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Afghan security personnel arrest a suspect after a bomb explosion in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Nov. 25.

RAHMAT GUL/AP

COMPLETE OVERHAUL

Officials: Afghan president revamping security forces

BY CARLO MUNOZ
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, whose openness toward a continued U.S. and international presence in his country stands in stark contrast to the attitude of his predecessor, has announced plans to replace Cabinet members he inherited from former President Hamid Karzai.

The announcement, in a nationally televised address Sunday evening, follows a spate of insurgent attacks in the capital and in volatile areas of the south and east.

Ashraf Ghani sees stability in new NATO relationship

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The violence has raised concern within the country about the new unity government's ability to provide security as the NATO-led combat mission is rapidly winding down.

The failure of Ghani and his chief executive officer, Abdullah Abdullah, to form a Cabinet until now also has worried international backers of the unity government, formed in September under strong U.S. pressure after months of acrimonious election disputes.

SEE OVERHAUL ON PAGE 4



Prime minister says 50,000 'ghost soldiers' in Iraqi army

BY LOVEDAY MORRIS
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — The Iraqi army has been paying salaries to at least 50,000 soldiers who don't exist, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said Sunday, an indication of the level of corruption that permeates an institution that the United States has spent billions of dollars

on equipping and arming.

A preliminary investigation into so-called "ghost soldiers" — whose salaries are being drawn but who are not in military service — revealed the tens of thousands of false names on Ministry of Defense rolls, al-Abadi told parliament Sunday. Follow-up investigations are expected to uncover "more and more," he added.

Al-Abadi, who took power in September, is under pressure to stamp out the graft that flourished in the armed forces under his predecessor, Nouri al-Maliki.

Widespread corruption has been blamed for contributing to the collapse of four of the army's 14 divisions in June in the face of an offensive by Islamic State extremists.

The United States is encouraging al-Abadi to create a leaner, more efficient military as the Pentagon requests \$1.2 billion to train and equip the Iraqi army next year. The United States spent more than \$20 billion on the force from the 2003 invasion until U.S. troops withdrew at the end of 2011.

SEE GHOST ON PAGE 6

The United States spent more than \$20 billion on the Iraqi army from the 2003 invasion until U.S. troops withdrew at the end of 2011.

EUROPE

NATO rejects Russian veto on membership of former Soviet states

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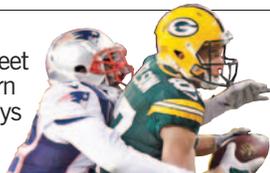
Osan Air Base put on lockdown amid report of 'active-shooter drill'

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NFL

Patriots, Packers could meet again; Manziel gets his turn among Week 13 takeaways

Back page



QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Rise to the occasion. Act like being in the White House matters to you. Dress like you deserve respect, not a spot at the bar.”

— Elizabeth Lauten, who has resigned as Rep. Stephen Lee Fincher’s communications director after her Facebook comment about first daughters Sasha and Malia Obama drew strong criticism

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2. Study looks at psychological effects of combat medals
3. USFK ‘juicy bar’ ban has owners up in arms
4. Attack plane built for Afghanistan comes under scrutiny
5. Ex-lieutenant convicted of killing two Afghans seeking clemency

COMING SOON



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MILITARY

New generation of nuke weapons urged

By RALPH VARTABEDIAN AND W.J. HENNIGAN Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Two decades after the U.S. began to scale back its nuclear forces after the Cold War, a number of military strategists, scientists and congressional leaders are calling for a new generation of hydrogen bombs.

Warheads in the nation’s stockpile are an average of 27 years old, raising serious concerns about their reliability, they say. Provocative nuclear threats by Russian President Vladimir Putin have added to the pressure to not only design new weapons but also to conduct underground tests for the first time since 1992.

“We should get rid of our existing warheads and develop a new warhead that we would test to detonation,” said John Hamre, deputy secretary of defense in the Clinton administration and now president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. “We have the worst of all worlds: older weapons and large inventories that we are retaining because we are worried about their reliability.”

Change afoot

The incoming Republican-controlled Congress could be more open to exploring new weapons.

“It seems like common sense to me if you’re trying to keep an aging machine alive that’s well past its design life, then you’re treading on thin ice,” said Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, chairman-elect of the House Armed Services Committee. “Not to mention, we’re spending more and more to keep these things going.”

Thornberry also offered support for renewed testing, saying, “You don’t know how a car performs unless you turn the key over. Why would we accept anything less from a weapon that provides the foundation for which all our national security is based on?”

Some of the key technocrats and scientists of the Cold War say the nation has become overly confident about its nuclear deterrence. The nuclear enterprise, they say, “is rusting its way to disarmament.”

“We should start from scratch,” said Don Hicks, who directed the Pentagon’s strategic weapons research during the Reagan administration. “We have so much



ROBERT GAUTHER, LOS ANGELES TIMES/TNS

An out-of-service missile stands as a sculpture at the main gate of Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, Mont., where hundreds of nuclear missiles are siloed over thousands of square miles and ready to launch from remote underground rooms on the base.

enriched uranium and plutonium left from old weapons that we could use it properly for a new generation of weapons.

In the 25 years since the Cold War ended, the U.S. has significantly retreated from the brinkmanship of the arms race, reducing its stockpile from a peak of 31,000 nuclear weapons in 1967 to its current level of 4,804 weapons. Russia has cut its stockpile to about the same size.

Signs of decay

After the Soviet Union fell in 1991, the U.S. agreed to an international moratorium on testing, though it never ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Halting underground tests was seen as a crucial step toward full nuclear disarmament because it would put a high barrier against developing new weapons.

The U.S. allowed much of its weapons complex to deteriorate, particularly production facilities, as cooperation with Russia flourished in the 1990s.

Today, the signs of decay are pervasive at the Pantex facility in Texas, where nuclear weapons are disassembled and repaired. Rat infestation has become so bad that

workers are afraid to bring their lunches to work.

“They literally have to keep their lunch bags on a shelf that’s head high so it won’t get eaten,” Thornberry said. “They find them on their computers, in the hallways. It’s a continual problem.”

The buildings at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, Tenn., are so old that a concrete ceiling recently collapsed into a production area.

The Obama administration has a \$60 billion plan to modernize the Energy Department complex and update weapons, including a new type of warhead that cannibalizes components from older weapons.

The device would combine an atomic trigger from one weapon with a thermonuclear assembly from another. Called the interoperable warhead, it would reduce

the number of weapons designs from seven to five on the hopes that it would save money.

The ‘Frankenbomb’

The device, which has been derided as an atomic “Frankenbomb,” has prompted criticism from arms control factions. Advocates of a strong U.S. nuclear posture are not big supporters, either.

“Mixing and mashing parts into configurations that have never been tested before is not a good idea by any means,” said Kingston Reif, director for disarmament and threat reduction policy at the Arms Control Association. “It’s going to cost money that we don’t have for a mission that plays an increasingly limited role in U.S. national security.”

Some of the nation’s top nuclear weapons scientists say a better option is to design new weapons better suited to current threats.

In many ways, the growing nuclear capability of China, coupled with the addition of North Korea, Pakistan and India to the status of nuclear powers, has made deterrence strategy more complicated than during the Cold War.

John S. Foster Jr., former director of Lawrence

“We should get rid of our existing warheads and develop a new warhead that we would test to detonation.”

John Hamre Center for Strategic and International Studies

Livermore National Laboratory and the chief of Pentagon research during the Cold War, said the labs should design, develop and build prototype weapons that may be needed by the military in the future, including a very low-yield nuclear weapon that could be used with precision

delivery systems; an electromagnetic pulse weapon that could destroy an enemy’s communications systems; and a penetrating weapon to destroy deeply buried targets.

“After more than two decades, the nuclear deterrent could be in worse shape than we want to be believe,” Foster said. “We need to demonstrate the proficiency of our weapons labs and our strategic forces.”

STARS AND STRIPES

SHOT of the Season

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PACIFIC



ARMANDO R. LIMON/Stars and Stripes

Members of the 51st Security Forces Squadron block the road to Osan Middle School and Osan American High School at Osan Air Base, South Korea, on Monday after an active-shooter alert was announced.

Call triggers Osan lockdown; no suspicious activity found

By ASHLEY ROWLAND
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Osan Air Base is investigating whether a reported phone call to the base high school Monday morning that triggered an installation-wide lockdown and search for a possible gunman was a hoax or a misunderstanding.

“We’re still looking into the origin,” 51st Fighter Wing spokesman 1st Lt. Brandon Baccam said late Monday afternoon.

A teacher received an automated phone call around 10 a.m. that said an active-shooter drill was taking place. The school immediately went into a lockdown after verifying that no such drill was underway, and the lockdown soon was extended to the entire base, according to the wing’s public affairs office.

No unusual activity was found, and the lockdown was lifted around 12:30 p.m. following a security forces sweep of Osan schools.

At 11:58 a.m., a post attributed to Osan American High School Principal Morgan Nugent said

“We decided to (err) on the side of safety and went into a full school lockdown.”

Morgan Nugent
Osan American High School principal

that after the teacher received the call, “We decided to (err) on the side of safety and went into a full school lockdown.”

“Security Forces have responded to the school and are doing a sweep of the whole school and its perimeter. Once we are given an all clear we will go ahead and continue the school day as is and with a chance for a debrief to our kids at the end of the school day. Ultimately though your children are safe and we will continue to keep them safe,” the post said.

Nugent said Monday afternoon that school officials had already talked to students about the day’s events.

“Everybody is back in the regular routine, and we’re looking to hopefully having a lot calmer rest of December,” he said.

Several security forces personnel and vehicles were spotted around 11:15 a.m. at the base’s middle school and high school. The base was otherwise deserted as the season’s first snow flurries fell, with a loudspeaker repeating the same message every few minutes in English and Korean: “Lockdown, lockdown, lockdown. Seek safety and shelter.”

The 51st Security Forces Squadron practiced responding to a live shooting situation in mid-November using Osan Middle School as the setting for a mock shooting. Responders practiced clearing the building and used rubber bullets to prevent injuries, according to the wing’s website.

Stars and Stripes staffer Armando Limon contributed to this story. rowland.ashley@stripes.com

Japan set to buy 52 amphibious vehicles

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Japan plans to buy 52 amphibious vehicles through 2018 but hasn’t yet decided on a model, a Defense Ministry official said Monday.

Japan is working on assembling a Marines-like unit within its Self-Defense Forces amid concerns over Chinese claims of the Japan-administered Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea. Both countries have scrambled fighter jets over the uninhabited islands during the past two years, and low-level maritime standoffs have increased in nearby waters.

A recent Japanese media report said the Defense Ministry will buy the Amphibious Assault Vehicle, or AAV-7, which also is used by the U.S. Marine Corps. The ministry spokesman denied that any decision on a model had been made.

“We have purchased four AAV-7s in fiscal 2013 and two AAV-7s in fiscal 2014 as samples for reference,” the ministry spokesman said on condition of anonymity, as is customary in Japan.

The Defense Ministry began studying procurement options in April but hasn’t set a deadline for the study’s completion, according to the spokesman.

Japan trains regularly with the U.S. military on amphibious war-

fare, including during an expeditionary combat simulation at the bilateral Keen Sword exercise in November. Last year, Japanese troops traveled to California to train with Marines on reclaiming an island as part of the Iron Fist exercise.

The Marine Corps is focused on upgrading its aging AAV-7 stock and

adding a new vehicle to take over its role.

Marine Commandant Gen. James Amos favors the Amphibious Combat Vehicle, though that program has faced budgetary pressures in Congress and design concerns from military analysts.

The wheeled Amphibious Combat Vehicle would provide greater protection on land, but it would have limited “swim” capability and require a vessel or heavy-lift air transport to get it from sea to shore.

Stars and Stripes reporter Chiyomi Sumida contributed to this report. slavin.eric@stripes.com Twitter: @eslavin_stripes

Stars and Stripes reporter Chiyomi Sumida contributed to this report. slavin.eric@stripes.com Twitter: @eslavin_stripes



JOSHUA HAMMOND/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

An amphibious assault vehicle assigned to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit approaches the well deck of the amphibious assault ship USS Peleliu in waters off Okinawa, Japan, in September. Japan plans to purchase dozens of amphibious vehicles, but has not yet decided on a model.

US airman missing along Guam’s coast

Emergency personnel are searching for a missing airman last seen Monday along Guam’s northern coast.

Very little information was available, a Coast Guard statement said. The airman is believed to have entered the waters off Tarague Beach in the early morning hours.

The name of the airman is being

withheld. KUAM News reported his age as 23 and said a call for help originally came in to Andersen Air Force Base Security at 4:45 a.m.

The Coast Guard is coordinating a search that includes jet skis, rescue swimmers, helicopters and small boats from Andersen Air Force Base Fire Rescue, Guam Fire Rescue, the Guam Police Department, the Navy, Coast Guard Station Apra Harbor and Coast Guard Cutter Washington.

From staff reports

MILITARY

Afghan president sees stability in NATO alliance

By SLOBODAN KEKIC
Stars and Stripes

BRUSSELS — The coming launch of NATO's training and advisory mission in Afghanistan will mark a new phase in Kabul's relationship with the alliance that will bring peace and stability to the country, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani said Monday.

The newly elected president, who was making his first visit in that role to alliance headquarters on Monday, thanked NATO for all it had done for Afghanistan during the combat mission due to end this month.

The alliance first assumed responsibility for security in the country in August 2003. More than 3,400 NATO troops have died and more than 30,000 have been wounded during the ongoing war with Taliban insurgents.

"What brings us together is a compelling phase of mutual interests," Ghani told NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg during the welcoming ceremony. "We hope that the new phase will bring stability and prosperity to our people and security to the world."

NATO foreign ministers are due to meet Tuesday to approve an executive directive that will formally launch the new advisory mission known as Resolute Support.

Afghanistan's parliament recently ratified two security pacts with the United States and NATO that will provide the legal basis for the new mission.

"We now have in place what we need to move forward with our new mission ... to train, advise and assist the Afghan National Security Forces from Jan. 1, 2015, and build on our common

‘What brings us together is a compelling phase of mutual interests. We hope that the new phase will bring stability and prosperity to our people and security to the world.’

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani



achievements," Stoltenberg said. He pledged to continue financial support for the Afghan security forces.

The previous administration of President Hamid Karzai had repeatedly delayed concluding the agreements, which do not allow for the prosecution of foreign troops by Afghan courts.

Abdullah Abdullah, the Afghan Cabinet's chief executive, who accompanied Ghani, said the problem has now been solved and the legal framework for the follow-on mission is complete.

Washington has already pledged nearly 10,000 troops — mainly trainers and advisers — along with a contingent of anti-terrorism

forces. NATO is expected to contribute about 2,000 more troops.

NATO officials said a force-generation conference would be held at the alliance's military headquarters in Mons, Belgium, when member nations will commit the additional forces.

Most alliance countries are expected to pledge troops to the new mission, officials said.

American officials have indicated that the U.S. might commit up to 1,000 more troops to help with the NATO mission, which has fallen short of its manning targets, jeopardizing its postwar plans.

Taliban insurgents, who have launched a spate of attacks in recent months against Afghan security forces, have said they will continue fighting until all foreign forces leave the country.

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Overhaul: Ghani mandates that at least 4 Cabinet positions be filled by women

FROM FRONT PAGE

On Monday, Ghani left Kabul to attend a series of meetings in Europe, where they will be seeking renewed commitments of international support. Their first stop is a NATO foreign ministers' meeting in Brussels on Tuesday that is to formally start the post-combat advise and assist mission, Resolute Support.

The Afghan leaders then move on to London for a conference on Afghanistan. That event "will provide a platform for the government of Afghanistan to set out its vision for reform and for the international community to demonstrate enduring solidarity and support for Afghanistan," according to the British government website.

"They will be all new faces," Sayeq Wahedi, deputy spokesman for the Afghan presidential palace, said regarding the new Cabinet picks.

In a thinly veiled shot at Karzai's penchant for filling his Cabinet with loyalists and political allies, Ghani said all ministerial candidates would be judged on their professional credentials before being selected. He also mandated that at least four of the Cabinet positions be filled by women.

Except for a handful of appointments Ghani and Abdullah have already made, deputies will replace acting ministers while new candidates are vetted by parliament. That process could begin as soon as next week, with administration officials planning to have a



RAHMAT GUL/AP

Afghan security forces inspect a British embassy vehicle that was targeted in a suicide attack in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Thursday. Facing an intensified Taliban insurgency, Ghani plans to fire senior civilian and military leaders in the country's most volatile provinces to reinvigorate the battle against militants.

full Cabinet in place no later than the end of December, Wahedi told Stars and Stripes on Monday.

Ghani's announcement was preceded Sunday by news that Kabul's police chief had resigned. Although officials said he had not given a reason, the capital has been rocked by a series of attacks against high-profile Afghan and foreign targets in recent weeks.

However, on Monday, Kabul

police spokesman Hashmatullah Stanakzai confirmed that Gen. Mohammad Zahir would remain Kabul's top police officer. He said senior ministry officials refused to accept Zahir's resignation and ordered him back to work.

Zahir had reportedly informed the ministry of his intent to leave his post a week ago, telling ministry leaders "he did not want to do the job (anymore)," Stanakzai told

Stars and Stripes on Sunday.

The Associated Press reported Monday that Ghani also planned to replace officials in five particularly troubled provinces over the next two to three months. The AP report quoted presidential spokesman Nazifullah Salarzal.

Wahedi said that only changes at the Cabinet level were planned for now, but that he was not privy to any discussions regarding the

removal of provincial leaders.

"What we have so far heard and seen, it is just the Cabinet," Wahedi said.

Afghan forces have suffered heavy casualties this year as international forces have withdrawn. The continuing Taliban attacks in the provinces and more recently in the capital have fueled distrust of the Afghan security

‘They (the new Cabinet members) will be all new faces.’

Sayeq Wahedi
deputy spokesman
for the Afghan
presidential palace

forces' ability to secure the country without foreign assistance.

The capital has been rocked by repeated attacks and suicide bombings over the past month. A Taliban assassination attempt against Zahir at Kabul police headquarters on Nov. 9 kicked off the most recent wave of violence in the city.

Saturday, the South African head of a U.S.-based aid organization, his son and daughter and an Afghan employee were killed in a complex attack against the group's headquarters in western Kabul.

On Thanksgiving day, the Taliban launched two attacks, one of which killed a British embassy employee and an Afghan national working with the embassy.

Zubair Babakarhail contributed to this report.
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WAR ON TERRORISM

Egyptian group: We killed US oil worker

By MAAMOUN YOUSSEF

The Associated Press

CAIRO — An Egyptian militant organization allied with the Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for the killing of an American oil worker.

Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, which now refers to itself as the Sinai Province, said on its official Twitter account late Sunday that it killed William Henderson. It published pictures of his passport and two identification cards. It did not say when or how it killed him.

The passport said he was a 58-year-old from Texas, and his identification cards said he worked for Texas-based energy company Apache Corp. and Qarun Petroleum Co., a joint venture with Egypt.

Apache said in August that one of its supervisors had been killed in an apparent carjacking in Egypt's Western Desert. The company did not identify the man.

The Enid News & Eagle in northwestern Oklahoma published an obituary for a man named William Henderson in Au-

gust, saying he had "passed suddenly" while working in Egypt. It said he had worked for Apache for 28 years and was 58 when he died.

The U.S. embassy declined to comment on the militant group's claim, and Apache could not immediately be reached for comment.

Ansar Beit al-Maqdis, a Sinai-based jihadi group, has carried out scores of attacks mainly targeting Egyptian security forces, particularly since the July 2013 overthrow of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi. Last month, it

pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group.

In a separate statement late Sunday, the Egyptian group claimed to have carried out more than 10 attacks in the past four weeks. It said it blew up six army and police armored vehicles, killed seven police officers and conscripts and demolished the house of a man accused of being a spy for the army.

The northern part of the Sinai Peninsula has been under a state of emergency since the group attacked an army checkpoint in October, killing 31 soldiers.

Militants attack Iraqi checkpoint; 15 killed

BAGHDAD — Islamic State militants attacked a checkpoint along the volatile Iraq-Syria border on Monday, killing at least 15 Iraqi border policemen, officials said.

The attack took place in the town of al-Walid on Iraq's side of the border, according to a senior army official. At least five officers were also wounded in the assault. A government official in Iraq's Anbar provincial council confirmed the report, but further details were not immediately available.

Since its blitz earlier this year, the Islamic State group has controlled most of the border crossings between Iraq and Syria. The Sunni militant group has also overrun a large part of Iraq's Anbar and Ninewa provinces and now controls about one-third of both Iraq and Syria.

The attack came as the U.N. Assistance Mission for Iraq said that 1,232 Iraqis were killed and 2,434 were wounded in violence and terrorist attacks in November. Of those killed, at least 296 were members of Iraqi and Kurdish forces, as well as militias who fight alongside them.

UN suspends food aid program to Syrians

BEIRUT — The United Nations World Food Program on Monday suspended a food voucher program serving more than 1.7 million Syrian refugees, citing a funding crisis after many donors failed to meet their commitments.

Cutting the program, which provides Syrian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt with electronic vouchers to buy food in local shops, means that "many families will go hungry," the U.N. agency said in a statement.

"The suspension of WFP food assistance will be disastrous for many already suffering families," said WFP Executive Director Ertharin Cousin, adding that it will also "endanger the health and lives of these refugees and will potentially cause further tensions, instability and insecurity in the neighboring host countries."

The WFP said it requires \$64 million to support Syrian refugees in December alone, and that if funding comes up short, it will immediately resume the program.

Syria: Terrorist groups using chlorine weapons

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Syria's vice foreign minister has denied that his government ever used chemical weapons or chlorine during the country's brutal civil war and warns that terrorist groups are using such weapons.

The comments Monday by Fay-sal Mekdad to a meeting of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons underscored what could be the organization's next major challenge, even as it comes close to fully eliminating Damascus' deadly stockpile of nerve agents and poison gas.

Mekdad said Monday that the terrorist groups have used chlorine gas in several of the regions of Syria and Iraq.

From The Associated Press

US, Turkey discuss 'safe zone' in northern Syria

Stars and Stripes

As part of an agreement to allow the U.S. and its coalition partners the use of Turkish air bases to launch strikes against Islamic State targets in Syria, the U.S. and Turkey are discussing the creation of a safe zone along part of the border that would be off-limits to Assad regime aircraft, officials in both countries told the Wall Street Journal.

In contrast to a formal no-fly zone, the narrower safe zone along the border under discussion wouldn't require any strikes to take out Syrian air defenses. Instead, the U.S. and its coalition partners could send a quiet warning to the Assad regime to stay away from the zone or risk retaliation, the Journal reported. The zone would provide sanctuary to Western-backed opposition forces and refugees.

U.S. and coalition aircraft would use Incirlik and other Turkish air bases to patrol the zone, ensuring that rebels crossing the border from Turkey don't come under attack there, officials told the Journal. So far, Turkey has allowed the U.S. military to fly only unmanned surveillance flights out of Incirlik.

Turkey had proposed a far more extensive no-fly zone across one-third of northern Syria, the Journal reported. However, that idea was a nonstarter for the Obama administration, which told Ankara



SCOTT FENAROU/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

An F/A-18C Hornet from the Stingers of Strike Fighter Squadron launches from the flight deck of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, which is deployed supporting strike operations in Iraq and Syria. So far, the Assad regime hasn't challenged U.S. aircraft involved in coalition airstrikes over Syria.

that something so invasive would constitute an act of war against the Assad regime.

The U.S. doesn't foresee any air exclusionary zone as far south as the city of Aleppo, a stronghold of the opposition Free Syrian Army, at least initially. Turkish officials had proposed a large no-fly zone, stretching from the Iraqi border to northern Latakia on the Mediterranean coast.

For the U.S., the risk in creating even a small, de facto no-fly zone would be the possibility of a challenge by the Assad regime.

The U.S. passed messages to the Syrian government not to contest coalition aircraft at the start of the airstrikes in Syria in September, the Journal noted. So far, the regime hasn't challenged U.S. aircraft, according to U.S. officials.

If President Barack Obama approves the plan being negotiated by John Allen, the retired Marine general who is the administration's lead coordinator for the international coalition against the Islamic State, it would mark a reversal from his earlier policy, the Bloomberg news agency noted.

Since 2012, the White House has resisted calls from both parties in Congress to establish such protected areas in Syria, in part because it would be a significant strain on the U.S. Air Force and would put fliers in danger. But the White House has also been wary that a no-fly zone could drag the U.S. into a shooting war with the Syrian regime at the very moment it is trying to wage a war against the Islamic State group and al-Qaida, both of which have also fought the regime.

Ghost: Security panel member says 'Iraq's safe has been emptied'

FROM FRONT PAGE

With entry-level soldiers in Iraq drawing salaries of about \$600 a month, the practice of "ghost soldiers" is likely costing Iraq at least \$380 million a year — though officials say that's probably only a fraction of the true expense.

"It could be more than triple this number," said Hamid al-Mutlaq, a member of the parliamentary defense and security committee, pointing out that more thorough on-the-ground investigations are planned. "The people who are responsible for this should be punished. Iraq's safe has been emptied."

\$380M

The estimated amount that the "ghost soldiers" are likely costing Iraq annually, although officials say that's probably only a fraction of the true expense.

The corrupt practice is often perpetrated by officers who pretend to have more soldiers on their books in order to pocket their salaries, experts say.

Al-Abadi's announcement was met with applause in parliament. He said the perpetrators would

be tracked down eventually, but his priority is to end the practice as soon as possible.

"We are losing money all the time," he said. Since taking power, al-Abadi has retired dozens of officers who served under al-Maliki, who has been widely accused of promoting officers based on loyalty rather than merit.

"The problems are wide, and it's an extremely difficult task, which is going to involve some strong will," said Iraqi security analyst Saeed al-Jayashi. "Training is weak and unprofessional."

The United States is focusing its efforts on three divisions in

order to begin effective counter-offensive operations against the Islamic State group, which controls about a third of the country's territory.

The Pentagon also has requested \$24 million to train and equip tribal fighters, and \$354 million for Kurdish forces as part of its strategy to turn the tide against the Islamic State group.

Al-Abadi conceded that the process of arming the Sunni tribes had been slow, but he promised support for all those fighting against the Islamic State. "We do not want to just give weapons randomly," he said.

NATION

Feds paid \$800M for exposure ills

Current, ex-workers at SC nuclear site developed conditions linked to work

By SAMANTHA EHRLINGER
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — More than 8,000 current or former workers of the Department of Energy nuclear site in Aiken, S.C., have received at least \$800 million in federal compensation and paid medical expenses for job-related illnesses, Labor Department data show.

The payments under a little-noticed federal program represent a small fraction of the staggering nationwide toll of a nuclear weapons industry born out of the Cold War. More than 104,000 sick workers have received almost \$11 billion in compensation and medical expenses.

The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program was created in October 2000 to identify workers who became ill after being unknowingly exposed to hazardous materials at nuclear plants during the Cold War, like the then-named Savannah River Plant of Aiken.

Many former employees of the Savannah River Plant who are sick or have died from diseases like cancer, beryllium disease,

silicosis, asbestosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are eligible for compensation or medical expenses. In the case of a worker's death, survivors can file a claim.

"Not until the act was actually in the works back in the late nineties did they finally realize that there was a lot of exposures at these particular Department of Energy sites," said Rachel Leiton, director of the program. "And that's why they created the act."

A 2007 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health study of more than 18,000 workers hired from 1950 to 1986 found that more male Savannah River Site workers died from illnesses like pleural cancer and leukemia than expected based on national averages.

To get up to \$400,000 in lump-sum payments, and potentially unlimited additional financial assistance for medical bills related to their conditions, workers and their families have to wade through a series of complicated laws to determine whether their cancer or other illnesses were caused by their work, and if they can prove it.

Some workers' wives were not allowed to know what their husbands were doing during the Cold War, making determining exact job responsibilities and subsequent exposure difficult. Many workers don't know what they were exposed to during their tenure at the plant.

Finding proof for claims can be more difficult than one would expect, experts say.

Because the program is still fairly new, many people are finding out they can file for compensation years after a worker's employment, or even death, said attorney Louise Roselle, who has worked with nuclear facility workers' cases for years.

Some people are filing claims for former workers who were exposed to radiation at the Savannah River Site almost 50 years ago. Some of those workers have died.

That can lead to issues with seemingly simple requirements, like documentation of a doctor's diagnosis of cancer. But finding those medical records can be daunting, or impossible, when the hospital has gone out of business, or a health care provider destroys

records more than 20 years old.

The national office of the program has professionals on call to search for additional proof to help with a claim, if the person filing does not have enough information, or can't get it, Leiton said.

On average, a little more than half of Savannah River site claims are denied, according to McClatchy's analysis of Office of Workers' Compensation data up to Nov. 16.

Workers or their families are often frustrated when they are told they still do not qualify, even after learning the worker may have been exposed to toxic substances, Leiton said.

"The ones that don't get paid, it's hard for them to understand," she said.

For the workers and families Roselle helps, qualifying for the program can be about more than the money.

"What's important to these workers is that the government recognizes the sacrifices that they made to their health in working there," she said. "I think they feel that this legislation and this money is a recognition of what they went through."

Police: Man beaten to death with hammers

ST. LOUIS — Police in St. Louis said they've arrested two juveniles and are seeking two other suspects after a Bosnian man was beaten to death with hammers.

Police said Zimir Begic, 32, was in his car early Sunday when several young people approached and began damaging it. He suffered injuries to his head, abdomen, face and mouth in the attack and was pronounced dead at a hospital.

About 50 people briefly blocked an intersection Sunday night to protest the killing of Begic, who moved to St. Louis this year.

The Post-Dispatch newspaper reported St. Louis police Chief Sam Dotson said the killing did not appear to be motivated by race or ethnicity. A motive hasn't been released.

Man who fell nude from ceiling to be evaluated

BOSTON — A man who police say fell naked through the ceiling of a woman's bathroom at Boston's airport and then assaulted an elderly man has agreed to get a mental health evaluation.

Cameron Shenk is charged with attempted murder, assault and lewd and lascivious conduct in the Nov. 22 incident at Logan International Airport.

A dangerousness hearing scheduled for Monday was canceled after Shenk agreed to undergo a mental health evaluation.

Police said Shenk, 26, sneaked inside a stall and climbed into the ceiling crawl space. He fell through the ceiling, fled the bathroom and allegedly assaulted an 84-year-old man.

Shenk's lawyer said last week that his client is a student studying economics at Harvard Extension School and has no history of mental illness.

City plans celebration for 'Charlie Brown' tree

READING, Pa. — A Pennsylvania city is fully embracing the Charlie Brown-esque Christmas tree it once rejected.

Officials in Reading are planning a Charlie Brown Day festival Dec. 20 to celebrate and spruce up the city's scrawny, 50-foot Norwegian pine.

The Reading Eagle reported Monday city officials hope to attract visitors who have followed the tree's saga through media coverage.

The city still plans to decorate the tree Saturday with a single red ornamental bulb — just like the scrawny tree in the beloved "Peanuts" holiday tale. More decorations will be added Dec. 20, echoing efforts by Charlie Brown's friends in "A Charlie Brown Christmas."

Reading officials tried replacing the puny pine after residents complained it was ugly but ran into logistical programs and decided to keep it.

From The Associated Press

St. Louis police group criticizes Rams players

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Police Officers Association has called on the NFL to publicly apologize and to discipline the five Rams players who stood with their hands raised before Sunday's game.

It was an apparent show of solidarity with Ferguson protesters in the wake of a grand jury's decision not to indict the white officer who shot and killed Michael Brown, who was black. Some witnesses said Brown had his hands up before being shot by officer Darren Wilson on Aug. 9. Wilson testified to the grand jury that Brown hit him and reached for his gun.

Before pregame introductions on Sunday, wide receivers Tavon Austin and Kenny Britt came out together with their hands raised, followed by Steedman Bailey, Jared Cook and Chris Givens.

The officers' association released a statement Sunday that said it was "profoundly disappointed" with the players, whose gesture it considered "tasteless, offensive and inflammatory."

"I know that there are those that will say that these players are simply exercising their First Amendment rights," association business manager Jeff Roorda said. "Well, I've got news for people who think that way, cops have first amendment rights too, and we plan to exercise ours."

NFL spokesman Brian McCarr-



LAURIE SKRYVAN, ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/AP

A clergy member assists a protester Sunday at Kiener Plaza in St. Louis. Protesters and police clashed following an NFL game between the St. Louis Rams and the Oakland Raiders as protests continued following a grand jury's decision not to indict a Ferguson police officer in the shooting of Michael Brown.

they provided a one-sentence response to a request for comment to the group's statement.

"We respect and understand the concerns of all individuals who have expressed views on this

tragic situation," he said in an email Monday.

Rams coach Jeff Fisher said he wasn't aware the gesture had been planned by the players, who are all black.

"I just think there has to be a change," tight end Cook said after the Rams' 52-0 rout. "There has to be a change that starts with the people that are most influential around the world."

NATION



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

Elizabeth Lauten resigned as communications director for Rep. Stephen Lee Fincher, R-Tenn., on Monday after her Facebook post about President Barack Obama's daughters Malia, right, and Sasha, center, during Wednesday's turkey pardon ceremony was criticized.

Hill staffer resigns after remarks about Obama daughters

By JOSE A. DELREAL
AND ED O'KEEFE
The Washington Post

Embattled congressional staffer Elizabeth Lauten has resigned amid a backlash over critical remarks she posted on Facebook on Friday about President Barack Obama's daughters.

Lauten, Tennessee Republican Rep. Stephen Lee Fincher's communications director, came under fire over the weekend after posting derogatory remarks about Sasha and Malia Obama regarding their appearance at the president's annual turkey pardoning. "Dear Sasha and Malia, I get you're both in those awful teen years, but you're a part of the First Family, try showing a little class," Lauten wrote. "Rise to the occasion. Act like being in the White House matters to you. Dress like you deserve respect, not a spot at a bar."

Lauten confirmed her resignation to The Washington Post on Monday morning.

Several media outlets pointed out that the two girls, ages 16 and 13, appeared bored while their father spoke during Wednesday's event. The exasperated looks on

the pair's faces were used to gently mock the annual pardon — a tradition which is sometimes described with ire in Washington — on social media Wednesday and Thursday and drew humorous headlines from publications such as USA Today and Gawker.

But Lauten's comments struck a nerve among critics who accused her of going too far and turning the two girls into political targets. Lauten's original post quickly went viral, inspiring blog posts and tweets condemning her choice of words. She issued an apology on Facebook hours after her initial post.

"When I first posted on Facebook I reacted to an article and I quickly judged the two young ladies in a way that I would never have wanted to be judged myself as a teenager," Lauten wrote Friday. "After many hours of prayer, talking to my parents, and re-reading my words online I can see more clearly just how hurtful my words were."

The president and first lady Michelle Obama have aggressively tried to shield the first daughters from the media spotlight during the family's six years in the White House.

Security firm: Snooipers mine email for stock info

The Associated Press

The cybersecurity company FireEye has unearthed a team of email intruders that snoop through the correspondence of company executives who may possess market-moving information.

FireEye said the team has carried out attacks against nearly 100 publicly traded companies or their advisory firms in possible attempts to flip the stock market. Most of the targets are health care or pharmaceutical companies. It noted that the shares of those firms can move dramatically after the announcement of clinical trial results, regulatory decisions or other significant

developments.

FireEye has labeled the group FIN4 and says it focuses on capturing usernames and passwords to email accounts, which gives the group access to private email correspondence. The group does not use malware, which helps it evade detection.

"FIN4 is the first time we are seeing a group of very sophisticated attackers actually systematically acquire information that only has true value to a criminal when used in relation to the stock market," FireEye Vice President Dan McWhorter said in a statement.

FireEye said the group sends convincing "phishing lures" to its

targets, often from the email accounts of other victims. The lures entice their targets into opening a document and entering their email credentials.

The security firm believes the group is based in the United States or Western Europe and involves native English speakers.

FireEye Inc. said Monday that the group has been operating since at least the middle of last year. It did not identify FIN4's targets.

Shares of FireEye climbed 46 cents to \$30.75 Monday morning while broader trading indexes fell slightly. Those shares had dropped about 30 percent so far this year, as of Friday.

Chinese investors sign up to fund road, earn US residency

The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — Chinese investors have begun signing up to spend \$500,000 each to help pay for a long-awaited connection between the Pennsylvania Turnpike and I-95.

In exchange, the investors hope to get permanent residency in the U.S. for themselves and their families.

Agents for the novel financing plan have been pitching the proposal in China since September, touting the project's financial stability and showcasing photos of outgoing Republican Gov. Tom Corbett and Turnpike Commission officials breaking ground for the construction in Bucks County.

"Guaranteed by U.S. Government, Class A+ Repayment Credit!" proclaimed the Chinese-language website promoting the investment last month. "A key expressway-connecting hub project in U.S.A.!"

(The website language has been toned down following inquiries by The Philadelphia Inquirer,

to remove suggestions of government guarantees for investors. Now, the site says, "Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission enjoys an A+ rating," a reference to the Standard & Poor's rating on turnpike revenue bonds, which aren't involved in this financing plan.)

More than 100 investors have applied so far to invest. The Turnpike Commission is counting on 400 wealthy foreign investors, mostly from China, to provide \$200 million for the \$420 million project.

The rest of the money will come from federal and turnpike funds.

The heavily indebted Turnpike Commission is borrowing the \$200 million from foreign investors under the federal Immigrant Investor Program that grants "EB-5" immigration visas to foreigners who provide at least \$500,000 to U.S. projects that create 10 or more American jobs.

The deal offers something for everyone. The turnpike will get cheap money, saving about \$35 million over traditional borrowing costs over five years. The

turnpike will pay a 2 percent annual interest rate, about half the current rate for municipal-bond borrowing. The foreign investors and their families will get a quick path to legal residence in the U.S., though they may lose money on their investment. The brokers and lawyers will collect millions in commissions and fees, with each of the 400 investors paying \$50,000 to the dealmakers and \$15,000 to the lawyers.

The first \$50 million installment from the foreign investors is due to be paid to the Turnpike Commission by April. The company created to make the deal, the Delaware Valley Regional Center, expects to meet that deadline, said Joseph P. Manheim, its managing director.

The deal was suggested to turnpike officials by Turnpike Commissioner Pasquale T. "Pat" Deon Sr., a Bucks County restaurateur, beer distributor and Republican power broker. Deon is also chairman of the board of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority.

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NATION

Study: Too many infants sleep with blankets

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Too many U.S. infants sleep with blankets, pillows or other unsafe bedding that may lead to suffocation or sudden infant death syndrome, despite guidelines recommending against the practice. That's according to researchers who say 17 years of national data show parents need to be better informed.

Researchers from the National Institutes of Health and federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention analyzed annual telephone surveys involving a total of nearly 20,000 parents. Almost seven out of eight used blankets or other soft bedding for their infants in 1993. That dropped sharply over the years, but by 2010, more than half still were

doing so. The practice was most common among young mothers, blacks and Hispanics.

The study was published Monday in *Pediatrics*.

Accidental suffocation in bed, though uncommon, is the leading cause of injury-related deaths in infants. While SIDS deaths have declined in recent years, they still totaled about 2,000 in 2010. Meantime, the suffocation rate doubled from 2000 to 2010, when about 640 infants died from accidental sleep-related suffocation, government data show.

For more than a decade, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the NIH and safety experts have warned parents against using soft bedding in infants' cribs, either over or under the baby. That includes blankets, quilts, cushi-



STEVE EARLEY, THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT/AP

Using a doll, Dr. Wendy Gunther demonstrates in Norfolk, Va., how an infant can die due to unsafe sleeping practices.

ony crib bumpers, pillows and soft toys.

That doesn't mean letting ba-

bies freeze; safe sleepwear is advised, including one-piece sleepers, and keeping the room at

a comfortable temperature.

The decline in SIDS deaths is often attributed to the government's Back to Sleep campaign emphasizing the importance of placing babies to sleep on their backs, not stomachs. To encompass other sleep-related risks, too, including suffocation, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and its partners renamed the effort the "Safe to Sleep" campaign in 2012. Safe practices include having babies sleep alone in cribs or bassinet, not on couches, water beds or sheepskin.

These infant deaths "are tragic and they're just not necessary," said study co-author Marian Willinger, a SIDS expert at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Girls Scouts cookie sales go online

By LEANNE ITALIE

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Watch out world, the Girl Scouts are going digital to sell your cookies.

For the first time in nearly 100 years, Girl Scouts of the USA will allow its young go-getters to push their wares using a mobile app or personalized websites.

But only if their Scout councils and guardians say it's OK.

"Girls have been telling us that they want to go into this space," said Sarah Angel-Johnson, chief digital cookie executive for the organization covering about 2 million girls. "Online is where entrepreneurship is going."

And the best news for these digital natives: They can have cookies shipped directly to your doorstep.

More than a million scouts, from kindergarten-age daisies to teens, were expected to opt in as cookie-selling season cranks up this month and the scouting organization gets digital sales underway. But digital sales are intended to enhance, not replace, the paper



COURTESY OF GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA/AP

Girl Scouts Olivia and Isabella practice selling cookies on one of two new digital platforms.

spreadsheets used to generate an estimated \$800 million in cookie sales a year — at anywhere from \$3.50 to \$5 a box, depending on the Scout council.

There are important caveats here, Scout officials said, such as better articulating and tracking goals, learning to handle customers and money in a new way and more efficiently processing credit card information.

"A lot of people have asked, 'What took you so long to get online?' We spend a lot of time thinking how do we make this safe, scalable and smart," Kelly M. Parisi, chief communications executive for Girl Scouts of the USA, said at a recent demonstration for select media.

Councils were offered one of the two platforms but not both. For Web-based sales, Scouts customize their pages, using their first names only, and email prospective customers with links to click on for orders. They can also put up videos explaining who they are and what they plan to do with their proceeds.

The mobile platform offers tabs for tracking sales and allows for the sale of bundles of different kinds of cookies. It can be used on a phone or tablet.

Some '12 Days of Christmas' items a bit pricier

By SEAN CARLIN

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The cost of six geese-a-laying spiked considerably this year, while most of the items in the carol. "The Twelve Days of Christmas," saw little to no increase, according to the 31st annual PNC Wealth Management Christmas Price Index.

A set of gifts in each verse of the song would set you back \$27,673 in stores, an increase of less than \$300 — or 1 percent — from last year. But shoppers turning to the Internet would see a bigger bump of about 8 percent over last year's Internet prices, bringing the set of gifts in each verse to \$42,959 online. Buyers looking to purchase all the items each time they were

Comparing this year's prices with last year's

- Partridge: \$20 this year vs. \$15 last year.
- Pear tree: \$188 vs. \$184.
- Two turtle doves: \$125, the same as last year.
- Three French hens: \$181 vs. \$165.
- Four calling birds (canaries): \$600, the same as last year.
- Five gold rings: \$750, the same as last year.
- Six geese-a-laying: \$360 vs. \$210.
- Seven swans a-swimming: \$7,000,

- the same as last year.
- Eight maids a-milking: \$58, the same as last year.
- Nine ladies dancing (per performance): \$7,553, the same as last year.
- 10 lords a-leaping (per performance): \$5,348 vs. \$5,243.
- 11 pipers piping (per performance): \$2,635, the same as last year.
- 12 drummers drumming (per performance): \$2,855, the same as last year.

SOURCE: PNC Wealth Management

mentioned in the song — 364, that is — would spend \$116,273, a modest 1.4 percent increase from a year ago.

PNC's sources for the Christ-

mas Price Index include retailers, the National Aviary in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia-based PHILADANCO and the Pennsylvania Ballet Company.

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WORLD

Police arrest 40 in Hong Kong as protests resume

By **KELVIN CHAN**
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Pro-democracy protesters clashed with police Monday as they tried to surround Hong Kong government headquarters to revitalize their flagging movement for democratic reforms after camping out on the city's streets for more than two months.

Repeating scenes that have become familiar since the movement began in late September, protesters carrying umbrellas — which have become symbols of the pro-democracy movement — battled police armed with pepper spray, batons and riot shields.

After student leaders told a big crowd rallying Sunday evening at the main protest site outside gov-

ernment headquarters that they would escalate their campaign, hundreds of protesters pushed past police lines on the other side of the complex from the protest site. They blocked traffic on a main road, but were stopped by police barricades from going down a side road to Chief Executive Leung Chun-Ying's office.

The protesters said they wanted to occupy the road to prevent Leung and other government officials from getting to work in the morning.

At one point, police charged the crowd, aggressively pushing demonstrators back with pepper spray and batons, after some protesters started pelting them with water bottles and other objects. Police later fell back, letting demonstrators re-occupy the road. At



VINCENT YU/AP

Police officers beat pro-democracy protesters as they try to disperse them outside government headquarters in Hong Kong on Monday. A government statement said 11 police were injured as a result.

dawn, police cleared the protesters from some areas around the government headquarters.

Police Senior Superintendent Tsui Wai-hung said 40 protesters had been arrested, adding that authorities would not let the road, a major thoroughfare, remain blocked.

A government statement said

11 police had been injured but didn't give a total injury count.

Protesters said they were taking action to force a response from Hong Kong's government, which has made little effort to address their demands that it scrap a plan by China's Communist leaders to use a panel of Beijing-friendly elites to screen candi-

dates for Hong Kong's leader in inaugural 2017 elections.

The government statement compared attempts to ignore the Beijing-dictated plan to "building castles in the air" and said it "would only delay the constitutional and democratic development of Hong Kong."

US businessman jailed in Russia over broken window

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Last year, he tried to bring superstar Tim Tebow to Moscow to play for his American football team on a \$1 million-per-game contract. Now, accused of breaking a window, American businessman Mike Zaltsman shares a packed jail cell with drug dealers.

Much has changed for the Bos-

ton entrepreneur since a dispute over an office he rented from a Russian billionaire escalated into a weeks-long standoff in downtown Moscow and ended with his arrest in April.

The case puts into relief the unpredictable business environment in Russia, where thousands of people have ended up in jail as the result of business disputes

or raids by business rivals. Even seemingly petty crimes are routinely used to keep people in Russian prisons for months or even years.

It is difficult to determine who is right and who is wrong in the murky property dispute. But Zaltsman's treatment, advocates say, is excessive by any standard. "The fact that he was jailed for

a broken window — this is cruel and sadly typical of Russia," said Yana Yakovleva, founder of the advocacy group Business Solidarity. Moscow police and investigators refused to comment on the Zaltsman case.

Zaltsman, who has dual Rus-

sian and U.S. citizenship, was accused of hooliganism — the same charge leveled against members of the feminist punk band Pussy Riot, landing them in a remote prison camp. If convicted, he could be imprisoned for up to seven years.

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WORLD

Ukraine gets loan to update gas pipelines

By PETER LEONARD
The Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukraine landed a \$187 million loan on Monday to modernize its section of the pipeline used to deliver natural gas from Russia to Europe.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk said optimization of the country's gas pipelines would lower the cost of transporting the fuel by 20 percent.

The loan is being provided to state-owned pipeline operator Ukrtransgaz by the European Union's lender, the European Investment Bank.

Yatsenyuk said refurbishment of Ukraine's section of the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod pipeline will boost energy efficiency and will reduce harmful emissions.

Almost 75 miles of pipelines will be replaced and two compressor stations modernized under the project. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is expected to contribute another \$200 million in loans for the same planned four-year reconstruction effort.

Yatsenyuk said he hopes a

Kyrgyz company will carry out the project, which he said could boost the economy.

The pipeline system has the capacity to supply Europe with 142.5 billion cubic meters of gas annually.

Russia for years has been pursuing pipeline projects intended to reduce its reliance on transit through Ukraine. Commercial and political disputes have led to the suspension of gas supplies to Europe in the past.

One Moscow-backed project is South Stream, which would see gas transported from Russia through the Black Sea to Bulgaria and other European countries, bypassing Ukraine's pipelines.

Yatsenyuk said recent electoral wins for EU parties in Bulgaria and Moldova, which held its parliamentary vote Sunday, could signal a downturn in the fortunes of South Stream.

"I hope Ukraine will not be bypassed by South Stream," he said Monday. "South Stream is a Russian political project."

Instead, he urged more European and U.S. investment in the Ukrainian gas transit system.



BALINT SZLANKO/AP

A schoolteacher listens to a student's answer as it is broadcast during a live link Friday in a classroom in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine.

War-hit Ukraine schools use the Web for education

By BALINT SZLANKO
The Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine — Like most children his age, Denis Akimov spends hours daily on his computer surfing the Internet. It isn't just for fun.

As schools are forced to limit operations in the conflict-battered eastern Ukrainian city of Donetsk, educators are turning to the Web to keep their charges learning.

It is an ingenious solution, even if it is denying students valuable interaction with teachers and their friends.

"It's not comparable to normal school, because there is no proper atmosphere for studying," said Akimov, 15, sitting in front of a laptop in the living room of his home. "Very often you get distracted because of all kinds of things, like websites."

Schools and kindergartens haven't been spared death and destruction in the past seven months of fighting between government forces and Russian-backed separatists.

In early November, a sports field at a high school in Donetsk was hit by shells, killing two teenagers as they were playing soccer. The warring sides blamed one another and more parents were terrified into reconsidering whether their children could be let out of their sight.

The rebel-held city's education department says 50 out of the 150 schools in Donetsk have now switched to distance learning. City authorities estimate about 45 percent of Donetsk's schoolchildren — about 32,000 students — are now educated that way.

Andriy Udovenko, head of the Donetsk education department, said school closures have hap-

pened mainly in the districts most heavily affected by shelling. Four school buildings in Donetsk have been severely damaged. Dozens of others have had milder damage.

Despite the dangers, Udovenko said that students are displaying a formidable eagerness to continue their schooling.

“Very often you get distracted because of all kinds of things, like websites.”

Denis Akimov
Donetsk, Ukraine, resident who attends school via the Internet

"I have worked as a headmaster for 20 years and I have never seen as much desire to learn among the children as we are seeing now," he said.

Headmistress Viktoria Koval said her school has been lucky, though windows there were shattered during a shelling at-

"Kids happily come to school. What is more, when I meet their parents every day at the entrance, I can see they're not afraid to leave them," Koval said. "They know their kids will be in a warm and cozy atmosphere, and that they'll be provided with help should they need it."

Despite teachers' best efforts, schools like Koval's feel half-abandoned and lack the normal bustle of a building teeming with children.

For those who have difficulty leaving their homes, the Internet is the only option. Under the distance-learning program, teachers send study materials and homework to their students by email. Much of the instruction, itself, is posted on school-created websites or is done through video tutorials uploaded onto video-sharing sites like YouTube.

Children are expected to pay regular visits to their schools to have their work checked and to receive abbreviated classes typically attended by a handful of students.

Reliance on study through the Internet has its shortcomings, Akimov explained.

"It is harder with the math lessons, because it is difficult to present the work, as you can't type (all of) the mathematical symbols," he said.

Akimov extends the air of a diligent and hard-working student, but the security situation has kept him from visiting his school for weeks.

"The district where my school is located is under constant shelling, so only three of my classmates are attending, because they live in the neighborhood," he said.



ALEXANDER ZEMLIANCHENKO/AP

People walk past a display with currency exchange rates Monday in central Moscow.

Russian ruble takes a dive as oil price drops

By NATALIYA VASILYEVA
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's ruble hit a new all-time low on Monday, shedding 15 percent in the previous week. The ruble was also down 5 percent as the euro.

Battered by low oil prices and the conflict in eastern Ukraine, the ruble has been declining throughout the year, losing about 42 percent of its value since January.

The Kremlin, which in the past supported the exchange rate by buying up the rubles, says it considers the pressure on the currency to be speculative and is happy for it to remain freely floated in markets.

The price of oil, the backbone of the Russian economy, has dropped roughly 25 percent since the summer. Brent crude, an international benchmark, fell 3 percent on Friday and was down another 1 percent on Monday to \$69.47 per barrel.

The recent slide follows OPEC's decision last week to leave its production target unchanged. Member nations of the cartel are worried they'll lose market share if they lower production, which could have helped to push up the price.

WORLD

S. Korean ship sinks in Bering Sea; 52 missing

By **KIM TONG-HYUNG**

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Rescuers searched Monday for 52 people missing after a South Korean fishing ship they were working on sank in the Bering Sea, an official said. At least one

person died.

Authorities rescued seven crew members and recovered one body, but weather and water conditions were complicating the search for the others, the official, from the South Korean fisheries and oceans ministry, said on condition of anonymity because of of-

fice rules.

The crew included 35 Indonesians, 13 Filipinos, 11 South Koreans and one Russian inspector. The ship sank in the western part of the Bering Sea, near Russia.

The ministry official said it's believed that the ship, which was catching pollock, began to list

after stormy weather caused seawater to flood its storage areas. The official said the 2,100-ton ship was 35 years old.

The South Korean foreign ministry said it asked Russian officials to work quickly to rescue the other crew members.

Kim Kang-ho from Sajo Indus-

tries, which owns the ship, said it left for the Bering Sea from a port in Busan, South Korea, on July 10.

There are five South Korean-owned ships currently fishing in the Bering Sea to catch pollock, which is a winter delicacy in South Korea, Kim said.

Japan's opposition struggles against Abe in debate

By **MARI YAMAGUCHI**

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe largely deflected attacks on his management of the economy and other policies as he faced off Monday against leaders of six opposition parties in a debate on the eve of the start of official campaigning for this month's elections.

Instead of Abe's opponents successfully poking holes in his policies, the two-hour debate turned into an Abe news conference, with the prime minister deftly dealing with the many questions posed to him by the debate's participants and selected journalists.

Abe also defended his visit a year ago to Yasukuni shrine, which honors Japan's war dead, including executed war criminals. He said that it's up to historians and not him to decide who was responsible for Japan's World War II-era aggression, but that he should pay respects to those who sacrificed their lives for the nation.

Abe dissolved the lower house of parliament on Nov. 20 and called the snap polls, seeking a renewed public mandate for his economic policies. He's portraying the Dec. 14 elections as a referendum on his economic revitalization policies, known as Abenomics, and the postponement of a tax increase — from the current 8 percent to 10 percent — that had been set for next October.

The dissolution of the lower house is largely seen as an attempt by Abe to clean his Cabinet, which has faced a series of financial scandals since a September reshuffle, and to prolong his rule for as long as another four years.

Abe said during the debate that the economy and employment have improved since he took office two years ago and vowed to continue with Abenomics, despite criticism from most opposition leaders that the measures have largely benefited big businesses and ignored consumers.

"We are only halfway through, but this is the only way," Abe said.

Asked who he thinks was responsible for Japan's wartime history, he said, "It's not a matter of who should be held responsible. It's a matter of one's heart, religion, or a



Above: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, right, speaks as Japan Innovation Party leader Kenji Eda, left, listens during a debate Monday by leaders of eight Japanese political parties at the Japan National Press Club in Tokyo. Left: Leaders of the eight political parties join hands at the start of their debate for the lower house election to be held Dec. 14. From left are Ichiro Ozawa, People's Life Party; Takeo Hiranuma, The Party for Future Generations; Kenji Eda, the Japan Innovation Party; Abe, the Liberal Democratic Party; Banri Kaieda, the Democratic Party of Japan; Natsuo Yamaguchi, the New Komeito party; Kazuo Shii, the Japanese Communist Party; and Tadatoshi Yoshida, chair of the Social Democratic Party.

PHOTOS BY KOJI SASAHARA/AP

principle of life." He has said in the past that Japanese who were convicted by a postwar tribunal are not considered criminals in Japan.

"We should leave the question of what had caused the past war to historians to

decide," he said Monday.

Abe's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, which has been in power for most of the post-World War II era, may lose some seats in the elections but is likely to retain a solid majority with its coalition partner in the

475-seat lower house. Abe's LDP and its smaller coalition partner, Komei, had 326 seats.

Abe set a rather modest goal for the ruling bloc to win a majority, or at least 238 seats.

Video of sisters fighting off male harassers shocks India

The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — A video showing two sisters in northern India hitting back at men who allegedly harassed them on a crowded bus has drawn huge attention in a country where hundreds of thousands of women silently endure sexual harassment daily.

The video, filmed by a passen-

ger and aired on several television channels Monday, shows the two young women hitting, punching and beating their harassers with a belt as other passengers silently look on.

The women, identified only by their first names, Arati and Pooja, told reporters that they lashed out at the men after enduring lewd comments and pawing

from them.

"No one came to our help. In fact, they tried to stop us and scare us by saying the men would come for us and attack us or throw acid on us," one of the sisters told New Delhi Television channel.

Press Trust of India reported Monday that the video was shot Friday as the sisters were on

their way to college. The video drew a massive response on social media.

By late Sunday, police in the state of Haryana had arrested three men and were investigating the incident.

Sexual violence and harassment faced by Indian women has been the subject of a heated debate in India since the fatal gang

rape of a young woman on a moving bus in New Delhi in December 2012.

Hundreds of thousands of Indians took to the streets in protest after that gruesome attack. The anger pushed the government to overhaul laws to make for more stringent measures to fight attacks against women.

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NATION

Silicon

So long, Silicon Valley. These days entrepreneurs and engineers are flocking to a place better known for surfing waves than the Web. Amid the palm trees and purple sunsets of the Southern California coastline, techies have built "Silicon Beach."

BEACH

brings tech boom to Los Angeles



Epoxy TV employees work at the company's headquarters in a Venice, Calif., complex formerly occupied by the late actor Dennis Hopper.

By RYAN NAKASHIMA AND MICHAEL LIEDTKE
The Associated Press

In the past few years Google, Microsoft, Facebook and YouTube have opened offices on the west side of Los Angeles from Santa Monica south to Venice and Playa del Rey. They are joined by hundreds of startups including Hulu, Demand Media and Snapchat, which nixed a \$3 billion takeover offer from Facebook. Major Hollywood players like The Walt Disney Co. and Time Warner Inc.'s Warner Bros.

have launched startup accelerators to help local tech entrepreneurs. The city of Los Angeles even hired its first chief technology officer, former Qualcomm executive Peter Marx, earlier this year.

"Historically, Silicon Valley has been the center of gravity for tech and startups but I think more and more, these types of companies can be built anywhere," said Erik Rannala, who moved from San Francisco to Los Angeles with his entrepreneurial partner William Hsu several years ago.

Rannala and Hsu oversee MuckerLab, a technology incubator in Santa Monica, Calif., that has invested in 45 startups such as flower marketplace BloomNation and online tuxedo rental outfit The Black Tux. Many of the ideas for the companies were hatched in MuckerLab's concrete-walled space, which is covered with white boards and sticky tabs.

The vibe is eclectic. No office-park chic here. Companies allocate ample space for bikes and surfboards so employees can hit the beach after work. Social media software maker Epoxy TV, founded by Juan Bruce and Jason Ahmad is located in a Venice complex formerly owned by the

late actor Dennis Hopper. They still get his mail. One of Hopper's sculptures adorns the yard and inside, there's a staircase to nowhere designed by renowned Los Angeles architect Frank Gehry. The Venice scene also has helped online razor service Dollar Shave Club recruit employees, according to founder and Philadelphia native Michael Dubin.

"It's very different to be in the heart of Venice than to be in the heart of Mountain View," said Epoxy TV's Ahmad. "Culturally it's just a vastly different place."

What's happening here is part of a growing movement of U.S.

"Historically, Silicon Valley has been the center of gravity for tech and startups but I think more and more, these types of companies can be built anywhere."

Erik Rannala
co-founder, MuckerLab

cities seeking to duplicate the formula that turned northern California's Silicon Valley, slightly south of San Francisco, into a hive of society-shifting innovation and immense wealth. Cupertino-based Apple Inc., Mountain View's Google Inc. and Menlo Park-based Facebook Inc. collectively have created

more than \$1 trillion in shareholder wealth while routinely paying employees six-figure salaries, generous benefits and stock options that can generate multimillion-dollar windfalls.

All the prosperity has caused the cost of living in Silicon Valley to soar. It's nearly impossible to buy even a small home for less than \$1 million in San Francisco and many other nearby cities. Tiny apartments can cost \$2,500 to \$3,500 per month.

Prices like those are one more reason that less expensive, but still enticing places like Los Angeles make sense to tech entrepreneurs, said Chris DeWolfe, who runs a rapidly growing company called the Social Gaming Network in Beverly Hills.

The only thing that remains as a major benchmark for Los Angeles is to give birth to a city-de-



PHOTOS BY JAE C. HONG/AP

The relocation of tech companies to southern California is part of a growing movement to duplicate the formula that turned northern California's Silicon Valley into a mecca of society-shifting innovation and immense wealth.



MuckerLab founders Erik Rannala, left, and William Hsu moved their company from San Francisco to Los Angeles several years ago.

fining company in the same way that Facebook, Google and Apple have defined Silicon Valley, or how Amazon and Microsoft have reshaped the Seattle region.

On the other opposite side of the U.S., New York's "Silicon Alley" has been a high-tech cove for the past 15 years. Boston and Washington also have had some success cultivating a vibrant technology scene, though neither city has coined a catchy nickname

that has stuck. Billionaire Steve Case, who co-founded AOL Inc. in Virginia, is trying to spread the tech gospel in U.S. cities that have been brushed off as rusty relics of a bygone industrial era.

In June, Case visited more than 100 entrepreneurs and startups during a bus tour of Detroit, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Nashville, Tenn., that he called the "Rise of the Rest." This month he followed up with another round of technol-

ogy-preaching stops in Minneapolis, St. Louis; Madison, Wis.; Des Moines, Iowa; and Kansas City, Mo.

DeWolfe said he had trouble luring technology engineers to Beverly Hills a decade ago when he was trying to expand MySpace, the social networking forerunner to Facebook that he co-founded. That's no longer a problem now that there's a steady stream of students graduating with engineering degrees from local colleges like CalTech, UCLA and USC, said Marx, Los Angeles' chief technology officer.

Those students are flocking to universities inspired by Southern California's own success stories, including Internet search engine Overture Services of Pasadena, which Yahoo Inc. bought for \$1.3 billion; MySpace, which News Corp. bought for \$650 million; YouTube channel producer Maker Studios of Culver City, which sold to Disney in May for up to \$950 million; and virtual reality headset maker Oculus of Irvine, which agreed to a \$2 billion sale to Facebook in March.

Meanwhile, venture capitalists continue to pour more money into Southern California startups. In the first nine months of this year, venture capitalists invested \$1.6 billion in startups based in Los Angeles County and neighboring Orange County. That's up 26 percent from the same time last year, according to figures compiled by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the National Venture Capital Association.

That's still a pittance compared with Silicon Valley, where venture capital investments nearly doubled to \$17 billion during the same period.

DeWolfe, who shuttles between Social Gaming Network's Beverly Hills headquarters and a San Francisco office, doubts Silicon Beach will ever come close to matching Silicon Valley's technology prowess. "There is something about Silicon Valley lore that you will never be able to reproduce, no matter how much you say you want to," he said.

SHIFTING GEARS

Toyota brings fuel cell future into focus

By SUSAN CARPENTER

The Orange County (Calif.) Register

As Toyota sees it, the future isn't some fuzzy, far-off point in the distance. It's here in the form of a midsize sedan I was able to drive last month, when the Japanese automaker made its bold bet on hydrogen.

It takes little more than a glance to understand the Mirai fuel cell vehicle is different. Whether it's the dramatic air intakes at both front corners that force oxygen to interact with the key ingredient that generates onboard electricity, or a tail pipe that slowly drips water, the Mirai reads as a sedan while simultaneously hinting at what's happening under the hood.

Upon opening the driver-side door and sliding into its leatherette seats, it's clear the Mirai is similarly futuristic inside. Starting at the premium price of \$57,500, or \$499 per month to lease, the interior fit and finish is a hybrid, so to speak, of the Prius and a more upscale Lexus. Its black interior feels modern, with a swipe screen housed in shiny piano black and offset with bright blue buttons and silver trimming.

Prius drivers will recognize the two-tier dash, the top level of which displays the most pertinent EV information, such as what drive mode it's in, how much power it's using and, most importantly for a vehicle that is supported by only 10 refueling stations in all of California at present, how many miles until it's empty.

The Mirai can travel up to 300 miles on a full tank and refills in about five minutes.

In my 40 minutes with the Mirai, I drove past one of those fueling stations and stopped to refuel at the one Southern California station that is blazing a trail for renewably produced hydrogen. Run by the Orange County Sanitation District, it's designed to transform the methane generated on site at the wastewater treatment plant into hydrogen that can be pumped into cars. A demonstration project, the station is currently supplied with hydrogen that is trucked in, but it's expected the plant will resume hydrogen-making operations early next year.

Because the Mirai's two hydrogen fuel tanks are located behind the rear seats, the fuel door is in the same place where it's normally found on a gas-powered car.

The tanks' location means the rear seat accommodates only two passengers, similar to the current-generation Chevrolet Volt. The two seats are bisected with a large cubby/armrest outfitted with cup holders and controls for the heated seats.

All four seats are heatable. They are also moderately bolstered and comfortable.

The Mirai weighs 4,050 pounds, but the weight of its fuel cell stack is centered and low, so



The 2016 Toyota Mirai

TNS photos

2016 Toyota Mirai fuel cell vehicle



Base price: \$57,500*
Powertrain: Hydrogen fuel cell coupled with hybrid synergy drive.
Horsepower: 153.
Torque: 247 lb.-ft.
Curb weight: 4,050 pounds.
Range: Up to 300 miles.
Refuel time: About 5 minutes.
Availability: California, fall 2015.

*Before applying \$8,000 federal tax credit and \$5,000 California Clean Vehicle Program rebate

TNS

it didn't handle like a sled. That said, I was aware of its weight in the form of a solid ride that felt planted and responsive enough in the corners.

The only sound was the whir of its electric motor. Even at highway speeds, the Mirai was quiet — a combination of it being an electric car whose fuel cell stack is under the front seats and it being housed in carbon fiber reinforced plastic, which helps damp road noise.

The Mirai can be driven in two modes. Eco numbs the accelerator feel; power is more satisfying. It took little pedal effort to unbr-

dle its full accelerative potential, which Toyota estimates at 0 to 60 mph in about nine seconds.

Available in California starting next fall for lease as well as outright purchase, the Mirai can be had in a single trim and four colors — gray, black, white and blue. Only one other option will be offered: Power Takeoff is a plug that's housed in the trunk and can be used to turn the car into a backup power generator during electricity blackouts.

That trunk is another area the interior has been compromised due to its unique hydrogen power train. The two fuel tanks, which sit under and behind the rear seats, impinge a bit on its space but nowhere near as severely as a CNG car.

Given that the Mirai is carrying twin tanks of potentially explosive hydrogen, Toyota has built in multiple safety features as standard equipment, including adaptive cruise control to maintain a safe following distance and a lane-keeping assistant that notifies the driver when he's about to veer off path.

Coming in a bit hot to a red light behind an SUV, I learned about another safety feature when the Mirai engaged its collision mitigation braking system on my behalf, tensioning the seat belts and preloading the brakes with maximum force to avoid impact. Under normal braking conditions, being an electric car, the Mirai is outfitted with regenerative brakes to help recapture the kinetic energy from slowing and feed it back to the powertrain to enhance range.



With its Mirai, Toyota has built a production hydrogen vehicle that walks the tight rope between mainstream acceptance

and a brave new world in a car that balances the familiar with the new.

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AMERICAN ROUNDUP

\$1K reward offered for tips in horse hair theft

WY ROCK SPRINGS — Horse owners in rural Sweetwater County are posting a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of whoever might be cutting hair off the tails of their animals.

Apparent thefts have occurred in the Jamestown and Farson areas in just the past week.

Sweetwater County Sheriff's Office spokesman Dick Blust said the office has received four reports of horse hair thefts in the past six months. Some horses got hit multiple times.

Blust said horse hair can be a valuable commodity used in jewelry, bolo ties, belts, bracelets and even violin bows.

Police: Man fled crash to avoid girlfriend

NJ VINELAND — Police in New Jersey said a man told officers he fled the scene of an auto accident because he "didn't want to deal with his girlfriend yelling at him."

Police said David Scarpa was having an argument with his girlfriend Sunday night when he backed into a utility pole in Cumberland County.

The caller who reported the hit-and-run said he heard people "yelling" and then heard a bang and saw debris on the ground by the pole.

Police said Scarpa, 21, then took off and didn't report the accident immediately.

Scarpa went to police headquarters to turn himself in Monday.

Police said Scarpa was charged with leaving the scene of an accident and reckless driving.

Trooper saves heavily bleeding motorist

IN INDIANAPOLIS — A state trooper likely saved the life of a man bleeding heavily from one of his legs after he was struck by a car along a highway in Indianapolis.

State Police said Latin McKinney, 25, of Indianapolis was working to jump-start his stalled vehicle early Saturday along Interstate 465 when his sister saw a car heading toward them and shouted for him to move.

Police said McKinney tried to jump out of the way but was struck in the leg, which began bleeding heavily.

Trooper David Ploog rushed to the scene and applied a one-handed tourniquet to McKinney's injured leg and tightened it until the bleeding stopped.

Ploog said he knew immediately the bleeding "would have to be stopped or he could bleed to death rather quickly."

Burglars strike while family grieves at viewing

UT OGDEN — Police are searching for burglars who made off with about \$35,000 worth of items from an Ogden home while a grieving family was attending a viewing for a deceased family member.

Kristin and Jeff Millard and

THE CENSUS

2,160

The weight in pounds of marijuana found hidden within 12 freezers inside a truck. Martin Gonzalez Medina, 51, of Indianapolis, pleaded guilty to possession with the intent to distribute 100 kilograms or more of marijuana. Authorities said investigators had been tracking the lease of a Fort Wayne, Ind., warehouse. During an April raid, Drug Enforcement Agency agents found the marijuana in the truck.



PATRICK DOODSON, THE (SCHENECTADY, N.Y.) DAILY GAZETTE/AP

Santa swoops in

Above: Children rush toward Santa Claus after he and three elves parachuted down with Saratoga Skydiving at Ellms Family Farms in Ballston Spa, N.Y., on Saturday.

Left: Santa Claus steers his parachute to the landing site.

Police said Hunt ran to a car and drove away. Given the potential threat to public safety, the police declined to pursue her in the busy parking lot.

But Hunt didn't make an escape. Instead, she drove in circles.

Police laid a spike strip down and Hunt drove over it, deflating two of her tires.

The pair face multiple charges.

Woman accused of DUI, hitting pedestrian

NM FARMINGTON — Police in Farmington said a woman who was suspected of driving drunk and hit a pedestrian has been arrested on her third DUI charge.

Police allege that Gwendolyn Joe, 35, struck the female victim just after 3:30 p.m. Friday and fled the scene.

Officers found her and booked her on charges of DUI causing great bodily harm, leaving the scene of an accident and other traffic-related offenses.

They said it is the suspect's third time being charged with DUI.

The victim was taken to San Juan Regional Medical Center for her injuries and was released later in the day.

Crashes in dust storm send 10 to hospital

ID IDAHO FALLS — Authorities said a chain-reaction crash during a dust storm in southeastern Idaho sent 10 people to the hospital.

Idaho State Police said the crashes involving nine vehicles shut down both directions of Interstate 15 south of the Idaho Fall on Saturday afternoon for about seven hours.

A police statement says "many of the drivers were driving too fast when entering the dust storm with zero visibility, causing a chain reaction crash."

Ten people were taken to hospitals, but there was no immediate word on their conditions.

Bears found near hot tubs at condo complex

CO STEAMBOAT SPRINGS — Some black bears have taken shelter under a deck near the hot tubs outside a Steamboat Springs condominium complex, and property managers are worried they might try to hibernate there.

Steamboat Springs Today reported Friday that three

bears were driven out from under the deck of The Pines condominiums.

A maintenance worker spotted one bear when he opened a hatch on the deck near hot tubs. After consulting with state wildlife officials, a crew dropped firecrackers under the deck and three bears fled.

Property managers said the bears have damaged electrical systems and insulation under the deck.

NYPD officer held on drunken-driving charge

NY NEW YORK — Authorities said a New York City police officer was arrested on a drunken-driving charge after he left the scene of a fender bender.

Police said Aaron Sanchez was arrested Friday about 11:30 p.m. after he got into the accident at a Queens intersection.

They said the driver followed him and called police, who stopped him. Police said he was arrested after an officer noticed Sanchez had bloodshot eyes and smelled of alcohol.

Sanchez was arrested on charges of drunken driving and leaving the scene of an accident.

From wire reports

FACES

Rocking it old school

Shake-ups not keeping AC/DC from promoting album, planning tour

By MESPIN FEKADU
The Associated Press

Australian rock band AC/DC finally joined iTunes in 2012 after years of refusing to do so, but make no mistake, the band is still old school. “I would like everybody to buy vinyl again,” guitarist Angus Young said in an interview. “That’s my favorite.”

He continued with a loud laugh: “They ought to make them portable — iVinyl.”

AC/DC, which has enjoyed four decades of success, released “Rock or Bust,” its first album in six years, today. It is the follow-up to “Black Ice,” which sold 784,000 units during its first week in 2008.

The band has yet to join Spotify, something Young said is possible.

“I guess, if it’s doing a good service. I mean, we’ll certainly entertain the idea, I suppose,” he said, though Cliff Williams followed with the question: “Is it like Pandora? I’ve heard of it.”

“Rock or Bust,” which has received favorable reviews, is a typical AC/DC album and one the band hopes fans will listen to on record players, in addition to iPhones. It was recorded in May.

“You want people to put it on and go, ‘That’s AC/DC and no one else,’” Young said.

In a recent interview, the two members were full of laughter and good energy as they discussed their new music and upcoming world tour planned for next year. But the band is in the midst of turmoil and tragedy despite its success: Drummer Phil Rudd was recently charged with threatening to kill, and guitarist Malcolm Young, who has dementia, left the group in September.

Rudd, who showed up late to court in New Zealand last week and clowned around by jumping on the back of one of his security guards, is also charged with possessing methamphetamine and marijuana.

Young said Rudd was acting strangely at the band recorded “Rock or Bust” and were starting to promote it. They plan to go



AMY SUSSMAN, INVISION/AP

AC/DC bassist Cliff Williams, left, and guitarist Angus Young have been busy lately, promoting their album “Rock or Bust,” the band’s first new release since 2008. “You want people to put it on and go, ‘That’s AC/DC and no one else,’” Young said.

Below: The band performs in 2003.



tour without him, he said.

Young, 59, said his older brother, Malcolm, is doing fine, but couldn’t play any longer.

“It was progressing further, but he knew he couldn’t do it. ... He had continued as long as he could, still writing. But he said to me, ‘Keep it going,’” Young said.

Malcolm, 61, is being replaced by their nephew, Stevie Young, who filled in for Malcolm during AC/DC’s U.S. tour in 1988. Stevie also plays on “Rock or Bust.”

The band members said they’re extremely happy with the outcome of the new album, especially Brian Johnson’s vocals.

“He was sounding great from (the) get-go. He was a bit worried,” Young said.

“We were upstairs, but we could hear him from downstairs. He was sounding great. He still ... sounds rather anemic, in a rough sort of way,” he said, laughing again.

‘Mockingjay’ draws post-holiday viewers

Looks like moviegoers wanted another helping.

“The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part One” ruled the Thanksgiving holiday box office for a second weekend in a row with \$56.9 million, according to studio estimates Sunday. The total haul for the latest installment of the dystopian series starring Jennifer Lawrence stands at \$225.7 million domestically and \$254.4 million internationally.

“Penguins of Madagascar” opened in second place with \$25.8 million. “Penguins” fared better overseas, where the film earned an additional \$36 million.

Disney’s animated romp “Big Hero 6” and Paramount’s space-time saga “Interstellar” respectively held onto the third and fourth positions with \$18.7 million and \$15.8 million in their fourth weekend at the box office. The domestic total for “Big Hero 6” has ballooned to \$167.2 million, while filmmaker Christopher Nolan’s “Interstellar” is orbiting \$14.7 million.

The Warner Bros. comedy sequel “Horrible Bosses 2” with Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis and Charlie Day reprising their roles from the original 2011 movie debuted in fifth place with \$15.7 million.

Cosby offers refunds for NY ticket holders

Bill Cosby is still performing at a suburban New York venue Dec. 6, but the embattled comic is offering refunds to ticket holders who don’t want to go.

Ticket holders got an email from the box office Nov. 28 offering refunds. The email said Cosby’s management would reimburse patrons who don’t want to attend the show.

Cosby shows in some other states have been canceled after women came forward alleging he sexually assaulted them. More than 30 shows remain on his schedule through May 2015.

Cosby has denied the allegations against him.

Other news

■ Young adult author **Veronica Roth** is backing a holiday season campaign that supports First Book, which distributes books to children in need. For every \$2.50 given to First Book, publisher HarperCollins will donate a copy of Roth’s “Divergent.”

■ Former “Jersey Shore” reality TV star **Nicole “Snooki” Polizzi** married Gianni LaValle on Nov. 29 in East Hanover, N.J. Seventeen groomsmen and 15 bridesmaids attended the ceremony, which had a “Great Gatsby” theme. Polizzi and LaValle have two children, ages 2 and 2 months.

■ **Mark Strand**, a Pulitzer Prize winner and former U.S. poet laureate, died Nov. 29 of liposarcoma. He was 80.

■ Author **Ken Kesey**, who wrote “Plainsong” and several other novels set in small-town Colorado, died Sunday at age 71 of cancer.

From The Associated Press

Author Woodson responds to Handler’s racist joke

The Associated Press

Author Jacqueline Woodson addressed Daniel Handler’s (aka Lemony Snicket) racist joke with an unflinching response in The New York Times on Nov. 28.

Handler previously made offhanded comments about Woodson being allergic to watermelon while hosting the National Book Awards. Woodson was accepting an award in the young adult category for her latest book, “Brown Girl Dreaming.”

Amid waves of criticism and backlash over the comments, Handler has since apologized and donated \$110,000 to the grassroots organization We Need Diverse Books while Woodson issued an indirect statement through her publisher.

Woodson’s essay in the Times takes Handler’s comments head on. Titled “The Pain of the Watermelon Joke,” Woodson explores her own background and the evolution of her understanding of the racially charged significance of the watermelon. By the time she was

11 years old, she explains, the fruit had become repulsive to her.

“By making light of that deep and troubled history, he showed that he believed we were at a point where we could laugh about it all. His historical context, unlike my own, came from a place of ignorance,” Woodson writes.

Like her previous statement, Woodson uses the essay to re-frame the situation by focusing on positive change in a time when the lack of diverse voices in literature has become all too apparent.

Woodson’s mission, she explains, is “to write stories that have been historically absent in this country’s body of literature, to create mirrors for the people who so rarely see themselves inside contemporary fiction, and windows for those who think we are no more than the stereotypes they’re so afraid of.”

“To give young people — and all people — a sense of this country’s brilliant and brutal history, so that no one ever thinks they can walk onto a stage one evening and laugh at another’s too often painful past.”

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Amazon's new robot army set to ship

By **BRANDON BAILEY**
The Associated Press

TRACY, Calif. — A year ago, Amazon.com workers like Reynaldo Rosales walked the aisles each shift to find each item a customer ordered to prepare it for shipping.

Now the e-commerce giant boasts that it has boosted efficiency by deploying more than 15,000 wheeled robots to crisscross the floors of its biggest warehouses to deliver stacks of toys, books and other products to employees.

“We pick two to three times faster than we used to,” Rosales, 34, said during a break from sorting merchandise into bins at Amazon’s massive distribution center in Tracy, Calif. “It’s made the job a lot easier.”

Amazon.com Inc., which faced its single biggest day of online shopping on Monday, has invested heavily this year in upgrading and expanding its distribution network, adding new technology, opening more shipping centers

and hiring 80,000 seasonal workers to meet the coming onslaught of holiday orders.

Amazon says it processed orders for 36.8 million items on the Monday after Thanksgiving last year, and it’s expecting “Cyber Monday” to be even busier this year.

CEO Jeff Bezos vows to be one day delivery packages by drone, but that technology isn’t ready yet.

Even so, Amazon doesn’t want a repeat of last year, when some customers were disappointed by late deliveries attributed to Midwestern ice storms and last-minute shipping troubles at both UPS and FedEx. Meanwhile, the company is facing tough competition from rivals like Google and eBay, and traditional retailers are offering more online services.

Amazon has forecast revenue of \$27.3 billion to \$30.3 billion for the holiday quarter, up 18 percent from last year but less than Wall Street had expected. However, Amazon has invested billions of dollars in its shipping network,



BRANDON BAILEY/AP

A Kiva robot drive unit sits under another set to move a stack of merchandise pods Sunday at an Amazon distribution center in Tracy, Calif.

and its reliability is a big selling point to customers, Piper Jaffray investment analyst Gene Munster wrote in a note to clients Friday.

The Seattle-based company now has 159 shipping centers around the globe. The Tracy facility is one of 10 in which Amazon has deployed the robots, using technology acquired when the company bought robot maker

Kiva Systems Inc. in 2012, said Dave Clark, Amazon’s senior vice president for operations, who gave reporters a tour Sunday.

More than 1,500 full-time employees work at the center. They are joined by about 3,000 robots, gliding swiftly and quietly around the warehouse. The robots navigate by scanning coded stickers on the floor, following digital commands that are beamed wirelessly from a central computer.

The system uses bar codes to track which items are on each shelf, so a robot can fetch the right shelves for each worker as orders come in.

The robots will cut the Tracy center’s operating costs by 20 percent, Clark said. But he was quick to assert they won’t eliminate jobs.

“Our focus is all about building automation that helps people do their jobs better,” he said, adding that workers are needed for more complex tasks such as shelving, packing and checking for damaged items.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Dec. 2)	\$1.2801
Dollar buys (Dec. 2)	€0.7812
British pound (Dec. 2)	\$1.61
Japanese yen (Dec. 2)	115.00
South Korean won (Dec. 2)	1,088.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.5762/£1.0345
Canada (dollar)	1.1365
China (Yuan)	6.1520
Denmark (Krone)	5.9821
Egypt (Pound)	7.1525
Euro	\$1.2500/€1.0000
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7562
Hungary (Forint)	248.06
Israel (Shekel)	3.9184
Japan (Yen)	117.93
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2918
Norway (Krone)	6.9262
Philippines (Peso)	44.82
Poland (Zloty)	3.34
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7536
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3050
South Korea (Won)	1,107.99
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9619
Thailand (Baht)	32.79
Turkey (New Lira)	2.1268

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

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.10
Federal funds market rate	0.1
3-month bill	0.02
30-year bond	2.91

WEATHER OUTLOOK

TUESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



TUESDAY IN EUROPE



WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC

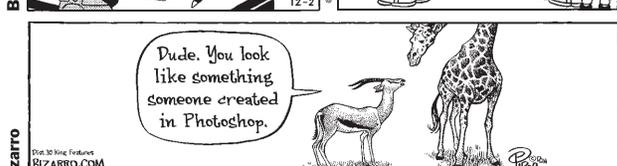
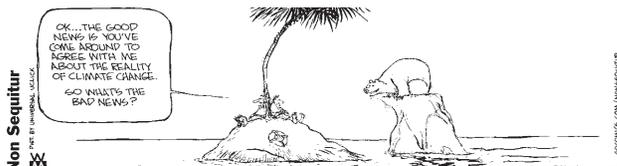
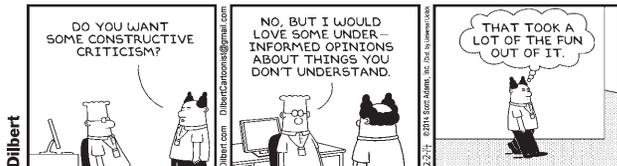


The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

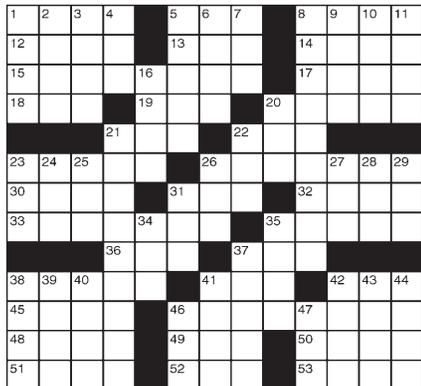
Tuesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex	54	47	Cldy	Chatanooga	66	49	Cldy	Fort Wayne	37	33	PCldy	Louisville	44	41	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	39	36	Cldy	Cheyenne	53	26	PCldy	Fresno	60	50	Rain	Madison	52	37	PCldy
Albany, N.Y.	35	30	PCldy	Chicago	35	28	PCldy	Goodland	60	20	Cir	Macon	72	48	PCldy
Albuquerque	56	37	Cldy	Cincinnati	40	10	Cldy	Grand Junction	51	30	Cldy	Madison	51	29	Cldy
Allentown, Pa.	35	33	Snow	Cleveland	39	37	Cldy	Grand Rapids	34	28	Cldy	Medford	53	43	Cldy
Amarillo	60	32	Cldy	Colorado Springs	60	30	PCldy	Great Falls	31	11	PCldy	Memphis	48	44	Cldy
Anchorage	35	26	Snow	Columbia, S.C.	57	44	Cldy	Green Bay	28	18	Cldy	Miami Beach	80	70	Cldy
Ashville	45	38	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	71	50	PCldy	Greensboro, N.C.	48	41	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	60	42	PCldy
Atlanta	50	39	PCldy	Columbia, S.C.	57	44	Cldy	Harrisburg	35	33	PCldy	Milwaukee	32	25	Cldy
Atlantic City	43	41	Rain	Concord, N.H.	39	37	Cldy	Hartford	36	31	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	24	11	Snow
Baltimore	37	36	Snow	Corpus Christi	57	52	Cldy	Helena	33	13	PCldy	Missoula	30	6	PCldy
Baton Rouge	70	51	Cldy	Corpus Christi	57	52	Cldy	Houston	93	72	Cldy	Missouri	37	38	Cir
Bilings	33	12	Cldy	Dayton	39	36	Cldy	Houston	57	48	Rain	Montgomery	73	49	Rain
Birmingham	70	49	Cldy	Daytona Beach	78	63	Cldy	Huntsville	62	50	Cldy	Nashville	50	46	Cldy
Bismarck	20	3	PCldy	Denver	59	31	Cir	Indianapolis	39	34	Cldy	New Orleans	72	55	Cldy
Boise	44	33	PCldy	Des Moines	38	23	PCldy	Jackson, Miss.	61	47	Cldy	New York City	40	37	Snow
Boston	36	34	Cldy	Detroit	34	30	PCldy	Jacksonville	75	55	Cldy	Newark	38	36	Cldy
Bridgeport	34	34	Snow	Duluth	19	5	Cldy	Janeau	36	34	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	48	45	PCldy
Brownsville	67	57	Cldy	El Paso	62	46	PCldy	Kansas City	40	26	PCldy	North Platte	52	17	PCldy
Buffalo	35	33	Cldy	Elkins	40	37	Rain	Key West	71	PCldy	Oklahoma City	57	38	Cir	
Burlington, Vt.	16	4	PCldy	Evansville	37	37	Cldy	Knoxville	63	47	Cldy	Omaha	40	24	PCldy
Caribou, Maine	16	4	PCldy	Fairbanks	16	6	Snow	Lake Charles	66	52	Cldy	Orlando	80	62	Cldy
Casper, Wyo.	48	22	Cir	Fargo	20	2	PCldy	Lexington	44	42	Cldy	Paducah	43	18	PCldy
Charleston, S.C.	66	50	Cldy	Flagstaff	51	35	Cldy	Lincoln	44	23	Cir	Philadelphia	39	37	Rain
Charleston, W.Va.	47	42	Cldy	Flint	33	28	PCldy	Little Rock	47	41	Cldy	Phoenix	74	57	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	47	39	Cldy	Fort Smith	49	40	Cldy	Los Angeles	65	57	Rain	Pittsburgh	40	37	Cldy

Nonlocal temperature extremes: Hi: Sun., 84, Allic, Texas, and Edinburg, Cir; Tex. Sun., 25, Clark, Wyo.



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Open somewhat
- 5 Tavern
- 8 Got larger
- 12 Humdinger
- 13 Freudian concept
- 14 Libertine
- 15 Ares, for one
- 17 Count counterpart
- 19 Glutton
- 20 Church council
- 21 Roscoe
- 22 Peruke
- 23 Boutique
- 26 "On the Road" writer
- 30 Additionally
- 31 Hasten
- 32 Killer whale
- 33 Walked like a penguin
- 35 Small spot of land
- 36 Jewel
- 37 Praise in verse
- 38 Polo or tee
- 41 Hooter
- 42 Used a shovel
- 45 "— but known ..."
- 46 2014 Affleck film
- 48 Sharing cream additive
- 49 Individual
- 50 Facility
- 51 Red Riding Hood's foe
- 52 Evil
- 53 Verve

DOWN

- 1 Plankton component
- 2 Twelve in a box?
- 3 Sheltered
- 4 Regret
- 5 Sired
- 6 Thunderstruck
- 7 Scepter
- 8 Vodka brand
- 9 Reddish horse
- 10 Continental currency
- 11 Use a blowtorch
- 16 "Star Trek II: The Wrath of —"
- 20 Round Table address
- 21 Charlie Brown's interjection
- 22 Tiny
- 23 Witnessed
- 24 Carte into
- 25 "Acid"
- 26 Josh
- 27 Web address
- 28 Expert
- 29 Jazz fan
- 31 Height of fashion?
- 34 Allow
- 35 Between assignments
- 37 "Pygmalion" writer
- 39 Angel's topper
- 40 "American —"
- 41 Charlie's daughter
- 42 Use an old phone
- 43 — Major
- 44 Hidden valley
- 46 Sailor
- 47 "Holy cow!"

Answer to Previous Puzzle



12-2

CRYPTOQUIP

L C I M H M G C P A M I M K G
 H M Q C J N K A O C F L J N Y Y C K C G
 Q N P C L I B N U Z M A M B Z C Q C V :

O C V Q V U N K Q F L J M H Q N K .
 Yesterday's **Cryptoquip**: AFTER THAT TEETER-TOTTER WAS INSTALLED ON THE SHORE, A LOT OF PEOPLE SEESAWED SEASIDE.
 Today's **Cryptoquip** Clue: N equals O

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OPINION

Holidays a struggle on military pay

By ROBERT MCCARTNEY
 The Washington Post

In a brightly lit community room near Fort Belvoir, Va., the young parents of military families listened intently as Christine Vance explained how they could get some charity to survive the holidays.

Wearing a T-shirt reading, "I (heart symbol) My Soldier," Vance began by emphasizing that they shouldn't feel ashamed to appeal for aid.

"I know what it's like to be at the bottom," Vance said. "I know how hard it is to ask for help."

Shocking as it may seem, wearing your country's uniform is no guarantee that you earn enough to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for your family on your own.

Sergeants, corporals and other enlisted personnel with children regularly find their take-home checks don't leave enough at the end of a pay period to afford meat or fresh produce.

For the fourth straight year, Vance has lent a hand. Vice of an Army sergeant and mother of six, Vance is the dynamo behind an informal food bank called "Heidi's Pantry" for the Fort Belvoir community.

The pantry collects and distributes food during the year and makes an extra effort at the holidays. For Thanksgiving, it handed out food baskets to 40 families. It's planning to do the same for Christmas, plus give out stocking-stuffers and toys.

"We are supposed to be sisters in the military, brothers in the military, and it's the time that we acted as such," Vance told the

small crowd of parents at the Nov. 17 meeting, while a half-dozen toddlers played quietly.

Air Force Staff Sgt. Chardonnay Hamilton depends on Vance's group. It provided her and her husband with a turkey, fresh and canned vegetables and apple and blueberry pies for Thanksgiving.

"It meant we had a very nice Thanksgiving," Hamilton, 26, said Friday. In an earlier interview at the planning meeting, she said that Vance "was really the only source [of food] we had that was dependable."

Hamilton, in her seventh year in uniform, said the high cost of living eats up her net pay of \$1,270 every two weeks. Her husband works, too, but his pay barely covers child care for their two sons, ages 2 and 3.

Although she lives in military housing and "we budget really well," Hamilton said, they can't save enough to handle the holidays without help.

"As far as savings or putting money aside if something happens, there's no way to do that," Hamilton said.

She finds the struggle disheartening. "The fact that I can't provide for them is really tough, because I feel like this is one of the most important jobs in America."

Lindy Carmichael, 31, said her husband's salary as an Army radio operator doesn't stretch far enough to cover unexpected expenses. She uses the pantry regularly for food for their three children, ages 1, 5 and 7, as well as for Thanksgiving.

"You need an oil change, or your car breaks down, or the kids have dental stuff, it gets ugly," Carmichael said. She's doubtly worried this year because

her husband is losing his job in May as part of a force reduction. He's served for nearly 15 years, including two deployments to Iraq.

"I'm trying not to spend money on anything," Carmichael said.

The Fort Belvoir families have plenty of company. The regional branch of Operation Homefront, a nonprofit group that provides emergency assistance to active-duty military personnel, says demand for food aid is constant.

"This year, we've all been struck by the need," Cyndi Lucas, community outreach leader for the Mid-Atlantic Field Office in Sterling, Va., said. "Registration for our meals program filled up in a couple hours after we posted on Facebook. We have long waiting lists."

Spending reductions ordered by Congress are partly responsible.

"As a result of the cuts in the Defense Department, there have been a lot of cuts to the family services program," Lucas said.

The pantry gets its food from local food banks, and from group and individual contributions. Many of its volunteers are people whom it aided in the past.

It's heartening to see people coming together to help one another, especially at this time of year.

But it's also sobering to be reminded of the day-to-day hardships of working people in the economy's lower tier, even when they're serving our nation.

Robert McCartney is a Washington Post columnist.

Benghazi conspiracy theories debunked

Washington Post editorial

The fog of war is no fiction. Anyone who has ever experienced spasms of violent conflict can attest to the draining uncertainty and bewilderment that often come with it. When armed attackers mounted an assault on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, at 9:40 p.m. on Sept. 11, 2012, confusion reigned. Four Americans, including U.S. Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens, died in the hours that followed, but the way the attack unfolded, and why, was opaque.

Members of the Republican Party have made the Benghazi disaster even more difficult to comprehend by advancing a series of bizarre conspiracy theories intended to besmirch the Obama administration. At first, they charged the White House with whitewashing a terrorist attack, then moved on to even more outlandish claims of a stand-down of military aid to the besieged facility or claims that the CIA was using Benghazi for running guns to Syria.

Now, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, chaired by outgoing Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Mich., and with Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, D-Md., as ranking minority member, has published a sobering report after a two-year investigation. The report looks primarily at the performance of the intelligence community, but it also concludes that many of the Republican accusations are simply not true.

Rather than malfeasance or incompetence, the House intelligence committee says that many Americans performed courageously in the attack. Officials from State, Defense and the CIA did what they could to save lives, making "reasonable tactical decisions about how to respond to the attacks." After the first assault on the facility, a team rushed from the CIA base



Piles of rubble remain outside the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, on June 21, 2013, nine months after the attack on the compound that killed ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

about a mile and a half away to help; another CIA military team was dispatched from Tripoli; a Predator drone was in the air above the scene in 90 minutes. "There was neither a stand down order nor a denial of available air support, and no American was left behind," the panel concluded. The panel found that there was "no evidence of an intelligence failure" prior to the attack — the CIA did not have tactical warnings that it was imminent. The CIA base in Benghazi was collecting intelligence about groups running weapons to Syria but was not itself running guns, the report says.

The panel confirms that diplomatic security at the Benghazi mission was ill-prepared and that the agents knew they could not defend the compound from an attack. The panel also criticizes the CIA's "flawed" handling of talking points that contributed

to possibly incorrect statements Sept. 16, 2012, by Susan Rice, then U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. But the House panel noted that even today, "significant intelligence gaps regarding the identities, affiliations and motivations of the attackers remain."

The House is planning yet another investigation, which will be the eighth into these events. This seems superfluous. The big mistake in Libya policy, the consequences of which are more apparent today than ever, was President Barack Obama's refusal to support the new government's attempt to build security after he helped topple the nation's longtime dictator. Unfounded conspiracy theories on Benghazi only distract from this crucial, and largely unlearned, lesson.

OPINION

War changes lives on both sides of the battle

By CHRIS GIBBONS

My father's booming voice filled the living room. "That wasn't right," he yelled at the TV. "You can't do that to people!"

It was the early 1980s, and Dad was watching a news program that showed an infamous incident from the Vietnam War.

The video is chilling. A Viet Cong prisoner stands along a roadside, his hands tied behind his back. A South Vietnamese officer positions himself next to the prisoner, raises his pistol, and fires a point-blank shot into the man's head. His lifeless body crumples to the ground.

Dad cursed again. "That wasn't right," he shouted. His hands were trembling.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the awarding of a Pulitzer Prize for the photo of South Vietnamese Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan executing Viet Cong officer Nguyen Van Lem. Associated Press photographer Eddie Adams and an NBC cameraman filmed the execution. Adams' still picture appeared on the front pages of newspapers and evening news telecasts across the nation, outraging the public.

Adams came to regret the damage that the photograph did to Loan. The Viet Cong prisoner who was shot was reportedly part of a "death squad" that targeted the families of South Vietnamese policemen. According to a witness, the prisoner was captured near a ditch where 34 bound and shot bodies of policemen and their families were found.

Adams later said, "I killed the general with my camera. Still photographs are the most powerful weapons in the world. People believe them; but photographs do lie, even without manipulation. They are only half-truths. What the photograph didn't say was, 'That would you do if you were the general at that time?'" Adams later apologized to Loan and his family.

Loan eventually escaped Vietnam, and opened a pizza restaurant outside of Washington. Unfortunately, he couldn't escape his past. Word got out about who he was, and he had to close the restaurant because



EDDIE ADAMS/AP

In this iconic photo from the Vietnam War, South Vietnamese National Police Chief Brig. Gen. Nguyen Ngoc Loan executes a Viet Cong officer with a single pistol shot in the head in Saigon, Vietnam, on Feb. 1, 1968.

of the negative publicity. He died of cancer in 1993, leaving a wife and five children. Adams sent flowers and a note saying, "I'm sorry. There are tears in my eyes."

As for Dad's reaction that day, I assumed that, as for so many Americans then, that execution in Saigon was the final straw. Seeing the video was a reminder of the bitterness and anger that the conflict generated.

Many years later, I found out there was more to Dad's outburst.

We had a quiet moment alone in 2008 on the 55th anniversary of the end of the Korean War, and I asked him if he could tell me of his worst experience during that war. He said it would be too difficult to describe the worst, but there was one incident that

continued to haunt him.

Shortly after his company had set up a defensive perimeter around their base in South Korea, two frightened and dirty Chinese prisoners were brought before a company sergeant. This sergeant was a World War II veteran, someone my father and the other young soldiers in his company looked up to. "We were very young, and often scared," Dad told me. "But he helped us get through some of the toughest times during the war."

The sergeant needed to understand how the two Chinese soldiers had gotten through the U.S. lines, so he could strengthen the perimeter. If they escaped and revealed the weakness to the enemy, the lives of his men could be at risk.

"Ask them how they got through!" he barked to the interpreter. The prisoners replied that they didn't "get through," but were separated from their outfit, and simply hid in covered foxholes when the Americans moved into the area. The American soldiers unknowingly piled the dirt and barbed wire right on top of them, and the prisoners simply climbed out later and surrendered.

"I don't believe them. Ask them again!" the sergeant shouted as he raised his rifle and pointed it at one prisoner's head. My father believed the prisoners, and he was shaken by the scenario being played out in front of him and his fellow soldiers. Again, the frightened prisoners told the same story.

The sharp sounds of gunshots echoed across the Korean sky, and two lifeless bodies crumpled to the ground.

"It wasn't right," my Dad said softly, as he remembered the incident and vacantly stared ahead. I noticed that his hands were slightly trembling.

I first wrote this story down in 2008, and sent a copy to Dad to ensure that my facts were correct. After reading it, he immediately called me and told me that he didn't want it published. One of the soldiers who witnessed the incident in Korea with him was severely traumatized by it. "He was never the same again, he had a lot of issues from it," Dad said. He told me that even after they returned home, his friend continued to struggle and the remainder of his life was difficult. Dad worried that his friend would be upset if he saw the story in the newspaper.

Dad passed away earlier this year. Before he died, I asked him if I could ever publish the story. He didn't mention his friend this time, possibly because the man had passed away. Dad simply said, "When I'm long gone," that's when it finally occurred to me that there were actually two soldiers who witnessed that execution in Korea who were never the same again.

Chris Gibbons is a Philadelphia writer. This column first appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer.

How income inequality influences US foreign policy

By KURT M. CAMPBELL

Much has been written about the domestic consequences of growing income inequality in the United States — how inequality depresses growth, puts downward pressure on the middle class, accentuates wage stagnation and creates added difficulty paying for a college education and buying a home — but much less has been said about how inequality will affect America's role in the world. How will the social science experiment of allowing wages to settle so unequally between the top 1 percent and rest of the United States affect the foundations and contours of U.S. foreign policy?

In fact, there are likely to be subtle and direct consequences of growing inequality both for the United States' international standing and its activism.

In most critical respects, the United States has helped to create and underwrite the global operating system since the end of World War II. This required a citizen's sense of external responsibility and belief that the United States had something unique and valuable to confer to the world. Americans over these generations have regularly demonstrated that belief and deed that any were prepared to bear burdens and advance ideas. Coinciding with this

era was a general sense of overarching optimism that reinforced a post-World War II period of unprecedented American activism on the global scene. It is likely that as a growing segment of the population strains just to get by, it will increasingly view foreign policy — foreign assistance and military spending alike — as a kind of luxury ripe for cuts and a reduction in ambition. It is possible to see early indicators of these sentiments on the right and left, in the form of both tea party isolationism and Occupy Wall Street suspicion that corporate interests drive America's foreign entanglements.

It is also the case that other countries have long emulated aspects of the American Way in designing their own development models. Having access to higher education, creating conditions that support innovation and allowing for greater upward mobility have all been deeply attractive qualities to many nations. But it is the construction of a durable U.S. middle class that has been perhaps most compelling to highly stratified societies across Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Now, however, the United States is moving in the other direction, toward an unstable society divided between astronomically rich elites and everyone else. This undermines a critical component of U.S. soft

power and is a model for societal engineering that few would choose to emulate.

It is also the case that the most recent era of U.S. exertion on the global stage has involved nearly 15 years of conflict in the Middle East and South Asia. The most important features of these largely military engagements have involved refinements in counterinsurgency technique and adaptations in military technology. A different 1 percent of the U.S. population has been primarily involved in this struggle: the U.S. military and others associated with the defense establishment. Aside from clapping when a uniformed military member greets an emotional family at an airport homecoming, the vast majority of the population has been largely unaffected by these conflicts. They neither paid for nor fought these wars.

The next phase of intense global engagement is likely to demand much more from a larger share of the population. The lion's share of 21st-century history will play out in Asia, with its thriving and acquisitive middle classes driving innovation, nationalist competitions, military ambitions, struggles over history and identity, and simple pursuit of power.

The United States is in the midst of a major reorientation of its foreign policy and commercial priorities that will draw it

more closely to Asia in the decades ahead.

The competition for power and prestige there rests on comprehensive aspects of national power — as much to our product and service offerings, the strength of our educational system and the health and vitality of our national infrastructure as to the quality of U.S. military capabilities. Each of these efforts requires substantial and sustained longer-term investments; all face funding shortfalls due to myriad challenges. A corresponding consequence of growing inequality has been a reduction in support for these building blocks for comprehensiveness and sustained international engagement.

The worrisome dimensions of income inequality on the quality of domestic American life should be enough to cause us to consider enacting remedies. However, the potential negative implications on U.S. performance internationally can only add to the case. Ultimately, a sustained and purposeful American internationalism is inextricably linked to the health of our domestic life, which gaping inequality is the biggest threat.

Kurt M. Campbell, chairman and chief executive of the Asia Group investment and consulting firm, was assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific Affairs from 2009 to 2013. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

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STARS AND STRIPES

SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

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Deals

Sunday's transactions
BASKETBALL
 National Basketball Association
NEW ORLEANS PELICANS — Waived F Darrius Morris

FOOTBALL
 National Football League
DALLAS COWBOYS — Signed LB Will Smith to their practice squad. Released WR Kerry Taylor from the practice squad. Signed WR Chris Boyd to the practice squad.

HOCKEY
 National Hockey League
DETROIT RED WINGS — Activated D Brendan Smith from injured reserve. Assigned D Xavier Ouellet to Grand Rapids (AHL).
EDMONTON OILERS — Placed F Jesse Janakowski on waivers. Assigned D Martin Gendron to the Oklahoma City (AHL).
FLORIDA PANTHERS — Reassigned G Dan Ellis to San Antonio (AHL).
WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Reassigned D Steven Oleson to Hershey (AHL).

COLLEGE
AUBURN — Fired defensive coordinator Brent Smith.

CLAYTON STATE — Named Joshua J. Darlings sports information director. **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS** — Named Bob Pelini. Named Barney Cotton interim football coach.

Pro soccer

MLS playoffs
KNOCKOUT ROUND
Eastern Conference
 New York 2, Sporting Kansas City 1
Western Conference
 FC Dallas 2, Vancouver 1
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
Eastern Conference
 New England 7, Columbus 3
 New York 3, Portland 2
 New York 2, D.C. United 0
 D.C. United 2, New York 1
Western Conference
LA Galaxy 5, Real Salt Lake 0
LA Galaxy 0, Real Salt Lake 0
Seattle 1, FC Dallas 1
Seattle 1, FC Dallas 1
 FC Dallas 0, Seattle 0, Seattle advances on away goals.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP
Eastern Conference
 New England 4, New York 3
 New York 2, New England 2
Western Conference
LA Galaxy 2, Seattle 2
Sunday: Seattle 2, LA Galaxy 1, LA Galaxy advances on away goals.
MLS CUP
Sunday: New England at LA Galaxy

Sunday
Sounders FC 2, LA Galaxy 0 — Seattle 1-3, Los Angeles 1-2, Portland 1-1, Seattle FC, Evans 11, 32nd minute.
Seattle 1, Los Angeles 1, Juninho (Gonzalez, Donovan), 54th.
Seattle 0, Los Angeles 1, Jaime Penedo; Seattle FC, Stefan Frei.
LA Galaxy 0, Seattle 0, Los Angeles, 35th; Penedo, Los Angeles, 90th+.
 A-4675 (32,400).

Baseball

MLB calendar
 Dec. 1-3 — Major League Baseball Players Association executive board meeting, Orlando, Fla.
 Dec. 4 — Last season's pre teams to offer 2015 contracts to unsigned players on 40-man rosters.
 Dec. 8-11 — Winter meetings, San Diego.
 Dec. 8 — Hall of Fame golden era (1947-72) vote announced, San Diego.

Jan. 6 — Baseball Writers' Association of America Hall of Fame voting results announced.
 Jan. 13 — Salary arbitration filing begins.
 Jan. 14 — Owners' meetings, Paradise Valley, Ariz.
 Jan. 15 — Salary arbitration figures exchanged.
 Jan. 16 — Voluntary reporting date for pitchers, catchers and injured players.
 Feb. 1-21 — Salary arbitration hearings.
 Feb. 24 — Voluntary reporting date for other players.

College football

AP Top 25
 The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, through Nov. 29, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

Rank	Team	Record	Pts	Pv
1	Alabama (25)	11-1	1426	2
2	Florida State (19)	11-1	1399	3
3	Oregon (5)	11-1	1291	3
4	TCU	10-1	1274	6
5	Boylor	10-1	1274	6
6	Ohio St.	11-1	1192	7
7	Kansas St.	10-2	1188	10
8	Arizona	10-2	1027	12
9	Kansas	10-2	998	10
10	Mississippi St.	10-2	944	4
11	Wisconsin	10-2	910	14
12	Georgia Tech	10-2	823	16
13	Mississippi	9-3	753	18
14	Missouri	9-3	753	18
15	Georgia	9-3	606	8
16	UCF	9-3	512	9
17	Arizona St.	9-3	495	13
18	Oklahoma	9-3	485	20
19	Clemson	9-3	418	23
20	Auburn	8-4	358	15
21	LSU	8-4	358	15
22	Boise St.	10-2	265	25
23	LSU	14-0	NR	NR
24	Utah	8-4	79	NR
25	Nebraska	9-3	64	NR

Not receiving votes
 61. Minnesota 47, Duke 22, Marshall 22, Memphis 21, Colorado St. 19, Air Force 7, Stanford 4, West Virginia 1, N. Illinois 3, UCF 3, Cincinnati 1.

Coaches Top 25

The Amway Top 25 football coaches poll ranks first-place votes in parentheses, through Nov. 29, total points based on 25 points for first place through one point for 25th and previous ranking:

Rank	Coach	Record	Pts	Pvs
1	Alabama (28)	11-1	1507	1
2	Chris Strickland (28)	11-1	1458	3
3	Oregon (6)	11-1	1458	3
4	TCU	10-1	1239	7
5	Michigan State	10-1	1136	8
6	Ohio State	11	1269	7
7	Boylor	10-1	1136	8
8	Arizona	10-2	1050	12
9	Kansas State	10-2	1050	12
10	Mississippi State	10-2	979	4
11	Wisconsin	10-2	910	14
12	Georgia Tech	10-2	827	16
13	Missouri	10-2	820	17
14	Mississippi	9-3	753	18
15	Georgia	9-3	690	9
16	UCF	9-3	512	9
17	UCFLA	9-3	517	10
18	Arizona State	9-3	495	24
19	Oklahoma	9-3	485	20
20	Louisville	9-3	395	23
21	Nebraska	9-3	361	16
22	Boise State	10-2	253	25
23	Nebraska	9-3	166	NR
24	LSU	8-4	NR	NR
25	Minnesota	8-4	NR	NR

Not receiving votes: Utah 59; Southern California 52; Duke 50; Marshall 22; Colorado State 21; Cincinnati 18; Northern Illinois 15; Memphis 10; Air Force 10; Louisiana Tech 5; Central Florida 3; Arkansas 2.

FCS playoffs
First Round Saturday, Nov. 29
 Fordham 34-26, Eastern Kentucky 16
 Indiana 35, Eastern Kentucky 16
 Richmond 46, Morgan St. 21
 Sam Houston St. 21, Southeastern Louisiana 17
Sunday, Dec. 1
 North Dakota 57, Montana 20
 Montana 52, San Diego 14
 Montana 29, James Madison 21
 Northern Iowa 44, Stephen F. Austin 10

Second Round Saturday, Dec. 6
 Fordham 34-26, New Hampshire 16 (1-1)
 Indiana St. (8-5) at Chattanooga (9-3), Richmond (9-4) at Coastal Carolina (11-1)
 Southern Iowa (9-4) at Illinois St. (10-1)
 Sam Houston St. (9-4) at Jacksonville State (9-4)
 North Carolina Central (9-4) at South Dakota St. (9-4) at North Dakota St. (9-4) at Eastern Washington (10-2)
 Liberty (9-4) at Villanova (10-2)

Quarterfinals Friday, Dec. 5 or Saturday, Dec. 13
 Fordham-New Hampshire winner vs. Indiana- Chattanooga
 Richmond-Liberty winner vs. Southern Iowa
 North Carolina Central winner vs. South Dakota St.-North Dakota St. winner

Semifinals Friday, Dec. 19
 TBD
Saturday, Dec. 20
 TBD

Championship Saturday, Dec. 20
AT FC Dallas Stadium
 Frisco, Texas

NCAA Division II playoffs
First Round Nov. 22
 West Chester 46, Slippery Rock 20
 North Carolina Central 29, LIU Post 17
 Angelo State 42, Michigan Tech 41
 West Georgia 20, Tuskegee 17

Valdosta State 33, North Alabama 31
 Minnesota-Duluth 25, Northwest Missouri State 21
 Pittsburg State 59, Harding 42
 Ohio Dominican 34, Colorado Mines 29

Second Round Saturday, Nov. 29
 Concord (W.Va.) 51, West Chester 36
 Valdosta State 33, Virginia State 27
 West Georgia 27, Delaware 27
 Ohio Dominican 46, Ferris State 33
 West Georgia 37, Davidson 27
 Minnesota-Duluth 48, Ouachita Baptist 45, OT
 Colorado State-Pueblo 52, Angelo State 14

Quarterfinals Saturday, Dec. 6
 West Virginia (11-1) at Concord (W.Va.) (12-0)
 Bloomburg (11-2) at Valdosta State (10-2)
 Minnesota-Duluth (13-0) at Minnesota State-(Mankato) (12-0)
 Ohio Dominican (11-1) at Colorado State-Pueblo (11-1)

Semifinals Saturday, Dec. 13
 Concord (W.Va.)-Bloomburg winner vs. Minnesota State-(Mankato) winner
 Colorado State-Pueblo winner vs. Valdosta State-West Georgia winner
 Valdosta State-Pueblo-Ohio Dominican winner

Championship Saturday, Dec. 20
at Sporting Park
 Kansas City, Kan.

NCAA Division III
First Round Saturday, Nov. 22
 Wabash 32-20, Gettysburg 28
 Widener 36, Muhlenberg 35
 Christopher Newport 29, Delaware Valley 29
 Wesley 52, Hampden-Sydney 7
 MIT 27, Hugs 25, Richmond 20
 Johns Hopkins 24, Rowan 16
 Hartwick 22, Elizabethtown 18
 John Carroll (6), Centre (Ky.) 28
 Washington & Jefferson 41, Wittenberg 12
 Mount Union 63, Adrian 3
 Wisconsin-Whitewater 55, Macalester 22

Second Round Saturday, Nov. 29
 St. John's (Minn.) 35, St. Scholastica 4
 Wartburg 33, Thomas (Pa.) 13
 Wheaton (Ill.) 43, Benedictine (Ill.) 35
 Wisconsin-St.oughton 49, Wisconsin-Texas Lutheran at Mary Hardin-Baylor, susp., lighting
Sunday, Nov. 23
 Mary Hardin-Baylor 27, Texas Lutheran 20, comp. closed

Second Round Saturday, Nov. 29
 Widener 37, Christopher Newport 27
 Wesley 59, MIT 0
 Ohio Dominican 37, Wittenberg 27
 Mount Union 67, Washington & Jefferson 0
 Wisconsin-Whitewater 38, Wabash 14
 Wartburg 21, St. John's (Minn.) 10
 Linfield 12, Mary Hardin-Baylor 28
 John Carroll 14, Wheaton (Ill.) 12

Quarterfinals Saturday, Dec. 6
 Hobart (12-0) at Wesley (11-1)
 Linfield (10-1) at Widener (12-0)
 John Carroll (11-1) at Mount Union (12-0)

Semifinals Saturday, Dec. 13
 Wisconsin-Whitewater-Wartburg winner vs. Widener-Linfield winner
 Wesley-Hobart winner vs. John Carroll (11-1) at Mount Union (12-0)

Amos Alagon Slag Bowl Friday, Dec. 19
at Alagon Stadium
 Salem, Va.

NIAA playoffs
First Round Saturday, Nov. 22
 Carroll (Mont.) 49, Valley City State 20
 Grand Staircase 38, Langston 3
 Saint Xavier 64, Cambridgeville 35
 Morrisville 42, Ottawa (Kan.) 21
 Missouri Valley 20, Northwestern (Iowa) 17, 207
 Lindsey Wilson 20, Faulkner 17
 Northern Iowa 24, Jackson College 3
 Southern Oregon 44, Mid-America Nazarene 26

Quarterfinals Saturday, Nov. 29
 Morrisville-Northern Iowa Valley 28
 Northern (Ind.) 24, Grand View (Iowa) 6
 Southern Oregon 45, Carroll (Mont.) 42
 Saint Xavier (Ill.) 30, Lindsey Wilson (Ky.) 17

Semifinals Saturday, Dec. 6
 Northern (Ind.) (10-2) at Morrisville (Iowa) (11-1)
 Southern Oregon (11-2) at Saint Xavier (Ill.) (10-2)

Championship Friday, Dec. 19
at Mitchell Stadium
 Daytona Beach, Fla.

Men's World Cup Super-G Sunday
At Lake Louise, Alberta
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 1:21.49, 32.02 seconds.
 2. Matthias Mayer, Austria, 1:32.31.
 3. Dominik Paris, Italy, 1:32.37.
 4. Austria 1, 1:32.34.
 5. Max Franz, Austria, 1:32.37.
 6. Hannes Reichelt, Austria, 1:32.44.
 7. Marcus Osborne-Paradis, Canada, 1:32.53.
 8. Johan Clarey, France, 1:32.59.
 9. Jan Heide, Canada, 1:32.62.
 10. Patrick Kueng, Switzerland, 1:32.69.

World Cup Standings After Saturday
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 100 points.
 2. Matthias Mayer, Austria, 80.
 3. Dominik Paris, Italy, 60.
 4. Austria 50.
 5. Max Franz, Austria, 40.
Overall World Cup Standings After Saturday
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 216 points.
 2. Marcel Hirsiger, Austria, 180.
 3. Fritz Opert, Germany, 120.

College basketball

Sunday's men's scores
EAST
 Brown 75, Johnson & Wales (RI) 65
 Loyola (Md.) 67, Caldwell 37
 Drexel 59, Southern Miss. 36
 Kutztown 70, Wilmington (Del.) 61
 Lafayette 62, Fairleigh Dickinson 61
 Maryland 65, PSU-Worthington 50

SOUTH
 Mass.-Lowell 69, Boston U. 59
 Davidson 67, Delaware 57
 Middlebury 87, RPI 78
 New Hampshire 85, Dartmouth 63
 Penn State 77, Stony Brook 67
 Quinnipiac 89, Vermont 77
 Shepherd 89, Middle Tennessee Tech 52
 S. Vermont 72, Castleton 68
 Sacred Heart 71, Campbell 67
 St. Lawrence 62, Utica 56
 Suffolk 96, New England Coll. 81
 Temple 70, LIU Brooklyn 56
 Texas 65, UT Dallas 47
 Yale 69, Hartford 54

MIDWEST
 Charlotte 66, UNC Asheville 63, OT
 Duke 93, Army 73
 East Carolina 74, CCSU 59
 FAU 54, Ave Maria 43
 Miami (Fla.) 65, 100 Lynchburg 72
 Frostburg 37, Randolph-Macon 67
 Georgetown (Ky.) 115, Cincinnati-Carmichael 67
 Jacksonville St. 81, Fort Valley St. 49
 Kent State 67, Providence 33
 Livingstone 81, W. Virginia 75
 Marquette 68, St. Joseph 67
 Mount Olive 82, GRU Augusta 75
 Murray 68, Drake 68
 SE Louisiana 92, Langston 80
 Tennessee Tech 68, UConn 68
 UCF 75, Bethune-Cookman 67
 Virginia Tech 60, Potomac 57
 Virginia Tech 83, Morgan St. 63

MIDWEST
 Akron 72, Bryant 66
 Bowling Green 64, Detroit 63
 Chicago State 67, West-Steubenville 68
 DePaul 87, Stanford 72
 Duquesne 60, Miami (Ohio) 59
 Florida Gulf Coast 71, S. Dakota St. 58
 N. Illinois 61, Maine 56
 Ohio State 69, Richmond 50
 Wis.-River Falls 72, Northland 51
 Wis.-Superior 86, St. Scholastica 62

SOUTHWEST
 Arkansas 54, UMKC (Mo.) 51
 St. Utah 93, UTSA 92
 SMO 63, Monmouth (N.J.) 51
 Texas St. 62, Fordham 39
 Texas Tech 45, Air Force 62

Far West
 California 64, Fresno St. 57
 Colorado St. 73, Lipscomb 75
 Denver 79, New Orleans 60
 E. Washington 104, E. Oregon 87
 Florida 69, Florida A&M 59
 N. Dakota St. 72, Montana St. 59
 San Carlos 76, Montana St. 59
 Santa Clara 64, CS Bakersfield 66
 Southern Cal 66, New Mexico 54

ORLANDO SEMI-FINALS Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Kansas 61, Florida 57
Third Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Marquette 62, Tennessee 59
Fifth Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Georgia Tech 64, DePaul 61
Seventh Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Santa Clara 68, Rider 60
Finals Saturday, Dec. 6
 Illinois 70, Kentucky 71
 Rhodes 90, Austin 61

Woden Legacy Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Washington 88, UTEP 65
Finals Saturday, Dec. 6
 Long Beach St. 73, Xavier 70
Fifth Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 W. Michigan 68, San Diego 66
Seventh Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Princeton 67, Col. 54
EXHIBITION Saturday, Dec. 6
 Concordia (Mich.) 76, Finlandia 59

Women's world's scores
Friday, Dec. 5
 Adelphi 81, Millersville 59
 Bryant 90, CAS 80
 CCSU 64, New Hampshire 58
 Canisius 87, St. Francis (Pa.) 74

Skiing

Men's World Cup Super-G Sunday
At Lake Louise, Alberta
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 1:21.49, 32.02 seconds.
 2. Matthias Mayer, Austria, 1:32.31.
 3. Dominik Paris, Italy, 1:32.37.
 4. Austria 1, 1:32.34.
 5. Max Franz, Austria, 1:32.37.
 6. Hannes Reichelt, Austria, 1:32.44.
 7. Marcus Osborne-Paradis, Canada, 1:32.53.
 8. Johan Clarey, France, 1:32.59.
 9. Jan Heide, Canada, 1:32.62.
 10. Patrick Kueng, Switzerland, 1:32.69.

World Cup Standings After Saturday
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 100 points.
 2. Matthias Mayer, Austria, 80.
 3. Dominik Paris, Italy, 60.
 4. Austria 50.
 5. Max Franz, Austria, 40.
Overall World Cup Standings After Saturday
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 216 points.
 2. Marcel Hirsiger, Austria, 180.
 3. Fritz Opert, Germany, 120.

Women's World Cup slalom Sunday
At Aspen, Colo.
 1. Nicole Hosp, Austria, 1 minute, 44.90 seconds.
 2. Frida Hansdotter, Sweden, 1:45.09.
 3. Kathrin Zettel, Austria, 1:46.25.
 4. Maria Pietilae-Holmner, Sweden, 1:46.59.
 5. Mikaela Shiffrin, U.S., 1:46.98.

World Cup Standings After Saturday
 1. Frida Hansdotter, Sweden, 160 points.
 2. Nicole Hosp, Austria, 129.
 3. Kathrin Zettel, Austria, 129.
 4. Kathrin Zettel, Austria, 120.
 5. Maria Pietilae-Holmner, Sweden, 100.
Overall World Cup Standings After Saturday
 1. Kjetil Jansrud, Norway, 216 points.
 2. Mikaela Shiffrin, United States, 209.
 3. Tina Maze, Slovenia, 188.

Cazenove 78, Hilbert 69
 Holy Cross 73, Georgetown 69
 Iowa St. 69, Stony Brook 67
 Lycopring 72, Susquehanna 59
 Mass.-Lowell 78, Fairleigh Dickinson 67
 NY Tech 86, Post 70
 North Carolina 82, Penn State 67
 Old Westbury 94, Medgar Evers 36
 Penn State 77, Davidson 67
 Penn St.-Abington 53, Notre Dame (Ind.) 60

Midwest
 Quinnipiac 74, Alabama 56
 Radford 68, Appalachian 57
 Sage 78, S. Vermont 46
 Shepherd 89, Middle Tennessee Tech 52
 St. Bonaventure 72, Binghamton 54
 St. John's 71, Wagner 49
 Temple 81, Harvard 59
 UMass 67, UCF 62
 Washington & Jefferson 69, Pitt-Greensburg 56
 Wesley 78, York (Pa.) 70

South
 Ferris St. 77, Tiffin 51
 Flintlandia 74, Concordia (Mich.) 73
 High Point 87, Elmira 76
 Kentucky Wesleyan 76, St. Joseph's (Ind.) 65
 Lander 106, St. Augustine's 89
 Marquette (Tenn.) 80, Emory 61
 Piedmont 83, Berry 73
 Radford 68, Appalachian 57
 Rhodes 54, Austin 53
 St. Joseph's (Ind.) 65, OT
 Wingate 56, UNC Pembroke 51
 Wis.-Parkside 71, Northwood (Mich.) 52
 Youngstown 73, Tennessee 56

Midwest
 Cardinal Stritch 69, Mount Mercy 60
 Ill.-Chicago 61, Ill.-Springfield 44
 Carthage 67, Chicago 55
 Gustavus 71, St. Scholastica 58
 Ill.-Chicago 61, Ill.-Springfield 44
 Indiana 55, Indiana 61, OT
 John Carroll 65, Indiana 61, OT
 Louisville 86, Valparaiso 59
 Marquette (Tenn.) 80, Ohio 39
 Missouri 68, Milwaukee 66
 Nebraska 63, N. Colorado 56
 Ohio St. 69, Marquette 65
 S. Illinois 67, Mercer 52
 South Dakota 69, Marquette 65
 St. Thomas (Minn.) 60, Wis.-Stevens Pt. 62

Wayne (Neb.) 92, S. Dakota Tech 43
 Xavier 90, Robert Morris 65, OT
South
 Baylor 90, Marist 60
 Cal State Fullerton 62, Fordham 39
 Seton Hall 84, Utah St. 64
 Texas 72, Tennessee 59
 Utah St. 64, Seton Hall 84
 UTSA 57, Incarnate Word 31

Far West
 ASU 66, Pepperdine 44
 CS Bakersfield 66, Fresno St. 57
 San Carlos 76, Montana St. 59
 San Diego 66, Montana St. 59
 Santa Clara 64, CS Bakersfield 66
Ball State Thanksgiving Classic Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Duquesne 82, Ball St. 62
Third Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Jackson St. 90, Murray St. 81, OT
FIU Thanksgiving Classic Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Marquette 62, Tennessee 59
Fifth Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Georgia Tech 64, DePaul 61
Seventh Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Santa Clara 68, Rider 60
Finals Saturday, Dec. 6
 Illinois 70, Kentucky 71
 Rhodes 90, Austin 61

Woden Legacy Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Washington 88, UTEP 65
Finals Saturday, Dec. 6
 Long Beach St. 73, Xavier 70
Fifth Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 W. Michigan 68, San Diego 66
Seventh Place Championship Saturday, Dec. 6
 Princeton 67, Col. 54
EXHIBITION Saturday, Dec. 6
 Concordia (Mich.) 76, Finlandia 59

COLLEGE FOOTBALL/SPORTS BRIEFS

Ohio State player dead of self-inflicted gunshot

Former Buckeyes wrestler texted about his concussions

By **RUSTY MILLER**
AND **LISA CORNWELL**
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — An Ohio State football player who disappeared shortly after sending a text message about his concussions was found dead Sunday in a dumpster, apparently of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, police said.

Police spokesman Sgt. Rich Weiner said police received a call around 2:30 p.m. from someone reporting a body found in the trash bin. Weiner said a woman and



Karageorge

her son apparently were looking for items in the dumpster when they found the body.

"At this time we are able to confirm through tattoos here at the scene that it is the body of Kosta Karageorge," Weiner said.

The police spokesman said the preliminary investigation showed that Karageorge apparently died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. He said a handgun was found in the dumpster.

Police found the body near the campus after a search began when Karageorge went missing Wednesday. The senior defensive tackle had last been seen at his apartment in Columbus, when his roommates said he left to go on a walk.

The body was found within a couple hundred yards of Karageorge's home and about a half block from High Street, the main artery of the campus, Sunday evening, no one answered when an Associated Press reporter knocked on the metal door of Karageorge's apartment.

Karageorge's parents filed a missing-person report Wednesday evening, and

his mother, Susan Karageorge, told police he had had several concussions and a few spells of being extremely confused, according to the report. She said that at about 1:30 a.m. Wednesday he texted a message apologizing and saying the concussions had messed up his head. "I am sorry if I am an embarrassment," he said.

A woman answering the phone Sunday at Susan Karageorge's home identified herself as a friend and said that neither Susan Karageorge nor other family members had any comment.

University athletic officials said they were grieved to learn of Karageorge's death.

"It's hit the team hard," team spokesman Jerry Emig said.

Ohio State Athletic Director Gene Smith said in a text message when asked about any plans to honor the player or logistics for the team to attend the funeral that it was too soon to answer those questions. The Buckeyes will play Wisconsin in the Big Ten championship game Saturday at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis.

A former Ohio State wrestler, Karageorge joined the football team as a walk-on this season. He played in one game and was among two dozen seniors slated to be recognized at the final home game Saturday against rival Michigan. The Buckeyes won, 42-28.

At the game, starting defensive tackle Michael Bennett spoke fondly of Karageorge.

"He's got a great personality, one of the favorite people I've ever met — just an interesting guy and a big heart," Bennett said.

After Karageorge went missing, the team's physician, Dr. Jim Borchers, said he could not comment on the medical care of student athletes. But, he added, "We are confident in our medical procedures and policies to return athletes to participation following injury or illness."



Jay LaPrette/AP

A police poster showing Kosta Karageorge, an Ohio State player whose body was found dead in a dumpster on Sunday after going missing earlier in the week, is displayed on the large video board at the south end of the field before the Ohio State game against Michigan in Columbus, Ohio on Saturday.

Briefly

Juninho's goal puts Los Angeles into MLS final

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Juninho scored a valuable away goal early in the second as the Los Angeles Galaxy advanced to the Major League Soccer final for the ninth time in club history despite losing 2-1 to the Seattle Sounders on Sunday.

The Western Conference final ended 2-2 on aggregate, but away goals were used as a tiebreaker in playoffs for the first time this season. Los Angeles will host Eastern Conference champion New England in the final next Sunday.

In other MLS news: ■ Thierry Henry is leaving the New York Red Bulls after more than four seasons.

The 37-year-old French star did not indicate if he's retiring and plans to take a few weeks to decide what to do next.



TED S. WARREN/AP

Los Angeles Galaxy captain Robbie Keane, right, hugs Landon Donovan after the Galaxy won the MLS western conference championship.

Reports: UAB could be shutting down football

The University of Alabama-Birmingham appears close to dropping football.

Coach Bill Clark told ESPN.com on Sunday he expects the school to end a program that has struggled financially and on the field for years.

Sports Illustrated and USA Today, citing unidentified sources, reported UAB was taking steps to disband the program this week, including letting go athletic director Brian Mackin.

Clark later tweeted: "Contrary to news, We haven't heard any decision about our program. We are still fighting!"

In its first season under Clark, UAB (9) is eligible for bowl game for the first time since 2004.

In other college football news:

■ Clemson offensive coordinator Chad Morris will be SMU's new football coach, a person familiar with the school's decision told The Associated Press.

The Mustangs (0-11) have one game left in a dreadful season, during which coach June Jones stepped down after two games.

■ Tulsa fired coach Bill Blankenship on Monday, three days after wrapping up a second consecutive losing season.

Blankenship took over at his alma mater in 2011. He went 19-8 in his first two seasons, including a Conference USA championship in 2012.

■ A person familiar with the decision confirms to The Associated Press the University at Buffalo has agreed to hire Wisconsin-White-water coach Lance Leipold to take

over its football program.

The 50-year-old Leipold has a 106-6 record in eight seasons, and led Division III Wisconsin-White-water to five national titles.

A's trade All-Star Josh Donaldson to Toronto

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Oakland Athletics have traded All-Star third baseman Josh Donaldson to the Toronto Blue Jays for third baseman Brett Lawrie, left-hander Sean Nolin, right-hander Kendall Graveman and minor league shortstop Franklin Barreto.

The 28-year-old Donaldson hit .255 with 29 home runs and 98 RBIs in 158 games last season. In four seasons in the majors, all with Oakland, he has a .268 average with 63 home runs and 228 RBIs in 405 games.

NHL/COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Datsyuk scores 2, lifts Wings

By SCOTT HELD
The Associated Press

DETROIT — The streaking Detroit Red Wings were able to laugh about a power outage at aging Joe Louis Arena.

Pavel Datsyuk scored twice and Detroit beat the Vancouver Canucks 5-3 on Sunday for their fourth straight victory.

About a third of Joe Louis Arena, including the Vancouver zone, went dark 29 seconds into the game after a minor power failure. The game was delayed 33 minutes.

"That's the beauty of the Joe," Niklas Kronwall said about the arena that opened in 1980. "It's been around for a long time. It's kind of the charm of it. You never know what's going to happen."

Kronwall, Danny DeKeyser and Gustav Nyquist also scored, Henrik Zetterberg had two assists and Jimmy Howard made 30 saves for Detroit.

Linden Vey scored twice, and Shawn Matthias added a goal for Vancouver, which spent a lot of time in the Detroit zone in the final 20 minutes.

"It's disappointing," Matthias said. "You look at the third period, we dominated that. All the lines were working and all the lines were creating chances."

The Red Wings appeared to have the game in hand after going to the third up 3-1 but the Canucks hung around and twice made it one-goal game.

"I didn't think we were near as good as we can be," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said. "I thought we turned over some pucks and backed in a bit but we did enough good things to win."

Canucks coach Willie Desjardins begged to differ.

"They were better than us," he said. "They were really strong in the corners and in their breakouts."

Kronwall opened the scoring at 3:15 of the first period, beating Ryan Miller with a slap shot, and Nyquist made it 2-0 midway through the period with a one-timer on a power play.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	24	15	7	2	34	64
Montreal	25	16	7	2	34	63
Detroit	24	15	7	2	33	61
Boston	24	14	9	1	29	61
Toronto	23	12	8	3	27	69
Florida	21	9	9	3	24	53
Ottawa	23	10	9	4	24	61
Buffalo	24	9	12	2	18	43

Metropolitan Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	23	16	5	2	34	81
N.Y. Islanders	24	17	7	2	34	77
N.Y. Rangers	23	11	8	4	26	68
Washington	24	12	9	4	24	65
New Jersey	24	9	11	4	22	58
Philadelphia	23	8	12	3	19	74
Carolina	23	13	7	3	17	54
Columbus	23	6	15	2	14	52

Western Conference

Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	23	15	7	2	34	66
St. Louis	24	16	6	2	34	66
Chicago	24	15	7	1	31	64
Winnipeg	25	12	9	4	28	56
Minnesota	23	13	9	1	27	65
Dallas	24	9	10	5	23	84
Colorado	24	9	10	5	23	64

Pacific Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	24	15	7	1	33	75
Anaheim	25	14	6	5	33	68
Calgary	25	15	8	2	32	66
Los Angeles	24	12	7	5	29	65
San Jose	24	12	10	2	26	70
Arizona	24	9	12	3	21	57
Edmonton	24	6	14	4	16	84

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

Saturday's games

Buffalo 4, Montreal 3, SO
St. Louis 3, Minnesota 2, SO
N.Y. Rangers 5, Philadelphia 2
Toronto 6, Washington 2
Tampa Bay 4, Ottawa 1
Pittsburgh 3, Carolina 2
N.Y. Islanders 3, New Jersey 1
Nashville 2, Columbus 1
Colorado 5, Dallas 2
Calgary 3, Arizona 3
Chicago 4, Los Angeles 1
San Jose 6, Anaheim 4

Sunday's game

Detroit 5, Vancouver 3
Monday's games
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers
Florida at Columbus
Montreal at Colorado
Arizona at Edmonton
Boston at Anaheim

Tuesday's games

Ottawa at N.Y. Islanders
New Jersey at Pittsburgh
Vancouver at Washington
Boston at Carolina
Tampa Bay at Buffalo
Dallas at Toronto
Florida at Detroit
Arizona at Calgary
Philadelphia at San Jose
Boston at Los Angeles

Sunday

Red Wings 5, Canucks 3

Vancouver 0 1 2-3
Detroit 2 1 2-5
First Period—1. Detroit, Kronwall 4 (Ericsson, Zetterberg); 3:15. 2. Detroit, Nyquist 11 (Zetterberg, Franzén); 11:16 (Pit).

Second Period—3. Vancouver, Vey 5 (2:27, PP); 4. Detroit, Datsyuk 9 (Fratar, Kindl); 14:24 (PP).

Third Period—5. Vancouver, Matthias 5 (Weber, Wright); Detroit, DeKeyser 1 (Sheahan, Jurco); 13:36. 7. Vancouver, Datsyuk 8 (Mathis, Richardson); 16:10. 8. Detroit, Datsyuk 9; 19:10 (PP).

Shots on goal—Vancouver 10-12-11=33; Detroit 17-12=29

Power-play opportunities—Vancouver 1-0-2-3; Detroit 1-1-1-3

Goals—Vancouver, R.Miller 15-4-0 (29 shots=25 saves); Detroit, Howard 11-4-4

A=20,027 (20,027). T=3:08.

Top 25 roundup

Coach K gets 990 vs. Army

The Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Mike Krzyzewski inched closer to the latest milestone of his Hall of Fame career by beating the program that helped shape him into Coach K.

Tyus Jones had 16 points and a season-high 10 assists, and No. 4 Duke beat Army 93-73 on Sunday to bring Krzyzewski within 10 wins of 1,000 for his career.

"I love West Point. I love the fact that I had that opportunity [to attend] and then I had an opportunity to coach there," Krzyzewski said, his eyes welling with tears. "And one of the reasons I'm a good coach here is my five years there. ... They'll always be in my heart, and I'll always be a West Pointer."

ellow freshman Jahil Okafor added 21 points while Quinn Cook and Rasheed Sulaimon had 13 apiece for the Blue Devils (7-0).

They shot 52 percent, built a 43-25 rebounding advantage and overcame a season-worst 4-for-19 performance from three-point range.

Duke tuned up for Wednesday night's visit to No. 2 Wisconsin by helping Krzyzewski defeat his alma mater and earn career victory No. 990.

"We knew this was a big game for coach, and a big game for us," Okafor said.

Kyle Wilson and Tanner Plomb each scored 19 points for Army (5-1).

The Black Knights gave Duke's transition defense headaches all day before their best start in 38 years was spoiled by their former team captain and head coach.

"I thought our guys ... stayed in the center of the ring," coach Zach Spiker said.

This was the sixth meeting between a Krzyzewski-coached Duke team and Army, so naturally the dominant subplot was Coach K — who starred for Bob Knight at Army in the 1960s and coached the Black Knights for five years before coming to Duke in 1980.

The twist in the latest matchup was that the last coach to lead Army to a 5-0 start was Krzyzewski — who whose 1976-77 team won his first seven.



GERY BROOMER/AP

Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski yells during the second half Sunday against Army in Durham, N.C.

No. 1 Kentucky 58, Providence 38: Kentucky post players Willie Cauley-Stein and Karl-Anthony Towns each had 11 points and three rebounds, and the top-ranked Wildcats opened the second half with an 18-7 run at home.

Aaron and Andrew Harrison, Alex Poythress, Tyler Ulis and Dakari Johnson each added six points in a balanced effort by Kentucky (7-0), which shot 45 percent from the field.

No. 7 Texas 55, No. 24 UConn 54: Jonathan Holmes hit a three-pointer from the left baseline with 2 seconds left to lift visiting Texas past UConn.

Holmes had 13 points and eight rebounds to lead the Longhorns (6-0). Demarcus Holland and Javan Felix each added 10 points. Ryan Boatright had 24 points and seven rebounds for UConn (3-2), which lost its second consecutive game. Freshman Daniel Hamilton added 13 points and seven rebounds.

No. 11 Kansas 61, No. 20 Michigan State 56: Perry Ellis had 17 points and nine rebounds

to help Kansas beat Michigan State in the Orlando Classic championship game.

Svi Mykhailiuk added 11 points and Frank Mason III had 10 for Kansas (5-1).

Denzel Valentine and Travis Trice had 14 points each for Michigan State (5-2).

No. 12 Villanova 78, Delaware 47: Kris Jenkins scored 13 points and both Villanova cruised past Delaware.

Darrun Hilliard and Daniel Ochefu each scored 12 points for the Wildcats (6-0), who held the Blue Hens (0-5) to 31 percent shooting and forced them into 17 turnovers.

No. 25 Arkansas 94, Iona 77: Michael Qualls and Anthon Bell each scored 20 points to lead host Arkansas.

Arkansas improved to 6-0 for the first time since the 1997-98 season.

Qualls scored 10 points in a late 4-minute stretch to spark a 17-4 run that put the game away. The junior had 15 points in the second half.

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NFL



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Atlanta Cardinals wide receiver Jaron Moore (13) is hit by Atlanta Falcons strong safety William Moore, right and Atlanta Falcons free safety Dwight Lowery, bottom left, on Sunday in Atlanta.

Jones, Falcons top Cards

Arizona's NFC West lead dwindles to one game over Seattle

By CHARLES ODUM
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Patrick Peterson wanted to cover Julio Jones again, adding he had won most of their earlier matchups.

Peterson got his wish, and this time he couldn't deny Jones got the best of him.

Jones' career-best game helped lead the Atlanta Falcons to a 29-18 win over Peterson and the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday in an improbable matchup of first-place teams.

Jones had 10 catches for a career-high 189 yards and a touchdown for the Falcons (5-7), the NFC South leaders.

The Cardinals (9-3) have lost two straight, cutting their lead to one game over Seattle in the NFC West.

"It's going to be a long plane ride home," Peterson said.

Peterson played for LSU, Jones played for Alabama, and the rivalry that started in college has continued in the NFL.

"He won a couple battles, and I won a couple battles, but for the

'It's going to be a long plane ride home.'

Patrick Peterson

Cardinals comeback, after being lit up by Falcons' wide receiver Julio Jones for 10 catches for 189 yards and a touchdown in a 29-18 loss on Sunday

most part I believe I won the majority of those battles," Peterson had said on Wednesday.

That boast caught Jones' eye. "Supposedly, Pat said he won most of the battles between me and him," Jones said, adding he made sure he had "proper rest" to ensure "everything was down" in his timing with quarterback Matt Ryan.

"I am pretty sure it was a statement game for Julio," Atlanta's Devin Hester said. "He told me that every night, and every day he thought about it, so I do not know if it stirred him up, but he showed it on the field."

Cardinals coach Bruce Arians clearly wasn't happy Peterson couldn't back up his boast. "You better watch out when you call people out," Arians said after

the game. "You better be ready to play. If you want to call him out, call him out, but don't give up ... a career day."

Peterson said Jones "won the matchup today" and added, "I mean, Cy Young winners give up home runs."

The Falcons took a 17-0 lead in the first quarter.

Steven Jackson's 55-yard run — his longest run since 2009 — set up Ryan's 13-yard touchdown pass to Levine Toilolo. Ryan threw a 32-yard scoring pass to Jones later in the quarter.

Ryan was 30-for-41 for 361 yards and a pair of TDs.

Arizona's only touchdown until late in the game came on an 88-yard interception return by safety Rashad Johnson in the second quarter.

First: Manziel scores first NFL touchdown, flashes money sign in endzone

FROM BACK PAGE

His Packers have won four consecutive games and eight of nine to pull even with Arizona and Philadelphia at 9-3 atop the NFC.

"They're good. They're really good," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said, in what qualifies as loquaciousness for him.

There's a realistic chance Green Bay could win out, because the rest of its schedule includes Atlanta and Detroit at Lambeau Field, and Buffalo and Tampa Bay on the road.

The Patriots, meanwhile, had their seven-game winning streak end, but they also are 9-3, and remain atop the AFC.

Very few folks would be surprised if these two teams — and these two QBs — are sharing a field again in two months.

In case you missed it, here are the other top topics after the NFL season's 13th Sunday:

Heeeeere's Johnny: Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Manziel got his first chance to play for the Browns since Week 3, scored his first NFL TD on a 10-yard run, and flashed his famous — infamous? — money sign in the end zone.

Now that everyone wants to know whether Johnny Football or the guy he replaced in the fourth quarter of Cleveland's 26-10 loss at Buffalo, Brian Hoyer, will start at quarterback next week at home against the Colts.

Hoyer, lifted after throwing two interceptions, spoke about the Browns as "my team," but it's possible Manziel will now get a long look.

"If that is the case, and my name is called," Manziel said, "I definitely will be ready."

Coughlin's upset: If ever a two-time Super Bowl champion coach were going to lose his job, this is how. Tom Coughlin's tenure with the Giants hit a new low when New York blew a 21-point lead against a bad Jaguars team and lost 25-24.

"I'm upset with everything," Cough-



L.G. PATTERSON/AP

Members of the St. Louis Rams raise their arms in awareness of the events in Ferguson, Mo., as they walk onto the field during introductions before Sunday's game against the Oakland Raiders in St. Louis. The players said after the game that they raised their arms in a "hands up" gesture to acknowledge the events in Ferguson.

lin said after a seventh consecutive loss dropped his club to 3-9. "And I'm upset with me."

Collapsing Cardinals: So much for Arizona running away with the NFC West. And so much for the team being just fine with Drew Stanton at quarterback in place of the injured Carson Palmer.

The Cardinals have lost two in a row — this time, 29-18 at Atlanta — and their division lead over Seattle is down to one game.

With Palmer done for the season, and

receiver Larry Fitzgerald out the past two weeks with a left knee injury, the Cardinals' offense has produced a grand total of one touchdown over 2½ games.

Hands up, don't shoot: Five players from the St. Louis Rams showed solidarity with protesters in Ferguson, Missouri, by standing with hands raised before heading out during pregame introductions against visiting Oakland.

Tavon Austin and Kenny Britt came out together first, followed by Jared Cook,

Stedman Bailey and Chris Givens. After Tre Mason scored in the fourth quarter, he and Britt raised their hands together.

Some witnesses said teenager Michael Brown had his hands up before being fatally shot in Ferguson by police officer Darren Wilson in August. A grand jury decided last week not to indict Wilson.

"I don't want the people in the community to feel like we turned a blind eye to it," Britt said. "What would I like to see happen? Change in America."

NFL ROUNDUP



29 **16**

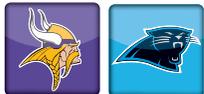
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos proved their mastery of the Kansas City Chiefs once more on a chilly Sunday night at Arrowhead Stadium.

Manning threw two touchdown passes, recently signed Connor Barth was perfect on five field-goal attempts and the Broncos rolled to their sixth straight win over Kansas City and one that kept them alone in first place in the AFC West.

Barth matched the franchise record for field goals in a game set twice by Jason Elam. C.J. Anderson added 168 yards rushing with a 15-yard touchdown catch, and Demaryius Thomas also had a TD grab.

Alex Smith had 153 yards passing and two touchdowns for the Chiefs (7-5), but was sacked six times and Denver held Kansas City to 151 yards of total offense.

"There's really not a phase I can point to that was a positive in this game," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "We all have to do better. We're all in it together."



31 **13**

MINNEAPOLIS — Adam Thielen and Everson Griffen each returned blocked punts for Minnesota touchdowns, the fifth time in league history one team had two in the same game.

Teddy Bridgewater threw for two scores without a turnover, and Griffen had two of the four sacks by the Vikings (5-7) against Cam Newton.

Despite entering the week just a half-game out of first place in the struggling NFC South, the Panthers (3-8-1) again stumbled out of their bye. They're 0-4 under coach Ron Rivera following the annual in-season week off, and have lost six in a row overall this season.



45 **21**

HOUSTON — Ryan Fitzpatrick threw for a franchise-record six touchdowns and DeAndre Hopkins had a career-best 238 yards receiving and two scores. Fitzpatrick returned to the lineup after being benched for two games for Ryan Mallett, who suffered a season-ending chest injury last week.

J.J. Watt helped out in the win, too. He had his third touchdown reception, two sacks, forced and recovered a fumble.



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Broncos running back C.J. Anderson breaks a tackle by Chiefs linebacker Justin Houston in the second half on Sunday in Kansas City, Mo. Anderson rushed for 168 yards in Denver's victory.



26 **10** **14** **13** **25** **24**

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Mike Pettine's former defense showed up his new one.

If that's not enough, the Cleveland Browns rookie head coach has a big question suddenly brewing at quarterback — Johnny Manziel or Brian Hoyer — following a 26-10 loss to the Buffalo Bills on Sunday.

"It wasn't a good day at the office," said Pettine, in his first game as the Bills defensive coordinator. "It's good to see them doing well. It just wasn't good seeing them do well today."

Bills safety Da'Norris Searcy's second interception chased Hoyer early in the fourth quarter. And the rest of the defense put the clamps on Manziel after the rookie first-round pick capped his first drive with a 10-yard touchdown run to briefly cut Buffalo's lead to 20-10.

The Bills (7-5) stayed alive in what remains a tightly jumbled AFC playoff race. They gained a tie-breaking edge on the Browns (7-5), who also fell 1 1/2 games behind AFC North-leading Cincinnati (8-3-1).

Pettine said it's too early to tell who will start next week against Indianapolis.

TAMPA, Fla. — Andy Dalton ran for one touchdown and threw to A.J. Green for another, helping the Bengals overcome numerous mistakes.

Dalton shrugged off three first-half interceptions, and the Bengals (8-3-1) weathered 10 penalties and an ill-advvised on-side kick that cost them momentum after taking the lead in the second half to win on the road for the third consecutive week. That's a franchise first that seemed improbable following a lopsided home loss to Cleveland a month ago.

The Bengals lead the tightest division race in the NFL, with a 1 1/2-game lead over each of their AFC North rivals — all of whom lost.

Tampa Bay (2-10) threatened in the closing minutes. However, a 21-yard completion that would have put the Bucs in field goal range was overturned after a replay review confirmed the Bucs had 12 men on the field on the play.

The ball was moved back to the 46, an additional 14 seconds were added to the clock, and Tampa Bay turned over the ball on downs.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The New York Giants have clinched another losing season.

It could cost coach Tom Coughlin his job.

The Jacksonville Jaguars turned two second-half fumbles into touchdowns and capped the biggest comeback in franchise history with Josh Scobee's 43-yard field goal in the final minute on Sunday. The victory ended Jacksonville's four-game losing streak and extended New York's slide to seven games.

The Giants (3-9) are now guaranteed their second losing season in as many years. And getting beat by one of the NFL's worst teams — not to mention blowing a 21-0 lead in the game — surely won't help Coughlin's chances of sticking around for a 12th season.

"I know they are going to get it right," Giants defensive end Jason Pierre-Paul said. "This is a great organization and they will make right moves to complete this team. My main concern is to keep fighting and finish strong. It's never over."

The Giants managed just 75 yards in the second half and fumbled three times, the first two leading directly to touchdowns.



35 **32**

PITTSBURGH — The New Orleans Saints looked like a first-place team on the field, not just in the standings.

Drew Brees threw five touchdowns for the ninth time in his career as New Orleans dominated the sloppy Steelers.

Kenny Stills caught five passes for a career-high 162 yards and a score as the Saints (5-7) ended a three-game losing streak by restoring a little bit of respectability and a sense of order to the NFC South.

The Steelers (7-5) kept New Orleans tight end Jimmy Graham in check with no catches, but it hardly mattered. Brees worked Pittsburgh's secondary over anyway. Ben Watson, Marques Colston, Erik Loring and Nick Tonawale hauled in touchdowns.

Ben Roethlisberger passed for 435 yards and two touchdowns, but also threw two interceptions for the Steelers. Le'Veon Bell caught eight passes for a career-high 159 yards and also added 95 yards and a TD on the ground.



49 **27**

INDIANAPOLIS — Andrew Luck threw a career-high five touchdown passes and topped the 300-yard mark for a franchise-record 10th time this season.

Indianapolis (8-4) won for the eighth time in 10 games since starting 0-2.

Luck was 19-for-27 for 370 yards and had TD passes of 30, 3, 48, 73 and 79 yards. He broke Peyton Manning's mark for most 300-yard games in one season and joined Manning and Dan Marino as the only quarterbacks to top 4,000 yards in two of their first three seasons.

Washington (3-9) has lost four straight.



52 **0**

ST. LOUIS — Tre Mason scored two long touchdowns and Shaun Hill accounted for three TDs in the rout. St. Louis had an out-of-nowhere 38-point first half that tied for second biggest in franchise history.

Mason had 113 yards rushing on six carries in the half with an 89-yard score, plus a 35-yard jaunt on a screen pass that opened the scoring. Hill was 12-for-15 for 178 yards and two TDs and ran for a 2-yard score.

The Raiders committed five turnovers.

NFL

Chargers rally past Ravens

By DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Playing on the road against a playoff-quality team, Philip Rivers would have been delighted with a win no matter how it occurred.

The manner in which the San Diego Chargers beat the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday, well, it doesn't get much better than that for a veteran quarterback looking to carry his team into the playoffs.

San Diego trailed the entire game until Rivers capped a 1-yard touchdown pass to Eddie Royal with 38 seconds to go, giving the Chargers a 34-33 victory.

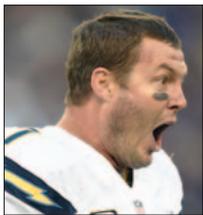
The Chargers (8-4) trailed 30-20 with 6:13 remaining and 33-27 with 2:22 left before Rivers brought them back.

"These are the kind of games you got to win to get in (the post-season) and these are the kind of games you got to win if you do get in," Rivers said. "I'm not saying you're going to win all of them, but if you can't win these, you're not good enough."

Each team punted just once. Both offenses were clicking all day long, which made the outcome all that much sweeter for Rivers.

"Just the way we won. It was back and forth, back and forth, never quit," he said. "We got one more point than they did."

Following a pass interference call against Anthony Levine in the end zone, Rivers hit Royal to conclude an 80-yard drive and give the Chargers their third straight victory.



GAIL BURTON/AP

Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers reacts after wide receiver Eddie Royal scored a touchdown in the second half Sunday against the Ravens. San Diego won 34-33.

Rivers went 34-for-45 for 383 yards and three touchdowns, two to Keenan Allen.

"Tip our hat to the Chargers and Philip Rivers," Ravens coach John Harbaugh said. "Obviously, a great quarterback and that made the difference."

Baltimore (7-5) lost at home in November for the first time since 2009. The Ravens, who were 11-0 all-time at home against West Coast teams, fell 1 1/2 games behind AFC North leader Cincinnati.

The defense accepted the blame, even though it forced two turnovers.

"In the NFL, nothing is game, set, match as long as there is time on the clock," linebacker Terrell Suggs said. "We're up 10 at

home in the fourth quarter and our offense gave us 33 points and usually that's enough. It wasn't. That's why this is extremely disappointing."

The Ravens last lost a game when they scored 30 points in October 2009, a 33-31 defeat at Minnesota. The last time it happened at home was in 2007, 33-30 in overtime against Cleveland.

Joe Flacco threw for two scores for Baltimore, which wasted four field goals from Justin Tucker and 106 yards rushing from Justin Forsett.

It was 23-20 before Flacco directed a 12-play drive that seemingly provided the Ravens with some breathing room. A 31-yard completion to Jacoby Jones, followed by a pass interference call against Shareece Wright, led to the third-down quarterback sneak that made it a 10-point game.

Rivers responded with a 77-yard drive, capped by a 23-yard touchdown pass to Allen with 3:40 remaining. Jones took the kickoff 72 yards to the San Diego 30, setting up Tucker's fourth field goal. It wasn't enough for the Ravens, who hadn't lost at home since the season opener.

San Diego, on the other hand, got off to an excellent start in a season-ending stretch drive that began in Baltimore and concludes with games against New England, Denver, San Francisco and Kansas City.



TOM LYNN/AP

The Packers' Clay Matthews celebrates after the Patriots missed a field goal attempt during the second half Sunday in Green Bay, Wis.

Rodgers, Packers hold off Patriots

By GENARO C. ARMAS
The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Aaron Rodgers made trademark pinpoint passes. Eddie Lacy powered out tough yards on the ground. The defense held firm in a frantic fourth quarter.

This could be one super combination for the Green Bay Packers.

Rodgers threw for 368 yards and two touchdowns, and Green Bay fended off the New England Patriots 26-21 Sunday in a high-profile matchup between Super Bowl contenders.

"We have some big goals, and we're getting into December football now with a chance with everything right in front of us," Rodgers said.

He bested Tom Brady in the first meeting between the star quarterbacks as starters. They were the main attractions in a down-to-the-wire thriller.

Rodgers connected with Richard Rodgers and Jordy Nelson for long touchdowns in the first half.

Leading by five, the defense made a late stand for the Packers (9-3). With Green Bay back in zone coverage, Mike Daniels and Mike Neal combined to sack Brady on third down for a 9-yard loss, and kicker Stephen Gostkowski pushed a 47-yard field-goal attempt wide right with 2:40 left.

The Packers sealed it after Rodgers converted to Cobb on third-and-4 with the Patriots out of timeouts.

"The point total was enough to win the game," coach Mike McCarthy said. "I thought [the] defense did a lot of good things, and really I think the end of the game is what you're looking for as a coach."

Not quite the ending Brady had in mind.

"I hate to take a sack in that situation. I really would have liked

to score there," he said.

"I just wish we would have won this one. We put a lot into this one, and this was a great test for us. I think the guys knew how important this was for our season."

Brady finished 22-for-35 for 245 yards with two touchdown passes to Brandon LaFell for New England (9-3), which had its seven-game winning streak snapped. The second score came from 15 yards early in the fourth quarter to get within 23-21.

The lead could have been wider for the Packers if not for some hiccups in the red zone.

Green Bay settled for four field goals from Mason Crosby of 35 yards or less, including a 28-yard or make it a five-point lead with 8:41 left. That kick came after rookie Davante Adams dropped a potential touchdown pass on third-and-5 from the New England 10.

On his knees, Rodgers buried his helmet into the turf in frustration. But he was celebrating at the end. Green Bay has won four in a row and eight in nine.

"I just go back to our philosophy of winning. First, you have to find ways to win. Learn how to win. No. 1, but then you've got to find ways to win and you have to do it as many different ways as possible," McCarthy said. Rodgers finished 24-for-38, while Lacy had 98 yards on 21 carries, including 26 on the ground in the fourth-quarter drive that led to Crosby's field goal. Adams had a career-best 121 yards on six receptions.

"I said all week they had good skill players. They had everything," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said.

Rodgers extended his NFL-record streaks to 360 consecutive passes at home and 31 touchdown passes in a row at home without an interception. His last interception at home came nearly two years ago on Dec. 2, 2012.

Janay Rice: Baltimore suggested she publicly apologize for assault

By AARON WILSON
The Baltimore Sun

During a lengthy interview on NBC's "Today" show with Matt Lauer, Janay Rice discussed a number of topics, including explaining why she apologized following her husband's high-profile domestic violence incident.

The first part of the "Today" interview aired Monday featuring comments from Janay. A second segment featuring comments from Ray Rice, the ex-Ravens running back who was reinstated to the NFL last week, was to air Tuesday.

"I apologized for the part that I took in this," Janay Rice said in the interview, explaining a much maligned news conference at the Ravens' facility in May. "And I apologized because, for one, this press conference was something Ray and I put together. I was ready to do anything that was going to help the situation, both help the way we looked in the media, help his image, help obviously his career."

Janay Rice said that the Ravens didn't ask her directly to apologize, but that they suggested it. "They suggested it, yes," she said, adding that the Ravens didn't come up with the exact wording for



Janay Rice

the apology. "No, not specifically. They basically gave us a general script."

Added Janay Rice: "I wouldn't allow anybody to disrespect me, especially a man who's in a relationship with me."

During the news conference, Janay Rice said: "I do deeply regret the role that I played in the incident that night, but I can say that I am happy that we continue to work through it together, and we are continuing to strengthen our relationship and our marriage and do what we have to do for not only ourselves collectively, but individually, and working on being better parents for Rayven and continue to be good role models for the community like we were doing before this. I love Ray, and I know that he will continue to prove himself to not only you all, but [to] the community, and I know he will gain your respect back in due time. So thank you."

Following that apology, the Ravens' official Twitter account wrote: "Janay Rice says she deeply regrets the role that she played the night of the incident."

Criticized heavily for being tone deaf, the Ravens later deleted the Tweet.

"I was basically not doing what I was told, but I didn't think it was completely wrong for me to apologize because, at the end of the day, I got arrested, too," Janay Rice said. "I did something wrong, too. Not taking any light off of what Ray did, because I agree with everybody else, it was wrong."

Janay Rice said that she is glad the incident has brought awareness to the domestic violence issue.

Candi Palmer, Janay's mother, insisted that this won't happen again to the couple.

"This is not the type of relationship she's in," Palmer said. "There is no next time. I didn't raise a young lady to be an abused woman."

Added Janay Rice: "I wouldn't allow anybody to disrespect me, especially a man who's in a relationship with me."

SPORTS



Kobe's good day

Lakers' guard puts up triple-double in OT win over Raptors | **NBA, Page 25**

NFL: WEEK 13 TAKEAWAYS



MIKE ROEMER/AP

New England Patriots Bryan Stork, left, and Ryan Wendell, right, watch as the Packers' Datone Jones celebrates a sack during Sunday's game in Green Bay, Wis.

Until next time

Packers come out on top in first meeting between Rogers, Brady

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
The Associated Press

If Patriots-Packers — aka Brady vs. Rodgers I — really WAS a Super Bowl preview, as so many suggested, then it will be definitely be worth watching what happens on Feb. 1 in Glendale, Arizona.

Green Bay's 26-21 victory over visiting New England was a hard-fought, well-played game,

featuring just the right amount of defense and a couple of MVP contenders at quarterback who had never faced each other as starters. Aaron Rodgers and Tom Brady combined to go 46 of 73 for 613 yards, four touchdowns and zero interceptions.

Rodgers extended one particularly remarkable streak: He hasn't thrown an interception at home in two years.

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TOM LYNN/AP

Green Bay's Aaron Rodgers shakes hands with New England's Tom Brady after the first game the two All-Pro quarterbacks have started against one another. The Packers won 26-21.

Power outage can't slow Datsyuk, streaking Red Wings | **NHL, Page 27**

Krzyzewski leads Duke to win over alma mater | **College basketball, Page 27**

