods but did not turn up in a search.

From wire reports



GARY CORONADO, HOUSTON CHRONICLE/AP

Dr. Ana Maria Gonzalez-Angulo and defense attorney Derek Hollingsworth listen to her guilty verdict on a charge of aggravated assault Friday in Houston. She was sentenced to 10 years in prison Monday.

10 years for doctor who poisoned lover

By **JUAN A. LOZANO**
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — A jury on Monday sentenced a Texas cancer researcher to 10 years in prison after she was convicted of poisoning her colleague, who was also her lover, by lacing his coffee with a sweet-tasting chemical found in antifreeze.

Dr. Ana Maria Gonzalez-Angulo, 43, a breast cancer doctor based at Houston's famed Texas Medical Center, had been in-

volved in a sexual relationship with her fellow researcher, Dr. George Blumenschein.

Prosecutors said the affair turned into a "fatal attraction" and she poisoned him with ethylene glycol after Blumenschein spurned her in favor of Evette Toney, his longtime live-in girlfriend with whom he was trying to start a family. Blumenschein survived the 2013 poisoning.

A jury on Friday convicted Gonzalez-Angulo, who is originally from Colombia, of aggra-

vated assault.

While prosecutors had asked jurors to sentence her to at least 30 years in prison, they said they were pleased with the jury's decision. Defense attorneys had asked for probation.

Prosecutor Justin Keiter said the prison sentence sent a message that whether you are a doctor or anybody else, you will not be treated any differently if convicted of a crime.

"It doesn't matter who you are. It matters what you do," he said.

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NATION

3rd-graders face high-stakes reading targets

By JULIE CARR SMYTH

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The games, ice cream and play rehearsals that Joshua Rowell, 9, experienced during summer school this year weren't just for fun.

Joshua, like thousands of Ohio third-graders, had missed a state literacy target on a standardized test. He faced being held back in third grade unless his reading skills improved.

As fellow summer school students at Clinton Elementary School rehearsed their "Three Little Pigs" play, Joshua said ac-

tivities like playing word games, making recipes and practicing play scripts helped, but he also had to work on reading at home.

"Because of my homework, I would have to read 80 or 60 minutes," he said.

The concept is based on education literature that describes third grade as a critical juncture for students, a moment in their education when they shift from "learning to read" to "reading to learn."

Reading, in other words, moves from being a subject to be studied to becoming a tool to be employed. It's also popular among state lawmakers who believe the current education system allows for "social

promotion," wherein students are pushed to the next grade for social reasons even though they haven't attained educational targets.

Education officials in areas where the idea has been adopted tout myriad benefits as they face critics who say holding back third-graders is hard on kids and families and adds to the costs of education.

Alicia Priest, vice president of the Oklahoma Education Association, said her state's retention law was revamped last year to give families and teachers more say in whether a child stays in third grade or moves on.

"That snapshot of that child's reading on that one day in April was determining whether they should advance to the next grade," she said. "We believe you should look at the whole child. What are the other factors that might have impacted that test, their abilities in other subjects, the social issues involved if they're held back?"

The Foundation for Educational Excellence says any stress from adding retention requirements ultimately will be trumped by long-term benefits. The center says the vast majority of high school dropouts did not meet third-grade reading requirements.

Reports in media cited in choosing of Arias jury

By BRIAN SKOLOFF

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Roughly a third of 300 potential jurors were dismissed Monday in the penalty retrial of convicted murderer Jodi Arias after telling a judge they had seen too much media coverage of her first trial to be impartial or had already made up their minds about her punishment.

Other jurors were let go due to work conflicts or language barriers, among other reasons, as jury selection began in the second attempt by prosecutors to secure a death sentence in the Arizona case that became a tabloid TV sensation.

Arias, 34, has acknowledged killing ex-boyfriend Travis Alexander in 2008 at his suburban Phoenix home, but claimed it was self-defense. He suffered nearly 30 knife wounds, had his throat slit and was shot in the head.

Prosecutors argued it was premeditated murder, carried out in a jealous rage when Alexander wanted to end their affair.

Arias, a former waitress, was found guilty last year, and the murder conviction will stand as lawyers spar again over whether she should die for the crime. Arias was before jurors, which is expected to last into December.

Another 100 prospective jurors were set to be brought in Wednesday.

Arias glanced back at the media at one point on Monday and said before jurors started arriving. The victim's sister and her husband sat in the courtroom watching the proceedings.

The upcoming proceedings will not be televised live after the judge ruled that no video footage can be broadcast until after the verdict.



SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN/AP

World War II veterans Dale Stickrath, left, and Tom Pelle reminisce about their time with the 307th Bombardment Group during a Sept. 18 reunion in Santa Fe, N.M.

WWII bomber memorabilia digitized

By SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

The Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. — Thousands of feet above the Pacific Ocean, the bullets were coming fast and the flak was flying. Japanese fighter planes whizzed around like bees as the American forces in their lumbering B-24 bombers tried everything to reach their targets, save fuel and stay airborne for the long trip home.

Tom Pelle, 70, a tech sergeant, was pulling double duty as a machine-gunner that October day. That was 70 years ago, but he remembers the battle like it was yesterday.

"They hit every one of us. They shot down seven, and we were almost number eight," said Pelle, who lost his right leg in the battle.

Now Pelle and the few other remaining members of the 13th Air Force's 307th Bombardment Group, their family members and Ancestry.com's military records site Fold3 are working to keep alive the group's memory by collecting and digitizing thousands of photographs, military orders and other memorabilia. The records are being posted online as part of a searchable database.

The effort is taking on particu-

lar urgency because only a handful of the veterans — known as the "Long Rangers" — are still alive today. Most of them, like Pelle, are around 90 years old.

Historians say the experiences of the 307th Bombardment Group are priceless. Thousands of men were part of the group, including Louis Zamperini, whose story of survival after being shot down over the Pacific is the subject of a best-selling book and Angelina Jolie's new movie, "Unbroken," which will be released in December.

Pelle barely survived the battle on Oct. 3, 1944. By the time he was over, his plane had 420 holes in it. He nearly bled to death after having his leg shot off. With each beat of his heart, blood from what was left of his limb squirted onto the side of the plane. Between throwing up and passing out, he could see his crewmates working to save his life, using their belts as tourniquets.

Unlike Pelle and Zamperini, hundreds never made it home.

The 307th completed more than 600 missions, many of them as long as 17 hours over the open ocean with no landmarks. They were usually unescorted, with several gunners aboard each bomber.

They had to get past the more agile Japanese fighter planes and anti-aircraft guns stationed around their targets or on the decks of battleships.

Several 307th veterans gathered about two weeks ago in Santa Fe for an annual reunion. They talked about the upcoming movie and reminisced.

The veterans say the story of the 307th is one of survival. They braved the challenges of navigating the Pacific along with the relentless attacks of the Japanese Zeros. Their focus: destroying supplies and equipment being used by the Japanese, including refineries and the ships that would transport oil and fuel to enemy installations.

Jim McCabe, the bomb group's historian, said that with the passing years, the veterans' stories were being lost and there were gaps in the records. That's changing, he said.

"They're very storied, and people have no idea they were on two missions where they received distinguished unit citations, Silver Stars and earned incredible medals and citations for their bravery," McCabe said. "I think it's important that the families know."

Supply of road salt low as winter looms

By JEFF KARUB

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The reward for surviving last winter's frigid temperatures and record snowfall, several states are learning: It's drastic price increases for road salt — and that's if they can even get it.

Replenishing stockpiles is proving challenging, especially for some Midwestern states, as winter supplies were depleted by tame icy roads last winter. Price increases of at least 20 percent have been common in places including Boston and Raleigh, N.C.

"Everybody is kind of scrambling around right now, contacting anybody they know who may have some salt available," said Fred Pausch, chief of the County Engineers Association of Ohio.

Some local governments are avoiding the problem thanks to multi-year contracts or secured bids. Chicago, for example, used roughly three times more salt last winter — 436,000 tons — than it did in 2012-13, but the city has locked-in rates based on a contract negotiated a few years ago.

Ohio's rates are not so lucky. In Ohio, where more than 1 million tons of salt was used on state roads last year — a nearly 60 percent increase over the average — last year's average price was \$35 per ton. This year, 15 counties secured bids of more than \$100 per ton, and 10 counties received no bids from suppliers.

Most of Ohio's 88 counties have locked in prices between \$50 and \$80 per ton. To ease the pain for other counties, the state recently secured about 170,000 tons of additional salt.

"The demand for salt is simply outpacing the supply that is available," said Steve Faulkner, spokesman for the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Michigan, like Ohio, local governments are allowed to join a network for bidding purposes, and the state seeks competitive bids each year from four vendors. But even those efforts couldn't prevent a spike. Michigan has seen prices jump by 46 percent, to \$65 per ton.

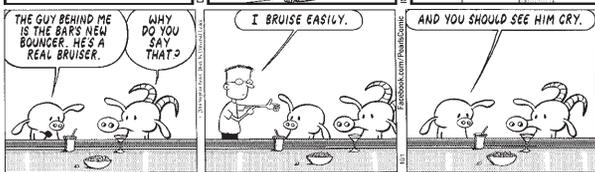
Frazz



Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Get Fuzzy



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
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57								58				59	

ACROSS

- 1 Ganges wrap
- 5 Donkey
- 8 Pantheon members
- 12 Hearty quaffs
- 13 "Humbug!"
- 14 Gumbo base
- 15 Rockies' home
- 17 Grad
- 18 Fashion
- 19 Senescence
- 21 Entrance
- 24 Blond shade
- 25 Boxer LaMotta
- 28 Sir counterpart
- 30 Vacationing
- 33 Storm center
- 34 Memorable bat-
tle ship
- 35 CEO's deg.
- 36 X rating?
- 37 Aware of
- 38 Equitable
- 39 Spigot
- 41 "— partridge ..."
- 43 Creates froth
- 46 Florida city
- 50 Malia : Sasha ::
Lynda : —
- 51 Rummy variety
- 54 Requests
- 55 Actress Hagen
- 56 Met melody
- 57 — and where-
fores
- 58 Recipe meas.
- 59 "Auld" — Syne"

DOWN

- 1 Pouches
- 2 Greatly
- 3 Depend (on)
- 4 Tristan's love
- 5 Lawyers' org.
- 6 Blue
- 7 "Scram!"
- 8 Incites
- 9 Rodgers &
Hammerstein
classic
- 10 Pharmaceutical
- 11 Unchanged
- 16 Old Oldsmobile
- 20 Hobbling
- 22 Arabian Sea gulf
- 23 Indian yogurt
dish
- 25 Lustrous black
- 26 Sailor's assent
- 27 Derby site
- 29 Unsigned (Abb.)
- 31 Justice Dept.
agency
- 32 Distant
- 34 Sulk
- 38 Mud treatment,
maybe
- 40 Not quite right
- 42 Homer's interjec-
tion
- 43 Cabbage
salad
- 44 Shove
- 45 Filthy matter
- 47 Taj Mahal city
- 48 Placed down
- 49 Wd. made from
another wd.
- 52 "Monty Python"
opener
- 53 Visored head-
gear

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	A	T	H	T	W	O	S	C	A	B
I	D	E	A	H	O	V	H	O	N	E
O	V	E	R	T	A	K	E	R	O	T
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P	L	U	M	O	V	E	R	T	U	R
T	A	G	I	V	I	T	E	S	A	D
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10-1

CRYPTOQUIP

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 ZPJJIWHIL RKIW PYA RKIW. H
 GRYLHAIW JDPJ WI-KRUJHYN
 ZIDPKHRW.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT FAMOUS
 YOUNG ACTRESS AND SINGER WHO'S ALWAYS
 GRINNING SHOULD CALL HERSELF SMILEY
 CYRUS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals P

WORLD

Hong Kong protesters urge talks

By ELAINE KURTENBACH
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Pro-democracy protesters demanded that Hong Kong's top leader meet with them on Tuesday and threatened wider actions if he did not after Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying said China would not budge in its decision to limit voting reforms in the Asian financial hub.

Leung's rejection of the student demands dashed hopes for a quick resolution of the five-day standoff that has blocked city streets, forcing some schools and offices to close. It drew a defiant response from the students.

"If Leung Chun-ying doesn't come out to Civic Square before midnight ... then I believe inevitably more people will come out onto the streets," said Alex Chow, secretary general of the Hong Kong Federation of Students, the organizer of the university class boycotts that led to the street protests.

"If (Chief Executive) Leung Chun-ying doesn't come out to Civic Square before midnight ... then I believe inevitably more people will come out onto the streets."

Alex Chow
Hong Kong Federation of Students

Leung's blunt rejection of the demands from the students, who are pushing for him to step down, comes as no surprise. The Chinese Communist leadership is wary of conciliatory moves that might embolden dissidents and separatists on the mainland.

Hong Kong police continued a light-handed approach to the protests, having shifted tactics Monday after their use of tear gas and pepper spray over the weekend failed to drive out tens of thousands of people occupying streets near the government headquarters. The sit-ins instead spread to the financial district and other areas.

"We are not afraid of riot police, we are not afraid of tear gas, we are not afraid of pepper spray," Lester Shum, another student leader, shouted to a swelling crowd at Admiralty near Hong Kong's waterfront. "We will not leave until Leung Chun-ying resigns. We will not give up, we will persevere until the end."

The protesters want a reversal of a decision by China's government in August that a pro-Beijing panel will screen all candidates in the territory's first direct elections, scheduled for 2017 — a move they view as negating on a promise that the chief executive will be chosen through "universal suffrage."



JEROME DELAVALP

Finda Saah, 28, holds 6-week-old Prosper Jr. as daughter Alice, 5, and son Augustin, 13, look on at their St. Paul Bridge home in Monrovia, Liberia. Finda lost her husband to the deadly Ebola virus and gave birth three days later.

Families waiting in agony for word on Ebola patients

By KRISTA LARSON
The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — First the ring tone echoed outside the barbed-wire-topped walls of the Ebola clinic. Then came the walls of grief, as news spread that Rose Johnson, 31, was dead just days after she was brought here unconscious by relatives.

Soon, her mother's sorrow became so unbearable, her body so limp and heavy, that even her two other daughters could no longer help her stand.

There had been no official confirmation of Rose's death from hospital officials, no time for someone to explain her final moments, just word from a family acquaintance in the home who said her bed had been cleared that morning to make way for a new patient.

Her grieving husband stood in a daze outside the hospital.

"I've been here every day, every day, every day," said David Johnson, 31, now left with the couple's daughter, Divine, 18 months. "Up till now, there has been no information. How can I believe she is dead?"

As the death toll from Ebola soars, crowded clinics are turning over beds as

quickly as patients are dying. That leaves social workers and psychologists struggling to keep pace and notify families, who must wait outside for fear of contagion. Also, under a government decree, all Ebola victims must be cremated, leaving families in unbearable pain with no chance for goodbye, no body to bury.

"People are standing around for weeks. Nobody is coming to them," said Kanyeay Molton Farley, 39, a community leader in one of Monrovia's hardest-hit neighborhoods. "There should be a system in place for disseminating information, but there is nothing."

At least 1,830 people are believed to have died from the disease here in Liberia, and many fear the actual toll is far higher and rising fast.

Doctors Without Borders in Monrovia has three phone lines to answer calls from worried families. The group asks relatives to come in person for updates on their loved ones inside the 160-bed facility, but sometimes they get news from friends or family instead, said Athena Viscusi, a clinical social worker.

Ukrainians gear up for winter without benefit of Russian gas

By LAURA MILLS
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — For Alexei Polezhai, who sells water heaters and wood-burning stoves at his two shops in Kiev, sales this fall have been remarkably good considering the dramatic collapse in the rest of the Ukrainian economy this year.

Ukrainians are rushing to insulate their walls, seal up drafty windows and snap up heating equipment as the possibility sets in that they may be about to experience their first winter without Russian gas.

Russia stopped gas deliveries to Ukraine in June after Kiev failed to pay what Moscow said it owed in arrears. As the two sides play brinkmanship over whether to sign a stopgap deal that would provide Kiev with enough gas to get through the winter, many Ukrainians are left wondering whether they may have to fend for themselves in the cold, wet months. Ukraine has some gas stored,

but it will not last through the winter. "People are afraid they will turn off the gas supply entirely," Polezhai said. Demand for his water heaters is about 15 times higher than normal, and sales for wood-burning stoves are also up dramatically. The warehouses where he buys the water heaters have increased prices by up to 50 percent. "What to some is war, to others is profit," he joked.

For more rural residents, preparing for that means chopping extra wood or buying a wood-burning stove. For city residents, options are more limited: They are stocking up on blankets, buying water heaters and insulating their homes, but otherwise are simply left to cross their fingers.

Russian and Ukrainian negotiators are expected to resume talks this week in Berlin on a gas deal proposed by the European Union. But Kiev is continuing to talk tough, despite the fact that it previously has relied on Russia for about 60 percent of its gas.

New tremors at volcano site in Japan raise new concerns

By EMILY WANG
The Associated Press

KISO, Japan — Increased seismic activity raised concern Tuesday about the possibility of another eruption at a Japanese volcano where 36 people were killed, forcing rescuers to suspend plans to try to recover at least two dozen bodies still near the summit.

Volcanic tremors rose to a level not seen since Saturday evening, hours after Mount Ontake's initial large eruption, said Shoji Saito, of the Japan Meteorological Agency. The tremor levels were oscillating up and down. "At this point, anything can happen," Saito said, though he stopped short of predicting another large eruption.

About 80 to 100 relatives and friends of those who never returned from the summit were waiting for news in a municipal hall in the nearby central Japanese town of Kiso.

Rescuers found five more bodies on Monday, bringing the death toll to 36. They have managed to airlift only 12 bodies off the mountain since the start of the eruption Saturday because of dangerous conditions.

There were believed to be at least 250 people on the mountain, a popular hiking destination, when it erupted.

How the victims died remains unclear, though experts say it was probably from suffocating ash, falling rocks, toxic gases or some combination of them. Some of the bodies had severe contusions.

Survivors told Japanese media they were pulled by rocks from the eruption.

Yuji Tsuno, a veteran mountain photographer, was near the summit. After taking pictures of the initial explosion as ash and debris rained down, he quickly took refuge in a nearby hut, he told the TBS TV network.

About 20 minutes later, when the smoke partially subsided, Tsuno rushed out and began his descent. It was a gamble, but he believed it was his only chance, he said.

"I almost thought it was the end of my life," he said in the interview.

On his way down, he spotted a man heading up. "I told him to go down with me, but he said he had to check on his child up there. I couldn't stop him," Tsuno said.



Kyodo News/AP

Dense white plumes of gases and ash spew from the summit crater of Mount Ontake in central Japan on Monday.

WIRED WORLD

Making privacy a priority

New Apple encryption locks out police from iPhones, iPads



By CRAIG TIMBERG
The Washington Post

Apple said that it is making it impossible for the company to turn over data from most iPhones or iPads to police — even when they have a search warrant — taking a hard new line as tech companies attempt to blunt allegations that they have too readily participated in government efforts to collect user data.

The move, announced Sept. 17 with the publication of a new privacy policy tied to the release of Apple's latest mobile operating system, iOS 8, amounts to an engineering solution to a legal quandary. Rather than comply with binding court orders, Apple has reworked its latest encryption in a way that makes it almost impossible for the company — or anyone but the device's owner — to gain access to the vast troves of user data typically stored on smartphones or tablet computers.

The key is the encryption that Apple mobile devices automatically put into place when a user selects a passcode, making it difficult for anyone who lacks that passcode to access the information within, including photos, emails and recordings. Apple once kept possession of encryption keys that unlocked devices for legally binding police requests, but will no longer do so for iOS 8, it said in a new guide for law enforcement.

"Unlike our competitors, Apple cannot bypass your passcode and therefore cannot access this data," Apple said on its website. "So it's not technically feasible for us to respond to government warrants for the extraction of this data from devices in their possession running iOS 8."

As the new operating system becomes widely deployed during the next several weeks, the number of iPhones and iPads that Apple is capable of breaking into for police will steadily dwindle to the point when only devices several years old — and incapable of running iOS 8 — can be cracked by Apple.

Apple will still have the ability — and the legal responsibility — to turn over user data stored elsewhere, such as in its iCloud service, which typically includes backups of photos, videos, email communications, music collections and more. Users who want to prevent all forms of police access to their information will have to adjust settings in a way that blocks data from flowing to iCloud.

Apple's action comes less than five months after the Supreme Court ruled that police in most circumstances need a search

warrant to collect information stored on phones. Apple's action makes that distinction largely moot by depriving itself of the power to comply with search warrants for the contents of many of the phones it sells.

The move is the latest in a series in which Apple has sought to distinguish itself from competitors through more rigorous security, especially in the aftermath of revelations about government spying made by former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden last year.

Though the company's security took a publicity hit with the leak of intimate photos of celebrities from their Apple accounts in recent weeks, the move to block police access to the latest iPhones and iPads will thrill privacy activists and will frustrate law enforcement officials, who have come to rely on the extensive evidence often found on personal electronic devices.

"This is a great move," said Christopher Soghoian, principal technologist for the American Civil Liberties Union. "This

seems to be the result of pressure because of the Snowden — revelations.

Apple seems to be putting user privacy ahead of many other things.

... There are going to be a lot of unhappy law enforcement officials."

Ronald Hosko, the former head of the FBI's criminal investigations division, called the move by Apple "problematic," saying it will contribute to the steady decrease of law enforcement's ability to collect key evidence — to solve crimes and

to prevent them. The agency long has publicly worried about the "going dark" problem, in which the rising use of encryption across a range of services has undermined government's ability to conduct surveillance, even when it is legally authorized.

"Our ability to act on data that does exist ... is critical to our success," Hosko said. He suggested that it would take a major event, such as a terrorist attack, to cause the pendulum to swing back toward giving authorities access to a broad range of digital information.

Many security experts have blamed security weaknesses in iCloud — some of which have since been fixed — for the recent leak of celebrity photos. Several companies also make systems designed to crack the encryp-

tion of devices, including the iPhone and the iPad. Security experts generally consider Apple's devices to be better protected against such attacks than some rivals', though people with short passcodes — of four digits, for example — are in greater danger of what are called "brute force attacks" that relentlessly try all possible combinations.

Adding more security can make it harder for users to operate a mobile device. People who forgets their passcodes with iOS 8 will not be able to recover them by contacting Apple.

However, most users will have the bulk of their data automatically backed up on iCloud and would be able to restore their phones, though not before wiping them of all user data.



Josh Nolan looks at a new iPhone 6 at the Apple store at Augusta Mall in Augusta, Ga., on Sept. 19.

MICHAEL HOLAHAN, THE AUGUSTA (GA.) CHRONICLE/AP

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Cruise ship passenger dies in fall at port

FL MIAMI — A 20-year-old man died after falling from a mast on a Carnival Cruise Lines ship docked at Miami's port.

Carnival officials said Monday that the man went into a restricted area aboard the Carnival Ecstasy and climbed a forward mast, then fell onto the deck below. He was later pronounced dead at a hospital.

Miami-Dade County police said the man's fall was the equivalent of two decks of the ship.

Police said there's no evidence of foul play. The man's identity was not immediately released.

Court reverses parole denial in '73 murder

NJ TRENTON — A New Jersey appeals court has ordered the state parole board to release a man convicted in one of the state's most notorious killings.

Sundjata Acoli was known as Clark Edward Squire when he was convicted of the 1973 murder of state trooper Werner Forster during a stop on the New Jersey Turnpike. He has been in jail since then and was denied parole most recently in 2011.

In a ruling published Monday, the appeals court concluded that the parole board ignored evidence favorable to Acoli and relied on past events such as a probation violation that occurred decades before.

Bank robbery suspect hams it up in mug shot

CO DENVER — A man captured after authorities say he tried to flee a bank robbery in Denver wasn't seem too upset about his arrest.

The mug shot taken after Michael Whittington, 45, was arrested on Sept. 23 shows him with a broad, toothy smile and his eyes open wide.



Whittington

Police allege he robbed a bank at Denver's 16th Street pedestrian mall and then tried to get away on a light-rail train.

Officers stopped the train a few blocks away and arrested him. He has been charged with one count of robbery and was due to appear in court on Tuesday to be advised of the charge.

140 pounds of pot found during stop

MO HANNIBAL — A Boston woman is facing charges after police allege they found 140 pounds of marijuana during a traffic stop in northeast Missouri.

The Hannibal Courier-Post reported that the arrest Friday was the largest marijuana bust in the history of Marion County.

Prosecutor David Clayton said Juissa Ramirez, 38, was driving east on U.S. 36 near Hannibal



ANA VENEGAS, ORANGE COUNTY (CALIF.) REGISTER/AP

Sugar the surf dog

Ryan Rustan, of Huntington Beach, Calif., launches off his board as he surfs with his dog, Sugar, at the Surf City Surf Dog competition Sunday. The competition culminated with canine and human antics.

when she was stopped. Officers reportedly detected an overwhelming marijuana smell. Clayton said the marijuana was vacuum-sealed and stored in several duffel bags. Police believe Ramirez was simply driving through Missouri. She is jailed on a \$100,000 cash-only bond on drug-trafficking charges and does not yet have an attorney.

Baby abductor found to be envious of others

IN MUNCIE — A psychologist said a central Indiana woman who pleaded guilty to trying to abduct a 3-year-old girl is manipulative and envious of others.

The report from the psychologist is included in a memorandum filed by Delaware County prosecutors ahead of Wednesday's scheduled sentencing hearing for Judith Ann Walker, 35, of Anderson.

Walker pleaded guilty in August to burglary resulting in injuries and other charges for the June 2013 attack at the victim's Muncie home. Walker told the judge that because of drug abuse, she remembers little about the attack, during which she wrapped an electrical cord around the mother's throat.

The Star Press reported that prosecutors say Walker planned the attack for weeks, buying baby clothing and wearing a fake baby belly to make others believe she was pregnant.

Reopening of car care center ends in auto fire

NM ALBUQUERQUE — The grand reopening event for an Albuquerque auto shop went up in smoke Saturday afternoon. KRQE-TV reported that the new owner of the AAMCO car

care center started his classic Chevelle in the garage when a fire started under the hood.

The fire spread to the roof, creating thick smoke.

Firefighters responded and were able to extinguish the blaze quickly. But neighboring stores, including a Goodwill, were evacuated.

The owner said the fire began after most people had left the event.

Convicted arsonist seeks longer sentence

WI STEVENS POINT — A convicted arsonist says he deserved a longer sentence than he got.

Roy Strait, 40, of Stevens Point, was sentenced Friday to 15 years in prison. But Stevens Point Journal Media reported that Strait asked the judge for 25 years behind bars.

THE CENSUS

1,126

The weight in pounds of a bowl of loco moco for which a Honolulu group is claiming a world record. Chef Hideaki Miyoshi, of Tokkuri Tei restaurant, and volunteers on Sunday created a bowl of the popular Hawaiian dish, which was invented in the late 1940s in Hilo. The basic dish consists of hot white rice, a hamburger patty, an over-easy fried egg and brown gravy. Guinness World Records had said the dish would have to weigh at least 1,100 pounds for consideration. For their loco moco bowl, which was prepared at the Fifth Annual Rice Festival, Miyoshi and his crew used more than 600 pounds of rice, 200 pounds of ground beef, 300 scrambled eggs and 200 pounds of gravy. The dish was donated to charitable organizations.



Strait pleaded no contest to one count of arson in June for setting his apartment building on fire. The complaint says he told police he did it because he suffered from depression and wanted to return to prison because he was alone. He also told police he knew people were home when he set the fire.

Portage County Assistant District Attorney David Knaepen said he doesn't think Strait intended to kill the other residents, but that he displayed an utter disregard for their lives.

Mom allegedly sets up daughter's fistfight

PA UPPER DARBY — Police in suburban Philadelphia said they've arrested a woman who allegedly arranged and watched a fight between her teenage daughter and a schoolmate.

Upper Darby Police Superintendent Michael Chitwood said the girls apparently had an ongoing squabble over boys.

The Delaware County Times reported that the Friday afternoon fight was in a gas station parking lot.

According to police, officers passing by saw the two high school students in a fistfight. They stopped the fight and charged Nicole Edna Holton, 36, with disorderly conduct, endangering the welfare of children and the corruption of minors.

Holton told police that school administrators weren't helping settle the girls' ongoing conflict, so she helped them do it on their own.

From wire reports

FACES



Former actress Amanda Bynes was booked on suspicion of driving while under the influence of a drug early Sunday morning. She was released after posting \$15,000 bail.

Bynes arrested for DUI in Los Angeles

Former actress Amanda Bynes was arrested early Sunday morning on suspicion of driving while under the influence of a drug, authorities said Monday.

Bynes, 28, was stopped by a California Highway Patrol officer after she stopped in the middle of an intersection in Los Angeles around 4 a.m. on Sunday. The former child star was determined to be under the influence of an unidentified drug after being evaluated at a nearby police station, the CHP said in a statement.

The release states that Bynes, who has had a series of driving-related arrests, was cooperative but appeared disheveled when she was taken into custody.

Bynes was released hours later after posting \$15,000 bail. A phone message left for her criminal defense attorney, Richard Hutton, was not immediately returned.

Bynes was 13 when she landed her own hit variety program, "The Amanda Show," on Nickelodeon. She went on to star in the TV series "What I Like About You" and several movies, including "What a Girl Wants," "Hair-spray" and "She's the Man."

She has publicly stated that she has retired from acting. Her last film credit was 2010's "Easy A," which starred Emma Stone.

Other news

■ "Downton Abbey" won't be the only place fans can see Elizabeth McGovern this winter: The star's star is heading on a 10-date U.S. tour with her folk-rock band in December. McGovern is the lead singer for Sadie and the Hot-heads. McGovern plays the role of American heiress Cora Crawley, the Countess of Grantham, on "Downton Abbey," which has its fifth season premiere on Jan. 4 in the U.S.

■ Mary-Louise Parker, the award-winning star of "Weeds," is writing a book about the "significant men in her life." The book is called "Dear Mr. You," and Scribner announced Monday that it is scheduled for next fall. The 50-year-old Parker will tell her story through a series of letters. Parker has starred in the films "Grand Canyon" and "Fried Green Tomatoes" and in a Broadway production of "Proof," for which she won a Tony in 2006. She won a Golden Globe for best actress for her work in "Weeds," the Showtime series.

Exulting in his 'HEAVEN'

Prince enjoying artistic freedom on 2 new releases

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY
The Associated Press

talent," an energized Prince says. "To me, it feels like heaven."

It's not just the music that's taking his Royal Badness to new heights: For the first time, he is releasing his music with complete freedom. The man that once wrote "slave" on his face in protest of not being in control of his own music and famously battled and then departed Warner Bros. is back with the label — under his own terms.

"What's happening now is the position that I've always wanted to be in," says Prince. "I was just trying to get here."

In the spring, Prince, 56, gained what

he had sought for more than two decades — control of his musical masters, and, in a larger sense, his musical legacy. In the past, Warner Bros. held the rights to Prince's music, even long after he left, as part of the contract he signed as a new artist.

After savvy legal maneuvering, he owns the rights to his vast collections of hits, including archival music that Prince fans have been longing to hear for decades. Prince also gained control of the publishing rights to his compositions and has performance rights — which means he completely controls his own musical destiny.

Long a trailblazer for artists' rights, and for coming up with innovative approaches to break away from the label structure that he's viewed as unfair to artists, he sees the way the industry has unfolded as the ultimate "I told you so": disappearing labels, a streaming system that some music acts say nets them even less profit for the music they made, and increasing challenge to make money just off of making music.

For Prince, the old Tribe Called Quest rhyme still rings true: "Industry rule number four thousand and eighty, record company people are shady." He speaks passionately of his disdain for traditional record contracts and publishing agreements that he believes give most of the power — and profit — to other entities, not the creator of the music.

He considers it not only bad business, but also against God: "The Bible says you're not supposed to sign your inheritance away."

The entry of Apple as the major player in music hasn't helped, in his view. When asked about U2's much analyzed venture with Apple — in which the company paid them for their latest album, then released it in its customers' iTunes libraries for free — Prince simply says: "That's a designer deal. ... Of course they got paid. But what about the others?"

Prince likes YouTube, too

Some Prince fans who want to go to YouTube to pull up their favorite track or performance have long complained that Prince is overly aggressive in removing that music on copyright infringement grounds.

So they might be surprised that he uses it to look up music and old performances of others. When the point is underscored as he watches an old James Brown clip, he says: "James Brown has an estate — so do I," then adds: "People need to stop tripping."

From The Associated Press

Nightfall is fast approaching at Paisley Park.

There are few lights on in the cavernous Chanhassen, Minn., compound, and unseen doves (of course there would be doves) are cooing up a racket before twilight fades to darkness. But even their collective noise takes a back seat once Prince — sitting in the dimmest bit of light — goes to his Mac, cues up a track and hits play.

A melodious instrumental track floods the room, the lush orchestration compliments of the Minnesota Orchestra, whom Prince tapped to perform. Its inspiration has come from a little-heard Dionne Warwick song, "In Between the Heartaches," which he also played moments earlier.

The track remains a work in progress; Prince has written no lyrics yet. But it's music like this that keeps him going — to still, after all these years, take music to the next level.

"If you don't try, how will you get another 'Insatiable,'" he says, referencing his classic bedroom groove.

On Tuesday, he released his first album in four years, "ART OFFICIAL AGE" along with music from his latest protege act, 3RDEYEGIRL, "PLECTRUMLECTRUM."

"I'm completely surrounded by equal

From The Associated Press

BUSINESS/WEATHER

New Viagra ad offers feminine touch

By Linda A. Johnson
The Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — The maker of the world's top-selling erectile dysfunction drug on Tuesday will begin airing the first Viagra TV commercial that targets the less obvious sufferers of the sexual condition: women.

In the new 60-second ad, a middle-aged woman reclining on a bed in a tropical setting addresses the problems couples encounter when a man is impotent.

"So guys, it's just you and your woman. The setting is perfect. But then erectile dysfunction happens again," she says before encouraging men to ask their doctor about Viagra. "Plenty of guys have this issue — not just getting an erection, but keeping it."

Having a woman speak directly to men about impotence is a unique strategy for Pfizer Inc. The world's second-biggest drug-maker is looking for ways to boost sales of Viagra, Pfizer's No. 6 sell-

er, at a time when it is encountering new competition.

Viagra has faced competition from cheaper generic versions in Europe since its patent expired there 15 months ago. Sales fell 8 percent last year, to \$1.9 billion.

In three years, Viagra will get generic competition in the U.S., where it costs about \$35 a pill. Meanwhile, new competitor Stendra just got approved.

Patents give a drug a monopoly, generally for 20 years. But when those patents expire, cheaper generic versions flood the market, often wiping out most of the brand-name drug's sales within a year.

New York-based Pfizer has seen generic competition for several of its other drugs cut revenue by billions, so it is hoping to stem the revenue losses for Viagra.

The market for ED drugs is big. About half of men over 40 suffer from ED, occasionally or always, yet only 10 percent take medicine regularly, said Dr. Irwin Goldstein, who directs the San Diego

Sexual Medicine center and has researched sexual disorders for decades.

Having a woman in ads makes sense because women often are more upset by ED than their man and lose interest in sex, said Goldstein, who has done patient testing of multiple ED pills and received consulting fees from their makers.

He said men generally dislike going to doctors, and when older ones do, they often linger as the doctor finishes, shifting from one foot to the other in what doctors call "the Viagra shuffle." Doctors then ask if the man wants Viagra, he said.

Executives at Pfizer hope the new ad campaign, which includes print ads in publications such as Esquire ad Time, will nudge women to broach the subject with their mates. In the ad, the actress also uses the word "erection," instead of the industry euphemism for the condition, "ED."

Pfizer's marketing chief, Vic Clavelli, told The Associated Press that the company is trying to take a more direct approach in ads, unlike past ones "built around very subtle innuendo."

Ads for rival Cialis have featured couples getting frisky during everyday activities, then lounging in his-and-hers baths. Viagra ads typically show middle-aged men doing things such as construction work and deep-sea fishing.

MARKET WATCH

	Sept. 29, 2014
Dow Jones industrials	-11.93 17,071.22
Nasdaq composite	-6.34 4,505.85
Standard & Poor's 500	-5.05 1,977.80
Russell 2000	-1.42 1,117.91

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Oct. 1)	\$1.2958
Dollar buys (Oct. 1)	€0.7717
British pound (Oct. 1)	\$1.67
Japanese yen (Oct. 1)	107.00
South Korean won (Oct. 1)	1,030.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6214
Canada (Dollar)	1.1185
China (Yuan)	6.1385
Denmark (Krone)	6.9004
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	\$1.2615/0.7927
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.654
Hungary (Forint)	245.99
Israel (Sheqel)	3.6875
Japan (Yen)	109.66
Kuwait (Dinar)	2.8864
Norway (Krone)	6.4212
Philippines (Peso)	44.99
Poland (Zloty)	3.31
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7516
Singapore (Dollar)	1.2756
South Korea (Won)	1,056.69
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9563
Thailand (Baht)	32.43
Turkey (Lira)	2.2822

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

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.09
3-month bill	0.01
30-year bond	3.17

WEATHER OUTLOOK

WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



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OPINION

Threat of attack turning DC into a fortress

By DAN K. THOMASSON
 McClatchy-Tribune News Service

U.S. taxpayers foot the bill amounting to tens of millions of dollars each year to protect the nation's public officials and property. Because of the threat of terrorism, what once was thought of as the welcoming seat of democracy has become a fortified maze of barriers and checkpoints and restricted access.

It's about to get worse, if the Secret Service has its way. Not only will Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the presidential mansion, considered for most of its existence as the people's house, be closed to autos as it has been for some time now, foot traffic in front of the big white house visited by thousands of tourists daily could be ended.

That is thanks to a breach in security by an Iraq War veteran who climbed the fence, eluded several levels of guards and made it to an unlocked door. He had a knife in his pocket, a cache of ammunition in the car in which he was living and a record of instability. Already a second fence has been added, making even innocent picture taking more difficult, and that may be just the first step. The red-faced Secret Service is looking at any number of new restrictive options.

Meanwhile, on Capitol Hill and in the buildings of government throughout this federal enclave, security has become more draconian with every new threat of terrorism here or abroad, real or not. Unfettered access to the halls of Congress

began disappearing several decades ago and has steadily progressed to vault-like restrictiveness. Even driving around the legislative campus these days is a chore to be undertaken only if there is pressing business.

Contrast these enormously expensive measures with a federal district judge's ruling recently that the District of Columbia's ban on carrying concealed weapons is unconstitutional and the whole scene seems surreal. Consequently, the D.C. City Council was forced to adopt a bill complying with this edict. The council hopes to temper the ruling's potentially horrific consequences by requiring that gun carriers have a permit that is extremely difficult to obtain.

How long this will hold up in a court system that has almost totally capitulated to the irresponsible firearms forces is anyone's guess. Not long, one would assume, considering the gun worshippers are already signaling their intention to challenge the council's action. Under the circumstances, it would be easy to conclude that a sizable number of Americans have lost their collective minds, believing as they seem to, that owning a gun is the most important right they have.

The incongruity of all this is monumental. It paints a picture of public officials hiding in their safety cocoons, afraid to go outside because of the threat that an angry constituent or terrorist or just plain unsuspecting crazy has been allowed to carry a hidden handgun that he intends to use at the first opportunity. Are we going to have to provide armored cars and extend secu-

urity to the personal homes of Cabinet secretaries or even back-bench legislators and the fear-maddened drones who occupy the bureaucracy?

That doesn't take into account the disaster that could arise from what started to be just a low-key political disagreement among friends over beers in this most political of cities and then deteriorates into heated outrage. Think again if you don't believe that's a possibility.

It is fair to say that the U.S. Supreme Court, (to paraphrase Mr. Bumble) was "an ass" in striking down the District's 30-year ban on handguns and establishing what no other predecessor court had — that the Second Amendment was based on the presumption that bearing arms was an individual right and not a collective one.

Now in this town one who asserts his rights in any kind of disagreement or confrontation, mild or otherwise, must now be aware that he or she may be facing a stranger packing heat, legitimately. Harsh words over a fender bender suddenly become a tragedy in waiting.

Is it any wonder that police obviously driven by fear seem more and more to be shooting first and asking questions later? The recent wounding of a man in South Carolina who had been accused of a seat belt violation is a perfect example. After leaving his car, he turned and ducked back in to retrieve his wallet, causing the officer to erroneously conclude he was reaching for a firearm and to shoot him.

Dan Thomasson is an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune and a former vice president of Scripps Howard Newspapers.

From spanking, a slippery slope to whipping

By JOHN M. CRISP
 McClatchy-Tribune News Service

I wonder why we aren't more disturbed about the Adrian Peterson case.

Peterson, a running back for the Minnesota Vikings, was indicted on Sept. 11 for allegedly causing injury to a child. He had used a switch to discipline his 4-year-old son.

The extensive welts, bruises and cuts on the child's body indicate that the experience must have been very painful, as well as extremely frightening for a 4-year-old. Peterson even admits that he lashed his son — perhaps unintentionally — across the testicles.

We should be horrified. But some of the reaction to this incident was tentative and equivocal. The Vikings suspended Peterson, then reinstated him, then suspended him again. Now it looks like he's out for the season.

Peterson expressed some remorse — especially about the blow to the testicles — but he doesn't seem to get it. He admits that he's "not a perfect parent," but he denies that he's a child abuser, insisting that his goal was to teach his son "right from wrong."

His lawyer says that Peterson was merely using "the same kind of discipline with his child that he experienced as a child growing up in east Texas."

This perspective was supported by former pro basketball player Charles Barkley, who defended Peterson by suggesting that

spanking — Barkley bluntly calls it "whipping" — has a cultural component, that the circumstances that led to Peterson's indictment would put every black parent in the south in jail.

Even the prominent columnist Leonard Pitts says, somewhat defensively, that according to Peterson's accusers, "Pitts' mother and Pitts himself are 'child abusers,'" because they spanked their children. His mother, Pitts says, was a loving, sacrificing, attentive parent who, when Pitts and his siblings had it coming, didn't hesitate to hit them with a switch or other handy implement.

Pitts isn't defending Peterson — he admits he doesn't know how severe the punishment was — but he lends support to the view that failure to spank could send out into a rough world children who are "poisoned by self-esteem," a view shared by many American parents, white and black.

In fact, if it appears that there's a racial or regional element to this issue, let's dispense with it. A study out of Columbia University reports that 90 percent of Americans were spanked as children.

In short, we spank a lot in our country. The key, spankers say, is not to go "overboard," as Peterson allegedly did. Pitts says that spanking should "sting, not hurt," though I suspect that this distinction is lost on 4-year-olds.

While parents should be loving and willing, they should also set limits and be able to impose "painful" consequences on kids who exceed them.

I'm not in a position to gainsay American spankers who believe that they can spank according to the sensible principles suggested by Pitts: Don't spank unless the kids deserve it. Don't spank to excess. Don't spank in anger. Don't lose control.

But I don't have confidence in the capacity of all — or even most — parents to make these subtle distinctions. I suspect nearly all spankings have an element of anger and that most of them have less to do with purposeful, loving parenting than with frustration and the expression of dominance.

Maybe there is some clear boundary between "controlled" spanking and abuse, and maybe some parents manage to stay on the right side of it. But the prevalence of spanking in our country gives easy permission for the millions of Americans who were whipped as kids, like Peterson, to whip their own kids.

The mildest slap crosses a certain line that puts children into a category unlike any other; they're the only Americans that we can hit with impunity.

Perhaps it doesn't have to be this way. At least 30 nations have abolished all forms of corporal punishment, in schools and at home. I suspect our society wouldn't crumble if we simply decided to take spanking off the table. At least we could provide some clarity for guys like Peterson, who believe that whipping and being whipped are just part of growing up.

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for McClatchy-Tribune, is a former newspaperman at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas.

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OPINION

Best democracies need touch of nationalism

By CLIVE CROOK
Bloomberg News

Nationalism is resurgent, Gideon Rachman says in a recent column for the Financial Times. That is surprising, he argues. Not long ago we were contemplating a new age of globalization: "In a borderless world of bits and bytes the traditional concerns of nations — territory, identity and sovereignty — looked as anachronistic as swords and shields."

Quite the opposite, it turns out. As Rachman says, consider the separatist drive in Scotland, or Catalonia; the growing strength of right-wing populism in England, France and elsewhere in the European Union; Russia's moves to reclaim its empire; the electoral success of Hindu nationalism in India; the mutually antagonistic strands of chauvinism in China and Japan. Almost wherever you look, those supposedly anachronistic concerns are driving politics.

Not just surprising, that is also disturbing, Rachman goes on — because nationalism is divisive and therefore dangerous. Resurgent nationalism is a sickness and we need a cure.

Well, yes and no. Having argued that Scotland should have voted for independence in its recent referendum, and that the UK might be right (depending on the circumstances) to quit the European Union, I may need to still the suspicion that I'm allied to the forces of darkness, a secret Vladimir Putin admirer, or a champion of ethnic purity. I plead not guilty. On the other hand, I do think that, just as democracy needs a morsel of populism, it also needs a judicious measure of the right kind of nationalism.

Partly, this is just a matter of bowing to the inevitable. Ties of history, culture and ethnicity are surprisingly durable. Pretending they don't exist is foolish, and trying to eradicate them is an unavoidably totalitarian project. When historians blame various 21st-century conflicts on the

propensity of colonial rulers of an earlier era to draw straight lines on maps regardless of the loyalties of the people affected, they have a point. Kith and kin aren't to be denied.

Moreover, the tenacity of group loyalties isn't such a bad thing as far as politics is concerned. To a point, it's desirable as well as inevitable — because democracy can't work well in a unit not bound by some kind of shared identity.

Collective choice in free societies involves winning some and losing some; it requires give and take. The more intense this interaction, the greater the demands on free individuals' sense of community. As a general point, of course, that applies to every level of society, from the family at one extreme to the planet as a whole at the other. Within that spectrum, though, the modern nation-state would seem to serve a useful purpose: It offers the possibility of consensual interaction on a scale conducive to good government.

Within the European Union, the principle of "subsidiarity" recognizes this truth. Why is it a good thing to push government down to the lowest feasible level, as that principle requires, so that decisions are made as closely as possible to the people affected? Because democracies prize participation and consent. The nation-state is a convenient, deeply entrenched and probably indispensable platform for both. The recent success of anti-EU parties reflects, in part, not purblind tribalism but the persistent failure of the EU to honor its own commitment to subsidiarity.

I said "a judicious measure of the right kind of nationalism." What does that mean? Each democracy needs enough nationalism — call it patriotism if you like — to bind its people together but not so much as to set them at odds with outsiders.

It's worth remembering that friendly relations among countries are the norm, not the exception, despite the trend that Rachman points up. I favored independence for Scotland partly because I could easily imagine Scotland and the rest of Britain



as close friends and allies, just as patriotic Americans get on well with patriotic Canadians.

That's right, U.S. nationalism exists — and thank heaven it does. America would be weaker without it and much less use to the rest of the world. Canadian nationalism exists as well. Find me a Canadian newspaper columnist who hasn't reflected, again and again, on What It Means to Be Canadian. If you ask me, Canada is unduly concerned with what it means to be Canadian — but it's a fine neighbor and an understanding global citizen nonetheless. Nationalism turns toxic, and patriotism becomes chauvinism, when it's belligerent and sets up foreigners as the enemy. That's true, no doubt, of many of the cases Rachman highlights — but it would be wrong to assume this goes with the territory (as it were). Toxic nationalism isn't the typical case.

Note too that nationalism comes in different flavors as well as different intensities. A useful, if over-emphasized, distinction is between civic nationalism and ethnic nationalism. The U.S. exemplifies civic nationalism: its idea of nationhood defined by a constitutional design and shared political culture, open (in principle) to newcomers without regard to race or creed. Ethnic nationalism sees nationhood as a matter of tribe or religion or language. It's exclusionary by nature. That makes it far more prone to perversion into forms that see neighbors as rivals or enemies.

Ethnic nationalism is much more to be feared. Civic nationalism, at levels commonly observed, is a good thing. In the rise of the Independence Party, which wants Britain to leave the EU, I see some of both — a point I'll come back to.

Clive Crook is a Bloomberg View columnist and a member of the Bloomberg View editorial board.

Obama cannot keep ignoring Bashar Assad in Syria

By JACKSON DIEHL
The Washington Post

In the past month, President Barack Obama has launched an open-ended Middle East war, built an impressive coalition of allies and entirely reversed his previous strategy of standing back from the region. Curiously, however, Obama has so far refused to reckon with the actor that more than any other is responsible for ruining his foreign policy doctrine, creating the security crisis and dragging U.S. military forces back to Iraq and Syria.

That is not al-Qaida, the Islamic State, Khorasan or any of Iraq's sectarian factions. It is the Syrian regime of Bashar Assad.

The Islamic State's recent military gains in Iraq and origins in al-Qaida have tended to obscure the reality that its surge is first and foremost the result of Assad's brutal war against the Syrian opposition. As Obama's own envoy to Syria has said repeatedly, the collapse of government control over the north and east of the country, combined with Obama's refusal to provide weapons to moderate rebel forces, created an opening for the al-Qaida remnants that eventually launched the Islamic State. They were directly abetted by the Assad regime, which observed an unspoken truce with the extremists while dropping barrel

If the Islamic State is a cancer, Assad is the source tumor.

bombs and chemical weapons on civilians in Aleppo and greater Damascus.

Having backed away from carrying out airstrikes against Assad's assets a year ago, Obama essentially abandoned any effort to enforce his August 2011 declaration that the dictator must give up power. Secretary of State John Kerry, who took office in 2013 promising to "change Assad's calculations," dropped a quixotic initiative to broker a post-Assad regime after a Geneva peace conference imploded last winter.

Now, Obama acknowledges, vaguely, that and to the "cancer" of the Islamic State depends on "an inclusive political transition" in Syria. But he has not so much as hinted at a strategy for bringing that about, and his war planners told Congress they have no plans to extend strikes to Assad's forces — even when they attack the rebel units Obama is depending on to fight the Islamic State.

The president has some understandable reasons for this reticence. Taking on Assad is hard. It's proven to be impossible to dislodge Assad by military means. In the face of diplomatic pressure, and military attacks would

require a major escalation of the air campaign. Action against Assad would place the United States at odds not only with Iran and Russia, which so far are not obstructing the war against the Islamic State, but also with the Iraqi government, which continues to support the Damascus regime.

The problem is that ignoring Assad is likely to lead to even worse consequences. Already, the regime and its spokesmen are exiting in the U.S. bombing raids and doing their best to portray the United States as a de facto ally, while Syrians in rebel-held areas are demonstrating against the U.S. strikes because they are seen to be weakening the resistance to Assad. Meanwhile, the regime appears to be stepping up its own bombing raids against the nonextremist opposition. A failure of the United States to respond could destroy U.S. relations not only with its only on-the-ground allies in Syria but also with the Sunni nations that have joined the campaign against the Islamic State.

Obama is not without options. As the State Department's former Syria adviser Frederic Hof has suggested, one is simple: The Pentagon should publicly inform the Syrian government that any anti-aircraft systems tracking U.S. planes will be destroyed, as well any of the regime's military planes that take to the air.

The next step has long been sought by

the Turkish government, which so far has been a reluctant ally in the anti-Islamic State campaign: Create a no-fly zone for Syrian aircraft over areas held by the rebels. With U.S. planes already operating in the area, that would be far simpler than it would have been before. It would, as Hof points out, finally allow the opposition Syrian National Coalition and its interim government to establish itself in the country and create a secure enclave.

In the end, the Syrian political settlement Obama says he seeks will require pursuing Kerry's original idea of tipping the military balance so that Assad's generals and his Alawite community face a choice between compromise and destruction. Henri Barkey, of Lehigh University, suggests that Obama offer a deal: If Assad is removed and the regime reaches a truce with the moderate opposition, Syria can join the anti-Islamic State coalition.

Rather than take the risks involved in such gambits, Obama's inclination seems to be to postpone the Assad problem indefinitely. If so, he's making the same mistake he did when he deferred confronting the dictator in previous years. If the Islamic State is a cancer, Assad is the source tumor. If he is not treated, he will poison Obama's cure.

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

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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Tennis

China Open

Men's Singles
First Round
 Marin Cilic (4, Croatia), def. Bai Yan, China, 6-3, 6-4
 Viktor Troicki, Serbia, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 6-3, 6-4
 Yasko Pospisil, (1), def. Lukasz Potek, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-3
 Joao Sousa, Portugal, def. Yury Mykhaylov, Russia, 1-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4
 Grigor Dimitrov (5, Bulgaria), def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3

Women's Singles
First Round
 Maria Claja (4, Croatia), def. Bai Yan, China, 6-3, 6-4
 Viktor Troicki, Serbia, def. Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, 6-3, 6-4
 Yasko Pospisil, (1), def. Lukasz Potek, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-3
 Joao Sousa, Portugal, def. Yury Mykhaylov, Russia, 1-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4
 Grigor Dimitrov (5, Bulgaria), def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3

Women's Doubles
First Round
 Tamas Beroncz, Czech Republic, and John Isner, United States, def. Pablo Andujar and Rafael Nadal, Spain, 7-5, 4-6, 4-6
 Fabio Fognini, Italy, and Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, def. Zhang Kai-Lin, China, 6-4, 6-1
 Caroline Garcia, France, def. Jelena Jankovic (10), Serbia, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4
 Caroline Garcia, France, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 6-4, 6-1
 Lauren Davis, United States, def. Xu Yan, China, 6-3, 6-4

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 Lauren Davis, United States, def. Xu Yan, China, 6-3, 6-4

Japan Open
Monday
At Ariake Gymnasium
Tokyo
Purses: \$3.7 million (W5000)
Men's Singles
First Round
 Steve Johnson, United States, def. Hiroki Moriyama, Japan, 6-2, 6-1
 Kevin Anderson (7), South Africa, def. Dominic Thiem, Austria, 7-5 (5), 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. Federico Fellner, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Daniel Bracciali, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Steve Johnson, United States, def. Hiroki Moriyama, Japan, 6-2, 6-1
 Kevin Anderson (7), South Africa, def. Dominic Thiem, Austria, 7-5 (5), 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. Federico Fellner, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Daniel Bracciali, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

Women's Singles
First Round
 Steve Johnson, United States, def. Hiroki Moriyama, Japan, 6-2, 6-1
 Kevin Anderson (7), South Africa, def. Dominic Thiem, Austria, 7-5 (5), 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. Federico Fellner, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Daniel Bracciali, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

Men's Doubles
First Round
 Steve Johnson, United States, def. Hiroki Moriyama, Japan, 6-2, 6-1
 Kevin Anderson (7), South Africa, def. Dominic Thiem, Austria, 7-5 (5), 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. Federico Fellner, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Daniel Bracciali, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

Women's Doubles
First Round
 Steve Johnson, United States, def. Hiroki Moriyama, Japan, 6-2, 6-1
 Kevin Anderson (7), South Africa, def. Dominic Thiem, Austria, 7-5 (5), 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. Federico Fellner, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Daniel Bracciali, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
 Philipp Kohlschreiber, def. David Ferrer (2), Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4

AP spotlight
Oct. 1
 1961 — Roger Maris hits his 61st home run of the season, against Tracy Stallard of the Boston Red Sox, at Yankee Stadium. The big blow is Maris' 29th victory and eclipses Babe Ruth's 34-year-old record of 54 home runs.
1975 — In the "Thrilla in Manila," Muhammad Ali defeats Joe Frazier in 14 rounds to retain his world heavyweight title.
2004 — Ichiro Suzuki sets the major league record for hits in a season, breaking the record of 262 held by Ty Cobb with a pair of early singles as the Seattle Mariners' leadoff batter. The Rangers' Sierse set the hits record of 257 in 1920 when he led the Los Angeles team in a game schedule. Suzuki breaks it in the Mariners' 150th game of the year.

College football

FCS coaches poll

Rank	Team	Points	Change
1	North Dakota State (26)	40	1
2	Eastern Washington	35	1
3	Coastal Carolina	30	1
4	North Carolina State	25	1
5	Villanova	24	1
6	New Hampshire	23	1
7	Montana	22	1
8	North Carolina State	21	1
9	South Dakota State	20	1
10	Northern Iowa	19	1
11	South Dakota State	18	1
12	Youngstown State	17	1
13	William & Mary	16	1
14	Chattanooga	15	1
15	Montana State	14	1
16	Southern Illinois	13	1
17	Bethune-Cookman	12	1
18	Eastern Kentucky	11	1
19	Florida	10	1
20	Tennessee State	9	1
21	Richmond	8	1
22	Illinois State	7	1
23	Missouri State	6	1
24	North Carolina State	5	1
25	Northern Arizona	4	1

AFCA Division II coaches poll

Rank	Team	Points	Change
1	Stephen F. Austin 17	14	1
2	Hardy 15	13	1
3	Indiana State 14	12	1
4	Sam Houston State 13	11	1
5	DelaWare 12	10	1
6	Southwestern State 11	9	1
7	North Carolina State 10	8	1
8	Sam Houston State 9	7	1
9	Delaware 8	6	1
10	Sam Houston State 7	5	1
11	Sam Houston State 6	4	1
12	Sam Houston State 5	3	1
13	Sam Houston State 4	2	1
14	Sam Houston State 3	1	1

TSN FCS poll

Rank	Team	Points	Change
1	North Dakota State (153)	40	1
2	Eastern Washington (8)	36	1
3	Eastern Washington (8)	35	1
4	New Hampshire (1)	34	4
5	New Mexico State (1)	33	1
6	Villanova (1)	32	6
7	North Carolina State (1)	29	1
8	North Carolina State (1)	28	8
9	North Carolina State (1)	27	1
10	North Carolina State (1)	26	1
11	North Carolina State (1)	25	1
12	North Carolina State (1)	24	1
13	North Carolina State (1)	23	1
14	North Carolina State (1)	22	1
15	North Carolina State (1)	21	1
16	North Carolina State (1)	20	1
17	North Carolina State (1)	19	1
18	North Carolina State (1)	18	1
19	North Carolina State (1)	17	1
20	North Carolina State (1)	16	1
21	North Carolina State (1)	15	1
22	North Carolina State (1)	14	1
23	North Carolina State (1)	13	1
24	North Carolina State (1)	12	1
25	North Carolina State (1)	11	1

Other receiving votes: Missouri State

Rank	Team	Points	Change
147	Chadron State	14	1
148	Chadron State	13	1
149	Chadron State	12	1
150	Chadron State	11	1
151	Chadron State	10	1
152	Chadron State	9	1
153	Chadron State	8	1
154	Chadron State	7	1
155	Chadron State	6	1
156	Chadron State	5	1
157	Chadron State	4	1
158	Chadron State	3	1
159	Chadron State	2	1
160	Chadron State	1	1

NAIA poll

Rank	Team	Points	Change
1	Morningside (10)	34	2
2	North Dakota State (1)	30	1
3	Tabor (Kan.)	27	3
4	North Dakota State (1)	26	1
5	Carroll (Mo.)	23	5
6	North Dakota State (1)	22	1
7	North Dakota State (1)	21	1
8	North Dakota State (1)	20	1
9	North Dakota State (1)	19	1
10	North Dakota State (1)	18	1
11	North Dakota State (1)	17	1
12	North Dakota State (1)	16	1
13	North Dakota State (1)	15	1
14	North Dakota State (1)	14	1
15	North Dakota State (1)	13	1
16	North Dakota State (1)	12	1
17	North Dakota State (1)	11	1
18	North Dakota State (1)	10	1
19	North Dakota State (1)	9	1
20	North Dakota State (1)	8	1
21	North Dakota State (1)	7	1
22	North Dakota State (1)	6	1
23	North Dakota State (1)	5	1
24	North Dakota State (1)	4	1
25	North Dakota State (1)	3	1

AFCA Division II coaches poll

Rank	Team	Points	Change
1	North Missouri State (30)	74	1
2	Colorado State-Pueblo (1)	74	1
3	Minnesota State-Mankato (1)	69	2
4	North Dakota State (1)	64	1
5	North Dakota State (1)	61	1
6	North Dakota State (1)	59	1
7	Henderson State (Ark.)	58	7
8	North Dakota State (1)	57	1
9	West Chester (Pa.)	50	1
10	Shepherd (W.Va.)	46	1
11	North Dakota State (1)	45	1
12	Blountsburg (Pa.)	42	1
13	North Dakota State (1)	41	1
14	Winston-Salem State (N.C.)	35	1
15	North Dakota State (1)	34	1
16	Midwestern State (Texas)	30	2
17	Colorado School of Mines	28	1
18	North Dakota State (1)	27	1
19	Pittsburg State (Kan.)	21	1
20	Slippery Rock (Pa.)	20	1
21	Sioux Falls (S.D.)	15	2
22	West Alabama	12	1
23	Michigan Tech	10	1
24	West Georgia	9	1
25	Winnona State (Minn.)	3	1

AFCA Division III coaches poll

Rank	Team	Points	Change
1	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	37	1
2	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	30	1
3	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	29	1
4	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	28	1
5	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	27	1
6	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	26	1
7	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	25	1
8	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	24	1
9	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	23	1
10	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	22	1
11	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	21	1
12	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	20	1
13	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	19	1
14	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	18	1
15	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	17	1
16	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	16	1
17	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	15	1
18	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	14	1
19	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	13	1
20	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	12	1
21	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	11	1
22	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	10	1
23	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	9	1
24	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	8	1
25	Waynesburg (W. Va.)	7	1

Pro soccer

MLS Eastern Conference

Rank	Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
1	DC United	13	6	5	46	34	24
2	New England Revolution	13	6	5	44	34	24
3	Sporting KC	13	11	6	45	37	37
4	Chivas USA	12	11	7	43	37	37
5	New York Red Bulls	10	9	11	41	46	46
6	Philadelphia Union	10	11	11	41	46	46
7	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
8	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
9	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
10	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
11	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
12	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
13	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
14	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
15	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
16	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
17	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
18	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
19	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46
20	Houston Dynamo	10	11	11	41	46	46

MLS Western Conference

Rank	Team	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
1	Seattle Sounders	16	5	9	57	51	31
2	Los Angeles Galaxy	16	9	6	54	51	31
3	Real Salt Lake	13	10	13	48	38	38
4	Colorado Rapids	12	12	12	48	38	38
5	Vancouver Whitecaps	9	13	10	40	40	40
6	Portland Timbers	9	13	10	40	40	40
7	Colorado Rapids	8	14	8	38	41	41
8	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
9	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
10	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
11	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
12	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
13	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
14	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
15	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
16	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
17	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
18	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
19	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41
20	Portland Timbers	8	14	8	38	41	41

Note: Three points for victory, one for a draw.

tie — clinched playoff berth

Chicago 2, Los Angeles 1

Los Angeles 1, Chicago 0

Thursday, Oct. 2

Chicago at Philadelphia

Philadelphia at Chicago

Sporting Kansas City at D.C. United

Houston at New York

Portland at Seattle

Toronto FC at Los Angeles

SPORTS BRIEFS

Olympic swimmer Phelps arrested for DUI

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Olympic swimming great Michael Phelps was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of alcohol on Tuesday.

Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time with 22 medals, was also charged with speeding and crossing double lane lines in the Fort McHenry Tunnel in Baltimore, the Maryland Transportation Authority said.

An MTA police officer was using radar about 1:40 a.m. when Phelps' white 2014 Land Rover came through at 84 mph in a 45-mph zone, the transportation authority said in a statement. The officer stopped the 29-year-old American just beyond the tunnel's toll plaza.

"Mr. Phelps was identified as the driver by his driver's license and appeared to be under the influence," the statement said. "He was unable to perform satisfactorily a series of standard field sobriety tests."

The statement said Phelps was cooperative throughout the process.

He was later released.

This is Phelps' second charge for driving under the influence in Maryland. A native of Baltimore County, he faced the first charge in 2004.

Williams joins list of Panthers sidelined RBs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Panthers running back DeAngelo Williams is doubtful for Sunday's game against the Chicago Bears, the latest setback for Carolina's rushing game.

Williams, who had just returned to the lineup after missing two games with an injured hamstring, injured an ankle during the second quarter of Sunday's game against the Baltimore Ravens.

"His foot's sore," Panthers coach Ron Rivera said Monday. "It doesn't look like it's anything structural, but it's sore. So he's probably going to start this week off as doubtful."

Williams, who was seen in the locker room Monday wearing a walking boot on his left foot, will be evaluated later this week, Rivera said. His absence from the lineup, however long, hits a roster already thin at running back.

Pro Bowl fullback Mike Tolbert was put on short-term injured reserve last week with a hairline fracture in his left leg. He will not be eligible to return to the lineup until mid-November.

Jonathan Stewart (sprained right knee) and Fozzy Whittaker (quadriceps) are out indefinitely, and backup fullback Richie Brockel hurt his ankle Sunday.

Undrafted rookie Darrin Reaves, who had 26 yards on 12 carries against the Ravens, will start against the Bears.

"I'm starting to be able to live my dreams out, and that's a good feeling," he said. "Not under the circumstances we have, with so many guys dinged up, but it's still a good feeling."

The effect of the injuries on the Panthers' offense was evident against Baltimore. Carolina finished with 67 yards rushing in its third consecutive game with less than 100 on the ground.

Rivera said Monday that the Panthers were considering bringing in a free agent to shore up the running game. He did, signing veteran Chris Ogbonnaya.

Ogbonnaya, a seventh-round pick by St. Louis in the 2009 draft, has played in 46 games with the Rams, Houston Texans and Cleveland Browns. He has rushed for 660 yards and caught 96 passes for 714 yards.

Rivera said Whittaker would return to practice on Wednesday. His status for Sunday's game, like that of Stewart and Williams, is still undecided.

Vikings hope to have Bridgewater vs. Packers

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — The sprained left ankle for quarterback Teddy Bridgewater is not considered serious, and the Minnesota Vikings are optimistic the rookie will play against Green Bay despite only three days to rest for Thursday night's game.

Coach Mike Zimmer said Bridgewater was feeling "a lot better" the day after the injury. He had an MRI test that showed no major damage.

"Hopeful," was Zimmer's answer Monday when asked if he believes Bridgewater will be able to face the rival Packers. Bridgewater was not present for the portion of practice that was open to reporters.

Bridgewater passed for 317 yards and a key 2-point conversion and rushed for 27 yards and a touchdown in his first NFL start, a 41-28 victory over Atlanta that could hardly have been better for the first-round draft pick from Louisville until his left foot rolled underneath him during a short run early in the fourth quarter.

He had X-rays, which were negative, and returned to the sideline without crutches by the end of the game. The perpetually upbeat Bridgewater acknowledged Sunday the decision on whether he'll play this week will be up to the coaching staff and athletic trainers, but he said he wasn't worried about his ankle as he rode off on the cart. Bridgewater said he probably could have come back in the game if it were necessary.

Christian Ponder, the starter for the majority of the previous three seasons, took over but did not attempt a pass.

RB Tate returns to Browns practice

BEREA, Ohio — Browns starting running back Ben Tate has returned to practice after missing Cleveland's past two games with a sprained right knee.

Wearing a brace, Tate was on the practice field Tuesday for the first time since Sept. 5 as the Browns returned from their bye week. Tate made hard cuts on his knee and looked quick during the portion of practice open to the media. He was injured in the first half of the Sept. 7 opener in Pittsburgh.

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NFL

Scoreboard

American Conference

	East				
	W	L	T	Pct	PF
Buffalo	2	0	0	.750	79
Miami	2	2	0	.500	96
New England	1	3	0	.250	97
N.Y. Jets	1	3	0	.250	79
South					
Houston	3	1	0	.750	87
Indianapolis	2	2	0	.500	136
Tennessee	1	3	0	.250	60
Jacksonville	0	4	0	.000	58
North					
Cincinnati	1	0	0	1.000	80
Baltimore	3	1	0	.750	103
Pittsburgh	2	2	0	.500	97
Cleveland	1	2	0	.333	74
West					
San Diego	3	1	0	.750	102
Denver	2	1	0	.667	75
Kansas City	2	2	0	.500	102
Oakland	0	4	0	.000	51

National Conference

	East				
	W	L	T	Pct	PF
Philadelphia	3	1	0	.750	122
Dallas	3	1	0	.750	115
N.Y. Giants	2	2	0	.500	103
Washington	1	3	0	.250	95
South					
Atlanta	2	2	0	.500	131
Carolina	2	2	0	.500	73
New Orleans	1	3	0	.250	76
Tampa Bay	1	3	0	.250	72
North					
Detroit	3	0	0	.750	85
Green Bay	2	2	0	.500	92
Minnesota	2	2	0	.500	91
Chicago	2	2	0	.500	92
West					
Arizona	3	0	0	1.000	66
Seattle	2	1	0	.667	83
San Francisco	2	2	0	.500	89
St. Louis	1	2	0	.333	56

Thursday's game

N.Y. Giants 45, Washington 14

Sunday's games

Green Bay 38, Chicago 17
Houston 23, Buffalo 17
Indianapolis 41, Tennessee 17
Baltimore 38, Carolina 10
Detroit 24, N.Y. Jets 17
Miami 38, Oakland 14
San Diego 33, Jacksonville 14
San Francisco 26, Philadelphia 21
Indianapolis 41, Atlanta 28
Dallas 38, New Orleans 17
Cincinnati 41, Atlanta 28
Denver, Seattle, St. Louis

Monday's game

Kansas City 41, New England 14

Thursday, Oct. 2

Minnesota at Green Bay

Sunday, Oct. 5

Carolina at Tennessee
Tampa Bay at New Orleans
Houston at Dallas
Cincinnati at Carolina
St. Louis at Philadelphia
Miami at N.Y. Giants
Buffalo at Detroit
Baltimore at Indianapolis
Pittsburgh at Jacksonville
Arizona at San Francisco
N.Y. Jets at San Diego
Cincinnati at New England
Open: Miami, Oakland

Monday, Oct. 6

Seattle at Washington

Monday

Chiefs 41, Patriots 14

New England 7 10 14-41

Kansas City 7 10 14-41

First Quarter

KC-Charles 2 run (Santos kick), 2:15.

Second Quarter

KC-Charles 5 pass from A.Smith (Santos kick), 10:58.

KC-FG Santos 22, 10:58.

Third Quarter

KC-Charles 8 pass from A.Smith (Santos kick), 7:53.

KC-FG Santos 31, 5:29.

NE-Larell 44 pass from Brady (Gostkowski kick), 2:29.

Fourth Quarter

KC-Charles 8 pass from A.Smith (Santos kick), 11:52.

NE-Charles 39 interception return (Santos kick), 10:34.

NE-Gronkowski 12 pass from Garoppolo (Gostkowski kick), 9:40.

A-76,613.

NE KC

First downs 13 26

Yards 406 443

Rushes-yards 16-75 38-207

Passing 215 236

Punt Returns 2:10 2:3

Kickoff Returns 2:45 2:36

Interceptions Ret. 0:0 2:7

Comp-Att-Int 20-32 20-26

Sacked-Yards Lost 3:14 4:12

Fumbles-Lost 2:1 0:0

Penalties-Yards 34:40 4:35

Time of Possession 23:33 36:27

Rushing-New England, Ridley 5-28, Denver 8-26, J.White 3-21, Kansas City, Davis 4-17, Charles 3-22, A.Smith 4-8.

Passing-New England, Brady 14-23-2, Garoppolo 6-10-0, Kansas City, A.Smith 20-26-0-248.

Receiving-New England, Larell 6-119, Denver 5-41, Edelman 4-23, J.White 3-15, Gronkowski 2-31, Kansas City, Kelce 8-93, Bowen 1-16, Charles 1-16, Davis 1-12, Jenkins 1-0.

Missed field goals-None.

Charles, Chiefs blow past Pats

Fans have plenty to cheer about as Kansas City sets noise record

By DAVE SKRETTA
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Perhaps the Kansas City Chiefs gave their neighbors across the parking lot a little bit of inspiration with their impassioned performance against New England.

Jamaal Charles returned from an ankle injury to score three touchdowns. Alex Smith threw for 248 yards and three scores, and the Chiefs routed the Patriots 41-14 on Monday night, getting the sports week off to a smashing start in Kansas City with the Royals preparing to open the baseball playoffs on Tuesday.

"To have back-to-back events like this, Monday night football and a home playoff game, yeah, it's special," Smith said. "Right next door to each other."

Arrowhead Stadium, which was packed to the brim in red-clad Chiefs fans, is just a short walk from Kauffman Stadium, which was expected to be packed with blue when the Royals ended a 29-year playoff drought against the Oakland Athletics in the AL wild-card game.

Several members of the Royals even showed up to cheer. Patriots game, including starting pitcher James Shields, drawing huge roars when they were shown on the big screens. And some of the Chiefs said they were thinking about returning the favor, including wide receiver Dwayne Bowe.

Regardless, the Chiefs will be able to spend Tuesday in a celebratory mood.

They held the Patriots' Tom Brady to 159 yards passing and a touchdown, picking him off twice and returning one for a touchdown. Brady was also stripped by Tamba Hali to set up a Chiefs field goal, capping off a miserable night for the two-time NFL MVP.

"It was just a bad performance by everybody," Brady said. "We need to make sure we never have this feeling again. We've got to figure out what we have to do better."

The Chiefs forced the Patriots to air it out by stuffing Shane Vereen and Stevan Ridley. And when Brady dropped back, Tom front seven ran roughshod over New England's suspect offensive line.

It hardly helped the Patriots offense that it was trying to operate on the same night Chiefs fans were trying to reclaim the record for loudest outdoor sports venue. The record was set in the first half, when Guinness World Records noted a noise level of 142.2 decibels — breaking the mark of 137.6 that Seattle Seahawks fans set last season.

"My ears are still ringing," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said with a smile. Kansas City had 303 yards of offense by halftime, the most against any Belichick-coached team in the first half of a game. That includes his years coaching in Cleveland.



CHARLIE REIDE/AP

Kansas City Chiefs running back Jamaal Charles, left, scores on a 2-yard run as New England Patriots linebacker Jamie Collins, right, defends in the first quarter on Monday. Charles scored three times.

"We just never got anything going. Nothing," Patriots defensive tackle Vince Wilfork said. "They just executed. They executed perfectly. We were always out the game, it seemed."

Here are a few of the reasons why the Patriots were thumped so soundly: **Run, run, run:** Charles looked just fine on his sprained right ankle, running for 92 yards. He was spelled by Knile Davis, who added 107 yards on 16 carries. "We kept each other fresh," Davis said. "When he went in, he did his thing. When I went in, I did my thing."

Tense moment: Charles briefly went to the locker room after stumbling into the end zone on his third touchdown of the game. He appeared to grab his hamstring, and Reid said that he received an IV, indicating that he might have been admitting, "I feel sore," Charles admitted afterward.

Brady's struggles: Brady is completing just 59 percent of his passes through his first four games, his worst rate since becoming the Patriots' starter in 2001. He is also averaging less than 200 yards passing per game. "I wouldn't say we've had a very productive four games to start, but hopefully we can learn from it and understand the things that we're doing wrong," he said. "There's nobody going to dig us out of the hole. We've kind of created it for ourselves and we're going to have to look each other in the eye and see what kind of commitment we're willing to make."

Kelce stars: Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce, who is quickly becoming one of Smith's favorite targets, had eight catches for 93 yards and a touchdown. "I know what we can do on our offense and

our defense," Kelce said. "Our defense got a lot of turnovers today, and that was awesome to see."

Garoppolo plays: Rookie quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo got into the game in the fourth quar-

ter for New England, when the outcome was already decided. He was 6-for-7 for 70 yards with a touchdown. "I am a relief pitcher, pretty much," he said, "so that is my job."

STARS AND STRIPES

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NFL

Bills bench QB Manuel

By **JONAH BRONSTEIN**
The Associated Press

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — EJ Manuel is out as the Buffalo Bills' starting quarterback and veteran Kyle Orton is in.

Coach Doug Marrone's patience ran out following two straight losses that exposed 2013 first-round draft pick Manuel's lack of development. Marrone benched Manuel on Monday, one day after he completed less than half his passes and threw two interceptions in a loss to Houston.

Orton will start Sunday's game against the Detroit Lions. The Bills signed Orton on Aug. 30 to back up Manuel.

"It's not all EJ's fault," Marrone said, "but we need to get better production, obviously, out of that position."

"We have to make adjustments. We've got to make some changes because we can't keep going in the direction that we're going."

Manuel started 14 games in the past two seasons.

The Bills (2-2) have sputtered on offense during two straight losses. Manuel had a season-low quarterback rating of 59.4 and threw an interception to J.J. Watt that was returned for a momentum-changing touchdown Sunday during the 23-17 loss.

Manuel has completed just 58 percent of his passes through four games this year.

"We've got to get better in a lot of situations," Marrone said. "Just the overall offense in itself. You can start on first downs, which we're not doing a good job of. Third

downs, red zone touchdowns, I think all those things that you see, again, it's not pinning it just on one player, but we all have to do a better job in those areas."

Marrone had previously said he wanted to be patient with Manuel's development.

Orton, a nine-year NFL veteran, spent the past two seasons in Dallas before being cut by the Cowboys in mid-July after he skipped the team's offseason workouts amid reports he was considering retirement. Orton has a 35-35 career record split among four teams since being selected by Chicago in the fourth round of the 2005 draft. He has been a starter with every team he has joined, as well as a backup, and spent two years behind Tony Romo in Dallas.

Marrone said he made the decision to change quarterbacks, then informed general manager Doug Whaley, Manuel and the rest of the team.

"This decision was based on what's giving us the best opportunity to win," Marrone said. "I believe that we have a playoff-caliber team. I think that we have to play better than we did the last two weeks, though."

While Manuel has size and mobility, his decision-making and leadership have been questioned. He acknowledged needing better command of the offense days before the season opener, and understood he had plenty to prove as a bona fide starter.

Manuel also faced injury issues last year that hampered his development. He missed six regular-season games and went 4-6 in 10 starts.

49ers' Harbaugh: No discord

By **JANIE MCCAULEY**
The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Jim Harbaugh has no time for Deion Sanders, Trent Duffer or others who question whether the fourth-year coach has lost his locker room or the faith of his players.

In an NFL Network show Sunday, Sanders said of 49ers players: "They want him out. They're not on the same page." "Personally I think that's a bunch of crap," Harbaugh responded Monday. "People say what they say."

Analyst Duffer offered Monday on ESPN Radio that, "I do think it's become almost toxic."

Harbaugh dismissed that, too, by saying, "I haven't seen Trent or Deion around much."

"When you're talking about unnamed sources, if somebody's got a good story to tell, they ought to put their name to it," Harbaugh said. "If I had a good story to tell, I'd want to put my name to it, so I don't put a lot of credibility into the unnamed source."

Harbaugh is in the fourth season of his original \$25 million, five-year contract he signed in January 2011 when he left Stanford to become the 49ers coach. San Francisco (2-2) beat the Eagles 26-21 on Sunday to avoid the first three-game losing streak of his tenure, holding one of the NFL's best offenses without a touchdown.

Harbaugh has said he has an open-door policy and hasn't heard from CEO Jed York or general manager Trent Baalke that there have been complaints from players. And Harbaugh said players have voiced "nothing specifically" in terms of concerns with how things are going.

"There's conversations, and we never really talk about those," Harbaugh said. "Players have good ideas, coaches have good ideas, equipment managers have good ideas, trainers have good ideas, strength coaches. Welcome that. If we haven't been doing something right or there's a better way to do it, then let's get it out in the open, let's talk about it and we'll do anything to fix something or make it better. That's the kind of relationship we have."



TIM IRELAND/AP

The Raiders fired coach Dennis Allen on Monday after falling to 0-4. Overall Allen had an 8-28 record, Oakland's worst since former owner Al Davis bought the team in 1963.

Raiders fire Allen

Oakland appears headed for another doomed season

By **JOSH DUBOW**
The Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — Dennis Allen arrived in Oakland as the fresh-faced, defensive mastermind who was supposed to be completely different than the parade of coaches during late owner Al Davis' final years running the Raiders.

Allen leaves Oakland after less than three seasons just like those others, having failed to turn around the downtrodden franchise.

The Raiders fired Allen on Monday night after he lost the first four games of his third year as coach and often failed to field a competitive team.

The decision was announced soon after the Raiders returned from London, where they lost their 10th straight game dating to last season, 34-14 to the Miami Dolphins on Sunday. The firing was first reported by Fox Sports.

Allen was the first head coach hired by Oakland after Al Davis' death on October 2011. His 8-28 record is the worst for the franchise since before Davis arrived in 1963. His contract was set to run through next season.

An announcement on the interim coach was expected to come Tuesday, with offensive line coach Tony Sparano and offensive coordinator Greg Olson the most likely options.

Allen is the third coach fired during the season by Oakland since Davis arrived.

Mike Shanahan was fired after four games in 1989 and Lane Kiffin was let go four games into the 2008 season.

The Raiders have had 11 straight seasons without a winning record or a playoff berth. Oakland will now have its eighth coach since 2003.

Allen and general manager Reggie McKenzie were hired after the team finished 8-8 under coach Hue Jackson in 2011, falling one game short of a playoff bid.

They were expected to steady a franchise that ran into disrepair during Davis' final years as owner. Instead, the team has only gotten worse.

The two were hamstrung their first two seasons by a lack of premium draft picks and a difficult salary-cap situation because of bad contracts handed out by Davis.

But after spending their first two years tearing down the team, owner Mark Davis expected the Raiders to be much more competitive this season after having ample salary cap room in the offseason and a near full complement of draft picks.

Instead, the Raiders have looked over-matched at times. They fell behind 27-0 after three quarters of their only home game against Houston and trailed by 31 points after three quarters against the Dolphins.

In all, Allen had more losses by at least 20 points (nine) than wins. It was performances like those that Mark Davis said he no longer wanted to see in Allen's third season and ultimately led to his downfall.

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NHL

Passing chemistry class

Finding the right mix is key to success for players with new teams

By JAY COHEN
The Associated Press

Brad Richards in Chicago, learning to play with Patrick Kane and Brandon Saad. Jarome Iginla, playing on a Colorado line with Ryan O'Reilly and Matt Duchene. Ryan Kesler in Anaheim. Brian Gionta in Buffalo. It goes on and on.

The race is on for the new kids in class. With the NHL right in the heart of its small preseason slate, a long list of accomplished forwards in new zip codes are getting used to different lines. They talk about tendencies. They make note of where each player is during each sequence. Chemistry is the goal, and the process could play a big role in the success of their teams.

"This is all new to me, so it's kind of fun. A new experience," said Richards, heading into his 14th NHL season, with his fourth team. "Having to get chemistry and do all that stuff, so it kind of puts you in a different frame of mind earlier."

Richards steps into an enviable situation after he had his contract bought out by

the New York Rangers in June. He signed a \$2 million, one-year deal with Chicago on July 1, intrigued by a chance to make another Stanley Cup run with a veteran team looking for a second-line center.

The 34-year-old Richards had 20 goals and 31 assists in 82 games last season, and then had 12 points in the playoffs to help the Rangers make it to the NHL finals.

"It goes without saying. This is a great opportunity," he said after a recent scrimmage with the Blackhawks. "A lot of players would love to get a chance that I'm getting."

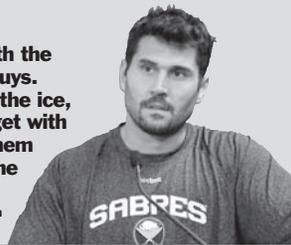
Richards faces a challenging adjustment to playing with Kane, one of the NHL's most gifted scorers. Saad also has a unique set of skills.

Kane is "a winger but he plays a little bit like a center man, where he wants the puck a lot," said Richards, who lives in the same building as 2013 Conn Smythe Trophy winner and rides with him to practice sometimes.

"For me, I'll have to get used to get-

'You've got to play with the guys, be around the guys. Whether it's on or off the ice, you've got to kind of get with the guys, bond with them and find your way in the room.'

Brian Gionta
New Buffalo Sabres forward



ting open more and probably get ready for some passes that sometimes you wouldn't get being a center man, where you're trying to pass. That might be a little adjustment."

Three of Chicago's biggest rivals in the Central Division are in the midst of a similar process.

St. Louis signed Paul Stastny to a \$28 million, four-year contract in free agency. After Stastny left Colorado, the Avalanche inked Iginla to a \$16 million, three-year deal on July 1. Dallas traded for Jason Spezza and signed Ales Hemesky to a three-year contract.

While Stastny had spent his entire career with Colorado, Iginla joins his fourth team since 2012. Adjusting to a new line is nothing new for the 37-year-old right wing at this point.

"The more time you get together, you get used to each other's tendencies," he said. "We all have certain things we like to do, our first instincts. A lot of people's are slightly different. The more you play together, the more you can build on it."

"Sometimes, you can be a little bit ahead of the game if you're already thinking the same way."

Iginla and Duchene are learning more about each other's style by holding a shooting competition in practice.

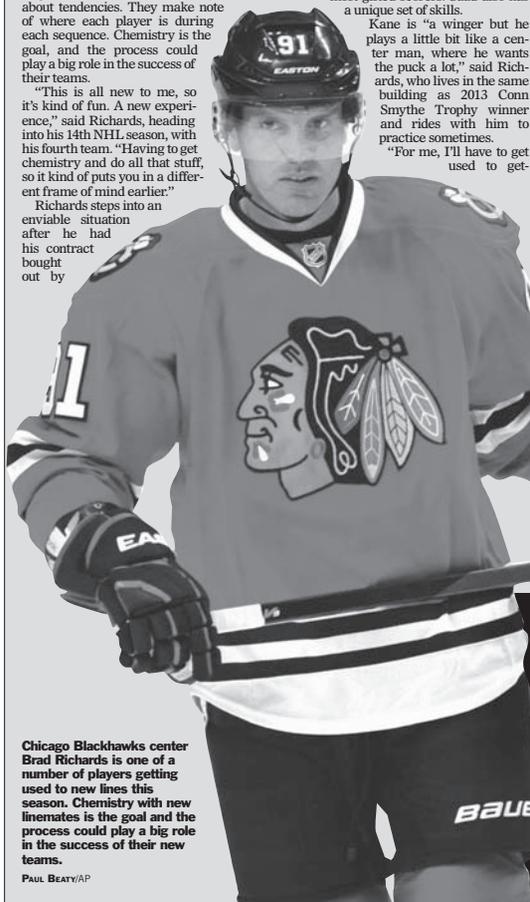
"Did that in junior and haven't found anyone to really do that with early in my career here," Duchene said. "He came to me and asked me if anybody ever did competitions like that. I said, 'Yeah, let's go, let's do one.' That's been a lot of fun doing that, especially against a great shooter like that."

Gionta began his career in New Jersey and spent five seasons in Montreal before signing a \$12.75 million, three-year contract with rebuilding Buffalo in July. The Rochester, New York, native has 249 goals and 236 assists in 776 NHL games.

When it comes to getting used to a new line, Gionta said, there is no substitute for time and experience.

"You've got to play with guys, be around the guys," he said. "I think the first few weeks of training camp is big. Whether it's on or off the ice, you've got to kind of get with the guys, bond with them and find your way in the room."

AP Sports Writers Pat Graham in Denver and John Wawrow in Buffalo, N.Y., contributed to this report.



Chicago Blackhawks center Brad Richards is one of a number of players getting used to new lines this season. Chemistry with new linemates is the goal and the process could play a big role in the success of their new teams.

PAUL BEATY/AP

By the numbers

4

Number of teams Brad Richards has played for — Tampa Bay, Dallas, N.Y. Rangers and Chicago — in 14 years.

3

Number of teams that Colorado Avalanche forward Jarome Iginla has played for since the 2012-2013 season.

10

Number of years Ryan Kesler spent with the Vancouver Canucks before being traded to the Anaheim Ducks.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Michigan apologizes for QB injury handling

Hours after Hoke says QB didn't have concussion, AD admits sophomore suffered one

By NOAH TRISTER
The Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Roughly 12 hours after embattled Michigan coach Brady Hoke said he'd been given no indication that quarterback Shane Morris had been diagnosed with a concussion, athletic director Dave Brandon revealed in a post-midnight statement that the sophomore did appear to have sustained one.

That capped a bizarre day in which Michigan tried to address questions about the coaching staff's handling of Morris, who took a violent hit in the fourth quarter of Saturday's loss to Minnesota.

"In my judgment, there was a serious lack of communication that led to confusion on the sideline. Unfortunately, this confusion created a circumstance that was not in the best interest of one of our student-athletes," Brandon said in a statement released shortly before 1 a.m. Tuesday. "I sincerely apologize for the mistakes that were made.

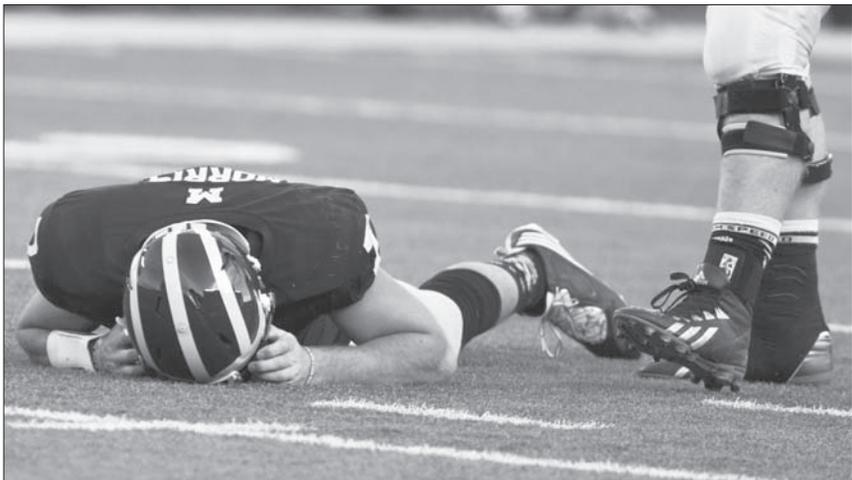
"We have to learn from this situation, and moving forward, we will make important changes so we can fully live up to our shared goal of putting student-athlete safety first."

Morris took a crunching hit from Theiren Cockran on Saturday and briefly looked as if he was having trouble standing, but he remained in for the next play and threw an incompleteness before coming out of the game.

Devin Gardner replaced him, but later on that drive, his helmet came off at the end of a play. While Gardner sat out for a play, as required, Morris went back in and handed the ball off to a running back.

Asked Monday if Morris had been diagnosed with a concussion, Hoke said: "Everything that I know of, no." Hoke said Morris would have practiced Sunday night if not for a high ankle sprain.

But in his statement, Brandon



Tony Dine/AP

Michigan quarterback Shane Morris is face down on the field after taking a hit in the fourth quarter Saturday in Ann Arbor, Mich. Early Tuesday, roughly 12 hours after embattled Wolverines coach Brady Hoke said he'd been given no indication that Morris had been diagnosed with a concussion, athletic director Dave Brandon revealed in a statement that the sophomore did appear to have sustained one.

said: "As of Sunday, Shane was diagnosed with a probable, mild concussion, and a high ankle sprain. That probable concussion diagnosis was not at all clear on the field on Saturday or in the examination that was conducted postgame. Unfortunately, there was inadequate communication between our physicians and medical staff, and Coach Hoke was not provided the updated diagnosis before making a public statement on Monday."

Brandon said he has had numerous meetings since Sunday to determine what happened with Morris. He said Morris had been treated for a sprained ankle earlier in the game, and medical staff

on the sideline believed that was why he stumbled while trying to walk around after being hit by Cockran.

"The team neurologist, watching from further down the field, also did not see the hit. However, the neurologist, with expertise in detecting signs of concussion, saw Shane stumble and determined he needed to head down the sideline to evaluate Shane," Brandon said.

As for how Morris went back in after Gardner's helmet came off: "Shane came off the field after the [incomplete pass] and was reassessed by the head athletic trainer for the ankle injury," Brandon said. "Since the athletic

trainer had not seen the hit to the chin and was not aware that a neurological evaluation was necessary, he cleared Shane for one additional play."

Brandon said the neurologist and other team physicians were not aware Morris was being asked to return to the field, and Morris left the bench when he heard his name called and went back into the game.

"Under these circumstances, a player should not be allowed to re-enter the game before being cleared by the team physician. This clearly identifies the need for improvements in our sideline and communication processes," Brandon said.

Brandon said Morris was examined for a concussion after the game and wasn't diagnosed with one at that point.

Hoke was already facing pressure over Michigan's performance this season. The Wolverines fell to 2-3 after losing 30-14 at home to Minnesota.

If there was one major point Hoke seemed to stress Monday, it was that he doesn't have input into whether a player is healthy enough to play. If a player shouldn't be going back in the game, that is the trainer's call.

"I knew the kid had an ankle injury," Hoke said. "That's what I knew."

NC State says Seminoles faked injuries

By AARON BEARD
The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The game between North Carolina State and Florida State continued Monday with coach Dave Doeren saying the Seminoles faked injuries to slow the Wolfpack down in their meeting over the weekend.

Florida State's Jimbo Fisher didn't appreciate the accusation.

"It's a re-occurring thing," Doeren said Monday. "It's not just Florida State where it's happening. There's nothing the officials can do about it. It's not a rule in college football. But I think it's unsportsmanlike, personally."

Doeren first raised the issue after Saturday's 56-41 loss to top-ranked FSU, then

was asked about it Monday during his weekly news conference. Doeren said FSU defensive players would go down with an injury that stopped the clock, go to the sideline then immediately return to the game.

He said one FSU player walked to the sideline "as slow as humanly possible" after an injury then returned to the game. After Saturday's loss, Doeren referred to "all the crazy fall-down things" that slowed his offense's tempo. N.C. State ran 87 plays for 520 yards.

Fisher denied his players faked anything when asked about Doeren's comments during his news conference Monday.

"I accuse him of not knowing what he's talking about," Fisher said. "We're not faking injuries, no one faked injuries and we wouldn't do that. We'll coach Florida State

and he can coach North Carolina State."

Doeren made a similar comment about Georgia Southern after the season-opening win, saying Eagles defensive players were tired and "kept falling down to stop our drives" and that the number of times it happened after halftime was "ridiculous." He said Monday he'd like to see a rule requiring a player to miss more than one play if leaving the game due to injury.

Currently, that's not the case.

Atlantic Coast Conference spokeswoman Amy Yakola said league rules require an official to stop the game with an official timeout if a player is injured, then summon medical staff to treat the player and get him safely off the field before resuming play. She declined to comment further on the issue.



GERRY BROOME/AP

North Carolina State coach Dave Doeren accused Florida State players of faking injuries to slow the game pace Saturday.

MLB PLAYOFFS

Baylor's hard-hitting Angels ready for October

By GREG BEACHAM
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Don Baylor's return to the Los Angeles Angels got off to an unbelievably inauspicious start when the hitting coach broke his leg while crouching to catch the ceremonial first pitch on Opening Day.

Just about every game since has been an improvement for Baylor, who is leading the majors' most productive lineup back to the postseason.

Although he deflects any credit, the former Angels slugger and big-league manager known to everybody as "Groove" has his hitters right on track for a memorable October.

"I don't know what attention I'm getting, but I know one thing: I'm having fun watching those guys doing what they're doing," Baylor said. "Guys believe in each other, and guys have worked real hard to get to this spot."

Los Angeles has the highest-scoring team in the lowest-scoring baseball season since 1981. The Angels led the majors with 773 runs and finished second to Oakland in run differential, scoring 143 more times than their opponents — including 92 more runs in the final three months, which gave the Angels homefield advantage throughout the playoffs with the best record in baseball (98-64).

The Angels open the division series Tuesday against the winner of the Athletics' wild-card playoff at Kansas City.

The Angels were a solid offensive team in 2013, but they've made a 40-run improvement over the roster that won just 78 games in the franchise's worst season in a decade. A potent offense is what's expected from a club with roughly \$509 million committed to likely AL MVP Mike Trout, Albert Pujols and Josh Hamilton, but the Angels wouldn't be on top without remarkable contributions from every spot in the lineup.

Baylor also praises manager Mike Scioscia for distributing that talent in the batting order: Keeping Trout in the No. 2 spot, making Kole Calhoun their everyday leadoff hitter and plugging in Erick Aybar and Howie Kendrick as middle spots.

"Mike had to really just figure out where guys like Aybar and Howie fit in the lineup," Baylor said. "So what I saw (on Opening Day) was not like what you see today. There's a little bit more consistency with the lineup. Guys know where they're going to be, and everybody knows where they belong."

Baylor even sees parallels between the current club and the 1979 "Yes We Can" Angels, who made this franchise's first playoff appearance with a heavy-hitting lineup led by Baylor himself. He was the AL MVP that year with

36 homers and 139 RBIs — the only Angels player to lead the majors in RBIs until Trout did this year.

The 1979 Angels also led the majors in runs, scoring 866 while Baylor, Bobby Grich and Dan Ford all drove in at least 100 runs in a lineup that included Rod Carew and Willie Mays Aikens.

That steady production from an eclectic group of hitters supported a rotation that didn't blow away anybody — sort of like the current Angels.

"It was kind of an offensive machine," Baylor said. "We had Nolan (Ryan) and (Frank) Tanana (and little else in the rotation), so we had to score 5 1/2 runs a game. That was our deal. We knew we didn't have the bullpen we have here this year, so we knew we had to go out and mash teams, pretty much. A lot of 11-8s and 10-9s. But we knew that we could outscore everybody else."

For all of their offensive pyrotechnics, Baylor knows the current Angels' pitching improvements are the biggest reason they're in the playoffs. A markedly improved bullpen and a resilient rotation kept the Angels in contention until they surged in front of Oakland and Seattle with an incredible 17-game offensive stretch from Aug. 26 to Sept. 12, scoring 117 runs while roaring from a first-place tie to an 11-game lead.

"There are certain guys who haven't been hot all year and all of a sudden they've figured it out in September," Baylor said. "It's not what you did in April. Earl Weaver always used to say that the more games you win in April, the less you have to win in September. When I first got to the big leagues (in 1970), the Orioles were up by 18 games and Weaver said, 'All right, you young guys sit here, and we're going to win by 20.'"

"So that's the mentality you have to have in September — just keep that foot pedal down, keep pressing and beating teams and

not look back."

Rookie right-hander Matt Shoemaker and Hamilton are both making progress toward a return from injuries for the Angels' playoff run.

Shoemaker played light catch at Angel Stadium on Monday, while Hamilton went through a full session of baseball activities, including hitting on the field, long toss and baserunning.

"Everything went well" for both players, according to Angels spokesman Tim Mead.

Shoemaker was expected to throw off a mound Tuesday, while Hamilton was set to repeat his rehab program Tuesday and Wednesday. If both players still feel good, they'll likely be available for selection to manager Mike Scioscia's postseason roster on Thursday morning.

Shoemaker (16-4, 3.04 ERA) mildly strained his left oblique in his last start Sept. 15, ending his dynamic regular season a bit prematurely. Last weekend in Seattle, the 28-year-old rookie said he was confident he could start for the Angels in the division series.

Shoemaker set a franchise rookie record for victories after joining the rotation in May. He was the Angels' best starter down the stretch, posting a 1.49 ERA in his last 11 appearances.

The Angels desperately hope Shoemaker can return to their rotation, which has already lost Garrett Richards and Tyler Skaggs to season-ending injuries. Jered Weaver (18-9) and C.J. Wilson (13-10) are expected to start the first two playoff games, but the Angels finished the regular season with Hector Santiago (6-9), Wade LeBlanc (1-1) and reliever Cory Rasmus rounding out their rotation.

Hamilton missed 21 of the Angels' past 22 games with upper-body injuries. Los Angeles cleanup hitter and regular left fielder batted 263 with 10 homers and 44 RBIs in 89 games this season, the second in his five-year, \$125 million contract.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Orioles slugger Adam Jones is hoping for a turnaround from his first only playoff performance: 2-for-26 in 2012.

Second: Dodgers' Kershaw, O's Jones also eye turnaround

FROM BACK PAGE

That last part is obvious. He went back to his leg kick. He's quicker to the plate. He added a changeup that tricks lefties. His fastball goes where he wants.

"Just a testament to his fortitude," reliever Craig Stammen said. "Sometimes a little humble pie doesn't hurt any of us. He took his piece, and he worked his tail off to get back."

Storen has converted 10 of 10 save chances since Sept. 7, throwing 9 1/3 innings, with zero runs, six singles, 10 strikeouts, zero walks. At home, where Washington will be for Friday's Game 1 of an NLDS against Pittsburgh or San Francisco, fans sing "Drooooo!" when the 27-year-old righty takes the mound. When he signs autographs, they tell him how happy they are to see him succeeding.

Others eyeing a playoff turnaround include Kershaw, who just won his fourth consecutive ERA title but is 0-3 with a 7.23 ERA in three trips to the NLCS; Jones, 2-for-26 in his one postseason so far, 2012; and Storen's teammate Bryce Harper, 3-for-23 against St. Louis two years ago.

Even two-time AL MVP Miguel Cabrera hasn't quite lived up to his own lofty standards.

They have company: Several of baseball's greatest players took their lumps on the sport's biggest stages. Ted Williams hit only singles while batting .200 in Boston's 1946 World Series loss to the Cardinals — his lone postseason. Barry Bonds was known for October slumps until his remarkable 2002 for the Giants, which ended with a World Series loss to the Angels.

For now, much of how Storen is perceived as a player is defined by that Game 5 ninth inning.

But as general manager Mike Rizzo put it: "He was shaken much less than everybody else."

A day earlier, Washington won Game 4 on Jayson Werth's walk-off homer. In the decider, Washington led 6-0 in the third, then 7-5 with two outs and one on in the ninth. For five pitches, Storen was one strike away from the save. On all five, the batters — Yadier Molina and David Freese — took a ball. Both walked, setting up two-run singles by Daniel Descalso and Pete Kozma.

Scoreboard

Game	Score	Notes
Wild Card		
Tuesday	Oakland (Lester 16-11) at Kansas City (Shields 14-8)	
Wednesday	San Francisco (Bumgarner 18-10) at Pittsburgh (Volquez 13-7)	
Division Series		
(Best-of-5)		
American League		
Baltimore vs. Detroit		
Thursday	Detroit (Verlander 18-5) at Baltimore (Trilman 13-6)	
Friday	Baltimore at Detroit	
Sunday	Oct. 5: Baltimore at Detroit	
x-Monday	Oct. 6: Baltimore at Detroit	
x-Wednesday	Oct. 8: at Baltimore	
Los Angeles vs.		
Oakland-Kansas City winner		
Thursday	Oakland/Kansas City at Los Angeles	
Friday	Oakland/Kansas City at Los Angeles	
Sunday	Los Angeles at Oakland/Kansas City	
x-Monday	Los Angeles at Oakland/Kansas City	
x-Wednesday	Oct. 8: Oakland/Kansas City at Los Angeles	
National League		
Washington vs.		
San Francisco-Pittsburgh winner		
Friday	San Francisco/Pittsburgh at Washington	
Saturday	San Francisco/Pittsburgh at Washington	
Sunday	Washington at San Francisco/Pittsburgh	
x-Tuesday	Washington at San Francisco/Pittsburgh	
Los Angeles vs. St. Louis		
Friday	St. Louis (Wainwright 20-9) at Los Angeles (Kershaw 21-3)	
Saturday	St. Louis at Los Angeles	
Monday	Los Angeles at St. Louis	
x-Wednesday	Los Angeles at St. Louis	
x-Thursday	Oct. 9: at Los Angeles	



JIM COVSEY/Fort Worth Star-Telegram/MCT

The Angels hope slugger Josh Hamilton is making enough progress recovering from injuries to join the postseason lineup on Thursday.

"Devastating," Nationals owner Mark Lerner said. "There were a couple of cheap little hits there. And Drew had, we thought, some strikes that were called balls. But, hey, it's water under the bridge... And he's back where he should be. I'm delighted for Drew's success. He's a fine young man."

While the rest of the 2012 postseason carried on without Washington, Stoen and Nationals center fielder Tyler Clippard took a 10-day vacation in London.

"We didn't talk about baseball. If it came up, the conversation lasted 30 seconds and that was it," Clippard said. "We didn't even know who won the World Series until we got back to the States."

In July 2013, Clippard, whose locker is next to Storen's, publicly came to his buddy's defense and questioned management's moves when Storen was sent to Triple-A Syracuse with a 5.95 ERA.

"I kind of felt his pain and knew the internal struggles," Clippard recalled. "It's been a lot of fun to see him on the other end now."

MLB

NL WILD-CARD PLAYOFF

Pirates vs. Giants:
A capsule look

Season series

Pirates won 4-2

May 5: Giants 11, Pirates 10

May 6: Pirates 2, Giants 1

May 7: Pirates 4, Giants 3

July 28: Pirates 5, Giants 0

July 29: Pirates 3, Giants 1

July 30: Giants 7, Pirates 5

Projected Lineups

Giants: CF Gregor Blanco (.260, 5 HRs, 38 RBIs), 2B Joe Panik (.305, 1, 18), C Buster Posey (.311, 22, 89), 3B Pablo Sandoval (.279, 16, 73), RF Hunter Pence (.277, 20, 74), 1B Brandon Belt (.243, 12, 27), LF Travis Ishikawa (.252, 3, 18) with Pirates and Giants, SS Brandon Crawford (.246, 10, 69).
Pirates: 3B Josh Harrison (.315, 13, 52, 38 doubles), RF Travis Snider (.264, 13, 38), CF Andrew McCutchen (.314, 25, 83, 38 doubles, 84 walks), 2B Neil Walker (.271, 23, 76), C Russell Martin (.290, 11, 67), LF Starling Marte (.291, 13, 56, 30 SBs), 1B Gaby Sanchez (.229, 7, 33) or Ike Davis (.233, 11, 51) with Mets and Pirates), SS Jordy Mercer (.255, 12, 55).

Starting pitchers

Giants: LH Madison Bumgarner (18-10, 2.98 ERA, 219 Ks).
Pirates: RH Edinson Volquez (13-7, 3.04 ERA).

What to watch for

- **Bumgarner's Bat.** Bumgarner is far from an automatic out at the plate. He batted .258 with four homers, 15 RBIs and a .470 slugging percentage this season. The last pitcher to have more RBIs in a season was Mike Hampton with 16 in 2011 for Colorado.
- **Backing It Up.** The Pirates proved they were more than a one-year wonder, following up last year's 94-win season by going 88-74 even though starting pitchers Francisco Liriano, Gerrit Cole and Charlie Morton made multiple trips to the disabled list. They made up for their pitching issues at the plate, hitting .259 and scoring 682 runs, the fourth-highest total in the NL.
- **Elimination Experts.** The Giants are well-versed in win-or-go-home games, having won six of them on the way to the title in 2012. Many of the players who overcame a 2-0 series deficit in the division series to Cincinnati and a 3-1 deficit in the NLCS to St. Louis are still in San Francisco and won't be overwhelmed by the pressure.
- **Staring Starling.** Pittsburgh envisioned Marte as its leadoff man in the rest of the decade, but he struggled early on. He batted .254 in 31 games leading off before being moved down in the order, where he flourished. Marte improved as the season wore on, hitting .344 in August and .364 in September.

—The Associated Press

Pirates savor another playoff push

By WILL GRAVES
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Clint Hurdle greeted each member of the Pittsburgh Pirates as they walked off the field in Cincinnati on Sunday, telling them he “liked the fight” even after their chances of winning the NL Central evaporated in a loss to the Reds.

It was Hurdle’s way of saying thanks to mish mashed roster of stars and role players who have produced another unlikely post-season run.

“It’s who we are,” Hurdle said. “We’re all in this together. We’re all one-minded. We’re ready to go.”

A punchline for a generation, it’s back to Buctober once again.

The Pirates host San Francisco on Wednesday night in the NL wild card game. A year ago, Pittsburgh capped a remarkable turnaround season by winning 94 games and beating Cincinnati in the same round before falling to St. Louis in five taut games in the division series.

The victory over Reds was a watershed moment for a franchise that spent two decades in baseball purgatory while setting a North American professional sports record by reeling of 20 straight losing seasons. Andrew McCutchen won the MVP. Hurdle was named NL manager of the year and the Pirates captivated the city for the first time in a generation.

Their run this time around might have been even more impressive. As Pittsburgh watched A.J. Burnett sign elsewhere in free agency, the Pirates’ “marquee” signing was to take a \$5 million flier on reclamation project Edinson Volquez, a former All-Star who washed out in San Diego and Los Angeles in 2013.

The right-handed repaid the Pirates by starting going 13-7 with a 3.09 ERA in a team-high 32 starts. He was even better down the stretch, going 5-0 with a 1.64 ERA since Aug. 1. His renaissance is symbolic of a team that kept finding ways to win despite a restructured lineup that hardly looks like the group Hurdle sent out on



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Pittsburgh Andrew McCutchen, the reigning National League Most Valuable Player, led the Pirates to their second consecutive playoff berth after 20 straight losing seasons.

opening day six months ago.

Josh Harrison evolved from 25th man to an All-Star who replaced erratic slugger Pedro Alvarez at third base. Rookie rightfielder Gregory Polanco provided a jolt after his call-up in June only to head back to the bench after Travis Snider rediscovered the power stroke that had seemingly disappeared.

Starting pitchers Francisco Liriano, Gerrit Cole and Charlie Morton made multiple trips to the disabled list. Slumping closer Jason Grilli was shipped to the Los Angeles Angels, replaced by the stoic Mark Melancon. Vance Worley began the spring in Triple-A only to thrive in the heat of a pennant race, shutting out Milwaukee for eight crisp innings on Sept. 21 to virtually assure Pittsburgh of a second straight playoff berth.

The team that started 12-20 finished 88-74, catching the fading Brewers and taking St. Louis all the way to game 162 before ceding the division title.

“When we have somebody go down, we have someone to take their place who’s been there,” McCutchen said. “In years past we didn’t have that. We had guys that could take their place but they



San Francisco Giants
at Pittsburgh Pirates
AFN-Sports
2 a.m. Thursday CET
9 a.m. Thursday JKT

were young guys, first-year guys who haven’t been here. It’s the same nucleus of guys. These guys all know what to expect. They all know what to do and that’s why we’ve been doing what we’re doing this year.”

Pittsburgh relied heavily on a pitching staff that overachieved a year ago. The rotation patchwork at times this summer, the Pirates became a better offensive team. They finished second in the NL on base percentage (.330) led by the electric McCutchen and the relentless Harrison.

Harrison provided a needed shot of adrenaline atop the batting order. He hit .315 to finish a close second to Colorado’s Justin

Morneau in the NL batting race and thrived wherever he worked defensively, be it right field or second base or third, where he moved permanently as the errors and strikeouts piled up for Alvarez.

Harrison is an unlikely success story on a roster filled with them. Yet he brushes off the idea Pittsburgh’s rise to respectability is a combination of a mediocre league in which only six teams finished above .500 and some aberrational years by average players.

“We don’t listen to any of that,” Harrison said. “In this clubhouse, we know what we have. We always expected to be here.”

The Pirates will be there once again on Wednesday night when they face one of baseball’s marquee franchises, one with designs on its third World Series title in five years.

That’s fine by Hurdle, who took over one of MLB’s toughest jobs in December 2010 and has orchestrated a revival no one saw coming.

“I like our team,” he said. “I like the fight. I like the grit. These guys love to play for one another and they love to celebrate each other’s successes. So it’s going to be an exciting time for us.”

Giants have experience facing elimination

By JANIE MCCAULEY
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Giants have proven to be elimination experts.

Just rewind two years ago, when the Giants overcame six elimination games on the way to their second World Series in three years.

No doubt this year will be different. San Francisco must win Wednesday at Pittsburgh to advance into the best-of-five NL division series against the NL East champion Washington Nationals.

Manager Bruce Bochy has plenty of players still around from the core of the roster two years ago who went through all those remarkable comebacks, such as becoming the first team in major league history to rally from a two-game deficit in a five-game series by winning three consecutive road games to beat Cincinnati.

Then, San Francisco won three more elimination games to beat the Cardinals in the NLCS.

“Well, sure, for our club, that’s invaluable experience,” Bochy said. “You look at the clubs we’ve been looking at playing, they’ve been through it, too.”

San Francisco (88-74) hopes to regain a postseason swagger with many of the same faces who have done this before. From Pablo Sandoval and Hunter Pence, to pitchers Madison Bumgarner and Tim Lincecum. Lefty 18-game winner Bumgarner will pitch Wednesday.

“It never gets old, especially for these guys,” said Lincecum, who pitched the Game 5 World Series clincher in 2010 and was a key reliever in the 2012 title run. “We’ve been through a lot together, ups and downs. But once you get through that door, this is when we look to do something great.”

While the wild cards create a September buzz with so many clubs involved in the chase, he would like a short series instead.

“It’s created a lot of interest in baseball, I’ll say that. A lot of people like that one-game deal, a Super Bowl-type thing,” Bochy said. “If I had my druthers, I’d rather see two out of three, three out of five or more to give you a little margin for error. But, hey, this is something that’s fairly new in baseball and I will say that one game, I enjoy watching it. But now that I’m in it, I’d like to have two out of three.”

SPORTS



'Just a bad performance'
Chiefs stifle Brady, Patriots in front of loud Arrowhead crowd | **Page 26**



Washington Nationals relief pitcher Drew Storen
ALAN DIAZ/AP

MLB PLAYOFFS

Second chances

Nationals reliever Storen, others getting another shot after poor first postseasons

By HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Three years ago, Drew Storen was the confident, young closer for the Washington Nationals, a first-round draft pick who saved 43 games.

Two years ago, he needed elbow surgery in April, worked his way back into the last-guy-on-the-mound job by the time the playoffs rolled around, then allowed a ninth-inning lead to become a 9-7 loss in Game 5 of the NL division series against St. Louis, ending Washington's exhilarating season in exorciating fashion.

Last year, he lost his closer status to surprise free-agent signing Rafael Soriano, then was briefly demoted to the minors.

And this year? Storen was NL East champion Washington's primary seventh-inning reliever until early September, when he replaced the struggling Soriano as the closer and thrived. This year, then, is Storen's second chance: He and other major leaguers — Clayton Kershaw of the Dodgers and Adam Jones of the Orioles, among them — are hoping to fare better than in past postseasons.

"I don't look at it as this big, emotional scar or anything. It's baseball, you know? You're going to have bad outings. ... It's a matter of moving on," Storen said, standing in front of his Nationals Park locker, where he sat silently and despondently on that unforgettable night in October 2012.

"I'm a different person," Storen said. "And I'm a different pitcher."

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- Baylor has Angels' hitters on track for memorable October, Page 30

